

# Huntsville Happenings

www.huntsvilleutah.gov 7474 E 200 S, P.O. Box 267 801-745-3420 August 2025

Town Council Meetings 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays each month at 6:00 PM

Planning Commission Meetings 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday each month at 6:30 PM

The Public is always welcome!

## **Powder Mountain Open House**

A public hearing was held by the Huntsville Planning Commission on July 23<sup>rd</sup> for public comment regarding improvements and a rezone petition at Powder Mountain's recreation facility on Cemetery Point. The Planning Commission decided to table the issue and did not yet vote for approval or denial. Powder Mountain is inviting Huntsville Town residents to an Open House at their property on August 11, starting at 5:30 pm, that will include food. They are hoping this will be a good opportunity for our residents to see the property and ask questions about Powder Mountain's vision. Please come, join your neighbors, and take this opportunity to ask your questions.

## **Culinary Water System Update**

July saw a substantial decrease in water losses thanks to the repair work conducted in June. We were able to prevent losing over a million gallons of water. Our distribution lines are 25 years old and are degrading due to chlorine oxidation, which we have discovered is being experienced with other water systems all over the state. The frequency of leaks has increased dramatically in the past two years. We also received our first draft of a Zion's Bank culinary water system financial data analysis that will be used to determine the amount of a needed raise in the culinary water rates to keep the system adequately funded. On August 21<sup>st</sup> there will be a water rate Town Council public hearing to present the final results of the Zion's report, and a summary of the chemical analysis that was performed on a sample section of our water pipe. This information, coupled with the historical data on maintenance costs, will be the baseline to determine an increase in the water rates and justification for a potential project to replace sections of our distribution line, if the data supports the need to do so.

## **Huntsville's Financial Status**

Welcome to the new Financial Factoids Section of the Town Newsletter. The purpose of the section is to offer insights into the financial realities of our Town and to educate its residents on financial topics, in the spirit of transparency and proper stewardship, so we can remain this beautiful, independent community for another 100 years and beyond. Let's start off with the Big Question - How is the Town performing financially? The simple answer is that the Town is doing well: overall revenue grew 17% from fiscal year 2024 to 2025 (our fiscal year ends June 30); the Town retains many important assets on the balance sheet; and holds manageable debt (the long-term bond on our water utility being the largest component). The further good news is that Town Leadership is taking a proactive approach with any issues that negatively impact financial performance. In today's economy, the biggest financial challenge our Town faces is the escalation of expenses and capital needs across all key functions - Water Utility, Safety (the Weber County Sheriff's Contract), Roads, and Parks (to name a few). The Town has chosen the path to remain a small, quaint Town—in other words, we voted not to annex more land, which limits our population and tax base. Town Leadership has prioritized finding solutions to raising revenue and managing costs to offset rising costs while maintaining the Town's look and feel. We all love this place and with proper planning and stewardship we can continue to enjoy our amazing slice of the Ogden Valley. Future Financial Factoid articles will include facts and figures, a bit of trivia, etc. All to further educate the citizens on our path to financial resilience. Keep reading this valuable newsletter!

## **New Business In Town**

Huntsville issued a new business license for “Hooked Fish and Chips”. This new business will be located in the old Subway space beside the Southfork Hardware/Chevron station. They will be serving fish and chips and other food items; along with smoothies, ice cream and dirty sodas. They hope to be open before the end of August.

Another fun event is happening every Thursday in the Huntsville Square (behind the old Bar-BQ restaurant) from 6 PM to dusk. The Open Arts and Music, put on by Mountain Arts and Music, offers a fun night with free watercolor instruction and supplies, along with a free open mic to share with local musicians and poets. Musicians of all abilities are welcome to come play.

There is also a kids’ art station staffed by an art educator and Adult Art. The tables set up in the yard for people to eat their picnic dinner have watercolor paper, brushes and paints for people to try their hand at art. Lori Thomas and Jennifer Sorenson (Two of the Valley’s extraordinary art teachers) stroll around to get people started painting!

## **MAYOR’S MESSAGE**

As the calendar turns to August, the days grow shorter and the nights cooler. Labor Day—and the close of our busy summer season—is just around the corner.

## **Condolences**

This past week our town lost two beloved, long-time residents. Our heartfelt condolences, thoughts, and prayers go out to the families of Myrna Hubert and Gundi McClarin. Both were remarkable women, and their passing leaves a noticeable void in the heart of Huntsville. Their contributions to our community will not be forgotten.

## **Code Enforcement**

One of the more difficult responsibilities of serving as mayor in a small town is overseeing code enforcement. No one enjoys asking a friend or neighbor to clean up their yard or remove a junk pile. It can feel like a no-win situation—some feel the town doesn’t enforce its ordinances, while others believe they’re being unfairly targeted. That’s why I’m pleased to announce that we have hired a new Code Enforcement Officer, Chris Tremea, who brings both experience and compassion to the role. I’d like to introduce him to you:

## **Meet Chris Tremea**

Chris brings over a decade of experience in code enforcement, with past service in both Davis and Weber counties. Before that, he served as a career firefighter in Davis County. He currently lives in Morgan County and is the proud father of four grown children, all of whom he’s raised into responsible adults. Chris especially enjoys spending time with his two-year-old granddaughter—although she insists on bringing her parents along too! Sundays are his favorite day, set aside for family time and their new favorite meal: Bingham Bacon Bombs from Morgan. If you haven’t tried them, you should! Chris is enthusiastic about working with Huntsville residents and appreciates the neighbor-helping-neighbor spirit that defines our town. His empathetic yet determined approach ensures residents feel supported as they work toward compliance. Whether it’s a small fix or a big project, he’s here to offer a helping hand. Please don’t hesitate to reach out to Chris if you need assistance or have any questions.

Warm regards,  
Richard L Sorensen  
Mayor of Huntsville