



City of Sun Valley Newsletter

Winter 2014

Upcoming Meetings

Regular City Council

Meetings held on the 1st Thursday of the month at 4:00 p.m.

Feb. 6th at 4:00 p.m.

Mar. 6th at 4:00 p.m.

Apr. 3rd at 4:00 p.m.

Finance Committee

Meetings held the Monday before Regular City Council Meetings at 1:00 p.m.

Feb. 3rd at 1:00 p.m.

Mar. 3rd at 1:00 p.m.

Mar. 31st at 1:00 p.m.

Planning & Zoning

Meetings held the first and third Thursdays of the month at 9:00 a.m.

Feb. 13th at 9:00 a.m.

Feb. 27th at 9:00 a.m.

Mar. 13th at 9:00 a.m.

Mar. 27th at 9:00 a.m.

Comprehensive Plan

Update Steering

Committee

Jan. 28th at 3:00 p.m.

Office Closures

Presidents' Day, Feb. 17th

Check our [online meeting calendar](#) for more information!

Mayor's Message

Dear Citizens,

The New Year started with a new Council by the swearing-in of newly elected Council Members Peter Hendricks and Keith Saks. The well-experienced and qualified Council Member Keith Saks was elected Council President.

The new fire ladder truck has arrived and will be exhibited Friday, January 31 at 12:00 p.m. at the Elkhorn Fire Station. Both Ketchum and Sun Valley firefighters participated in a training session paid for by the manufacturer, Pierce.



The new 2014 City of Sun Valley Mayor and City Council. From the left: Council Member Michelle Griffith, Franz Suhadolnik, Mayor Dewayne Briscoe, Council President Keith Saks, and Council Member Peter Hendricks. Photo courtesy of Nils Ribi.

At an upcoming City Council meeting, the Council will discuss possible minor renovations of the interior of the Elkhorn Fire Station to provide overnight quarters for EMT-Firefighters. The new ladder truck

and immediate response EMT at the Elkhorn station will improve the operation and capability of the Fire Department, as promised when I ran for Mayor.

Dewayne Briscoe
Mayor

Fire Department

The Sun Valley Fire Department has received a new aerial apparatus manufactured by Pierce. We have given it the number

designation of "Truck 61". Truck 61 has a one hundred foot aerial ladder with a bucket and a 2,000 GPM (gallon per minute) pump. The Department will re-

ceive training with Truck 61 from the manufacturer during the month of January and have it in service for emergency responses by February. A formal Truck 61 In-Service Ceremony will be held Friday, January 31st at 12:00 p.m. at the Elkhorn Fire Station, 100 Arrowleaf Road, and will be open to the public.

The Department will be training 7 new firefighter recruits through the 2014



(Continued on page 2)



Police Department

Happy New Year from the Police Department as we look forward to another safe year in Sun Valley. As we put together our Strategic Plan for 2014, I want to encourage the citizens of Sun Valley to reach out to us on any areas of concern, so we can continue to improve our service. My email address is wfemling@svidaho.org , or stop by and visit us at City Hall.

Some of the topics of our 2014 year plan include;

- Cross training with our Fire Department to improve medical

response.

- Improve emergency notification and community alerts to the residents of Sun Valley.
- Develop a community strategy for all hazards and emergency events for our City.
- Enhance the training of our officers and improve our level of service.

Welcome New Patrol Officer, David Aslett

We are excited to have Dave Aslett join our team at the Sun Valley Police Depart-



ment. Dave comes to us with 7 years law enforcement experience from the Blaine County Sheriff's Office, where he was in charge of training and supervising new officers. Dave and his family grew up in the Magic Valley. He has an Associates of Arts degree in Criminal Justice from the College of Southern Idaho. Dave will be a great asset to the City of Sun Valley and our citizens.

If you are planning an extended trip, please call 208-622-5345 & have your home listed on our "Request Home Watch Book".

Fire Department continued...

Blaine County Fire Academy as well as assisting and instructing some of skills taught in the academy. The academy is made up of recruits from the Sun Valley, Ketchum, Hailey Fire Departments and Wood River Fire and Rescue. The academy starts January 29 and will conclude in June. We look forward to having the new recruits join the Sun Valley Fire Department family.

If the snowfall ever comes this winter, we would like to remind residents that it is your responsibility to keep your driveway plowed and maintained for fire access. Clear access ensures that when our services are needed, we can assist in a timely manner.

Also, depending on snow levels,

you may see Fire Department members and vehicles clearing snow from fire hydrants following a snow storm. Please use caution and give plenty of space when driving by. We have 300 + fire hydrants in the city and it is important for us to quickly locate them in the event of a fire.

Welcome new Assistant Fire Chief, Charlie Butterfield

We are pleased to announce the hiring of our new Assistant Fire Chief, Charlie Butterfield. Charlie comes from an extensive background in both fire department work history as well as academic achievements in the field.



He holds multiple degrees: Associates in Fire Service and Political Science, a Bachelors of Science in Fire and Emergency

Services Administration, as well as a Masters of Education in Education and Human Resource Studies. Charlie previously worked for Wood River Fire and Rescue as a paramedic before choosing to join the Sun Valley staff. We look forward to the new training techniques that Charlie brings to the department from his wealth of medical and fire training experience.

Winter Tip: Fireplace Safety

We would like to remind all residents to be safe when using their fireplaces this winter. It is recommended that you have the chimney cleaned and inspected once a year by a qualified chimney sweep. We also want to remind you to make sure the chimney flue is open before starting a fire.



Community Development

2014 Comprehensive Plan Update

The appointed citizen's Steering Committee worked diligently through 2013 to review the City's Comprehensive Plan, elicit public comment, suggest updates, and provide recommendations on sections needing amendment to reflect current conditions. The last few months have been focused on land use issues and the vision for the Future Land Use Map and the individual Land Use Planning Areas (LUPAs). The Steering Committee will complete its recommending work in January, 2014. The Committee's recommendations will proceed to the Planning and Zoning Commission starting in February for consideration and additional public review and recommendations. It is anticipated that the Update process will then be with the City Council throughout the summer high season

to maximize public participation and input. Final review and adoption of an updated comprehensive plan could occur in late summer or fall. Public participation, input and recommendations are always welcome throughout the process. The current working draft for each section of the Comprehensive Plan Update recommendation from the Steering Committee is available on the City's website at www.sunvalley.govoffice.com.

Building Activity & Winter Hints

In 2013, a total of 106 building permits were issued by the City with a total valuation of \$22.6 million. If you are considering a remodel or new construction in 2014 start the process now in order to take advantage of a full building season in summer and fall. Budgeting of the project, engaging design professionals

and building contractors, and submitting the project to the City for review and approvals all take significant time.

Frozen pipes or ice dams are common in January, the coldest month of the year. To avoid costly repairs, close foundation vents and place blocks of foam insulation in them. Also have an insulation contractor look at properly protecting vulnerable pipes. Another option is to keep a faucet open to a steady drip to prevent freezing. Ice dams can damage your roof prematurely, leading to early replacement costs. If your building experiences ice dams, a qualified insulation or ventilation contractor can help to mitigate future problems. Have a great winter and be safe!

Street Department

Despite the lack of snow, the Street Department is keeping busy. Here is an overview of what we have completed and our upcoming projects for this quarter.

Fall & Early Winter Projects:

- Winter and snow removal preparation i.e. tree/shrub trimming, "no parking" sign placement, culvert and drain maintenance;
- Performed major maintenance and repairs on the City's Oshkosh plow trucks and installed new snow plow blades;
- Moved the department's de-icing storage tanks and equipment from the Elkhorn Fire Station to City Hall;
- And performed general building maintenance.

Also, by utilizing Street Maintenance Worker/Equipment Operator Slater Story's mechanical talents, we have been able to perform more equipment and vehicle maintenance and in-house repairs.

Upcoming Projects:

The Department has "Winter projects" planned to keep us busy when it isn't snowing, such as researching and getting bids for future projects, training staff, and making shop improvements. Other tasks include:

- Storm preparation & plowing remain highest priority;
- Conduct preventative maintenance assessments on Oshkosh trucks;
- Perform ongoing building maintenance;



The City's new snow plows waiting for snow like everyone else in town...

- Research projects: air handling system for the Street Department facility and possible replacement of the generator at City Hall.

The Department is also planning for the 2014 street shouldering, chip seal, and path maintenance program. Our goal is to have all major projects done by the 4th of July holiday.

Think Snow!

City of Sun Valley

81 Elkhorn Rd
P.O. Box 416
Sun Valley, ID 83353

Phone: 208-622-4438
Fax: 208-622-3401

E-mail:
reception@svidaho.org

Visit us on the web

<http://www.sunvalley.govoffice.com>

**Sign up for future
newsletters on our
website!**

Sun Valley City Officials

Mayor Dewayne Briscoe
dbriscoe@svidaho.org

Council Members:
President Keith Saks
ksaks@svidaho.org

Michelle Griffith
mgriffith@svidaho.org

Franz Suhadolnik
fsuhadolnik@svidaho.org

Peter Hendricks
phendricks@svidaho.org

New Tax Rates Effective January 1st

With the successful passage of the 1% for Air initiative, all Sun Valley Local Option Tax (LOT) rates have increased across the board by one-percent (1%) as of January 1, 2014.

Sun Valley Air Service Board Formed

After accounting for the City's expenses to administer the new LOT tax, a portion of all LOT taxes collected will now go to the Sun Valley Air Service Board (SVASB). The City's interests will be represented well, as Mayor Dewayne Briscoe has been appointed to serve as the Board's first chairman. Check the [City's website](#) or [sign-up for e-blasts](#) for information on future SVASB meetings.

Tax Category	Rate
Occupancy Sales (< 30 days)	4%
Restaurant Food & Beverage	4%
Alcohol by the Drink	4%
Recreation Memberships (i.e. gym/spa memberships, tennis court or greens fees)	4%
Lease/Rental of Tangible Personal Property (i.e. auto leases, golf cart or bicycle rentals)	4%
Event Admission	4%
All other retail sales not listed above	3%
Ski Lift Tickets/Season Ski Passes	2%

Do you rent your home as a vacation rental?

If you plan to rent your property in 2014, a Municipal Tax Permit is required.

Property owners that rent their home for less than 30-days at a time are subject to the 4% local option tax (LOT) for lodging sales. Not collecting the tax is a violation of local ordinance and can result in the charge of back taxes and penalties. To obtain a permit or simply ask questions regarding this requirement, please contact the City Clerk's office at 208-622-4438. ***We will be glad to help!*** For more information, [click here](#) to visit the City Clerk's page.

Do you want to help make Sun Valley safer in the event of a "wildfire"? Volunteer on the new Firewise Committee!

The Sun Valley Fire Department is looking for homeowners and property managers who would like to be part of a committee making their homes, property and neighborhoods "firewise" safe. We are striving to meet a goal of making our city a fire adaptive community. We are looking for volunteers who would like to take charge and help develop a strategy for making Sun Valley a "firewise" community. These volunteers will help talk to neighbors

and friends about living with wildfire and making their homes defensible. To learn more about fire-wise homes and creating a defensible space around your home, [follow this link to the Firewise.org website](http://www.firewise.org).

If you are interested in helping and being a part of this new committee, please contact Reid Black at the Elkhorn Fire Station (208) 622-8234 or by email, rblack@svidaho.org.

Holiday Light Reminder



Please be reminded of the dates and special hours for holiday lighting. Pursuant to City Code, residential and commercial holiday exterior lighting is allowed from Nov. 1 to Mar. 15. Flashing holiday lights are prohibited. Residential holiday lights may only be on between dusk and 11:00 pm. If applicable, please coordinate with your property manager to ensure compliance.