

# The Richmond Record

A Newsletter for the Citizens of Richmond, Utah

July 1, 2011

**Council Candidates:** If you are interested in serving the City as a member of the Richmond City Council, you must file a Declaration of Candidacy, in person, before the City Recorder or other designated official at the City Office **between the hours of 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. on any working day between July 1 and July 15, 2011.** (Office will be closed Saturday thru Monday, July 2<sup>nd</sup> thru 4<sup>th</sup>, Saturday and Sunday, July 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>.) There will be four (4) seats available – this is unusual but the seat held by Keith Ward was filled through appointment by Paul Erickson due to Keith’s resignation. By State law, although the seat is a four-year seat, appointments are only in effect until the next general election. As a result, we will have three seats to be filled for four years, and one seat for two-years on this ballot. This will put us back on the normal schedule come the election of 2013. Anyone interested in running must comply with the following: 1) must be a registered voter; 2) must have lived within the Richmond City limits for twelve *consecutive* months prior to Tuesday, November 8<sup>th</sup>, 2011 [1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday after the 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of November]; 3) cannot be mentally incompetent; 4) if convicted of a felony, or convicted of treason or a crime against the elective franchise your right to be a candidate is denied until it is restored per Utah law. Candidates must also file campaign financial

statements periodically during and following the campaign.

**Richmond Cemetery:** The Cemetery District has put in a lot of effort to bring the grounds to a pleasant place to visit. We do ask that visitors show the proper respect for the ground that contains the remains of a great many of our citizens. While you are visiting, please be on the alert for anything that might be detrimental and report it to the City Office (258-2092) just as soon as possible.

**Utility Rate Increases:** Effective July 1<sup>st</sup>, both water and sewer rates will increase by ordinance. An additional one dollar (\$1.00) will be added to the sewer rate, twelve dollars (\$12.00) will be added to the base 10,000 gallons a month water rate. These increases will appear on your August 1<sup>st</sup> utility bill.

**Up-date on the Water Project:** Over the past year your Mayor and Council have tried to keep you up-to-date on the water project being currently undertaken. (Two million gallon water tank, refurbishment of a new well we purchased for needed municipal water, and associated pipe-line system work.) We have tried very hard to clarify in our public meetings that this work was State and Federal driven, not the result of a developer or future development. Even if we never built another house in the City, we’d still have to increase our water storage

capacity to meet the “fire flow” requirements imposed by the State.

We were extremely fortunate in being able to obtain funding from the Community Impact Board. As a bit of background, some of the counties within Utah are major energy producers, such as coal out of Carbon County. Taxes or impact fees are collected from the extraction of these minerals, and the CIB oversees the use and distribution of the resultant funds. Under normal conditions, the monies are reserved only for the energy-producing counties to use, but the CIB found themselves with enough of a surplus that they are able to “loan” some of the funds to non-energy producing areas. We applied to the CIB for a loan and were delighted to receive a full-request amount of (in round figures) \$5.1 million. We received these funds at a 3.75% annual interest rate with a thirty (30) year pay-back. Current commercial rates, at the time we received the CIB approval, were in the 4%-5% range for five (5) years, then re-negotiation of interest rates at the end of five years. While we received the full \$5.1 million amount, if we are able to bring the project in under that amount, we will only be charged interest for the actual amount that we utilize. Truly an excellent arrangement, financially.

Another aspect that many do not understand is that our water system and sewer system are run like two “private businesses” within the City. For instance, the Water Enterprise Fund is concerned only with our culinary water system. All income from the sale of water to residences and businesses go strictly into this account, as are all of the expenses concerning water

charged to this account. Funds cannot be transferred into or out of the Water Enterprise Fund from or for any other use, period. It is imperative that when our annual audit takes place, the Water Enterprise Fund is in balance.

Your City Recorder, Justin Lewis, “crunched some numbers” and provided a report that we think many of you may be interested to read.

“Mayor Hall and Council, Here are some calculations from the Water Enterprise Fund over a five year average from July 1, 2005 through June 30, 2010. This is based upon 750 monthly hookups:

Average monthly water fee	\$32.87
Monthly Expenses	
Debt Service	\$11.04
(This is for the three current loan obligations.)	
Expenses	\$20.52
(Average monthly expense less Depreciation.)	
Total Expenses	\$31.56
Balance – Income less Expense	1.31

You can see by the small difference in collected versus spent that is why we have zero extra funds in the Water Enterprise Fund cash account. Justin”

As a Council we are committed to ensuring the City is in compliance with Federal and State mandates, but are equally dedicated to seeing that the City gets the biggest “bang for the buck” on all of our projects. We’ll continue to keep you updated through this newsletter as the project progresses.

**On-Line Survey:** If you have not already filled out the survey we are using in conjunction with the revising of our General Plan, please go on-line to [www.Richmond-Utah.com](http://www.Richmond-Utah.com), click on the General Plan Survey on the home page, and fill it out. The committee working on the General Plan revision is very, very interested in receiving your input.

**Redistricting Meeting:** We received notice from the Utah State Legislature’s Redistricting Committee that they will be conducting a public meeting on July 13<sup>th</sup> at twelve noon in the Taggart Student Center Auditorium, 650 North 800 East in Logan. Although the Senate President has already announced in the press that he has redrawn the districting map to avoid incumbents running against each other, this committee is “committed to make this process as inclusive as possible and welcome involvement and input from public officials and citizens.” You may also get information at [www.redistrictutah.com](http://www.redistrictutah.com).

**Library News and Views:** “A great nation is a reading nation.” - Frederic Melcher

**A BIG Thanks** to our June Summer Reading Program presenters: Melissa &

Jason Roylance, Leanne Traveller and guests, Paul Chaffee, Terrie Wierenga, and Misti Rameriz. They were excellent and so very much appreciated.

**2011 Summer Reading Program** is still in swing - and will continue each Thursday through July 28<sup>th</sup>. This year’s theme is “**One World, Many Stories**” and a guest presenter will be sharing information from different parts of the world each week. The following is the July schedule for our travels. Come and enjoy the presentations, the stories, and the activities each week.

**Summer Reading Program Schedule:**

July 7<sup>th</sup>            What Do You Know About the Good O’ U.S.A.?

July 14<sup>th</sup>           France, and Fun in the Sun

July 21<sup>st</sup>           Let’s Sail to Australia

July 28<sup>th</sup>           Grand Finale Party – One World Many Stories

**2011 Utah State Fair “Read and Win”**

**Program** forms are available at the library.

You could be a winner in both reading programs at the same time. Read for the Richmond Library summer reading program contract and use the same books to fill out the Utah State Fair reading program.

Deadline for the Utah State Fair program is July 21<sup>st</sup>.

If you are visiting a **State Park** for your vacation this summer, remember the library has a free park pass for checkout.

**New Arrivals**

**Children’s Books:**

*Hurry Up and Slow Down* by Layn Marlow

*How You Got So Smart* by David Milgrim

*The Sand Castle Contest* by Robert N

Munsch

*Fancy Nancy: Ooh La La! It's Beauty Day!*

by Jane O'Connor

*Vespers Rising (The 39 Clues book 11)* by

Rick Riordan

**Teen's Books:**

*Sapphique* by Catherine Fisher

*The Emperor of Nihon-Ja* by John Flanagan

*The Red Necklace* and *The Silver Blade* by

Sally Gardner

*Scorpi Rising* by Anthony Horowitz

*The Forgotten Locket* by Lisa Mangum

*The Thorne of Fire* by Rick Riordan

*Matched* by Allyson B Condie

**Adult's Books:**

*The Miracle of Freedom* by Chris Stewart

*The Sixth Man* by David Baldacci

*Nothing to Lose* by Lee Child

*Water for Elephants* by Sara Gruen

*The Perfect Fit* by Michele Ashman Bell

*The Renewed Earth* by Chad Daybell

*Foggy with a Chance of Murder* by G.G.

Vandagriff

*Miles to Go* (audio) by Richard Paul Evans

The Library will be closed Monday, July 4<sup>th</sup>, for Independence Day and July 25<sup>th</sup> for Pioneer Day. Our annual closed week will be August 8-13, so please be aware and plan ahead.

**Hot Dog – Not!:** Deputy Frank Keepers, one of the officers at the Cache County Sheriff's Office assigned to animal control, is as concerned about the safety and health of animals as he is about enforcing our ordinance. Deputy Keepers provided us with the following information that we pass along to those of you dog and cat owners who travel with their pets:

“During warm weather, the inside of your car can reach 120 degrees in a matter of minutes, even in the shade. Cats and dogs can't perspire like us. Pets who are left in cars even briefly can suffer from heat exhaustion, heat stroke, brain damage, or even die. Play it safe by leaving your pet cool and refreshed at home while you are on the road.”

**Fireworks:** As you are only too well aware, a major change was made in the fireworks law by the last Legislature. You can now legally use the “cake” fireworks which can shoot the illuminating materials as much as 150 feet into the air. Even more, you can discharge any legal firework from June 26<sup>th</sup> until July 27<sup>th</sup> – potentially a whole month of crash and boom. PLEASE use common sense. Fireworks burn at very high temperatures. While the “cake” works are supposed to “fire hot and fall cold” meaning the flammable material should be completely burned out by the time it hits the ground, that may or may not happen in all instances. Keep all fireworks at least 30 feet away from structures, stay clear of any type of grasses or other readily ignited materials, allow for wind drift, and keep in mind the most serious burns on children come from...Sparklers! Because this is Richmond, you may want to check with your neighbors to see if any of them suffer from asthma or other respiratory illnesses that can be excited by the smoke from fireworks. Neighbors looking out for neighbors is becoming more and more of a “thing” in Richmond, something to be proud of! HAVE A HAPPY 4<sup>TH</sup> AND 24<sup>TH</sup> OF JULY!!!!