



"A LITTLE BIT OF COUNTRY"

LINDON CITY NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2013

Mayor

James A. Dain

City Center Offices

100 North State St/Upper Level
785-5043

Community Development

100 North State St/Lower Level
785-7687

Public Works

946 West Center Street
796-7954

Justice Court

100 North State Street
Upper Level
785-1971

Police

100 North State Street
Lower Level
Emergency - 911
Non-emergency Dispatch
229-7070
Police Department Offices
769-8600

Fire

Emergency - 911
Non-emergency Dispatch
229-7070
Other Fire Services
229-7327

Aquatics Center

60 West 60 North
610-4160

Community/Senior Center

25 North Main
769-8637/769-8625

City Website

www.lindoncity.org
www.facebook.com/lindoncity

RESERVATIONS

If you would like to reserve the Community Center, Veterans Hall or a City Park, please call the Community Center front desk at 801-769-8637. To reserve the City Building Council Chambers/Court please call 801-785-5043.
Thank You!

TRANSPARENCY AND TRUST

Recently CNN Money Magazine printed an article where it listed Lindon as the 29th best small city to live in America. We live in a special community with great people, but we also have our share of challenges as we strive to offer the services, programs, safety, and quality of life that the citizen's desire and expect. One of the things we have strived for, and have made great advances, is that of transparency. You have elected representatives (Mayor and City Council), to watch over and further the work of our community. You trust us in making tough financial decisions and in watching out for those who are on fixed incomes and controlling expenses while placing the city in a strong financial situation from year to year through a thorough and tough budget process. Many citizens have become hardened and untrusting over the years as they hear stories of corruption and dishonesty that seem to be prevalent in portions of our Federal and State governments. At times it feels like some of that negativity towards Federal or State government spills over to us on the City level, where from time to time, comments are made assuming we have a hidden agenda or that we are hiding things from our fellow citizens – which couldn't be farther from the truth.

This Council has and will continue to put before you issues that affect us all. We will continue to have open and long discussions, like we have done in the past, when it comes to significant issues such as changes to the animal ordinance, issues regarding the UTOPIA fiber optic network, changes to our water, sewer, and garbage rates, the building and opening of new roads, and the safety and concern for our children. As evidence of our desire to know the will of our residents, the City Council recently voted with unanimous action to put before our citizens a Parks, Arts, Recreation and Culture (PARC) tax proposal that would generate additional sales tax revenues for the amenities that our citizens say they want. This was done so our citizens can once again have a say in determining how we collect needed funds to continue the process of making Lindon a special place to work and live. As this issue will appear on the Lindon ballot in November we encourage you to make yourself aware of the PARC proposal by viewing information at www.lindoncity.org. At the ballot box you will be given the opportunity to voice your opinion with your vote.

Our City has been fortunate during these last few lean years, and we have worked hard to run a tight ship and to cut unnecessary expenses. Our City has weathered the storm reasonably well during the national recession in our country, but challenges still await us. I commend the city and staff for their efforts, but we are approaching a time where it will become harder to meet our budget needs, particularly as we face aging streets and public infrastructure. The City has diminishing reserve funds to hold us over from year-to-year. We hope that our sales tax revenue will continue to increase and that a more friendly business climate will attract more revenues for our city. As we watch so many other cities raise their taxes and fees this year we have tried to be prudent, careful, and live within our means.

It would be easy for an outgoing Mayor and two outgoing Council members to kick the can down the road and say "we will let others solve our problems," but this Council has been willing to face the reality of our problems and work to solve them. Not everyone will agree with some of Lindon's pledges for funding of facilities or programs in the past. I have personally struggled with past commitments made for UTOPIA. From a technology stand point, the fiber optic network is great for the city, but from a financial stand point it has been extremely burdensome. However, I and the rest of the Council understand that our city made contractual obligations that must be fulfilled. It would be easy to blame problems on circumstances that we had no say in, but I learned this a number of years ago, "People who get on in this world are the people who get up and look for the circumstances they want, and if they can't find them, they make them". Our obligation will continue to be forward thinking to deal with issues that we have before us, whether we like them or not.

On behalf of Mayor Dain, Councilman Frampton, and myself we thank you for your support and trust as we step away from our city responsibilities at the end of this year. Each of us has used our gifts and our talents in serving this great city and we have done it with transparency and with our citizens concerns in mind.

Sincerely,
Mark L. Walker, Lindon City Council