



## The Mayor's Minutia

### Mayor Dan McGuire

For my last column as Mayor, I thought I would do a Wish List and a Regrets list.

I Wish:

You would participate more in community events; that you would understand the purpose of such events is to foster community engagement; where you might get to know other residents and learn that your elected officials are not such bad apples after all. Community events strengthen the spirit of Rockville; let's not be indifferent to the town you love.

I Wish:

That you will actively support your new Mayor. The Mayor thrives on feedback to gauge how he and the town are doing in meeting your needs. It can be a lonely job at times and who doesn't need a word of encouragement from time to time.

It's my wish too that the new Mayor will engage the town and be a presence not only in Rockville, but in County affairs that may impact or benefit Rockville. You have to go to the well if you expect to get water.

I Wish:

That you would recognize the problem of constantly barking dogs. The answer is not in threats from the town or from attorneys, the answer is in recognizing that constantly barking dogs are lonely and sometimes neglected. Dogs bark to make us aware of something, to bring something to our attention and that is a natural function. A neglected dog has but one way to draw attention to his loneliness and that is by constant barking. If you own a dog, take responsibility when he becomes a neighborhood nuisance. You have the power to make decisions, your dog doesn't.

I wish:

That if you are one of our mounted citizens who often ride along the back road and the sidewalk that you would take responsibility of returning to where your steed may have dumped a load on the sidewalk. It's just not cool to neglect what you have left for others to deal with.

I Wish:

That you would engage town officials in meaningful discussions about concerns or ideas that you may have. You can call anyone of them anytime; dialog with your elected team doesn't have to wait for reg-

ular meetings. Decisions must be made at public meetings, but you can discuss any topic that you wish. I wish that you wouldn't deal in rumors or perpetuate a rumor that you heard somewhere along the way. Try to get the facts by going to the source. If someone wants to tell you something in confidence, before they tell you, ask them if it's true, is it kind and will you be better off knowing it? If they can't answer in the affirmative to all, tell them you are not interested in rumors or unfounded speculation.

I Wish:

If you live along Main Street that you would take responsibility for the ditch in front of your property, whether you are an owner or renter. The ditches are considered historic and need to be protected from the build-up of mud and debris and weeds that tend to grow between the stones. If you can't do it yourself, hire someone to do it for you. The ditches deserve better care in some areas and are as much a landmark of Rockville as the street lighting.

I Wish:

That we had town staff to take care of our park, but we don't. I wish you would take the time to pick up trash, put small rocks back where they belong-sometimes kids toss them around in places where they don't belong. Educate our younger set on park etiquette and why it's important to maintain it for all to enjoy. Don't be a "hoodoo knocker", always leave your park better than you found it.

I Wish:

If you choose to receive your mail in Springdale, I wish that you would try to visit the Rockville Post Office occasionally to check the bulletin board or to take note of town notices that may be on the window of the front door. Sometimes that is the best way we have to communicate quickly.

I Wish:

I wish our new Mayor all the best and that he may find satisfaction in serving the best community in the county.

It is a genuine honor to have held the position as your Mayor.

I thought I might list some regrets that I have from nearly 12 years on Town Council, but I don't really have any worth mentioning.

*"We often take for granted the very things that most deserve our gratitude."* **Cynthia Ozick**

**Town Council Updates**



**PAM LEACH**

**HOLIDAY SEASON COMES TO  
ROCKVILLE!**

The holiday season was kicked off with another wonderful Halloween carnival at the Rockville Community Center! The photos I have seen are wonderful, and evidence of lots of fun.

Now November is upon us, and the Thanksgiving turkey is putting on a few last pounds before gracing our tables along with the bounty of the harvest. Family and friends will gather to share and give thanks.

Just around the corner - CHRISTMAS! Please mark your calendars and join us on Saturday, December 7th, 6 - 7:30p.m., at the Rockville Community Center for a little holiday celebration. Bring something sweet to share, listen as the children sing Christmas songs, and join us in welcoming Santa Claus! Everyone is welcome, so bring family and friends, and add some festive warmth to your holiday. See you there!



**MEGAN HONER-ORTON**

Rockville Bridge — It appears to me at this time that most people in Rockville want to preserve and strengthen the historic bridge we have. And the bridge committee has been told that there is no grant money from the State and Federal government for fixing the bridge, only for a new bridge. Your council, with assistance from those in the historic preservation field, is researching grant funds for refurbishing the bridge. What we would like to know from you as residents of the town is:

Do you want to repair and strengthen our present bridge? If it is not possible to find funds to do that, do you want a new bridge?

If we can refurbish our existing bridge, do you want a second bridge? If yes, where should it be?

Do you want to keep the existing bridge even if we can't repair or strengthen it?

NOTES: The bridge that is proposed (and it is only a proposal right now) is next to the old bridge. This will be the least expensive place for the bridge because it will require the purchase of less private property than the other possible locations in Rockville. We have received grant funds to purchase the property from the Council of Governments in Washington County. It is the opinion of one of our historic consultants that if a new bridge is built next to the old one, we will have lost any leverage we have for raising funds for restoring the existing bridge because we will not be able to demonstrate that we need it. If we are able to repair and strengthen the existing bridge, it is estimated the work will last for 25 years.

A new bridge is estimated to last for 75 years. We are not aware of a location in Rockville where a new bridge would be welcomed by the adjacent property owners. We are not aware of a location in Rockville that would cost the same as or less than the amount of the grant we have been approved for. The existing bridge has been downgraded in its load capacity and will continue to degrade if we cannot find funds to repair and strengthen it. If the town keeps it, we will still have to maintain it.

Please go to this website:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/QBFDQSD> to fill out the brief survey there and if you have other choices or more to say, let us know. These are difficult decisions. Please let your council know what you want. If you have no preference, we'd like to know that too.



**JEFF BALLARD**

Hi Rockville,

This will be my last newsletter as a council person. I have served on the Town Council for 12 years and it has been interesting. You can't believe the issues that can spring up in a small town. I want to tell everyone that I have worked with over the years in a Town capacity how much I appreciate their hard work. Each one of them has Rockville's best interest at heart.

Rockville is a unique place to live and we couldn't survive without the volunteers that give of their time, from putting up flags, to town cleanups, Rockville Daze, cemetery cleanup and Christmas decoration and on and on. We just need more folks to step up and take part.

We have a unique opportunity to get a new bridge and keep the old green bridge to boot. Many communities lost out on projects because the Joint Highway Commission (JHC) elected to give Rockville the dollars to fund a new bridge over a three year period. I know the talk of refurbishment of the old bridge is in discussion with some folks in town, but remember 25 tons and 25 years is the most that can be gained and then we are looking at \$11 million versus \$3 million to replace.

When Dan and I went to Woods Cross last February to apply for the dollars, we looked at three options — 1. remove the old bridge and build a new bridge; 2. refurbishment of the old bridge; and 3. leave the old bridge in place and build a new bridge next to it. The support for refurbishment wasn't an option with the JHC. I certainly hope that we do not jeopardize the funding. I believe that we are all open to an alternate location, if one can be established that is reasonable.

The Town and UDOT is working on a project to replace about 500' of concrete ditch that was installed

during the construction of the sewer system in 1985 which is located on the north side of SR-9. During construction, the old stone ditches were removed and concrete put back in the place of rocks . A number of areas are flat and will not carry water and do not match the other portion of the ditches. Jim McConnell of UDOT was the driving force in securing funding for this project. This work should enhance the roadway and be more historically correct.

Thanks for your support over the years.

Jeff Ballard

#### NOTES FROM THE CLERK'S DESK



It was suggested by the Mayor and the Town Council that the Rockville Globe should be distributed to our Town residents electronically. This edition is being sent to the Town email list in PDF format, as well as being mailed out with the garbage billings. We would like to hear from you regarding your preference of how you would like to receive the Rockville Globe. There will be sign up sheets in both the Town Office and the Post Office where you can provide us with your email address or if you prefer to receive a hard copy.

#### UPCOMING VACANCY ON THE ROCKVILLE PLANNING COMMISSION

There is one three-year term on the Rockville Planning Commission held by Vivian Cropper that expires December 31, 2013.

If you have an interest in serving on Rockville's Planning Commission, submit a letter of interest containing a statement of why you would like to serve and relevant experience to the Town Clerk no later than 4:00 pm December 31, 2013. This will enable the Town Council to review the request prior to their regular meeting on January 15, 2013. A letter of interest may be sent to the Town of Rockville, PO Box 630206, Rockville, UT 84763 or delivered to the office during regular business hours. The letter must include the NAME, PHYSICAL AND MAILING ADDRESSES AND PHONE NUMBER of the applicant. Rockville Planning Commission members must be residents of the Town of Rockville.

Besides having an interest in preserving Rockville's General Plan, Commission members should be willing to attend training when offered.

The General Plan and Land Use Code may be checked out for your review from the Town Clerk. Office hours are Monday thru Wednesday, 9 am to 4 pm., Thursday, 9 am to 1 pm. Phone—772-0992.

#### OFFICIAL AND CANVASSED RESULTS OF THE TOWN OF ROCKVILLE MUNICIPAL ELECTION

##### Mayor

Steve Cox—57

\*Tracy Dutson—71

##### Two Council Members Four-year Terms

\*Bernie M. Harris—76

\*Pamela Leach—107

##### One Council Member Two-year Term

\*Max Gregoric—69

Kim Konikow—16

##### Proposition #9

For—41

\*Against—82

\*Highest Number of Votes Cast

**Rockville Voter Turnout—80%**

Thank you Rockville for voting!  
Thank you candidates for willing to serve!

#### REMAINDER OF ROCKVILLE MEETING SCHEDULE FOR 2013

The Planning Commission usually meets on the second Tuesday of the month at 7:00 pm in the Rockville Community Center, 43 E. Main, Rockville, Utah. **There is no regular meeting scheduled for December.**

The Town of Rockville Town Council will meet on the following dates at the designated time and place for the remainder of the calendar year 2013 unless otherwise posted. The Town Council usually meets on the Wednesday following the second Tuesday of the month at 6:00 pm in the Rockville Community Center, 43 E. Main, Rockville, Utah.

December 11

#### CLEANUP DUMPSTER SCHEDULE FOR 2013

November 22, 2013

#### DOG LICENSES DUE

Dog licenses for 2013 are due December 31, 2013. If you need more than the one application enclosed, contact the Town Clerk at 772-0992. Please remember that **PROOF OF AN UP-TO-DATE RABIES VACCINATION IS REQUIRED.**

**ROCKVILLE PLANNING COMMISSION  
MEETING SCHEDULE FOR 2014**

The Town of Rockville Planning Commission will meet on the following dates at the designated time and place for the calendar year 2014 unless otherwise posted. The Planning Commission usually meets on the second Tuesday of the month at 6:00 p.m. in the Rockville Community Center, 43 E Main, Rockville, Utah. **PLEASE NOTE THE DATE FOR NOVEMBER HAS BEEN CHANGED TO A WEDNESDAY AND THERE IS NO SCHEDULED MEETING IN DECEMBER.**

January 14	May 13	September 09
February 11	June 10	October 14
March 11	July 08	November 12
April 08	August 12	<b>Dec. No meeting</b>

**ROCKVILLE TOWN COUNCIL  
MEETING SCHEDULE FOR 2014**

The Town of Rockville Town Council will meet on the following dates at the designated time and place for the calendar year 2014 unless otherwise posted. The Town Council usually meets on the Wednesday following the second Tuesday of the month at 6:00 p.m. in the Rockville Community Center, 43 E Main, Rockville, Utah. **PLEASE NOTE THE DATE FOR THE NOVEMBER MEETING HAS BEEN CHANGED TO A THURSDAY.**

January 15	May 14	September 10
February 12	June 11	October 15
March 12	July 09	November 13
April 09	August 13	December 10

**A NOTE FROM SHIRLEY BALLARD**

I would like to give a little info about the role of the elected and appointed officials of Rockville. As you know your vote determines the makeup of the Mayor and Town Council. The Planning Commissioners are appointed by the Mayor and Town Council. Each member must submit a letter stating their desire to serve on the Planning Commission.

The Mayor and Town Council each serve for four years. Their terms are staggered so that they are not all up for election at the same time. The Planning Commission serves terms of three years which is also staggered. When any of these positions become vacant during the midterm, they are filled by appointment by the Mayor with the Town Council's approval. The Planning Commission serves without compensation. The Mayor and each Town Councilperson is paid \$1 a year (which is always returned to the general fund).

Each member of the Town Council is assigned areas to oversee. None of which they are totally responsible but are the contact for that area i.e. Jeff oversees roads and the cemetery; Pam oversees activities and is Mayor Protem; Megan oversees emergency preparedness.

The Planning Commission is assigned to oversee the Town General Plan, the Land Use Code and to hear and decide any matters the Town Council designates. They are to recommend regulations and amendments to the Land Use Code to the Town Council and conduct public hearing on these recommendations. They are responsible for hearing requests for permits, licenses, zoning changes and for recommending approvals or denials on these requests. All business of the Planning Commission is conducted in public meetings. The primary responsibility of the Planning Commission is to help the landowner accomplish what they desire to do with their land as long as it is consistent with what is currently allowed by Town Code. They are also to apply their knowledge of Town Codes and Ordinances to the planning and land use process.

The Planning Commission as well as the Town Council has very little discretion when acting on behalf of the Town on an issue before them. If an application complies with Town Code and Ordinances, they must approve the application, but if the application does not comply they must deny the application.

The Town's business is conducted for the benefit of all residents of Rockville in public meeting. Meetings are noticed by the Town Clerk per state law. Meetings are recorded.

I believe it is very important that each citizen become aware of what is going on in Rockville before they have a need to address either the Planning Commission or Town Council. With everyone's help, Rockville will become your Town and afford us all the ability to live here harmoniously.

Hopefully, with the recent challenges that have come to the forefront in Rockville, we will all get together to come up with solutions that will be the best answer to our challenges.

I love Rockville and all my neighbors and hope we all can be friends.

## Historic Rockville Bridge

The Rockville Historic Preservation Commission (RHPC) is working with the Town to discuss alternatives for the rehabilitation of the bridge. The Rockville Bridge was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1995. It is the last standing example of a Parker truss bridge in the state.

The Rockville Bridge is a significant historic resource for the Town. The Rockville Bridge was highlighted in the Town's 150 year celebration and is on the town's t-shirt. The Rockville General Plan places a "High Priority" on the historic preservation of the bridge. In Chapter 5 – Environment, the Plan states "The following historical and cultural features should be protected to the extent that their character is preserved: Bridge over Virgin River." In Chapter 6 – Capital Improvements, the plan identifies the necessity to "evaluate bridge needs" and to "preserve historic structures." Clearly protection of the Rockville Bridge is important to the Town and its residents.

The original load capacity of the bridge was 25 tons. UDOT recently lowered the rating to 14 tons based on inspection and load rating data. With some trucks exceeding these limits, the current rating does not meet the needs of the town.

In 2012 the Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT) prepared a report for the Town that outlined three alternatives; 1) build a new bridge next to the existing bridge with some improvements to the old one, 2) remove the existing bridge and build a new one; or 3) rehabilitate the historic bridge with the goal of regaining the 25 ton load capacity. A summary of the estimated costs by alternatives is provided below:

<b>Rockville Bridge</b>	<b>Alternative 1 Additional 2 Lane Bridge</b>	<b>Alternative 2 2 Lane Bridge Replacement</b>	<b>Alternative 3 Major Bridge (1 Lane) Rehabilitation</b>
Initial Cost	\$3,400,000	\$3,200,000	\$2,100,000
6.77% Funding Match	\$230,000	\$220,000	\$140,000
Service Life	75 Years (New Bridge) 30 Years (Old Bridge rehabilitated)	75 Years	30 Years
Routine Maintenance	\$2,000	\$1,000	\$1,500

Source: Improvement Alternatives for the Rockville Bridge over the Virgin River Report, UDOT

See reports on the town's web page at--- <http://rockvilleutah.org/bridge/>

Presently the Town is considering Alternative 1 as its preferred alternative. This would place a new bridge on the east side of the existing bridge. Funds have been secured from the Joint Highway Commission for work to begin in 2015-2016.

While there are pros and cons to each alternative, the RHPC recommends further consideration, clarification, and evaluation of Alternative 3 that would keep the bridge in service to protect not only the historic bridge but its beautiful setting. A UDOT report outlines steps to protect and stabilize the bridge for the next 30 years. It is unclear if this rehabilitation work is eligible for the Joint Highway Commission fund source because of the current load rating. More information is needed to determine what the funding can be used for.

RHPC is seeking further clarification on what immediate steps could be taken to upgrade the load rating back to 25 tons. RHPC recommends the UDOT report be revisited to include an aggressive maintenance plan that would include scheduled structural component replacement in out years after major rehabilitation has been completed. The intent is to extend the estimated service life of the bridge beyond 30 years.

Your opinion counts – get involved – take the survey! Copy and paste the following address into your browser: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/QBFDQSD> Under each alternative town residents have the opportunity to become part of Rockville's history in the making. Let's make sure the historical legacy of the bridge lives on and those who come after us commend us for the extra effort we made to preserve what we love most about Rockville – its unique character. Please let the Mayor and the Town Council know which alternative you support in a productive and constructive manner.

Rockville Historic Preservation Commission: Jane Whalen, President, Phone 435-635-2133, [janewhalen@earthlink.net](mailto:janewhalen@earthlink.net), Jack Burns Vice- President. Commission members: Therese Feinauer, Jim Harlan, and Town Council liaison Jeff Ballard.

**Please see Mayor McGuire's Reprise to the above article on the reverse side.**

## Historic Rockville Bridge-- Reprise

The Rockville Historic Preservation Commission (RHPC) is working to provide alternatives for the rehabilitation of our bridge and I, along with members of Town Council support their efforts. As I made clear at our first Town Forum, ideas are always welcome, but they must be reasonable and provide a realistic way to fund the idea. Opinions will not work without research to determine a funding source.

Having said that, I would like to add some amplifying remarks to what has been written by the RHPC.

The original load rating capacity of the bridge was 40 tons. It was downgraded to 25 tons and now it is 14 tons. We know the latest down grading of the bridge has seriously affected activities on the south side of town.

It is very clear to the Town Council that the funds earmarked for an additional bridge, are not for rehabilitation of the old bridge. That very question was asked of a ranking member of the Joint Highway Commission who said..."rebuilding the bridge to include loads of any size would be cost prohibitive and probably not feasible". He noted that he is not an expert, but he would be surprised if the JHC was amenable to rebuilding the existing bridge". He went on to say that you never know what the JHC might do if you went back to them. They could decide to redirect the funds. Spending \$2M to rehab the bridge for a projected lifespan of 25 years equates to \$80,000 per year. If you controlled the purse strings, would you invest \$80,000 every year on a 90 year old structure? Rockville's acceptance for funding was exceptional because we were given funds that eliminated other communities for a period of nearly three years.

I would add that this UDOT Commissioner was instrumental in Rockville's success in obtaining a grant.

In my opinion, the RHPC article implies that there are many options to choose from and that everyone needs to voice their concerns and can do so on the website that has been included in the article. Who tabulates the results and develops a position from the survey is not explained. Not everyone will have a voice in the survey unless they can access the internet.

It seems to imply, at least to me, that the Town Council is confused and we are desperately waiting for someone to come to our aid. This is not the case.

Let me be clear of the facts as they are now:

We submitted an application for funds and we were approved.

The JHC made it clear to us that the funds are for an additional bridge, not for refurbishment of the old bridge. We accepted those terms.

We are in the process of purchasing the Unruh property for the Right of Way.

We are open to serious location alternatives that are based on research and coordination with any agency that has the ability to support the effort.

The Town Council has done the work to this point and if we go in a different direction as a result of surveys and the Town Council decision, then others are going to have to take up the slack, jump into the breach and get it done.

I recognize that I won't be in an elected position when this comes about, but I will be terribly disappointed if we sacrifice our grant funding because of indecision or confusion.

Dan McGuire, Mayor



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