



## CITY OF TOQUERVILLE NEWSLETTER -March, 2007

### Mayor's Minutes - Ken Powell

It's 2007! Welcome to all our new residents; on behalf of the City Council, we look forward to meeting you and all our neighbors. Please feel welcome to attend our monthly Council (2<sup>nd</sup> Thursdays) and Planning Commission Meetings are on Wednesdays – **watch for posted times and days of meetings at Post Office, Toquer Heights and City Office Boards.** We will be posting in the Cholla Creek area as soon as we are able – a posting board is in planning.

Your elected and appointed City Officials are working hard to support our General Plan and to hold to the “**Vision Statement**”, which I believe bears repeating in our Newsletter another month. It is a reminder from that Advisory Committee and residents in our community who surveyed and put together the General Plan and what the people want the City to become “at some future point”. As stated: “It is the big picture to guide decisions” your City Council and Planning Commission must make: “Toquerville is a friendly, beautiful, well-planned and economically sound community with small-town charm, and is one of Utah’s safest and most livable cities. The Toquerville community values its historic and cultural heritage, family-oriented atmosphere, abundant open spaces, recreational opportunities, responsive government, and its healthy and happy atmosphere for all residents through all stages of life.”

In City Commercial Zone, ventures at Anderson Junction continue to be proposed to Council; a new RV Park is in process just south of the access road off I-15; other proposals have been coming. The City Agendas and notices will let you know what Officials are reviewing and acting upon; there are opportunities at POSTED City meetings and public hearings for those who wish to comment; or voice their concerns. You may also turn comments into the office by using our DROP BOX at the south Office door on Old Church Road; please show your interest at these meetings.

Two City Ordinances (laws) have been passed for: (1) “Dark Sky”, which will allow us to continue enjoying the stars at night while still providing the safety that proper lighting provides; and (2) “Home Occupations”, which help regulate the home-based businesses (32+) that are currently in our Town; check [cityoftoquerville.com](http://cityoftoquerville.com) for Business listing; all City Laws and Regulations are viewable at the City Office.

We are currently working on plans to make Toquer Blvd’s Historic District. We want to keep the old Town atmosphere; encourage restoration and use of old buildings, including craft and antique shops, a Town Mercantile, etc.; anyone who would like to serve on this Committee may call the City Office and leave a phone number. The City is most grateful for our recent “Beautification” Committee; we did very well in the judging for our small residential community; THANK YOU for participating, and thank you for helping your senior neighbors clean their properties as well.

Those in the City Office receive “nuisance” complaints about construction and vehicle storage, as well as loose animals. You can help by making an effort to talk to your neighbors. If they do not respond please call the City who will also call and send a Mayor’s letter, then report to Patrol for enforcing the Ordinance. Open storage of construction vehicles, tools, supplies, unlicensed cars and trucks, and loose animals continues to be our most received complaints; if these relate to your area or property, please contact the City or help correct this to avoid being the subject of Ordinance enforcement.

Patrol presence by Sheriff’s Deputies has made a positive impact with lessening amounts of vandalism. Visitors and residents are more aware of traffic flow and restrictions; families are taking pride in keeping our Town clean and safe. We ask for your “neighborhood watch” participation to help us locate stolen signs or any violations and vandalism going on. Call the City office as the Sheriff stops by three times a week to pick up information or complaints 635-1094. Those who would like to form a “watch” program in your area, contact the City. We now have an Emergency Preparedness Committee leader in the City, please contact David Pope (862-7162) or the City Office if you can help.

All those involved did a great job with our new City Office Open House – come by for a tour of our new facilities and the old Town Hall renovation; the City has had a long wait and very proud to have a “new home”. We also want to thank our Councilman Wayne Olsen for his many years of service and hard work in our City – he will be missed at our meetings.

Mayor's Minutes (Cont.)

We welcome his appointed replacement Daren Cottam, who will serve through the end of this year; elections will be held in the fall for this 4-year term. We had four very qualified applicants for this Council seat; they were all encouraged to run for office this November for three seats opening on City Council. We encourage all who have an interest to run for Office. If you have an interest in serving in an appointed position on the Planning Commission or the Board of Adjustments, please contact the City Staff (635-1094) or myself (635-5756).

Mayor Ken Powell. \_\_\_\_\_

### **Water and Utilities Update**

First, we want to say “thank you” for all your patience. The cold weather we have had caused many frozen pipes and meters, leading to customers’ being without water for short periods of time, but no major outages have been reported. We appreciate everything that you do, as homeowners, to weatherize and protect your water pipes from the elements. With the cold comes the sometimes gale force winds that blow; several residents have “lost” their trash containers to the ways of the wind. Replacement of your trash container is expensive costing upwards of \$60 per container. Washington County Solid Waste has passed on a few suggestions to help identify and recover your container should it go missing: (1) Mark the physical address on the can with paint or permanent marker; (2) Weight the container down to limit movement by the wind; (3) Secure the container to something that won’t blow away; (4) Place the Container at roadside ONLY on the night before pick-up; (5) When away, have your neighbor help in this control.

It’s watering season; those who use irrigation water are billed by land size and zone under the Toquerville Secondary Water System from the Washington County Water Conservancy District; an annual fee is assessed to your County taxes if you are on the system. As was completed last year, it was necessary to increase the culinary water charges to \$22 base rate; this raise will also allow usage increase (currently at 10,000 gals.) to 15,000 gallons before extra charges apply of \$1.40 per 1,000 gallons over the 15,000 gals.

**Remember, if you use OVER the maximum allowable gallons on the bill, and do NOT use your culinary water for outside watering,** you could possibly have a leak in your line. Check your water meter readings regularly BY LOOKING AT THE LEFT SIDE of your bill. If you suspect a leak or faulty reading, turn off the water at the house, check the meter, if it’s still moving there’s probably a leak from the house to the meter; then call the office: 635-1094. HOUSES ARE STILL REPORTED WITHOUT NUMBERS VISIBLE TO ROADS – PLEASE CORRECT THIS PROBLEM so our readers can locate for installation and billings. Please also report leaks or failures of our water system as soon as possible; City will do everything we can to inform of problems, repairs and shutdowns; be aware that some leaks require time to “Blue Stake” in-ground pipes, cables, etc; keep watch for bulletins and postings.

One final note, beginning January 1<sup>st</sup>, the fee for trash pick-up was increased to \$10.50 per month; fees for sewer have risen to \$24 per month. Please remember that the City has no control over the amount, we collect and send them on.

### **City Park Update, Councilman, Randy Scott.**

At long last, the bridge has been put in place connecting the parking area (east of the Creek) to the Pavilion area. This 70 ft x 7 ft walking bridge was donated to the City, yet \$15,000 in repairs and restoration needed to be done. Than Naegle volunteered countless hours of labor preparing the bridge to be painted. S&S Steel did the welding and painting. The installation was overseen by Councilman Lynn Olds, and the work of installation by Gary Davis Construction, who made sure the bridge was put into place with very secure cement pilaster and bolder rip rap. David and June Jeppson contributed the funds for the project. Many thanks to them and to all of those that made this – and ongoing projects at the City Park, a reality. A bronze plaque will be placed on the side of the Bridge that will read “In memory of Julian and Bernice Parrish” at request of the Jeppson family; Julian was one of our former mayors in Toquerville.

**Update for the Toquerville Softball League** - BEGINS APRIL 19<sup>TH</sup> THROUGH END OF JUNE; The League is in need of Scorekeepers and Umpires – if you have any interest, please call Patsy Hendrickson at 635-4256. There is compensation (per game) for this service.

### **City Office Update, Councilman Randy Scott – Project Manager.**

The new City Office is 98% complete – a few details remain. The final leveling for the parking area around the Building is being done by Gary Davis; Mark Strickley Construction will finish up the walkways and parking lot lighting. Darrin Cottam – AT Asphalt, will be donating his crew and equipment to put the asphalt parking in place within the next six weeks when the temperature for asphalt to “set up” correctly is above 50 degrees.

Our appreciation to Bob Olsen; with his green thumb, he’ll have the City Complex looking like a “garden of Eden” by early spring; he always gives the City 150% on every project he tackles. We want to give our thanks to Will Pogue for keeping our City Park always looking so nice; and the City Cemetery is very beautiful, thanks to the hard work of Clint Perkins.

### **Building Department**

Toquerville BUILDING PERMITS start at the City Office; the Staff will give you a building packet with all the information you need to know **BEFORE YOU BUILD**. Building Inspectors: Wayne Pope (all structures) at 635-3545; and Mike Vercimak (Subdivision Infrastructure and Planning/Zoning Administrator) 635-1094, are part-time employees. They will accommodate your requests as soon as possible; leave a message for them to get back to you when requesting information or inspections. Tues. Staff Meeting (Permits) review is held at City Office, 5PM, except last Tues. of month. If you wish to be on the Agenda for City Council, Planning Commission, or Board of Adjustments, please call (635-1094); it’s VERY IMPORTANT when seeking Permits to know the timing and public posting regulations

### **Office Staff - Information for Residents**

Thanks to our resident’s “watch” and helpful calling into the Office; our Sheriff’s Patrol is more effective, please continue reporting any disturbance or unusual activity on your blocks. We want to remind dog owners that our Nuisance Ordinance allows three calls on dog disturbance before citations may be issued – the Mayor’s letter will come on the second call. Please remember your neighbors don’t appreciate cleaning up after YOUR dog. We’ve had reports of aggressive dogs loose and threatening other animals as well as runners and walkers – we need to have these dogs controlled and want to hear from any resident who has reports of owners with loose dogs. We quote the Mayor: “you can’t come to Toquerville and shut the door behind you”. Yes, the population has doubled in ten years and more of that increase is in the last five years. Please be patient with our growth and understand the reason for the regulations and controls we must impose.

The City apologizes for the entrance area at the south door – you’ve been very patient with the inconvenience of parking and walking to the “front door” – we’ve put a sign on the old Town Hall front door pointing out the two “front doors” here at the Offices. The new parking has been delayed due to the cold weather and much work required – we look forward to the space for parking (including handicap stalls) for meetings, elections, and all other uses of our facilities.

If you need to reserve our Park or Town Hall, please give as much notice as possible – the springtime brings more activity with requests coming weeks in advance. You will need to put a deposit (returned) for cleaning and there’s no charge to residents of Toquerville. The baseball season will bring team practice and tournaments to our ball field with a new scoreboard (thanks to our Eagle Project by Kendall Whiting); get your field reservations in soon!

### **Planning Commission – Annette Kleinman, Chairperson**

Your Planning Commission continues to regulate and recommend to City Council all Building Permits and zoning requests. We appreciate our dedicated appointees (Paul Bryner, Jared Elison, Greg Walker, Dave Cannon, and John Shaw (Alt.)) and all their time and service to Toquerville. It’s not an easy job but rewarding to be involved in decisions that will affect all of us and our children in helping to keep this great rural area as beautiful as it has been for nearly 150 years. We are conducting monthly Planning Commission and weekly Staff meetings to help us process our Building Permits, Land Management Code and coordination with Utility Officials. You are welcome to attend all public meetings in the City, watch for Agenda postings and times.

### **Sub-Division Update – Darrin LeFevre**

The Subdivision proposals and approvals are being presented to Planning Commission and City Council; Almond Heights is an ongoing project. The Trail Ridge Estates (TRE, below Cholla Creek area) has been given a Grading Permit and has a Development Agreement with the City in place. We look forward to beautiful additions to our landscape with parks, greenbelts and homes for our new neighbors. All Subdivisions are regulated under the Toquerville Land Management Code and General Plan is considered. Our Subdivision Inspector and Zoning Administrator, Mike Vercimak, along with Building Inspector, Wayne Pope are vigilant in their duties. City Attorney, Heath Snow, and City Engineer, Sunrise Engineering are part of the process to assure we and the Developers are completing City and State requirements. If you have questions or would like to hear what the Council considers for all these proposals, please come to PC and CC meetings – watch for Public Hearings and postings of Agendas at the Post Office, Toquer Heights and City Office bulletin boards so you can voice your opinions.

### **Zoning Administration – Mike Vercimak**

The proposed Land Management Code (LMC) changes are in preliminary review with the Planning Commission, Attorney, and City Council. After the submissions and corrections are given and approved, this will be presented in Public Hearing and ratified for use in approvals and regulation of all Building and Land Management in the City by your Officials. Much care, research and recommendations has gone into this work with City Staff aiding the process. Areas of zoning and other concerns are commercial, multi-family, multi-use, historic district, residential, subdivisions and road planning. I've drawn from other City examples and experience, local and northern areas of Utah. The Master Plan Development and Plan Development Overlays are of utmost importance with density issues considered. The City MU-20 Zoning is being addressed and clarified to prevent undesirable uses. We will be receiving owner requests to amend the General Plan of the City as this area is eventually sold and developed. The City Council wants to be prepared and have the proper Ordinances and Resolutions in place for future needs, keeping in mind the desires of residents and the "vision statement" in the General Plan.

### **Culture and Recreation – Paul Heideman**

The MISS TOQUERVILLE CONTEST is coming! March 24<sup>th</sup> is final competition held at Hurricane High School; please support our young ladies in Town, they're helped by a great group of Mother's, supervised by our current Miss Toquerville – Clarissa Chamberlain, and her Mother – Kay Chamberlain. They will be looking for donations to help the Program along; our City has a Budget and Scholarship Award for them, but they need more funds and are very appreciative of donations, your name or business will be publicized in the Programs. If you'd like to participate, please drop by the City Office or send by mail to Box 27 in Toquerville. Be watching for the Memorial Day Program at the Cemetery - coming the end of May.

### **City Streets – Daren Cottam**

We're excited to see the road work at the City Offices coming together; now that the weather is compatible for cement and asphalt, the road and parking area will be completed. The City is putting together a Roads Master Plan (MP) which may help us receive Grants and/or Matching Funds for major collector roads; this MP will help existing roads to be prioritized. Our City existing roads require taxes and revenue or bonding to maintain or reconstruct; a MP funding may also allow more work to be done at once, rather than waiting for the State funds (B&C) each year that only covers a very small portion of our needs. Council Members are reviewing every possible way to improve and repair the road system in our Town. Repair and maintenance is a priority, yet with limited funds, the streets listed according to priority will take many years to complete. Remember that once a street is resurfaced, we must maintain with sealant or the surface will not hold; it's important NOT to have wasted the monies spent for resurfacing.

### **Economic Development – Lynn Olds**

Our City continues to receive interest in the Highway Commercial area of Anderson Junction; your interest is appreciated also and we welcome you to our Council discussions and meetings. The Agenda will list any

proposals and reviews for the second Thursday each month – check the posting boards at the Post Office, City Office and Toquer Heights; Planning Commission meets on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday.

**CITY EMERGENCY LEADER: David Pope, 862-7162**

Mayor Powell is excited to have a new focus on Emergency Preparedness in the City; there will be forms for volunteer information. PLEASE look at the attachment to our Newsletter this month and get informed about the “plan of action” for disasters or emergencies – short or long-term. We have a reputation of Toquerville’s ability to take care of such emergencies without government dependency. There will be “clinics” for training and information during the year preparing residents for 72-Hour Kits, fire evacuation, earthquake, first aid, sanitation, heating and cooling alternatives, food and water storage, etc. The City Plan is enhanced by the LDS Plans and offers us much security and safety as we work together. Please take the time to read and answer our Resource Questionnaire – due to City Offices by APRIL 15, '07.

**City Staff – We are happy to take calls during City business hours 9am to 4pm.**

Mayor, Ken Powell	635-1094	Appointments Tuesday – Friday
Treasury & Utilities Clerk, Pam Jarman	635-1094	City Office: 9am to 4pm, Weekdays
Recorder, Carol Pogue	635-1094	City Office: 9am to 4pm, Weekdays
Planning Commission, Annette Kleinman	635-2929	Call for Appointment
Councilman, Lynn Olds	635-2165	Economic Development & Water
Councilman, Randy Scott	635-9108	Cemetery and Parks
Councilman, Darrin LeFevre	467-5199	Sub-Divisions
Councilman, Daren Cottam	635-7234	Streets
Councilman, Paul Heideman	635-2273	Recreation and Cultural Events
Emergency Manager, David Pope	862-7162	City Emergency Preparedness
Maintenance Supervisor, Bob Olsen	635-2747	Town Hall and Offices
Maintenance, Will Pogue	635-0962	Park Facilities
Maintenance, Clint Perkins	635-9044	Cemetery
Water Supervisor, Doug Gubler	635-1094	Culinary Systems & Repairs
Zoning Administrator, Mike Vercimak	635-1094	Zoning Questions
Building Inspector, Wayne Pope	635-3545	All Structures
Subdivision Inspector, Mike Vercimak	635-1094	Infrastructure