



City of Sun Valley Newsletter

Fall 2015

Upcoming Meetings

Regular City Council

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

Nov. 5th at 4:00 p.m.

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

Finance Committee

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

Nov. 2nd at 1:00 p.m.

Nov. 30th at 1:00 p.m.

Planning & Zoning

Meetings held the first and third Thursdays of the month at 9 a.m., unless canceled.

Nov. 12th at 9:00 a.m.

Dec. 10th at 9:00 a.m.

Office Closures

Nov. 11, Veterans Day

Nov 26-27, Thanksgiving

Dec. 25, Christmas

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

Mayor's Message

Dear Citizens,

I did not file for re-election for Mayor this year. When I filed four years ago, I never considered two terms. I have served the City for eight years: four on the City Council and four as Mayor of Sun Valley. I am happy to say that all of my campaign proposals were completed:

- No new City taxes for four years while expanding City services;
- End the City mismanagement and City credit card abuses as stated by the Blaine County Prosecutor in 2012 and verified by the City auditors as ended;
- Add 24/7 EMT services to Sun Valley for the first time;
- Expand the Fire Department in equipment, training and personnel as recommended in the McGrath Report;
- Reorganize the City government with fewer employees, new policy manuals, and new highly-educated and experienced staff;
- Move up the Comprehensive Plan process two years to ensure the Gateway area is maintained as open space; and
- Provide an open and transparent City government.

The management of the City is a day-to-day job



and requires presence by the Mayor. I also served eight years in government in Washington state. I want to spend more time at my Hawaii home and with my family on the east coast, more time on Baldy, and pursue other interests.

I thank the citizens of Sun Valley for the opportunity to have served.

*Dewayne Briscoe
Mayor*

Election Day — Tuesday, November 3rd

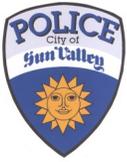
Sun Valley City Hall will again be a polling place for the Tuesday, November 3rd, 2015 election. Polls will be open from 8:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m. The position of Mayor and two City Council seats are up for election this year.

As a reminder, all elections are run by the Blaine County Elections Office. For questions about voting, please contact the Elections Office at (208) 788-5510 or visit their [website](#).

To view a sample ballot for the Sun Valley election, visit the City Clerk's Elections page on the City website or [click here](#).



✧ For Newsletters, visit our website or sign up for e-blasts ! ✧



Police Department

We were fortunate we did not have any major fires or disasters this year, but we want to remind residents of the County’s website www.blaineemergency.org. This website will keep everyone informed of any emergencies, weather, storm monitoring and more. Remember, you can also sign up on the website for emergency notification on your phone or email.

The Police Department has the ability to get traffic counts on our roads from our speed trailer and we thought we would share these counts with you, since speed com-

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

plaints to our office increased over the summer months.

On Elkhorn Hill, August 13th at 6:00 p.m. to August 17th at 9:00 a.m., we recorded 7,941 speed captures. Of those, 428 were traveling 10 or more miles per hour above the posted speed limit. That comes out to roughly 1 in 18 and an average of over 100 per day. The traffic count averaged 450 to 750 vehicles per hour between 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. with the largest traffic flow of 327 on Saturday (a night on which there was a symphony concert) between 5:00 pm and 6:00 pm.

We have seen similar traffic counts on our residential roads, including over 7,000 vehicles



over a two-week period on Morningstar Road. All drivers should remember we have many pedestrians and bicyclists and we encourage you to be good neighbors and slow down. There is also a good chance that you will see a patrol car issuing citations in these areas. Thanks for your cooperation in keeping our roads safe for everyone.

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 snowfall, so we can get our plows safely around the city to clear our streets. There are two heavy pedestrian areas 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 and slick roads; we will have a patrol car there ensuring safe travel for our pedestrians.

**Welcome Nancy Flannigan,
Assistant Clerk/Assistant Treasurer!**

Nancy started with the City of Sun Valley in August of this year. She comes to us from Bend, Oregon where she was the Paralegal and Risk Program Manager for the City of Bend. Nancy attended the University of Utah and received her Paralegal certificate from Oregon State University. Nancy and her husband, Kirk Flannigan, who is the new Sawtooth National Recreation Area Ranger, moved here with their two daughters, Madison (age 10) and Reagan (age 6). They enjoy hiking, camping and traveling to new countries as much as possible.



**City Council Approves
Fiscal Year 2016 Budget**

On August 18, 2015, the Sun Valley City Council approved the City’s Fiscal Year 2015-2016 budget in the amount of \$6,490,551. This is an 11% increase from last fiscal year. General wage increases, new employees, and new vehicles for the Police, Fire and Street Departments attributed to this increase. The Council was able to approve this budget without an increase in property taxes.

All Special City Council meetings relating to the budget are open to the public and citizen attendance and input is always encouraged. A copy of the Fiscal Year 2015-2016 budget can be found on the City’s [website](#) or requested at City Hall.

Fall 2015

Community Development Department

Comprehensive Plan Completed

After more than two-and-a-half years of meetings by a volunteer citizens' Steering Committee, the Planning and Zoning Commission, and the City Council, the 2015 Update to the Comprehensive Plan was adopted by the City Council on September 10th.



A final draft of the plan was presented to the public for comment on August 11th at Dollar Mountain Lodge.

Most of the major changes in the adopted plan are regarding land use changes in the Gateway area - to preserve open space for aesthetic reasons - and to allow for additional multifamily development in the Prospector Hill area. Other major changes involve a new focus on conserving and managing water resources. Go to the City's [website](#) to view the updated plan.

Implementation of the revised plan will occur through new programs and rezoning actions over the next few years. Residents will be notified of new

projects as they occur.

Encroachment Permits

The City would like to remind homeowners that, in most cases, your property doesn't actually extend to the edge of the street. If you're placing landscaping, irrigation equipment, or structures, such as address monuments, in the City's right-of-way, you'll need an Encroachment Permit. The City spends thousands of dollars every year replacing improperly-placed landscaping and hydronic equipment when snowplows clear your streets. Sometimes, the encroachments are dangerous to traffic and pedestrians. If you're considering work near the street edge, come to City Hall to speak with the Street Department or the Community Development Department for more information and to get a permit.

Finalize Building Permits

Any building permits that haven't received final inspection, or had no inspection within 180 days, may be voided by the Building Official. Though the City has been contacting the holders of expired permits, it is the responsibility of the property owner or their contractor to follow up. If you have any outstanding building permits, please contact us immediately so we can help you get your permit closed.

Smoke Detector and Furnace Filter Change Out

As we head into fall, please remember to change your smoke detector batteries and furnace filters. Also, make sure your smoke detector is clear of dust and in working order; new detectors are recommended every seven years.

Updated City of Sun Valley Transportation Plan

In September, the City Council adopted a new Transportation Plan for the City of Sun Valley. The plan hadn't been updated for over a decade, but with some grant assistance and the help of consultants Keller Associates, the new plan inventories existing conditions and identifies priorities for road and infrastructure improvements over the coming years. Adoption of the plan also makes the City eligible for future grant funding and state monies related to improving our roads, intersections, and paths. Thanks to all of the citizens and staff who provided input and worked hard on developing this very important document. You can view the adopted plan on the City's [website](#).

City of Sun Valley

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Street Department

Both planned and unplanned projects kept the Street Department busy during the Spring and Summer.

Spring snowmelt and early rains created flooding problems in the Twin Creeks and Morningstar Road areas, which required drainage repair and improvements along the City's right-of-way. Many of the issues were due to clogged culverts that run under private driveways. Runoff water that is unable to pass through clogged culverts will overrun the drainage system, erode the road shoulder and possibly undermine the roadway. Repairing the damage is expensive and time consuming. Please remember maintenance of culverts running under private driveways is the property owner's responsibility.

The entirety of Elkhorn Road was chipsealed in August. Chipseal is a protective wearing surface that is placed on a street to prolong its service life. In some instances, this process is performed on relatively new pavement to act as a protective coating. In such cases, this process



adds five to seven years of life to a street and will provide a safe, skid-resistant surface. Asphalt patching and shoulder work were also part of the project.

Portions of the City's shared-use pathway were slurry sealed as well. Similar to chipseal, a slurry seal is a preventative maintenance treatment that prolongs the life of the pathway; however, a slurry seal uses much smaller aggregate (stones) for a smoother finish.

When not performing "storm operations" during the winter season, the Department's time is filled with smaller interior projects, training, and planning for the following construction season. Scheduled projects for next season include a new emergency generator to power City Hall and continued roadway/pathway preventative maintenance projects.

Fire Department

Included in the fiscal year 2015-2016 budget is funding for firefighter living quarters at the Elkhorn Fire Station. With the approval of the budget by the City Council, the process is underway to locate a qualified and experienced engineering/architectural firm to perform the work needed to complete the firefighter living quarters.

The Elkhorn Fire Station

was initially constructed in 1982 with the east wing of the building intended to provide firefighter living quarters. At the time of initial construction, the interior area of this section of the building was left unfinished and has since been used for storage. It is important to note that the firefighter living quarters that is slated for construction is primarily interior work within the

building with very little exterior change and no addition to the existing footprint of the building.

With current firefighter/EMT coverage for twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week in the City of Sun Valley, having living quarters in the Elkhorn fire station is imperative and will provide for many years of immediate response to emergencies in the City both during the day and night.