



Upcoming Events

- Thursday, August 3, 2023**
Planning Commission – 6:30 p.m.
- Thursday, August 10, 2023**
City Council Meeting – 6:30 p.m.
- Thursday, August 17, 2023**
Planning Commission – 6:30 p.m.
- August 20, 2023**
WATER BILLS DUE
- Thursday, August 24, 2023**
City Council Meeting – 6:30 p.m.
- Monday, August 28, 2023**
FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL
- Thursday, September 7, 2023**
Planning Commission – 6:30 p.m.

Agendas for the meetings are posted at City Hall, on the City's website www.willardcity.com, and on the State of Utah Public www.utah.gov/pmn.



80 West 50 South, P.O. Box 593
Willard, UT 84340
435-734-9881
Website: www.willardcity.com
Hours: M-TH 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
F 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.



August is the border between summer and autumn
~ Tove Jansson



MAYOR'S COMMENTS

Earlier this year the Box Elder County Commission passed an ordinance requiring landowners, in unincorporated county, to request annexation into nearby cities prior to subdividing. Due to this ordinance, Willard is beginning to receive annexation petitions from landowners in South Willard. We now need to decide if annexation is in the best interest of the city. If we decide some level of annexation is desirable, we need to determine where and how that would happen. A Willard Annexation Policy Declaration extending to the Weber County line was established several years ago. Due to the new County ordinance, the Council and Planning Commission will be reexamining the current policy. Please let us know your thoughts on the issue by visiting with members of the Planning Commission or City Council. Feel free to email me at motetravis@gmail.com. Thank you for your participation in guiding our community. ~ Mayor Mote



We want to give a big 4TH OF JULY THANK YOU to Marjorie and Terry Ross, Kayann W., Ben Crook, the Beames family, Noreen Mortenson, Ann Larsen, Linda Zito, Katrena Nelson, Jordan Hulsey, Travis Mote, Brian Rose, Sean Mathis, Jeff and Cami Sabin, the Willard Fire Department, and all of the volunteers that helped with the games in any way.

MEET THE 2023 CITY COUNCIL CANDIDATES August 21st at 6:30 p.m. at Willard Elementary



- Jordan Davis Hulsey
- Kaleb Kunzler
- Rich Kunka
- Todd L. Richards
- Peter David Rona
- Rex Tom Christensen
- Jacob Bodily
- Chad Braegger
- Kenneth Braegger
- John R. Seamons

The Primary Election will be Tuesday, September 5th.

Ballots will be mailed
August 15th.



Early in-person voting will
be available
at Willard City Offices
August 28th – September 1st
9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.



The General Election will be
Tuesday, November 21st.



100 YEARS AGO....

Rain fell over northern Utah all afternoon on August 13, 1923, but life went on. Mary Ward settled into her son's Willard home, having arrived only the day before. In the overgrazed hills of Utah there was almost nothing to hold back the rain that night. Uncontrolled cattle grazing, mining, fires and a sawmill had left little vegetation in Willard Basin by the 1920s. The August 1923 flood (actually a mud-rock flow) was caused by an estimated 6 inches of rainwater hitting the basin in less than an hour. Water flowed through Willard Canyon, the main drain in the basin, 4,000 feet downward to Willard City. The rainfall was a lot of water even for the best of watersheds, but the lack of vegetation made it worse. Runoff from the bare hills accumulated in the bottom of the canyon and sent a rolling mass of water, mud, boulders, and other debris bursting into the Willard settlement about 8:00 p.m. When this mass of water and rubble hit the apex of an old alluvial fan on which the town was built, it split in two. One portion moved south and spread over a wide area, and the other followed an old stream course through the north part of town. The City's powerhouse was leveled, and lowland fields and houses were instantly submerged. V.M. Graser went outside to check on a loud rumbling noise and in a flash of lightning saw a wall of water rushing into his house. His family barely escaped. Another family climbed a tree to escape. Mary Ellen Ward and her visiting daughter-in-law drowned when floodwaters washed away their house. Mary Ellen's granddaughter, Sylvia, was found alive the next morning in a haystack, a few feet away from her grandmother's body. Rescue workers rushed her to the Dee Hospital in Ogden. The flow had enough force to move a 500-ton rock, as well as a barn containing 150 tons of hay. The old creekbed was filled with mud and gravel...the State highway covered with about seven feet of earth, boulders, and mud. More than half the town of Willard disappeared. Huge boulders from the mountains above marked lots where buildings had been. Governor Charles Maybrey responded to the disaster quickly and deployed the Utah National Guard to clear the roads. A County Relief Committee was also organized to collect funds to relieve the devastated farmers. The property loss was enormous. The *Box Elder News* reported that, "Hundreds of fine farms have been covered with rock and gravel, crops washed away, animals and poultry destroyed, and orchards ruined. The loss will run into hundreds of thousands of dollars." In fact, it was October before the sanitary conditions in Willard again met state health standards.


Even the loss of two lives wasn't enough to convince residents of the need for drastic conservation measures. It took a similar flood in 1936 to do that. The Utah State Road Commission, Box Elder County and residents of Willard donated money to buy the privately owned Willard Basin after the 1936 flood. The land was then deeded to the Forest Service for protection. As a result, 700 miles of terraces, trenches, and fences were constructed (over a 1,500 acre space) and trees and grasses were planted from 1936 to 1941 by the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC). The terraces and trenches in the basin are still readily visible today. These and the rock water-catching basin, just east of the old highway in Willard City, are reminders of the two floods.

Sources: Willard Centennial 1851-1951; Willard Flood 1923 (Utah History) keepapitchinin, the Mormom History blog; The Mystery of Utah.blogspot; Utah Humanities Stories; I Love Utah History.



Pictures are courtesy of Lisa Baddley Clark. More can be found on the City's website.

DEPARTMENTS

ADMIN – Our Vanessa Bird has flown away! We wish her the best, and want to welcome Madison Brown to our office nest. 

Lost and found items from the 4th of July can be found in the Lost and Found Box in Willard City's lobby.

POLICE – School will be starting soon, please watch for children crossing streets while walking to school and waiting for buses.

PUBLIC WORKS – Please make sure there is clear access to your water meter. Our Public Works guys have not been able to read some meters due to obstructions. Make sure your meter is clearly visible, and that it is not covered by weeds, dirt, debris, or vehicles. Trim any bushes blocking access.

Check out online utility payment options
www.xpressbillpay.com





Building Disaster-Resilient Communities

A 12 Point Program for Individual, Family & Community Preparedness

1. Have an Emergency Plan

Develop, maintain and practice a written, comprehensive plan detailing how emergency contingencies will be mitigated, prepared for, responded to and recovered from. Ask the question – “What would we do if. . .” a particular set of emergency circumstances were to arise? Think about possible and likely risks and areas of vulnerability, and then identify desirable resources and possible options. Consider how your plan correlates with school, work place and neighborhood plans. Keep in mind the fact that the very process of making a plan may well be more important than the plan itself. PRACTICE YOUR PLAN

2. Get an Emergency Kit

Assemble and maintain a portable 72-hour emergency kit containing items designed to support each individual with vital health and personal items essentials for two or three days away from home. Of the two most likely responses to a wide range of emergencies, the possibility of evacuation should drive this effort. Keep your personal kit simple, light in weight, and easy to update according to seasonal and other variables. Any of a long list of possible carrying options may prove practical, including a compact back pack which leaves hands free. Of primary importance is a flashlight and battery/solar radio together with fresh back-up batteries/charging panels for each. Other important items often overlooked might include essential medications, some cash money (“plastic” might not work) and a list of key contact information. Position your kit(s) with quick access in mind. GRAB-N-GO

3. Have Emergency Food Supplies

Fortify home-base with food, water and other provisions designed to care for the regular daily needs of those resident there, anticipating the second of the two most likely emergency situations – one where for possibly extended periods of time, outside resources will be unavailable or limited. Don’t allow yourself to be daunted by the notion that there is “magic” in the famous “one-year-supply.” Begin with an inventory of what you already have, and then set some practical, reasonable and achievable goals for adding the things in form and quantities which make sense for you. This is not a one-size-fits-all game plan. Build your program around foods which are desirable for you, have a long shelf life, and require a minimum of preparations. Date everything, and begin at once to put it into regular use, always maintaining and increasing based upon experience.

4. Prepare To Shelter-In-Place

Identify, outfit and prepare an area of your home suitable for a “shelter-in-place” emergency, such as might arise from a hazardous material release. In such a case, evacuation might expose a population to a greater danger than “staying put.” Select a room or space that is relatively easy to isolate from outside air intake, and which promises a degree of comfort for a short period of time. In outfitting this space, assume that the emergency may involve a temporary interruption of electric power with the personal inconveniences which follow. A shelter-in-place kit should include a battery-powered radio and flashlight, along with pre-cut sheets of plastic and tape for helping to further proof the area against outside contamination. Some of the same thoughtfulness which goes into the 72-hour kit can help guide preparations here. A kit which fits under a bed or into a closet corner is sensible.

5. Know Your Home

Make it your business to become familiar with the critical infrastructure of your home base and learn how to operate electric circuits, natural gas service controls, culinary water main valves, outside air vents, etc. Locate necessary tools where they are handy for use in an emergency. Consult appropriate experts if necessary. Knowing when to turn utilities off is important. Remember during a “shelter-in-place” emergency to turn off air conditioner/heating systems which bring outside air into the building or space providing shelter. In schools and work places, this may require the services of a custodian.

6. Take Inventory

Inventory items of special value and importance and their location in the home base, assigning a priority to each. In the event of an evacuation order, there may be only minutes to take property with you. Limitations of time and space may suggest the need to pre-position and/or protect such belongings. The very act of producing this list – like the basic plan itself – may prove a useful reminder of the things that really have value in our lives. Usually, it will be family records, genealogies, irreplaceable photos, etc., which rise to the top of the list. A plan to consolidate the location and enhance the portability of high-priority items may result.



7. Equip Your Car

Outfit the family vehicle(s) with items which will add to its safety and security in various emergency and everyday situations, with an eye to the changing of seasons and circumstances. Make it a matter of habit to keep the fuel level above the halfway mark. Such obvious items as a blanket, heavy-duty flashlight, containers of drinking water, a collapsible shovel, a basic first aid kit and jumper cables are a start. Some high-energy snack bars and weather-conscious clothing items are good additions. A sharp-pointed rock hammer within the driver's reach may become a life-saving method of breaking through a window in a flood situation.

8. Prepare To Go Powerless

Prepare the home base to remain secure and reasonably comfortable during short or extended periods of electrical power failure. This is one of the most likely events to follow in the wake of both natural and man-caused emergencies. Alternate lighting, communication, heating and food preparation resources should be part of the basic emergency plan. Battery-operated lights should be positioned strategically in different parts of a residence along with a program which insures a supply of back-up batteries. (Alkaline batteries have a long shelf-life, and LED systems operate frugally.) In the case of a prolonged outage, alternate-fuel lamps may prove important. Solar is now a favorite alternative power source. Propane lanterns with handy cartridge replacement systems are easy to use and widely available. Kerosene- fueled lamps, are economical to operate and provide a soft, silent source of illumination while producing a minimum of fumes. Storing flammable fuels requires special attention, and kerosene is less volatile than others. Outdoor propane and charcoal grills are an excellent cooking alternative, as are camp stoves and Dutch oven systems. Extra blankets, sleeping bags and warm clothing should be a part of every non-electric plan. At least one adult family member should remain awake and on watch when alternate lighting/heating devices are in use, even with recommended ventilation. Make sure you have an A, B, C fire extinguisher and know how to use it, as part of your basic emergency response plan. Gasoline or other combustible-fueled generators may greatly extend the ability to compensate for loss of commercial power, but require a knowledge and planning to operate safely. Never position a generator indoors or where its exhaust fumes may migrate into a living space. Remember that the storage of adequate fuel supplies adds a certain safety burden, and limits the duration of this alternate source of power.

9. Plan for Pets

Plan for the care and disposition of pets and domestic livestock in the event of a range of possible emergency-spawned contingencies. Almost without exception, emergency shelters-usually managed by the Red Cross-do not welcome pets. Domestic pet plans might include larger quantities of food, supplies, provision for automatic, gravity-feed water and food dispensers, multiple litter boxes, etc. Arrangements for extended care by family members, friends or commercial service providers might also be considered.

10. Figure Financial Contingencies

Develop a comprehensive "Financial Contingency Plan" geared to your particular set of economic circumstances and designed to respond to the possible interruption of normal cash flow and debt retirement obligations. Among those "emergencies" most likely to occur at some point, but least anticipated and planned for is the interruption of income occasioned by loss of employment, illness or even the unexpected death of a bread-winner. The economic consequences of a natural or manmade disaster may also affect cash flow in a temporary or even long-term way, reducing our ability to deal with everyday affairs and activities. While this may not be accomplished easily, or all at once, it is a worthwhile long-term objective well worth pursuing.

11. Remember Your Health

Plan for the continuation of health and medical needs during a time of extended emergencies and special circumstances. With an emphasis on critical, life-supporting medications and supplies, and with the consultation of the prescribing physician where indicated, maintain a supply of such items sufficient to bridge an emergency response such as enforced evacuation or other interruption of normal access. Carry on your person preferably, vital written prescriptions for eye glasses and other vital, personal medical needs, and a clear description of treatment requirements. Make sure some other family member has a copy of your medical plan.

12. Remember Those with Special Needs

Include someone with special needs in your planning. Somewhere, probably nearby, is a neighbor or acquaintance who is handicapped, elderly, home-bound, or medically-dependent and alone. Be prepared to share your resources, and the security of your home base with that person, and to check on their well- being in a time of emergency.

