

FEBRUARY 2020

West Point City

WEST POINT OFFICIALS

ERIK CRAYTHORNE, MAYOR

GARY PETERSEN, MAYOR PRO-TEM

JERRY CHATTERTON, COUNCIL MEMBER

ANDY DAWSON, COUNCIL MEMBER

KENT HENDERSON, COUNCIL MEMBER

ANNETTE JUDD, COUNCIL MEMBER

KYLE LAWS, CITY MANAGER



CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS:

1ST & 3RD TUESDAYS

6:00 PM ADMINISTRATIVE SESSION

7:00 PM GENERAL SESSION

PLANNING COMMISSION MEETINGS:

2ND & 4TH THURSDAYS

6:00 PM ADMINISTRATIVE SESSION

7:00 PM GENERAL SESSION

MAYOR'S MESSAGE

I don't think anyone can argue that, regardless of your political affiliation, we are in the middle of an unprecedented time in the history of our Country. To be honest, there doesn't seem to be any end in sight of the bipartisan rhetoric with the upcoming presidential election. It is easy to be discouraged in feeling like our political system is no longer working, and some of us may even feel like the principle foundation of our Country of letting the people have a voice in our democracy has come and gone. However, the national level aside, I have noticed a few things recently that have really made me appreciate our form of government at the state level – one good example being the power of the people's collective vote regarding the new tax reform bill. I am not going to argue for or against what is now the repealed version of the tax reform that the State Legislature passed during a special session last fall, but rather I want to focus on the democratic process. For a few years now, the Utah State Legislature has been working on a new way to distribute the tax burden. They came up with a plan, passed it during a special session, and then forwarded it on to the Governor for signature. A very organized group that opposed the new tax legislation decided to gather signatures in favor of putting it on the ballot for potential repeal. At first it seemed highly unlikely that enough signatures would be collected in such a short time constraint and be representative enough of voters from Counties throughout the State, but in the end, they succeeded. With such opposition from the people clear,

our Representatives decided to repeal their new tax reform. This is democracy in action. Another example I experienced right before Christmas was when I was called to report to a jury duty at the Federal Court in Salt Lake. I was able to see first-hand what the architects of the Constitution thought was a very important part of the freedoms of our great country and that is having a fair trial by a jury of the people. I learned a lot and I left that assignment grateful to live in a country that allowed a man accused of a crime, even though he was from a different country, a fair trial. His rights and the process of the trial weren't any different because he was not a U.S. Citizen, and he was treated fairly and considered innocent until proven guilty. So although we might question the state of our Country and the efficiency of our democratic form of government, but make no mistake – we live in the greatest country in the world and I am grateful for all those past and present who have made that possible.

City Project Update

On to a quick update. If you have had the construction crews in your front yard running that orange conduit for fiber internet, you can expect to be able to hook up to that service as early as the first part of March. For those who haven't seen the crews working in their neighborhood yet, they are on their way and you should have the option to connect by the middle to end of this year. We also have two major road construction projects that will change the way you navigate through West Point the

next few months: reconstruction of 300 North from 1000 West to 2000 West and on 800 North from 2000 West to 3000 W will start soon. They will first focus on the utility relocations and then the bulk of the construction will start late spring. These are both great projects that will result in nice, new roads once completed, and we ask for your patience during the construction process.

Last but not least - by the time you are reading this newsletter we should have our new website up and going. This is going to be a great resource for all of the residents to find out information of upcoming events, track City Council and Planning Commission Agendas, learn about upcoming recreation sign-ups, submit a code violation, reserve a park, and more. You will also be able to sign-up for email and/or text notifications on whatever categories you like so that you won't miss a thing. Go take a look at it! And if you haven't done it yet, be sure to like our City Facebook page as it will also be a great resource to find out about road closures and detours for the big projects on 300 North and 800 North.

As always, if you have any questions, comments, or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact me. You can also attend our City Council Meetings on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month to stay involved and informed on what is going on in our City.

- Mayor Erik Craythorne

SENIOR LUNCH

Each month West Point City holds a lunch for Seniors 55 and older. The cost is \$2.00 per person and both residents and non-residents are welcome to join!

This month's lunch will be held on:

Monday, February 10th at 11:30 AM

The menu for this month will be:

**Swedish Meatballs with noddles, veggies & roll
Cookies for dessert**

You must RSVP to reserve a spot

Please call City Hall by **February 6th** at (801)776-0970

To view the 2020 Senior Lunch Calendar, visit the City Website under the Community Affairs Page.



YOUTH COUNCIL

January flew by and now we are off to a great start of 2020!

Last month on January 15th we had a Youth Council Meeting where we focused on the Essay Contest that is coming in March.

First, we split into two groups and made skits. One group had their main focus on the parade that West Point has every July 4th at the Party at the Point. Another group centered on all the different things they liked

FEB 2020

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4 CITY COUNCIL AT 6 PM	5	6	7	8
9	10 SENIOR LUNCH AT 11:30 AM	11	12	13 PLANNING COMMISSION AT 7 PM	14 VALENTINE'S DAY	15
16	17 PRESIDENTS' DAY CITY HALL CLOSED	18 CITY COUNCIL AT 6 PM	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27 PLANNING COMMISSION AT 7 PM	28	29 LEAP DAY

about West Point. Both groups did a fantastic job and we're excited to get started on our essays! We want to see as many people as possible do an essay for the "Why I Love my City" contest.

This contest is sponsored by the West Point Youth Council to encourage all West Point Residents to recognize how fortunate we are to live in our City and to express their appreciation and pride in West Point!

Contest guidelines and applications are posted on the City Website and available at City Hall. Essays must be turned into City Hall no later than February 26th by 5:30 PM. Every essay must have an application attached. Essay winners will be notified by phone and announced at the City Council meeting on March 17th at 7:00 PM. Prizes will be awarded to 1st, 2nd & 3rd place winners!

On January 29th, some of the officers went to the Capitol for the Local Officials Day at the Legislature. They had the opportunity to attend workshops, activities, and a luncheon with Utah House Speaker Brad Wilson and Utah State Senate President Stuart Adams.

This month we have a Youth Council Meeting where we will start planning the Easter Egg Hunt that will be on April 11th at Loy Blake Park.

On March 5th-7th, there is the USU Leadership Conference in Logan. Details about the conference are available in City Hall.

Come out to come experience the fun with the Youth Councils in surrounding communities!

Kylee McCarrey
West Point Youth Council City Recorder

IMPORTANT DATES:

- February 19th
Youth Council Meeting
- March 5th-7th
USU Leadership Conference
- March 18th
Youth Council Meeting

ARE YOU READY FOR 2020?

March 3 | June 30 | Nov 3

VERIFY YOUR VOTER REGISTRATION IS CURRENT TODAY!

visit WWW.VOTE.UTAH.GOV to register or see your voter profile!

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN BECOMING C.E.R.T. CERTIFIED?

West Point City is evaluating interest in holding a C.E.R.T. Certification course in our City!

The North Davis Fire District currently conducts a course for West Point and Clearfield, hosted by Clearfield City. Call City Hall to let us know if you are interested in a course held in West Point & get placed on a contact list!

WHAT CERT CAN DO:



RESIDENTIAL & COMMUNITY CHECKS

Make sure family members and neighbors are safe and well following disasters.



TRAFFIC & CROWD MANAGEMENT

Control the flow of people during small power outages or large scale concert or sporting events.



EMERGENCY OPS CENTER STAFFING

Staff emergency operations centers to help organize and complete the response effort.



PUBLIC INFORMATION

Inform communities how to prepare and explain resources out there to help in case of emergency.

The Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Program educates people about disaster preparedness for hazards that may impact their area and trains them in basic disaster response skills, such as fire safety, light search and rescue, team organization, and disaster medical operations.

NOTE: CLEARFIELD CITY HOLDS C.E.R.T. COURSES THROUGHOUT THE YEAR. VISIT WWW.CLEARFIELDCITY.ORG IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO BECOME CERTIFIED NOW!

MISS WEST POINT PAGEANT

All young ladies ages 14-21 who reside in West Point are invited to register for the Miss West Point Scholarship Pageant!

Contestants for Miss West Point must be ages 17-21 and winners will receive a tuition scholarship to their choice of university!

Contestants for Miss Junior West Point must be ages 14-16.

Entry forms are available at City Hall, and the registration fee is \$30.

Orientation will be held at West Point City Hall on **Thursday, April 16th** from 8-9:30 pm. The Pageant will be held on **Saturday, June 6th** at Syracuse High School.

For more information, contact City Hall or visit the City website under Community Affairs & Events!

CODE ENFORCEMENT CORNER

BASKETBALL STANDARDS IN THE STREETS

During the early spring months, especially when the snow starts to melt on the curbs and the streets, we see an increase in the number of basketball standards set out on curbs so the City street can be used as a basketball court. This practice presents a serious danger both to the young people playing basketball and to the vehicles driving there.

West Point City Code Chapter 12.05.30 states: "It shall be unlawful for any person to erect, construct or maintain any building, structure or obstruction, any part of which shall extend on, over or beneath the property platted or dedicated to the city for street or sidewalk purposes, or to obstruct travel thereon in any manner, except as herein provided."

Please be aware of this dangerous practice and thank you for helping to keep West Point a safe and pleasant place to live!

Please contact Bruce Dopp, Code Enforcement Officer at 801-776-0970 if you have questions.

PARK REMINDER

Please remember to leash and clean up after your dogs in our parks and on our streets. We want our animal-friendly City to remain a place where residents respect their neighbors and their parks!

For those with chickens, please also remember to keep your chickens contained on your property!

WEST POINT RECREATION



Most recreation sign-ups can be done online at www.westpointcity.org or you can stop by City Hall to fill out a registration form. Some activities require in-person registration at City Hall.



SPRING SOCCER

Registration: January 27th - March 2nd

Cost: \$40

Ages: Pre-K - 6th Grade

Boys & Girls

Contact Kelly Ross at 801-529-3352 or Karly Norwood at 801-564-7701 for more information on recreation activities and sign-ups.

Recreation Aide positions may be available! Visit www.westpointcity.org for more information!

JR. JAZZ GAME NIGHT

Saturday, March 14th @ 7PM

Jazz vs Memphis Grizzlies

LOY BLAKE PARK - 3500 W 550 N

WEST POINT MILITARY MEMORIAL

WEST POINT MILITARY MEMORIAL COMMITTEE CHAIR:
MARV DRAKE - 801-825-5321

Following the Continental Army's defeat and loss of Philadelphia, the rebel capitol, to the British, George Washington elected to go into winter quarters. He selected a large broad area we know of as Valley Forge. The encampment lasted from December 19, 1777 through June of 1778 when Washington made his first successful forage in what is known as the Battle of Monmouth. The encampment originally included 12,000 soldiers and by the time they marched into Valley Forge they were suffering not only from cold, hunger, and fatigue, but from low morale from previous losses.

Only 20 miles from the now British occupied Philadelphia, Valley Forge provided a strategic location which allowed the army to stay close to the city while still in a defensible location that offered access to clean water and firewood, but little in the way of food and clothing. The miserable conditions in the encampment are certainly known to every grade-school student.

One of Washington's great concerns included the obvious lack in his army

of military experience and basic tactical knowledge. In February, 1778, Baron Friedrich von Steuben arrived and assumed the role of mentor to the troops. Von Steuben was a senior Prussian officer and a veteran of the Seven-Year's War. He, along with the Marquis de Lafayette, a French officer, developed a system of drill for the entire army. They taught the men combat maneuvers that would equip them to rival the well-trained British regulars, as demonstrated in the Battle of Monmouth.

The half-year at Valley Forge has not been earmarked for recognition as a holiday and though in many ways indistinguishable, the transition beginning in February 1778, became another pivotal point in the War for Independence.

Happy Valley Forge Day!

