## Willard City Corporation – December 2023 Newsletter





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

Christmas isn't a season. It's a feeling. ~ Edna Ferber



At Christmas, all roads lead to home. ~ Marjorie Holmes



I would like to thank all the candidates who ran for City Council this year. We had a great group to select from. At the time this message was written, Jordan Hulsey, and Rex Christensen will be new Council members. The 3rd seat is tied between Chad Braegger and Jacob Bodily. It just goes to show that every vote truly counts. The election will be certified on December 5th. I would also like to thank all who participated in the Night of Nativities. It was a nice way to start the Christmas season. I hope you all have a wonderful Christmas and a Happy New Year. ~ Mayor Mote

### **RESULTS of 2023 GENERAL ELECTION**

Rex Tom Christensen – 372 Jordan Davis Hulsey – 358 Jacob Bodily – 287 Chad Braegger – 287 John R. Seamons – 257 Kenneth Braegger – 249

> Proposition 1 Yes – 468 No – 161

The City Council will canvass and certify election results on Tuesday, December 5<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.



Ethan Bodily will make a dumpster available for Christmas trees from December 22<sup>nd</sup> to January 5<sup>th</sup>.

The dumpster will be located on the north side of the Municipal Building.

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# Upcoming Events

Tuesday, December 5, 2023 Canvass of Election – 6:00 p.m. Thursday, December 7, 2023 Planning Commission – 6:30 p.m. Thursday, December 14, 2023 City Council Meeting - 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, December 20, 2023 WATER BILLS Due Thursday, December 21, 2023 Planning Commission – 6:30 p.m. Monday December 25, 2023 CHRISTMAS - OFFICE CLOSED Wednesday, December 27, 2023 Garbage Pickup Thursday, December 28, 2023 City Council Meeting - 6:30 p.m. Monday, January 1, 2024 NEW YEAR'S DAY - OFFICE CLOSED Wednesday, January 3, 2024 Garbage Pickup Thursday, January 4, 2023 Planning Commission - 6:30 p.m.

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

## Important Announcements



Just a final reminder that all 2023 dog licenses and business licenses will expire on December 31<sup>st</sup>. They need to be renewed by January 31st, 2024, to avoid a late fee





It is with deep gratitude that we recognize our exiting Council members Kaleb Kunzler, John Seamons, and Fred Ward. All three began their service on the City Council in January of 2020. John Seamons served on the Planning Commission prior to serving as a City Council member.

In 2019, I checked with the City office and learned that, with only one hour left to file, only two candidates had filed for three vacancies on the City Council. I filled out the paperwork and decided that someone needed to do the job, so that someone might as well be me. A fourth individual filed but later dropped from the race. So, Fred Ward, John Seamons and I became City Councilmen in January 2020 without an election. I was soon appointed to serve on the Willard/Perry Sewer Plant Board, which I have enjoyed and plan to continue. While on the City Council I did my best to listen to the community and do what I saw was in the community's best interest. It was harder when people accused us of backroom deals and such. Without attending EVERY meeting and reading all the paperwork we receive (it is all available on the public notice site), it is hard to understand all that we are aware of that otherwise one wouldn't know. Also, state laws limit the City's ability in many cases. I thoroughly enjoyed the time I served on the City Council and was pleased to see the large interest in serving with ten people in the running during the primary for the three positions available. I am confident that those who have been elected will do what they see as best for the community." ~ Kaleb Kunzler

Dear citizens of Willard, I want to thank you for the opportunity to serve on the City Council for the past four years. This was my first venture into public office, and I loved it. The people who serve you in your public offices are all great people. The clerks, Police, Fire Department, Justice Court, Public Works, Parks and Recreation, and volunteer services like CERT are the best. They are all so dedicated. We are lucky to have such a well-run city. They all try very hard to make your life better. I especially like the men I served with on the City Council. Fred Ward really has the City's best interest in mind and could be counted on to express them. Mike Braegger is always looking for a compromise and tries to see all the points of view. Rod Mund is a wealth of knowledge about City affairs and is so good at expressing this knowledge, and Kaleb Kunzler has many great ideas and good perspectives. Even though the Mayor and I do not have the same vision for the City's future, he is as passionate about doing the best for the City as I was. Thank you all for this opportunity. ~ John Seamons

It's been a pleasure to serve as a Council member. This City is a great place, and I hope we can preserve the feel which the citizens have worked so hard to build. I feel I have been a voice for the citizens and encourage us all to get more involved with what is going on around us. Thank you. ~ Fred Ward



We are also saying farewell to our City Manager, Chris Davis, who is retiring at the end of December.

Chris began his civic career in June of 1980 as a law clerk for the Utah Attorney General. He then worked for the Weber County Attorney's office until 1988. The citizens of Roy City benefitted from Chris's leadership from June 1988 to August 2014 as a City Attorney and then as a City Manager. Chris came to Willard in August of 2019 as a contract attorney. He became the City Manager in February 2020.

Chris said, "Willard is filled with exceptional people. People in Willard care about their neighbors and serve them in multiple ways. I have been impressed with the concern that you who live in Willard serve each other. Willard has a very bright future. I have truly enjoyed working with an excellent, talented staff of dedicated employees who look out for the best interest of Willard and its citizens. I have appreciated learning some of the history of



Willard. Willard is a wonderful place to work and live. I have been honored to serve with elected officials who want the best for Willard and its citizens."

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We wish Kaleb, John, Fred, and Chris all the best in their future adventures! They all will be greatly missed!!



In October, Utah transportation officials unveiled hundreds of transit projects planned for the state between 2023 and 2050. The new plans are a compilation of separate regional plans developed by Utah's metropolitan planning organizations. These organizations include Utah's four urban metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs) – <u>Cache, Wasatch Front Regional Council (WFRC)</u>, <u>Mountainland Association of Governments (MAG)</u>, and <u>Dixie</u> – along with the <u>Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT)</u> and <u>Utah Transit Authority (UTA)</u>. Willard is part of the Wasatch Front Regional Council. The projects listed in the plan will add 4,700 miles of active transportation pathways across the state, including bike paths, multi-use paths, and improved trails. The HOP Trail planned in Willard is one of those trails. The goal is to cut down on nearly six days of driving time and make for cleaner air, because officials project a 13% reduction in emissions statewide once they are complete, according to a news release. Officials say that Utah's economy will also get a boost. The improvements stand to add \$247.2 billion to Utah's gross domestic product, thanks to about \$117 billion in estimated construction spending and \$100 billion from new transportation efficiencies, according to the plan's website. A map allows users to filter plans by MPO (Willard is part of the Wasatch Front Regional Council), state senate district, or house district. Users can also filter the map by the types of projects – like active transportation. To see what leaders have planned for Utah transit, visit unifiedplan.org . (Information compiled from Wasatch Front Regional Council and *Salt Lake Tribune* article).

### **DEPARTMENTS**

ADMIN - Water bills are due on the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month. A \$5.00 late fee will be added after the 25<sup>th</sup>. Water service will be shut off for all past due accounts.
Water meters will not be manually read during the winter months. Our Public Works Director is concerned that exposing meters to cold temperatures could cause them to freeze. Water used over the 17,000 gallons monthly base will be billed in the spring.

POLICE - Christmas is prime time for thefts. Don't leave valuables (Christmas presents, purses, computers, cell phones) in your vehicles. Lock your vehicles and house doors. Do not start vehicles and leave them running to warm up. If you see suspicious vehicles or individuals in the area, report them <u>immediately</u>. Chief Fielding would rather check things out and avoid incidents. Call BE County Dispatch at 435-734-3800 option 0 for non-emergencies and 911 if it is an emergency.

#### PUBLIC WORKS -

**Streets –** Public Works Director Payden Vine would like residents to help with snow removal by voluntarily moving vehicles, trailers, etc. from the City rights-of-way. City Code 10-340 (B) states: "It is unlawful to park a vehicle on a street at any time when such parking shall interfere with the City's efforts to remove snow from City streets or any other public works activity's which requires the removal of vehicles from the street. Any such vehicle is declared to be a public nuisance." We are concerned for the safety of our snowplow drivers and want to avoid damaging City equipment and your property. If the snow cannot be pushed off the asphalt, it melts across the road and freezes during the cold nighttime hours. This causes hazardous conditions for drivers and pedestrians. **Do not plow the snow from your driveway into the streets** as it freezes and damages the snowplows as well as creates a hazard for motorists and pedestrians. It is also a violation of City Code! **If necessary vehicles will be towed at the owner's expense. Please** 

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remove garbage cans from the street as soon as possible after they have been dumped to help with snow removal.

Water – The snow season is coming upon us. As the snow flies please make sure your water meters are accessible in case of an emergency by trimming bushes and moving vehicles. If it gets below freezing, consider leaving a tap dripping to avoid frozen lines. Remember that water meters are the property of the City. Pay attention to your usage. Average winter usage is 5,000 to 10,000 gallons per month per household. If your usage is going up during the winter months, you might have a leak.

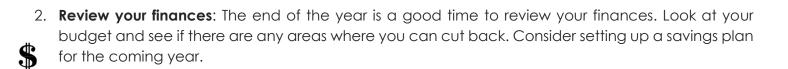






Here are some tips to help you prepare for the end of the year:

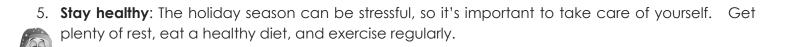
1. **Make a list of your goals**: Take some time to reflect on the past year and think about what you want to achieve in the coming year. Write down your goals and make a plan to achieve them.



3. **Prepare for tax season**: Start gathering your tax documents and receipts now so that you're ready when tax season arrives. Consider consulting with a tax professional to ensure that you're taking advantage of all available deductions.



4. **Get organized**: Take some time to declutter your home and office. This will help you start the New Year with a clean slate.



6. **Be prepared for emergencies**: Make sure that you have an emergency kit with essential supplies such as food, water, and first aid items. Create a family emergency plan so that everyone knows what to do in case of an emergency. Then PRACTICE it!

I hope these tips help you prepare for the end of the year.



Wishing you a safe, happy, and healthy Holiday Season. And a happy New Year.

Sue Anderson Willard City CERT Program Manager

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