

Our Town, Our Home

City of Hailey

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Message from the Mayor

Jim Keating Receives Key to the City

Blaine County Recreation District hosted the Hailey City Council in a tour last month of the BCRD's new facilities, which are nearing completion. The participants toured the new pump park and associated trails into the hills east of the Wood River High School. Also included in the tour was the new pool, which is scheduled to next summer.

At the end of the tour, Hailey Mayor Martha Burke presented Jim Keating with a Key to the City. After serving 13 years as the Executive Director of the Blaine County Recreation District, Keating is stepping down to work in the private sector. Keating lauded the community for coming together to energize and fund the new projects, but as he told the story of the projects, we realized that much of their success and much of the community engagement is due to Keating's unique ability to impart a vision to others.

Keating was also given a safety vest labeled "Hailey City Staff", which commemorates the hours Keating spent on Hailey City projects, including the installation of public art during his eight years of service to the Hailey Arts & Historical Preservation Commission.

Keating stated, "I am so grateful to be a Hailey resident and to have collaborated with the Hailey team on so many meaningful endeavors through the years.

Thank you again for the friendship and partnership with BCRD, and I look forward to our future in Hailey."

Pictured below, enjoying the new pool are, from left to right, BCRD Recreation Dir Jenna Vagias, BCRD Board Member Mary Fauth, Jim Keating, Hailey Mayor Martha Burke, Hailey City Council President Kaz Thea, Hailey City Councilman Juan Martinez, Hailey Community Development Dir Lisa Horowitz, and BCRD Finance/HR Dir Joan Kino. Others participating in the tour, not pictured, were BCRD Facilities & Trails Dir Eric Rector, BCRD Communications Manager Morgan Buckert and City Administrator Heather Dawson.



POSITION OPEN Hailey Public Library Board of Trustees

Please consider joining the Hailey Public Library's five-member board of trustees. The board meets monthly to discuss and adopt policies for the Hailey Public Library. A term appointment is for five-years. Consider joining one of the best local community/governmental organizations in the valley. Submit a letter of interest and resume to Lyn.Drewien@haileypubliclibrary.org.

2020

ADOPT A PARK



Award Winning Design, Installation, and Service



2020

THANK YOU!

Meeting Calendar

City Council	09/14/2020
City Council	09/28/2020
Planning & Zoning	09/08/2020
Planning & Zoning	09/21/2020
Arts & Historic Preservation	09/15/2020
Library Board.....	09/17/2020
Parks & Lands Board.....	09/23/2020
Tree Committee	09/10/2020

Please check our website for additional meetings. Hailey's website contains all agendas and meeting documents. **The published agenda** contains call-in or connection information on how to join our meetings online or by phone via Go-To-Meeting. <https://www.haileycityhall.org/meetings/index.asp>. In-person attendance is welcome as well, with physical distancing and masks.

United States Census 2020

No es demasiado tarde para completar su censo de 2020.

Visite my2020Census.gov o llame al 844-330-2020 (inglés) o al 1-844-468-2020 (español) para completar el censo en menos de 10 minutos!

- Para cada persona no incluida en el Censo de 2020, nuestra comunidad perderá \$1,473 cada año durante la próxima década para programas de la comunidad valiosos como educación, asistencia médica y caminos. Esto es \$1,473 por individuo! ¡Diríjase a sus amigos y familia para asegurarse que completan su Censo de 2020!

- Hasta ahora, el condado de Blaine tiene respuesta de 39% para el Censo 2020. La respuesta a nivel estatal es 68%. Complete el censo en línea ahora y ayude al condado de Blaine a mejorar nuestras respuestas. Estamos contando en usted!

- El censo es una parte esencial de la recuperación de nuestro estado de la pandemia COVID-19. Las camas de hospital, las pruebas y otras urgencias son todo dependiente en un censo completo. ¡Llene su censo ahora y ayude a nuestra comunidad a salir más fuerte!

- La Oficina del Censo de los Estados Unidos cambió recientemente la fecha para completar el Censo. Debemos llenar el Censo antes del 30 de septiembre de 2020.

#2020census #idahocensus #idaho



Hailey Public Library September Events

Follow us for more information:

www.HaileyPublicLibrary.org.

www.facebook.com/HaileyPublicLibrary.

www.instagram.com/HaileyPublicLibrary.

Stories Leap Over Walls Online

Wednesday, September 2, 5:30 PM Join us in our 3rd of 4 discussions around culture, race and our sense of home. Conversation will follow a TED talk by a Turkish born writer, storyteller, political essayist and women's rights activist Elif Shafak. Join via Zoom.

RSVP to kristin.fletcher@haileypubliclibrary.org

Zoom Library Reads Book Club

Tuesday, September 8, 5:30 PM Join us on Zoom for a virtual book club on "Less" by Andrew Sean Greer. After receiving an invitation to his ex-boyfriend's wedding, Arthur, a failed novelist on the eve of his 50th birthday, embarks on an international journey that finds him falling in love, risking his life, reinventing himself and making connections with the past.

Friends of the Hailey Public Library Meeting

Wednesday, September 9, 5:30 PM These meetings are in-person. Interested persons can get more information by email at haileylibraryfriends@gmail.com

Powering the Mars Rover Perseverance Online

Thursday, September 17, 5:30 PM Hailey Public Library is pleased to partner with the Idaho National Laboratory (INL) to host "Powering the Mars Rover Perseverance" with Project Manager for NASA Space Missions Kelly Lively. Join via Zoom.

RSVP to kristin.fletcher@haileypubliclibrary.org

Hailey Public Library Board of Trustees Meeting

Thursday, September 17, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. Board meetings are open to the public and can be joined in person or electronically.

Everything You Wanted to Know About Composting

Thursday, September 24, at 5:30 PM HPL and the Wood River Seed Library will co-host an interactive workshop with WRSL's Manon Gaudreau and Amy Mattias. RSVP to kristin.fletcher@haileypubliclibrary.org

United States Census 2020

It's

not too late to fill out your 2020 Census.

For every person not counted in the 2020 Census, our community will lose \$1,473 every year over the next decade for valuable community programs like CHIP, SNAP, education, healthcare and roads. That's \$1,473 per individual!

Talk to your friends and family to make sure they complete their 2020 Census before September 30! We don't want to miss one single Idaho adult or child!

So far, Blaine County has a 39% response rate for the 2020 Census. The statewide response rate is 68%. Complete the census online now and help Blaine County improve our response rate- we're all counting on you!

The census is an essential part of our state's recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. Hospital beds, testing and other emergency services are all dependent on a complete census count. Fill yours out now and help our community come out stronger!

The US Census Bureau recently changed the date to complete the count. We must get counted by September 30, 2020.

Visit my2020Census.gov or call 844-330-2020 (English) or 1-844-468-2020 (Spanish) to complete yours in less than 10 minutes!

Hailey Staffing News

Lyn Drewien Selected by Board as Hailey Public Library Director

The Hailey Public Library Board has selected Lyn Drewien as its new library director. Drewien's library career spans more than a decade, including time at both the Hailey Public Library and The Community Library in Ketchum. In 2016, she earned her Master of Library and Information Science degree from San Jose State University.

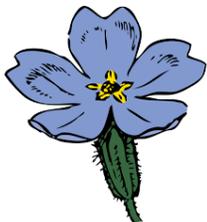
Drewien leaves a position with Blaine County where she worked for two years as Grants & Procurement Specialist.

A thirty-year resident of the Wood River Valley (and Hailey Public Library user), Drewien brings many years of experience and volunteerism to her new position.



Drewien replaces LeAnn Gelskey who served as library director from 2010 until April of this year. Gelskey left the Hailey Public Library for a position with the Idaho Commission for Libraries as their Talking Book Service Program Supervisor.

Laura Primrose has served as interim director since Gelskey left in April. Primrose thankfully took on the difficult task of establishing and directing Covid safety protocols in the library, drafting a budget reduced by 6%, and maintaining the morale of employees through difficult times.



Thank you Laura Primrose!

New Subdivision Under Construction

The Sunbeam Subdivision, approved for development in east Hailey by the Hailey City Council in May, launched its construction with infrastructure installation in mid-August. Phase 1 of the subdivision consists of 91 dwelling units to be constructed on 70 lots in east Hailey.

The developer, Marathon Partners, has committed to achieving National Green Building Standard 3 Star Certification. This program certifies that the development has implemented strategies that utilize land, water, energy and other resources wisely. The developer has committed to:

- Limiting turf on each lot to 40% or less of landscaped area;
- Installation of drought-tolerant landscape or hardscape outside of areas of turf;
- Providing a 9-acre naturalized public park;
- Requiring rough-in for roof-top solar systems as each house is constructed;
- Bike path connectivity to the surrounding neighborhoods; and
- A variety of lot sizes and configurations, including Cottage lots, to offer options to diverse income categories.

The limitations on turf will result in far less consumption of water, as lawn irrigation utilizes the bulk of Hailey's water use.



Water Smarty Turf Removal

The City of Hailey offers grants for our Water Smarty Program for turf reduction, to encourage less water use throughout Hailey. Participants can get up to 50% rebate of the cost of replacing a portion, or all, of their lawn. Water Smarty also offers up to 50% rebates on irrigation controllers and soil moisture sensor kits. Call 208-788-9830 before you begin your landscaping plans, to get these re-

Resiliency & Climate Protection

Hailey Mayor to Present No-Idling Ordinance in September

Mayor Martha Burke will introduce a no-idling ordinance for Hailey City Council consideration in September. The proposed ordinance will be on both the September 14 and September 28, 2020 city council agendas. It is so easy to make your voice heard on city matters; just call in to the meeting, or use your smartphone, tablet or computer to log in. Your participation is important.

The ordinance proposes the following rules:

Prohibited Conduct. A driver of a vehicle on public property must turn off the engine upon stopping at a destination; and must not cause or allow an engine to idle at any location for more than 3 consecutive minutes or for a period or periods aggregating more than 3 minutes in any one-hour period.

Exemptions A through I. These rules would not apply to a vehicle or piece of equipment when:

A. Idling is necessary while stopped for an official traffic control device; for an official traffic control signal; for traffic conditions over which the driver has no control, including, but not limited to when stopped in a line of traffic, stopped at a railroad crossing, or stopped at a construction zone; or stopped at the direction of a peace officer;

B. Idling is necessary to ascertain that the vehicle and/or the off-road equipment is in safe operating condition and equipped as required by all provisions of law, and all equipment is in good working order, either as part of the daily vehicle inspection, or as otherwise needed;

C. Idling is necessary for testing, servicing, repairing, or diagnostic purposes;

D. Idling is necessary to accomplish work for which the vehicle/equipment was designed, other than transporting goods, for example: operating a lift,

crane, pump, drill, hoist, ready mixed concrete mixer vehicle, or other auxiliary equipment other than a heater or air conditioner;

E. Idling is necessary to operate a lift or other piece of equipment designed to ensure safe loading and unloading of goods and people;

F. Idling is necessary to operate defrosters, heaters, air conditioners, or other equipment to prevent a safety or health emergency, but not solely for the comfort of the driver or passengers;

G. Idling is necessary solely to recharge a battery or other energy storage unit of a hybrid electric vehicle / equipment; or

H. Idling is necessary to operate equipment that runs intermittently.

I. Idling is necessary in the operations of public safety and emergency vehicles.

Hailey to Consider Resolution for 100% Clean Energy by 2035

Hailey City Staff began working with Idaho Power earlier this year on amendments to Hailey's franchise agreement, in an effort to discuss with the electric utility company ways by which the city might be supplied with 100% clean power by an earlier date than Idaho Power's goal of 2045. Together, we are seeking ways by which the electric utility company might install community solar projects, attract investors for these projects, and provide sound net-metering rates and terms within the City of Hailey.

A local organization known as the Climate Action Coalition of the Wood River Valley will be presenting the City of Hailey with a proposed Resolution for City Council consideration on September 28, 2020. The Resolution calls for setting a goal that 100% clean energy be used within the Wood River Valley by the year 2035. The proposal lays out the expectation that clean, renewable energy sources alone be used for local energy within 15 years. Those include solar, wind and geothermal and existing functional hydropower. They are not carbon based and are low impact. The public is encouraged to participate in this dialogue.

Finances and Property Taxes

Hailey City Council Wrestles With Property Tax Increase

Each year, a municipality is allowed to levy taxes against property within its boundaries. Cities are limited by Idaho law in the amount they can levy, with increases capped at a 3% amount over the previous amount of city budget derived from property taxes. This is not a 3% increase in taxes, as the taxes are spread across a larger group of property owners each year, as well as a higher taxable property value.

In the City of Hailey's case, choosing to implement the allowed increase brings an additional \$82,000 to the city from property taxes, and costs taxpayers approximately \$6 per \$100,000 taxable property value. Hailey elected officials have historically and consistently levied this increase, deeming it necessary to keep up with the cost of supplies, fuel, equipment, and labor.

The Hailey City Council's decision on the property tax matter was complicated and difficult this year. Portions of the economy are suffering, Covid-19 has created significant uncertainty, many people are laid off, some are working harder than ever, some businesses are thriving and some are closing their doors. Federal and State government decisions further complicated the discussion toward this decision. The in a move to encourage lower property taxes, the State of Idaho encourage taxing districts with EMS, Police, Fire and Health departments to reduce property taxes, switching out a portion of the allowed tax levy for a reimbursement from the State to cover these department costs of responding to Covid. The terms of this proposal were not clear and posed significant risk for agencies. So much uncertainty existed that immediately, as soon as the proposal was made, in June, 73% of cities opted out of the program. Hailey was among the 27% of Idaho cities that expressed interest in the program, in order to fully vet the pros and cons for Hailey taxpayers and government. In the end, the decision to not proceed with this program was made, as it was too risky. The Hailey City Council felt that lower income

people and renters may not actually benefit from this program. The Council felt that by moving forward with the tax levy in the usual manner, Hailey's citizens could be better served and methods to help residents and businesses suffering economic hardship should be pursued in other ways. City staff was encourage to propose new programs in the forthcoming months to help alleviate financial stresses of Hailey residents. One of the first proposals that the City will review in this regard is a level-pay program for city utility bills.

An old adage exists that is NOT true in Hailey: "Once the tax goes up, it never goes back down." In fact, over the past three years Hailey taxpayers have twice seen decreases in their taxes, even though the allowed 3% increase in budget has been levied.

- First, the temporary levy, Pathways for People, was completed, and taxes went down in Tax Year 2018 by the \$35 per \$100,000 that taxpayers had paid over two years for that measure.
- Second, taxes will go down again in Tax Year 2020, as Hailey's general obligation bond that has been levied over the past 10 years is now paid off. This bond, which built the Hailey arena, cost taxpayers \$48 per \$100,000 taxable property value in its first few years, and in this last year cost only \$31 per \$100,000 taxable property value. Again, each year the same \$400,000 was collected to make the bond payment, but the tax levy decreased as more property owners with higher property values helped to pay. That bond went off the books last month, and Hailey taxpayers will experience a lessening of their property tax burden accordingly.

Wildlife Smart Communities Policy

The Hailey City Council joined Blaine County and other area cities in adopting a Wildlife Smart Communities Resolution. The policy encourages responsible and safe habits for people living in close proximity to wildlife. The City Council intends to collaborative and actively participate in the Wood River Valley Wildlife Smart Communities coalition by providing guidance, education and recommendations to residents and visitors on how to implement best practices that will result in a safe environment for humans and wildlife.