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December Agenda Items
School Updates
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Meeting Schedule
5:30 p.m.
Ivins City Hall, 85 N Main

Planning Commission
December 5, 2023
December 19, 2023

City Council
December 7, 2023
December 21, 2023

Arts Commission
December 6, 2023

Blu Can Dates:
December 4
December 18

Dumpster Date:
December 9

December 2023, Vol 23 Issue 12
WE CAN WORK IT OUT
ARTICLE BY CHRIS HART, MAYOR

We face some major challenges as our City continues to grow that will require your help to solve. Housing affordability has become an increasingly difficult problem everywhere, but it will become amplified in Ivins as resort development translates into resort operations over the next few years requiring thousands of employees of all kinds to provide the services required for their success. Black Desert and Sentierre are already addressing this glaring concern privately and will likely solve much or at least part of their own problem, but aside from that tsunami of housing need, we as a community continue to face the daunting challenge of providing adequate attainable housing for future essential service workers needed to fill positions in public safety, education and health care.

The sentiment expressed in our 2022 city-wide Survey was that higher density and multi-family housing types are undesirable, but the idea of cutting them off as a part of our future development is neither legal nor practical. The State Legislature is scrutinizing ours and other city’s approaches to solving the housing crisis statewide and taking matters increasingly into their own hands. For example, new State legislation requires that beginning in January the City Council will no longer be involved in the subdivision approval process. That will be handled by the Planning Commission and a plan approval board to be configured by the City Council this month. If we’re not careful when it comes to the issue of attainable housing I worry that we’ll continue to see our land use authority disappear.

So how do we, in our uniquely Ivins way, address the discrepancies between public sentiment and practical solutions to this problem? Believe it or not there are concepts being discussed that could lead to solutions, ideas that haven’t been thoroughly flushed out but could be explored and adapted to our situation like “mansion style” multi family housing, modern modular housing and the establishment of land trusts to manage housing costs.

To get that discussion re-started we are reviving our Ivins Affordable Housing Task Force and inviting a few of you our residents, to participate. If you have an interest and a qualifying background please email an application to me at chart@ivins.com using the subject heading “Ivins Affordable Housing Task Force.” Please include your contact information, reasons for wanting to serve, time availability and the qualifications that would make you a contributing member. With Council approval, the selection and appointments will be made mid-January. The Ivins Affordable Housing Task Force will also have representation from the City Council, the Planning Commission and City Staff. It will commence with some very specific directives to focus the conversation knowing that those will lead to wherever the discussion needs to go in order to develop realistic recommendations to help us solve this growing problem.

The second growth based challenge facing us that we plan to attack head on was also emphasized in our 2022 survey. It is the preservation of our community character through the acquisition of open space and farm land by outright purchase, donation or the purchase of development rights. Our recent Talkabout on the subject of open space made it abundantly clear that we can be successful in this effort. It will require community support and involvement, but I’m convinced that working together we can transform the future of our city by preserving pieces of its vanishing rural and agricultural past. To facilitate that effort we are creating our first ever Ivins Open Space Committee. It will once again consist of several residents along with representatives from the City Council, Planning Commission and the Sensitive Lands Committee. It will also be organized by the City Council in January when the selection of resident members and elected & appointed officials will take place. Former Mayor Chris Blake, as a long term member of the Virgin River Land Preservation Association and current Chair of the County Habitat Conservation Advisory Committee has already agreed to chair this committee.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE...
This will be an involved commitment involving the identification of prospective acquisition parcels, developing formal methods of acquisition, exploring land donation possibilities, promoting donations of cash or other asset and leveraging grants and other revenue sources to fund permanent open space. Length(s) of terms on the committee will be determined by the City Council, but the effort itself will be long term no doubt extending over a period of many years. However difficult it will be worth the effort however. Generations to come will greatly appreciate some of what we currently enjoy living here currently if we are successful. If you would like to serve on the new Ivins Open Space Committee please email me at chart@ivins.com using “Ivins Open Space Committee” as the subject heading. Once again please include your contact information, reasons for wanting to serve, time availability and the qualifications that would make you a contributing member.

The work to be done by these two bodies has the potential to be extremely impactful on the future of our city. I’m grateful that there are so many of you who have so much to contribute toward the success of these efforts and are willing to share your time, talents, experience and resources for the betterment of this special place we call home.

DECEMBER AGENDA ITEMS

The following are some of the topics that may be discussed at the December Planning Commission and City Council meetings. This is not a complete list and the complete agendas will be posted on the website www.ivins.com a few days prior to the meetings. Agendas may be amended up to 24 hours prior to a meeting. Check the website the day before the scheduled meeting for the final agenda items to be discussed. If you have questions regarding agenda items on the Planning Commission, please call or email Sharon Allen at 435-628-0606 or sallen@ivins.com. If you have questions regarding agenda items on the City Council, please call or email Kari D. Jimenez at 435-628-0606 or kjimenez@ivins.com.

Planning Commission, December 5, 2023
- Public hearing, discussion & consideration of concurrent Land Use amendment from MDR (Medium Density Residential) to HDR (High Density Residential) and Zoning amendment from RE-12.5 (Residential Estates, minimum lot size 12,500 sq. ft.) to R-M (Residential Multi-Family) on approximately 1.97 acres located at approximately Main Street and 200 South.
- Public hearing, discussion & consideration of proposed amendment to Zoning Table of Uses (Table 33-1) to prohibit Resorts from all residential zones.
- Discuss and consider approval of Indigo Trails Phase 1-I Final Plat, located at approximately 510 South Kwavasa Drive.

Planning Commission, December 19, 2023
- Public hearing, discussion & consideration of Preliminary Plan for The Retreat at Snow Canyon (west of West), located at approximately Puerto Drive and 400 South.
- Discuss proposed amendments to the Resort Commercial/Resort Mixed Use Zone.

City Council, December 7, 2023
- Public hearing, discussion & consideration on Planning Commission’s recommendation to deny a concurrent Land Use amendment from MDR (Medium Density Residential) to HDR (High Density Residential) and a Zone amendment from R-1-10 (Residential, minimum lot size 10,000 sq. ft.) to R-2-10 Residential, two family, minimum lot size 10,000 sq. ft.) on approximately .70 acres located at approximately 320 North Main.
- Public hearing, discussion & consideration of proposed amendment to Zoning Table of Uses (Table 33-1) to prohibit Resorts from all residential zones.
- Public hearing, discussion & consideration of proposed Subdivision text amendment regarding Subdivision Application & Review Process.
- Discuss & consider approval of an amended Preliminary Plan for Serenity Estates, located at approximately 600 South Main Street.
- Discuss & consider 2024 City Council meeting schedule.

City Council, December 21, 2023
- Public hearing, discussion & consideration of concurrent Land Use amendment from MDR (Medium Density Residential) to HDR (High Density Residential) and Zoning amendment from RE-12.5 (Residential Estates, minimum lot size 12,500 sq. ft.) to R-M (Residential Multi-Family) on approximately 1.97 acres located at approximately Main Street and 200 South.
- Discuss and consider approval of Second Amendment to the Governing Document for the Black Desert Public Infrastructure District.
- Discussion regarding the Planning Commission’s recommendation on General Plan update.
Just a few days remain of Vista’s classic Nutcracker, presented in Vista’s new theatre. Tickets available at www.vistautah.com.

We are looking forward to the VEX Robotics Tournament as teams gather from around the state to allow students to use their science, engineering, and STEM skills in an exciting environment!

Vista’s performing groups are presenting their talents at the Dickens Festival, Tuacahn Center for the Arts preshows, Rocky Vista University, and the Southern Utah Veterans Home.

Advanced Orchestra students are honored to be participating in Wreaths Across America this month.

We are selling Dixie Direct books until the middle of December. You can come in and purchase one from our secretaries for $40. Our school gets $20 for every book sold. These funds are used for teacher supplies that are not covered through the district and for school and student activities and supplies. We appreciate those who have already come in to support our school.

Upcoming events:
December 5 - PTO Meeting at 9:15 a.m.
December 7 - STEM Night 5:00 p.m. at 6:30 p.m.
December 20 - School Dismissed at 12:00 p.m.
December 21 - January 1: Winter Break - No School
January 2: Teacher Prep Day - No School for Students
Current/Upcoming Program Registrations

Sound Meditation
Bring your curiosity and experience deep relaxation as you are bathed in the extraordinary and profound sounds of crystal singing bowls. Darcie Miller and Mary Hogan, both highly trained practitioners, will create waves of tone and vibration providing an immersive meditation.

When: 1st Friday of each month from 6:45 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. and 3rd Sunday of each month from 4:45 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Location: UNITY Park Recreation Room
Fee: $35/participant
**If there are not at least 3 participants registered 1 hour before the beginning of class, class will be canceled.

To Register; go to www.ivins.com - Parks & Recreation tab

Sand Hollow Aquatic Center
Ivins City has an inter-local agreement with the City of St. George that allows Ivins residents to use the Sand Hollow Aquatic Center for the resident rate. This is a great facility that offers year-round water fun and fitness. There is a leisure pool for fun and a lap pool for fitness, they offer swimming lessons and a variety of special events throughout the year. Sand Hollow Aquatic Center is a wonderful facility and we encourage you to take advantage of the opportunity to use it! 1144 Lava Flow Drive, St. George - 627-4585

Be sure to follow our Facebook page, Ivins City Parks and Recreation – Public Works, @IvinsCityParksandPublicWorks for more updates and excitement!
CONSTRUCTION UPDATES

TO TOM JORGENSEN - ASSISTANT PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR - ADMINISTRATION

Highway 91 Project: The project is complete.
There are a couple of unpaved trail sections between Kwavasa and Fire Lake Park that will remain unpaved until the second phase of construction, which is anticipated to begin toward the middle of 2024.

Pressure Irrigation Pipeline Project: This project is complete.

Trail Gap Fill Project: This project is anticipated to begin in December, though a start date is not currently known. There are several gaps in the trail network in the city, and this project is going to fill four of these gap locations. The locations include the following:
1. Center Street (north side) – from Painted Hills Drive to the new portion of Palisades at Snow Canyon. Convert the existing 5’ sidewalk to 10’ paved asphalt trail.
2. Center Street (south side) – from 200 West to 300 West. Install new 10’ paved asphalt trail where no sidewalk or trail currently exists.
3. Center Street (south side) – from 520 West to 600 West. Installing a chat (material which binds and compacts well similar to using decomposed granite or small flagstone chips) path where no sidewalk or trail currently exists.
4. 600 West – from Center Street down to 100 South (west side) and from 300 South to Old Hwy 91 (east and west side). Installing a chat path where no sidewalk or trail currently exists.

TIME TO WINTERIZE

BY: PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

The cold winter weather is here. We should always be thinking about ways that we can be better prepared. We do live in a mild climate where our problems with cold and freezing are minor compared with other areas further north and higher in elevation. However, we have had some tough cold spells, so let’s review a few tips:

- Pipes can freeze. Consider winterizing your irrigation system for December, January, and February. Your grass doesn’t need the irrigation water and many of your bushes can survive as well.
- Find your irrigation shutoff valve and close it. Then drain your irrigation system using a waste valve that is usually located near your shutoff valve. You may need to open an irrigation globe valve to let air into the system. You do this by loosening a screw in the top of the valve.
- Disconnect and store hoses in a protected location like a shed or garage.
- If you have above ground components, cover them with insulated covers or other similar protections.
- Prepare your home. Make sure you seal off drafts and have property insulation. Have your heating system serviced.
- Prepare winter essentials. Have plenty of warm blankets, gloves, hats, and other winter gear on hand in case of winter storms that can knock out power and heat. Keep some rock salt in case there is some dangerous ice on your walkways.
- Be careful during freezing weather for ice. If you live you here long enough, then you forget how to drive in ice and snow. Yet, often in our mild weather, we will have cold winter rains that wet the road and freeze overnight. So be cautious and careful in those conditions!
- Also be aware that if we have a real snowstorm (yes, it does sometimes happen), that the City does not have any snow removal equipment. Instead, we rely on the weather being warm enough to melt everything by the next day. In that situation, please stay home if possible and be patient as we try to assemble resources to at least salt the roads.

By following some of these tips you can be more certain to avoid some of the problems that come along with winter. Have a wonderful winter!
Art on Loan

The Art-on-Loan program has been funded for 2024. A call for entry will be available on the Arts Commission website mid-January. Artists living, working, or represented by an Ivins gallery are eligible to apply. Further information will be provided on the Arts Commission website in January.

RAP Grant Applications

A digital application form is now available at the Ivins City Arts Commission website | ivinsartscommission.com. Eligible Ivins City not-for-profit arts organizations planning to apply for 2024 RAP funds can complete an application directly on the website. For further information or questions, contact the Arts Commission at ivinsartscommission@ivins.com. Hard copy applications should be delivered to Ivins City Hall by 5pm on Friday, December 29, 2023.

IVINS ARTS COMMISSION UPDATE

Ivins City Arts Corridor

This is a three-year project to raise funds to create a vibrant visual Arts Corridor along Center Street from the Kayenta Arts Village to Black Desert Resort. Pledge your support to the Arts Corridor today. Tax-deductible donations are received by Kayenta Arts Foundation and are held in a restricted account for the Arts Corridor. Donations and pledges can be made via the Kayenta Arts Foundation website kayentaarts.org/arts-corridor-project/

Irving Berlin’s White Christmas: November 24 - December 22

The timeless movie "White Christmas" is adapted for the stage in a lavish production that the New York Times says to "put on your wish list." Irving Berlin’s White Christmas tells the story of a military veteran song-and-dance team putting on a show in a magical Vermont inn and falling head-over-heels for a stunning sister act in the process. This merry and bright holiday musical is full of dancing, laughter and features Irving Berlin songs and a book by David Ives and Paul Blake. Be whisked away as Tuacahn's Indoor Hafen theatre transforms into a winter wonderland.

Christmas in the Canyon - November 24-December 23

Come celebrate Christmas at Tuacahn this holiday season! With over 250,000 twinkling lights, a live nativity show, train rides on The Tuacahn Express, a open fire, and a visit with Santa Claus, you don’t want to miss Tuacahn’s Christmas in the Canyon event! There is no admission charge to visit Tuacahn and enjoy Christmas in the Canyon. Tuacahn's Cafe will be open for dinner and treats! It's Tuacahn's way of saying "thank you" to the community for its support and to remind us all of the true meaning of Christmas.
Attention PHOTOGRAPHERS! Now is the time to be printing your photos for entry in the next Center for the Arts at Kayenta show. Anything goes for this photography-only show, "People, Places & Ponies". The show is open to all and supports the Center and our local artists. Photo drop-off day is Wednesday, December 27 from 3 - 6 p.m. All the info you need, and the entry form are here: https://kayentaarts.org/visual-art-exhibitions/

The show will begin with a free Artists Reception on the evening of Wednesday, January 3, 2024. The photography show always provides an amazing visual array of the best of the west - see you there!