



MAYOR'S CORNER

Not surprisingly, the City Council and I have been responding to residents inquiries regarding the tentative budget tax and fee increases as recently reported by the newspaper. We appreciate your concern and questions. For the most part they are fair and right on target. Aside from the required Public Meetings and Public Hearings concerning the budget, we will be holding a special Town Meeting at the Senior Center on June 13th at 7:00 p.m. where we can talk further with everyone and respond in a less formal setting to any concerns you might have.

The article in the newspaper was accurate as far as it went. After the meeting in which we adopted this tentative budget, we gave the reporter all of the information and rationale. We respectfully refrain from speculating on why the newspaper includes selective and incomplete information in their coverage of Riverdale City. We are in business primarily to serve the best interest and needs of our residents. They are in business to sell newspapers.

First and foremost, the budget proposal for the tax increase would only affect the small Riverdale portion of the overall county assessed property tax. The actual 2006 tax rate for Riverdale was 0.001131 or 9.0% of the total county property tax. The tax rate proposed in the tentative budget was 0.001680. This worst case scenario rate was adopted subject to and contemplating its possible amendment during the process of adopting the final budget for fiscal year 2007-08.

The City Council did meet as planned on May 19th in their annual budget work session and following considerable discussion did propose amending this tax rate increase to 0.001470. The city tax at this rate would actually cost Riverdale property owners about \$1.55 per month per \$100,000 of county assessed market value vs. \$2.52 per month which was reported as a headline story in the newspaper.

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TOWN MEETING

Wednesday, June 13, 2007, 7:00 p.m.

To be held at the Riverdale Senior Center
4433 South 900 west

The Mayor and City Council have called a Town Meeting to discuss the topics of budgeting, sales tax revenue, taxation, and the fiscal needs of the city.

Public comment is welcome.

All residents are invited and encouraged to attend.

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED TAXES

By Councilor Doug Peterson

Recent headlines about a property tax increase in Riverdale have caused many Riverdale residents a fair amount of concern over the past few weeks. Many of you have contacted us, members of your City Council, to ask questions. We have appreciated your interest and the opportunity to discuss this issue with you. Many more of you may have unanswered questions, which we would like to try to address here.

There are a handful of things which we would like to clarify before we discuss what has led to this proposed change in the tax rate:

1. The property tax increase mentioned in the newspaper would apply only to the Riverdale City portion of your property tax bill, not the entire bill. For example, if your property tax bill was \$1000 last year, approximately \$90 of that was for Riverdale City. Any property tax increase that is discussed would be a percentage of that \$90.
2. The 50% property tax increase mentioned in the paper was overstated and preliminary. Since then, the mayor, council and administration have met to review the details of the budget. We cut even more from expenses in the budget, and as we did so, we were able to pare back the proposed increase to 30%.
3. This proposed increase equates to approximately \$18 annually per \$100,000 of home value.
4. The property tax rate in Riverdale has *decreased* steadily since 1998. In 1998, the property tax levy was .001474. The newly proposed increase brings the rate to .001470, or slightly less than the rate of 9 years ago.

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MAYOR'S CORNER (continued)

(Continued from page 1)

As I've mentioned in many newsletter articles, the state legislature basically took more of our sales tax revenues than budget cuts would allow. We have been implementing an action plan over the last two years, and in the past year we have cut almost 1/2 million out of our budget, but without cutting services, we cannot do that again. Last year as I mentioned in my article, over 3 to 5 years this loss of sales tax revenue would be almost a million dollars or about 20% of our budget.

Our Riverdale tax history is that we as a city have not raised the city portion of the property tax for over 20 years. With the proposed tax increase, Riverdale's rate would remain 7th out of 11 cities in Weber county (see chart below).

Rank	City	Tax Rate
1	Ogden City	0.003905
2	Washington Terrace	0.003203
3	South Ogden	0.002825
4	Roy City	0.002451
5	North Ogden City	0.002435
6	Pleasant View	0.002189
7	Riverdale 2007 proposed	0.001470
7	Riverdale 2006 actual	0.001131
8	Huntsville	0.001066
9	Plain City	0.000519
10	Farr West City	0.000280
11	West Haven	0.000000
12	Marriott-Slaterville City	0.000000

Our commercial business district will carry a heavier portion of this tax increase burden since they do not benefit from the primary residence tax which is assessed on only 55% of market value. Businesses will pay the higher rate on 100% of assessed market value.

If you have additional concerns or questions please contact us or come to the Town Meeting on June 13th to share your views.

Bruce Burrows,
Mayor

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED TAXES (Continued)

(Continued from page 1)

While the above points may put the proposed increase in perspective, it does not necessarily make it much easier to swallow. A tax increase is a tax increase and it makes all of us, including members of the City Council, frustrated at the prospect. We hope a little more background will help to make clear why we are in this situation.

We are all aware that sales tax is a significant component of our city budget. To put it in perspective: In the 2005-06 city budget, our assessed property taxes accounted for approximately \$368,000 while sales tax accounted for \$4,939,651 – approximately 13 times the amount of property tax. Obviously, any change in sales tax can have a significant impact on our city budget.

A few years ago, some state senators from Davis and Utah Counties began pushing to take sales tax revenues from cities such as Riverdale and “redistribute” them to other cities with larger resident populations. Because of the potential impact, Riverdale city officials and administration became actively involved in the discussion. Thanks to the support of our Representative, Brad Dee, and support of leadership in the House, we were able to mitigate the impact of the legislation by avoiding a pure “population-based” distribution and spreading the implementation of this redistribution over a 7 to 10 year period. (The full details of the current status of that battle are the topic of another article.) But the negative effect is that our sales tax revenue will be reduced by one-third, or approximately \$1.5 million over the next 7-10 years with \$400,000 of that impact hitting us in the first year. While this is a marked improvement over what was originally proposed, it is still a significant impact to how we fund services in our city.

Knowing that some reduction in sales tax revenue was inevitable as a result of legislation, city officials and administration have spent the last few years reviewing options to provide services while managing the budget as these reductions would occur. We are working on or have already implemented the following options:

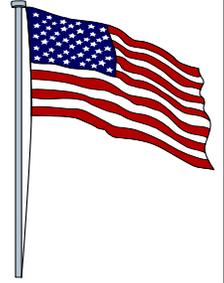
- Delay or eliminate some major city projects, such as street improvements, etc.
- Reduce, where possible, ongoing city expenses.
- Work with legislative leadership to further amend how sales tax revenues are distributed or other sales tax benefits for cities with disproportionate populations to retail bases.
- Increase sales taxes received through additional retail sales in our city.
- Adjust property taxes for businesses as well as residents (businesses will pay property tax on 100% of assessed value while homeowners pay only on 55% of value).
- Changing our fee-for-use for some services in our city, particularly for non-resident fees.

When it is all said and done, our goal is to provide an optimum level of services for residents while keeping the overall cost of living in Riverdale low. Based on comparative information to other cities for property taxes, water, sewer, garbage fees and franchise taxes, we are succeeding at this. As an example, if you live in a home worth \$150,000, use less than 15,000 gallons of water per month, have one garbage can and have average energy and telecommunications bills of \$40 per month, your annual current taxes and fees paid to the city are \$431. The next lowest of 11 cities in South Weber County or North Davis County is \$622 annually. The highest city in the same area is \$1187 annually. We believe this is testament to our ability to maintain a relatively low cost to our residents while efficiently providing services and, as your City Council, we are committed to continue to keep costs low for residents of our city.



OLD GLORY DAYS

2007



SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

JUNE 30 - JULY 4

Sports Tournaments

- **Golf Tournament** - Saturday, June 30th will be our annual Golf Tournament held at Schneiter's Riverside Golf Course. This will be a four person scramble. The fee is \$36.00 for 18 holes. Reserve your tee time by calling Schneiter's Golf at 399-4636.
- **Co-ed Volleyball Tournament** The tournament is 9 am on June 30th at the Community Center. For those 16 and older. Register at the Community Center. No cost.
- **3 on 3 Basketball Tournament** Hoop it up on July 4th, 1:00 pm in the Community Center. There are a variety of categories for men and women. Register by June 29th. Call 621-6084 for details.

Baby Contest

JULY 2nd - If you have little ones, enter them in our annual Baby Contest! There will be two age groups and judging times - 6 to 13 months, 5:00 p.m., & 14 to 24 months, 6:00 p.m. Participation is free. Open to Riverdale children only. Registration form available on the city website or at the Community Center.

Pumpers vs. Porkers Softball

JULY 3rd - Come and see our Police take on the Firefighters in a fun game of softball. The game takes place at the ball diamond next to the Community Center at 6:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 4

- **Sunrise Service**

Start the day off right by attending our annual Sunrise Service and Flag Raising Ceremony in Riverdale Park near the flag pole at 7:00 a.m.

- **Lions Club Breakfast**

The most important meal of the day! From 7:45 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. the Lions Club will hold their annual fundraiser breakfast at the Riverdale Park bowery. The cost is \$4.00 for adults and \$2.00 for children under 12. All proceeds go to charity.

- **5K Run/Walk**

Get your exercise in early by joining the 5K Run/Walk at the Red Church parking lot, 1000 West 4400 South. **Pre-registration is required this year!** Check in begins at 6:30 a.m. with the Walk starting at 7:15 a.m. and the Run starting at 7:30 a.m. T-shirts will be given to those who pre-register early. No cost for residents, \$10 for non-residents.

- **Old Glory Days Parade**

Everyone loves a parade! So plan on attending the Old Glory Days Parade at 9:30 a.m. The parade route will run west along 4400 South starting at 700 West going to Parker Drive then north to the park.

A Children's Bike Parade will precede the parade at 9:00 a.m. (children 8 years and under to be accompanied by a parent). Those participating can go to Riverdale Park near the Community Center at 6 pm the night before to decorate their bikes. Call 621-6084 for details.

- **Riverdale Park Festivities**
(4300 South Parker Drive)

Carnival

At 11:00 a.m. the booths will be open offering games, food, and fun for all. Bring the family and enjoy the day.

Kids Games

Free children's games for ages 12 and under will be held in the upper park area from 11:00 a.m. to noon. There will be prizes and fun for all!

Watermelon Eating Contest

New this year is a watermelon eating contest at noon. If you would like to participate you need to pre-register at the Community Center before the 4th. Two divisions: 13-20 years old and 21 + years old. Contest is limited to 10 contestants in each age group.

Pie Eating Contest

Also new this year is a pie eating contest at 1:30 p.m. If you would like to participate you need to pre-register at the Community Center before the 4th. Two divisions: 13-20 years old and 21 + years old. Contest is limited to 10 contestants in each age group.

Entertainment

Entertainment has been lined up from noon to 3:00 p.m. So stop by to take a look and listen.

Fireworks Extravaganza

The perfect way to end a day of celebration! The city will set the night sky on fire with our annual fireworks display. The show will begin at dusk. Come early for a good spot!

A Special "THANKS" goes to all of those who have worked hard to plan and participate in this years Old Glory Days events!

All registrations will take place at the Community Center, 4360 Parker Dr.

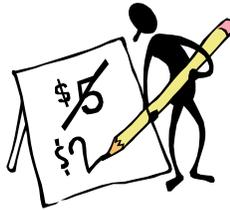
Registrations forms are also available on the city website at www.riverdalecity.com

CITY TO HOLD SURPLUS SALE

Riverdale City will be holding a surplus property sale from June 18th - 22nd.

A variety of items will be sold through a Dutch Auction Sale. With this type of sale, a starting price is set and will decrease each day an item remains unsold. Items include: desktop/laptop computers, bicycles, office equipment, sports equipment, and miscellaneous items. The sale will be held at the Riverdale Community Center, 4360 S. Parker Drive.

The city reserves the right to withdraw any item from the sale. A full list of items and additional information can be viewed on the city website at www.riverdalecity.com.



NEWS BRIEFS

LAWN & GARDEN DIAGNOSTIC CLINICS

Riverdale City is holding a series of free Lawn & Garden Diagnostic Clinics during the spring and summer months.



The diseases that are attacking your plants can be identified with possible solutions. We identify weeds, flowers, pests and insects. We teach you how to properly water your lawn. Fact sheets are offered for different diseases, fertilizers, water-wise landscapes and plants. Bring your problem plants, lawn or pests and we will help.

The clinics will be held monthly on the first and third Tuesdays beginning in May at the Riverdale Senior Center, 4433 South 900 West. The hours will be from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. The clinics will be hosted by Riverdale employee and Master Gardener Dennis Miller.

ELECTION INFORMATION

There will be three City Council seats up for election in the upcoming fall Municipal Election. Those interested in running for City Council need to fill out a Declaration of Candidacy form and submit it to the City Recorder. The filing period to submit the form is from July 1st to July 16th by 5:00 p.m. The form can be printed off the city website, www.riverdalecity.com, or picked up at the Civic Center.



NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH BLOCK PARTIES

Did you know that Riverdale City has a nighttime population of 8,100 people and a daytime population of 70,000 plus? This creates some interesting challenges for the Police Department and its officers. We have divided the city into individual precincts with officers assigned to each precinct. Our goal is to create an open communication between the officers and residents in each precinct. Doing this type of interaction allows officers to have a one on one relationship with the residents in his or her precinct.



We are looking for someone in each precinct to step up and organize a block party in their neighborhood. We as a police department will spread out the **yellow - DO NOT CROSS - crime scene tape** to shut down the street that you designate in your neighborhood for the 1 – 2 hour party. We will also give a little pep talk on what residents can do to help protect each other more and address unique problems to your neighborhood while the meat is grilling away on the barbeques. We will also invite the Fire Department to showcase a fire truck for the kids to climb on and we will also show off some of our police toys as well and even give a ride in a police car for those interested.

We have found great success in this approach and think it helps us get to know you and you to get to know us. Our officers love working here and want you to be as safe as possible. We have divided the city into regions and assigned an Officer to be over each area. To view a map of the regions and the Officers assigned, please visit the city website at www.riverdalecity.com. When an officer drives by in your neighborhood flag him down or call **394-6616** and ask to speak to **your** neighborhood Police Officer. If you have any further questions please call.

CHANGE IN TRASH PICKUP

There will be a change in our garbage pickup schedule during the first week in July. Since Independence Day falls on Wednesday, July 4th, our pickup day will be delayed by one day. Our pickup day for that week only will be Thursday, July 5th.



RDA HOUSING PROGRAM

The RDA Housing Program provides low-interest and no-interest loans of up to \$20,000 to property owners who meet certain income guidelines. Loan proceeds must be used for property improvements. A loan packet may be obtained at the Civic Center or at www.riverdalecity.com.



EQUAL PAY FOR UTILITY BILLS

If you are looking for an easier way to work the excess water usage into your monthly budget, then Equal Pay is for you. Residents may sign up for the Equal Pay option and be billed an equal amount each month based on last years billing.



Direct Pay is also available. This option allows residents to have their utility payment deducted directly from their bank account. It is required for those who choose the Equal Pay option. To sign up please call 394-5541 ext. 1201.

Check out these topics online at www.riverdalecity.com

- **Fence Permits:** A free permit must be obtained from the city before a fence is installed.
- **Planting Trees in the parking strip:** A free permit is required. Review the list of acceptable trees which can be planted.
- **City Council and Planning Commission Information:** Find agendas, minutes, schedules and City Council audio recordings of meetings.

RIVERDALE SENIOR NEWS

June 2007

RIVERDALE SENIOR CENTER

4433 South 900 West, Riverdale, Utah 84405 (801) 621-6086

Open 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday thru Friday

(Closed on Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays)

STOP BY THE SENIOR CENTER FOR A COMPLETE PROGRAM SCHEDULE AND LUNCH MENU!

LUNCH MENU

Lunch is served at noon weekdays for seniors age 55 and older for only \$2.50.



June

- ✓ 1 - Roast Beef
- ✓ 4 - Chef Salad
- ✓ 5 - Chicken & Broccoli Alfredo
- ✓ 6 - Glazed Ham
- ✓ 7 - Turkey Steak
- ✓ 8 - Meat Loaf
- ✓ 11 - Salisbury Steak
- ✓ 12 - Fried Chicken
- ✓ 13 - Battered Cod
- ✓ 14 - Mesquite Chicken Breast
- ✓ 15 - Dinner Steak
- ✓ 18 - Sloppy Joes
- ✓ 19 - Sweet N' Sour Chicken
- ✓ 20 - Turkey Avocado Wrap
- ✓ 21 - Roast Pork
- ✓ 22 - Chicken Enchilada
- ✓ 25 - Tenderloin Chicken Breast
- ✓ 26 - Spaghetti & Meatballs
- ✓ 27 - Country Fried Steak
- ✓ 28 - Baked Potato Bar
- ✓ 29 - Pot Roast

SENIOR CENTER FUNDRAISER

The Senior Center will be holding a fundraiser raffle for a beautiful handmade clock (pictured). The clock was made and donated by Janeice and Paul Francom. Tickets are \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00 and may be purchased at the Senior Center. The drawing will take place on July 4th.



SENIOR CENTER OFFERS MANY CLASSES

The Senior Center offers a variety of classes including: computer instruction, fly tying, wood carving, ceramics, bunka, lapidary, writing, and stained glass.



Beginning Computer Class - Thursdays at 10:00 am, Cost \$10.00.

Digital Scrapbooking Class - 2nd and 4th Tuesdays at 11:00 am.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **June 12th** - Picnic in the Park at noon, entertainment by "The Fiddler Kids."
- **June 14th** - Myers Mortuary Seminar at 12:30 pm.
- **June 19th** - Bingo Day, prizes donated by Health Watch & Caring Hands.
- **June 21st** - Horizon Balance and Dizziness Seminar at 10:30 am.
- **June 26th** - Bingo Day, prizes donated by Myers Mortuary.
- **July 2nd** - Book Club meets at 1:00 pm.

July

- ✓ 2 - Breaded Halibut
- ✓ 3 - Hot Roast Beef Sandwich
- ✓ 4 - Closed for Fourth of July
- ✓ 5 - Chicken Cour Don Bleu
- ✓ 6 - Sliced Port Roast
- ✓ 9 - Mesquite Chicken Breast
- ✓ 10 - Baked Ham
- ✓ 11 - Chef's Salad

RECREATION NEWS

CALL FOR OLD GLORY DAYS PARADE ENTRIES

This year we are excited to invite families, clubs, neighborhoods, church groups, and all who would like to participate to join our hometown parade. The theme is "Celebrating Hometown Pride." Here are a few ideas to help you get started:



- Host a block party to build your neighborhood entry.
- Have an entry that shows your family's personality.
- Take the city challenge to spend less than \$30 on your entry.
- Come on tractors, trucks, trailers, or bikes. Use your imagination!

Use your creativity and discover your "Hometown Pride." Cash prizes will be awarded for winning entries! Pick up an entry form at the Community Center or at www.riverdalecity.com. For more information call 621-6084.

VOLLEYBALL INTRAMURALS

Come join us for our summer activity - Volleyball. Play is underway and will be held on Mon. & Wed. There will be 4 sessions:



- Age 8 and 9 - 9:00 a.m.
- Age 10 to 12 - 10:00 a.m.
- Age 13 to 18 - 11:00 a.m.
- **Women 18+ - 12:00 p.m.**

Cost is \$5.00. For more information call 621-6084.

CITY CALENDAR

June 2007

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
3	4	5 City Council* 6:00 p.m. Lawn & garden clinic	6 Garbage Day	7	8 / 1	9 / 2
10	11	12 Planning Commission* 6:30 p.m.	13 Town Meeting 7pm at the Senior Center Garbage Day	14 Flag Day	15	16
17 Father's Day	18	19 City Council / RDA Meeting* 6 pm Lawn & garden clinic	20 Garbage Day	21	22	23
City surplus sale at the Community Center						
24	25	26 Planning Commission* 6:30 p.m.	27 Garbage Day	28	29	30 Golf Tournament Volleyball Tournament
July	1	2 Baby Contest	3 City Council* 6:00 p.m. Lawn & garden clinic	4 Old Glory Days City Offices Closed	5 Garbage Day	6

*Agendas for the meetings are posted in the Civic Center, Community Center, and Senior Center foyers prior to the meetings and at our website, www.riverdalecity.com.

RIVERDALE CITY DIRECTORY

Mayor City Council

Mayor Burrows 621-7979
 Councilor Gibby 621-8639
 Councilor Griffiths 393-0183
 Councilor Haws 393-2598
 Councilor Jenkins 394-7993
 Councilor Peterson 334-9660

Civic Center

4600 South Weber River Drive
 394-5541

City Administrator

Larry Hansen 436-1233

Department of Business Administration

4600 S. Weber River Drive 394-5541

Community Center

4360 S. Parker Drive 621-6084

Senior Center

4433 S. 900 W. 621-6086

Justice Court

4600 S. Weber River Drive 394-9314

Department of Community Development

4600 S. Weber River Drive 394-5541 x1240

Department of Public Works / Utilities

4600 S. Weber River Drive 394-5541 x1201
 After hours dispatch 629-8221

Police Department

4580 South Weber River Drive
 911 (Emergencies)
 394-6616 (Business Line)
 629-8221 (Weber Dispatch)
 Animal Control 394-6616

Fire Department

4334 South Parker Drive
 911 (Emergencies)
 394-7481 (Business Line)
 629-8221 (Weber Dispatch)

Riverdale City Offices
4600 S. Weber River Dr.
Riverdale, UT 84405

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