



City of Sun Valley Newsletter

Winter 2015

Upcoming Meetings

Regular City Council
Meetings held on the 1st
Thursday of the month at
4:00 p.m.
Mar. 5th at 4:00 p.m.
Apr. 2nd at 4:00 p.m.

Finance Committee
Meetings held the Monday
before Regular City
Council Meetings at 1:00
p.m.
Mar. 2nd at 1:00 p.m.
Mar. 30th at 1:00 p.m.

Planning & Zoning
Meetings held the second
and fourth Thursdays of
the month at 9:00 a.m.
Mar. 12th at 9:00 a.m.
Mar. 26th at 9:00 a.m.

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

Mayor's Message

Dear Citizens,

A campaign promise I made was to improve the Fire Department to full staff, training, and equipment as recommended in the 2006 McGrath report about departmental deficiencies. That has been done and two recent life-saving events reaffirmed my vote to break two Council ties to support the Department.

The first vote was to lease a new ladder truck as recommended in the 25 and 5 year Capital Improvements Plans, which proved critical in the effort to save two construction workers in the

fatal upper floor cave-in at the White Clouds construction site. The old truck was nearly 30 years old, had a shorter ladder, and did not have the maneuverability to get to the workers buried under plaster board in the upper floor. Two lives were saved.

The second tie breaking vote was my proposal for the start of 24/7 EMT coverage.

A serious neck stabbing occurred and our EMT was at the scene before the Ketchum Ambulance to give immediate life-saving aid to control bleeding. One life was saved.

I support some funds for



area nonprofits in budgeting but my first priority is the health, safety and welfare of our citizens and their properties.

I hope I do not have to continue tie-breaking votes to protect Sun Valley properties and our citizens.

Dewayne Briscoe
Mayor

Welcome new Council Member, Jane Conard!

Jane Reister Conard, J.D. was nominated as the new City Council Member by Mayor Briscoe at the January 6, 2015 City Council meeting and officially sworn into office on February 5, 2015. She replaces former City Council member Franz Suhadolnik, who stepped down from the Council in September, 2014. Jane brings to the Council her extensive experience as an accomplished attorney and mediator, including being named Utah's Woman Lawyer of the Year in 2006. We are very excited to have her as a new addition to the Sun Valley City Council!



Community Development

Welcome Abby Rivin, Associate Planner!

Abby started with the Community Development Department in December, 2014. She is a recent Master's graduate of the Department of City and Regional Planning at Cornell University. She also has a Bachelor's degree in

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Police Department

We have a new look for 2015 as we continue to make changes to enhance our service and create a more professional work environment for our officers. Our new mission focuses on making a difference in our community by protecting the quality of life that we all enjoy. Our job is to ensure that Sun Valley continues to be a safe place to work, play, invest, and raise a family. These principles will be our foundation as we move forward in 2015 with providing the City of Sun Valley with a professional law enforcement service.

We have a couple of areas of concern for our residents and guests this winter. Remember, there is no parking on City streets, especially during snow-fall, so we can get our plows safely around the city to clear our streets. Two heavy pedestrian areas are of concern, one on Dollar Road (getting our kids to school in the morning) and skiers at Dollar Lodge. Give yourself plenty of room on icy slick roads. We will have a patrol car there ensuring safe travel for our pedestrians.

In the winter months many of us like to walk our dogs out Trail Creek Road. Please remember

you must park in designated areas or you may receive a parking ticket. The State snow plows need to plow the road and turn around at the end of the road closure.

We are having a great winter season in Sun Valley. Please drop me a line if you see something out there that needs our attention at wfemling@svidaho.org.



Community Development continued...

American Studies from Indiana University. She moved to the Wood River Valley from her hometown of Indianapolis, Indiana.



Draft 2015 Transportation Plan Update Available for Review

The City of Sun Valley is in the process of updating the 1997 Transportation Plan. An initial draft of the 2015 Transportation Plan Update is now available for review and comment on the City's [website](#). The Technical Advisory Committee formed to work with the project consultant, Keller Associates, Inc. has been reviewing

the draft document for final comment and revision prior to Planning and Zoning Commission review and initial public hearings.

Members of the public are encouraged to participate, review, and comment on the draft Plan. Send your comments to Isabel Lui (ilui@svidaho.org) or Brandon Keller (bkeller@Kellerassociates.com).

Building Activity & Winter Hints

In 2014, a total of 113 building permits were issued by the City with a total valuation of \$58.8 million. Compared to \$22.6 million in 2013, there is a substantial increase of more than 60% in 2014! 12 of these building permits were issued for new residential and commercial projects.

To view the 2014 building permit list, [click here](#).

If you are considering a remodel or new construction, start the process now to take advantage of the building season in summer and fall. Significant time is needed for budgeting, engaging design professionals and building contractors, and submitting the project to the City for review and approvals.

Winter is the coldest time of the year, when frozen pipes or ice dams are common. To avoid costly repair, close foundation vents and place blocks of foam insulation in them. Ice dams can damage your roof prematurely, leading to early replacement costs. If you have a problem with ice dams in your building, a qualified insulation or ventilation contractor can help to mitigate future problems.

Winter 2014

Fire Department

As the snow flies and the outside temperature drops, many fires will be stoked in fireplaces throughout Sun Valley. A common call for the Fire Department to respond to is smoke detector activation from the fireplace damper being closed on the start of a fire in the fireplace. This is even more common in rental residences with renters that are unfamiliar with fireplace damper operations. If you rent your residence, please leave written instructions for the renters on the operation of the damper. Proper fireplace damper operations will prevent smoke release into the residence and unintentional smoke detector activation.

It is also a great idea this time of year to ensure proper fireplace damper operation. If yours is not

working, there are fireplace cleaning and repair professionals that can inspect and repair it.

New Firefighter/EMTs!

The Sun Valley Fire Department is pleased to welcome two new full-time Firefighter/EMTs:

David Bowman is originally from Yokohama, Japan. He

grew up in Hawaii, Guam, the Philippines,

and Korea. He moved to Sun Valley in the summer of 2000 where he has worked as a cabinet maker and computer numerically controlled (CNC) programmer. In 2010, David joined the Sun Valley Fire Department



as a paid on call Firefighter/EMT. Over the last several years, David has completed many national firefighter certifications and continues to pursue many more.

Anja Sundali was born and raised in Ketchum and graduated from the University of Idaho in 2012 with a

degree in Broadcasting and Digital Media. Her

firefighting background includes two years as a volunteer with the Ketchum Fire Department and multiple certifications in fire, rescue, and emergency medical services. She is a CrossFit coach and competes in CrossFit and firefighting competitions in addition to pursuing her passion for emergency service.



Street Department

Over the winter, the Street Department is keeping busy! Here is an overview of what we have completed and our upcoming projects:

Winter Projects:

- Winter and snow removal preparation, including tree and shrub trimming, placement of “no parking” signs, culvert and drain maintenance;
- Continued maintenance and repairs were performed on the City’s Oshkosh plow trucks and pickup plow trucks;
- Continued building maintenance,

including all new carpet and work stations in the Police Department.

Upcoming Projects:

- Storm preparation and plowing are the Street Department’s highest priority during the winter months.
- “Winter projects” planned to keep us busy when it isn’t snowing, including research and bidding future projects, staff training, shop improvements, etc.
- Ongoing building maintenance.
- Air handling system in



The City’s snow plows getting ready for more snow!

Street Department facility-design and implementation.

The Street Department takes pride in keeping the City’s streets and paths in as good condition as possible in all types of weather for its residents and visitors.

City of Sun Valley

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Visit us on the web

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

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Sun Valley City Officials

Mayor Dwayne Briscoe
dbriscoe@svidaho.org

Council Members:
President Keith Saks
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Michelle Griffith
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Peter Hendricks
phendricks@svidaho.org

Jane Conard
jconard@svidaho.org



Chief Walt Femling

Note from Chief Femling: Coyote Complaints

Over the past two years, we have seen an increase in conflicts among people, pets, and coyotes in the Elkhorn area. In researching techniques to reduce these conflicts, I have found several communities that have implemented a coyote management plan that focuses on educating residents and managing trash and other items that attract coyotes. One successful strategy is educating the public on nonlethal techniques, such as **hazing**, to deter coyotes who have become too bold. There are several resources available, including these [guidelines](#) created by The Humane Society, to assist you in the technique of hazing in the event that you come across a coyote in your yard or on a walk or hike with your pet. It is also important that you notify the Police Department of any conflicts, so we can keep track of where they are and the circumstances of the conflict.

Do you rent your home as a vacation rental?

If you plan to rent your property in 2015, 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. For questions or to obtain a permit, please contact the City Clerk's office at 208-622-4438 or [click here](#) to visit the City Clerk's page.

Fire Hydrant and Property Access

The City of Sun Valley Fire Department would like the owners and guests of the City to know that after an accumulation of snow, the Fire Department is tasked with maintaining fire hydrant access. The Fire Department relies on fire hydrants in the event of a structure fire to supply the much-needed water to extinguish a fire. When you see members of the Fire Department on the road removing snow from the fire hydrants located around your neighborhood, give them plenty of room and space when driving by. They might not notice you!

Please also note that it is the responsibility of the owner or user of a property to make sure that the Fire Department, ambulance, and law enforcement can access your home by removing the snow from your driveway. Please check to make sure that your address markers are visible from the road. If your home is protected with an automatic fire sprinkler system, make sure that the connections are accessible and visible.

The Fire Department would also like to remind the users of our City streets that it is illegal to park within 15 feet of a fire hydrant. So as a user, please do not park a vehicle in the fire lane or within 15 feet of a fire hydrant.

Thank you in advance from the City of Sun Valley Fire Department!

