



HOWELL TOWN NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2024



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Upcoming Events:

June 6 th	7:00 p.m.	Town Meeting for High-Speed Internet
June 11 th	6:00 p.m.	Planning Commission Meeting
June 11 th	7:00 p.m.	Town Council Meeting
June 11 th	7:10 p.m.	Public Hearing for FY2025 Budget
June 16 th		Father's Day

Due to problems with the Community Center sewage drain line, renting the Community Center is on hold until the problem is resolved.

There will be a town meeting here at the Community Center on **June 6, 2024, at 7:00 p.m.** to discuss the installation of fiber optics bringing high-speed internet service into the valley. Dates, costs, and other items will be presented and discussed. We hope you can make it to the meeting.

From the May Town Council Meeting.

Sheriff's Deputy Merkley reported that it was a light month as far calls to come to Howell are concerned.

Shelly, our town treasurer reported that we are still within our budget.

Gary Burton, Planning Commission Chairman, was present at the council meeting to present a Condition Use Permit for a single-family dwelling for Justin Topham for the Council's approval. The Council approved the Condition Use Permit.

Mayor Hawkes discussed increasing the compensation for use of personal vehicles for town business. Currently the town allowance is .505 cents per mile. This was set in 2008. The current rate allowed by the Federal Government is .67 cents per mile. By motion the Council approved the .67 cents per mile.

Council Member Hawkes had two items to discuss. The first one was concerning the

amount charged to turn on water after it has been shut off for nonpayment of water bill. We currently charge Twenty-Five Dollars (\$25.00). We should charge more. After discussing the matter, it was decided to increase the turn on fee to Fifty Dollars (\$50.00).

The second item the Council Member Hawkes had was concerning a chlorination system. He reported that he had ordered one. It will be installed in the 2000 well pump house. The chlorine comes in a 150-pound cylinder. He has talked with towns who have similar water use and it takes about two of these cylinders a year.

There were concerns about having the chlorine cylinders in the pump house. If there should be a leak and there was no warning it could be harmful or fatal to someone opening the door. It was suggested that warning signs be placed on the door.

Council Member Anderson reported that he received a bid for new flooring in the gym and carpeting the gym walls eight feet high. The bid was \$36,889. Zack Ross who made the bid was present. He reported that he has purchased some land here in Howell and would like two water hook-ups. He would like to put the cost of the

two hook-ups toward the amount of the bid for the flooring and wall covering. Mayor Hawkes stated that we could not do that because it involves two different accounts. The funds in our water account are for the water system and cannot be used in our general fund. Also, we do not have the funds to put new flooring and wall covering in the gym. Our priority right now is getting our sewer system lines functioning.

Nate Allen, Executive Director Utah Approves, met with the town council last month and gave a presentation on approval voting a new method of voting. He asked the council if they would write a letter to the state legislature stating the town would like the approval method approved as an alternate method of voting.

After a brief discussion, the council decided not to write a letter.

The fraud risk assessment form was reviewed. This is a report that is sent to the state. It indicates the risk level for the town. Our score puts the town at a moderate level.

The Fiscal Year 2025 town budget was reviewed. It was brought up that due to increased costs the budget for the Howell Days celebration should be increased from \$5,00.00 to \$6,00.00.

With the increase in the town celebration budget, the tentative FY2025 budget for the general fund is \$287,361.00. The Capital Projects fund: \$25,000.00 and the Water Fund: \$42,800.00.

There will be a public hearing on June 11, 2024, to adopt the FY2025 Town Budget.

Mayor, Council Member Reports

Mayor Brad Hawkes:

- On June 5, 2024, from 5:30-8:30 p.m. at the USU Brigham City Campus there will be a Bear River Regional Summit meeting for local officials, planning commission members.
- He bought some fertilizer to be applied in the fall on the park and cemetery lawns.

Council Member Rex Nessen:

- A new culvert was installed in the west canal where 15200 N crosses the canal.
- He has sprayed the grass and weeds along the edges of the town's roads.

Council Member Josh Anderson:

- The Howell Boosters are looking into buying electric air hand dryers for the restrooms and an ice making machine.

Council Member Craig Hawkes:

- The lead and copper survey has been completed.

Council Member Mark Sorensen:

- When the last grave was dug, a sprinkler line was damaged and needed repairing. He has someone coming out to make the repairs.

June's Utah Trivia Questions:

1. In 1936 which Duchesne County community chose its name through a contest sponsored by high school students?
2. What Salt Lake City native has performed in such movies as *The China Syndrome*, *Cocoon*, *The Electric Horseman*, and *Tender Mercies*?
3. What was Utah's highest unemployment rate during the Great Depression?
4. What artist and teacher, known especially for his rural landscapes, remained an active painter well into his nineties dying in Kaysville in 1990?
5. The University of Utah basketball team won the National AAU championship in what years?
6. What is Utah's state tree?

Answers

1. Altamont – a composite name that refers to the nearby towns of Altonah and Mount Emmons.
2. Wilford Brimley
3. 35.8 percent (1933)
4. LeConte Stewart
5. 1916
6. Blue Spruce