



HOWELL TOWN NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2025



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Upcoming Events:

April 8 <sup>th</sup>	6:00 p.m.	Howell Planning Commission Meeting
April 8 <sup>th</sup>	7:00 p.m.	Howell Town Council Meeting
April 11 <sup>th</sup>	4:00 p.m.	Clean up around Community Ctr, Parks & Bowery
May 29 <sup>th</sup> - June 2 <sup>nd</sup>		Howell Clean Up Days
June 2 <sup>nd</sup> - June 6 <sup>th</sup>		Candidate Declaration Filing Dates

NOTE:

If you haven't noticed, there is a water payment box inside the Post Office. It is on the wall next to the package bins.

On April 11<sup>th</sup> - 4:00 p.m. - clean up around community center and bowery. Bring your rakes.

Howell Clean Up Days May 29<sup>th</sup> - Jun 2<sup>nd</sup>, Dumpsters at old community center and Brad Hawkes.

If you are interested in the Town Clerk position, get your resume into Mayor Brad Hawkes by April 7<sup>th</sup>.

Howell Town has town elections this year. Jun 2<sup>nd</sup> - Jun 6<sup>th</sup> are the dates to file your Declaration of Candidacy.

If you haven't already subscribed to the town's website, please consider doing so. It is one way you can receive important notices from the town. (<https://howelltown.utah.gov>)

From the March Planning Commission meeting:

It was interesting to note that only one member of the planning commission had a copy of the Howell General Plan. Chairman Gary Burton was the only one who had a copy. Clerk Leon Kotter gave each commission member who did not have one a copy of the general plan.

The general plan is the official statement of the Town's governing body, which sets forth its major policies concerning desirable future development. It is a guide for decision-making and the legal basis for land-use development.

Commissioner Justin Douglas proposed that an ordinance be passed that would prohibit the

dumping of whey and milk byproducts within the town limits. He stated that the chemicals used in the processing of cheese and other milk products do not go away. When dumped onto the ground as they are now, they can leach into the aquifer that serves the town's water supply. When asked about spreading manure on fields within the town limits. He replied that it was different. This was followed by a contentious discussion.

When asked what the chemicals were, Commissioner Douglas could not say as he did not have the list with him. He will have it with him for April's planning commission meeting.

Chairman Gary Burton stopped the discussion and said more information is needed and had this item put on the April agenda.

When Scott Lyons, Box Elder County Planner, was here last month he was going to send a link to Box Elder County's land use ordinance. The link was never sent. Clerk Leon Kotter found the ordinance. It is over ninety pages. He sent a link to the ordinance to all commission members for them to review to see what could apply to Howell Town.

From the March Town Council meeting:

In the follow up to February 11, 2025, minutes, Mayor Hawkes thanked Council Member Josh Anderson for getting the Sgt. Rocky D. Payne memorial set up. It looks nice.

There was no one from Box Elder County Sheriff's office. There were no public comments.

Shelly Logen, Town Treasurer, gave her monthly report. We have received over one thousand dollars in interest between the checking and public treasurer's fund and there are no budget concerns.

Claine Burt, Emergency Preparedness Coordinator, discussed the need for the town to have an emergency operation plan.

Claine reported that he ordered pamphlets on emergency preparedness. He will place them in the Post Office lobby. He also reported that he is getting an emergency preparedness committee together so that they can start working on an emergency preparedness plan for the town. He will also investigate getting a generator for the community center.

Increasing the wages that Howell Town pays was discussed. Council Member Craig Hawkes reported that if we are going to get people to work for the town, we need to raise wages to \$20.00 per hour.

The road fund and water fund can manage pay raises without increased funding. The current amount we receive in property taxes can only handle pay increases up to \$16.75 per hour for administrative, parks, cemetery, and community center workers. The current amount we receive for the post office if used just for wages will only manage a wage increase up to \$17.00 per hour.

A request to increase funding for the post office will be submitted to the Postal Service. The funding source the town can increase is property taxes.

By motion the Town Council approved increasing wages to \$20.00 per hour and to pursue the steps needed to take to increase property taxes to pay for the wage increase.

It will be in August before the wage increase happens and that will depend on if an increase in property taxes is approved.

Since members of the Howell Town Council did not have a copy of the Howell Town General Plan, Clerk Leon Kotter provided each member with a copy. He also explained the purpose of the Plan.

A town's general plan serves as a comprehensive, long-term blueprint for the community's future growth and development. It is a visionary document that outlines goals, policies, and actions to ensure the sustainable and balanced

development of the town. This plan is crucial for managing land use, transportation, housing, public services, and natural resources, among other aspects of community life.

Mayor Hawkes asked each council member to become familiar with the General Plan and to report back next month on things in the plan that may be upgraded.

During the mayor's and council reports, Mayor Hawkes reported that Val Nessen's term on the planning commission is up. He asked Val if he would stay on, and Val accepted.

Council Member Rex Nessen is planning to gravel two miles of road this year.

Mayor Hawkes reported that Box Elder County has used oil and pea gravel mix on some of its roads and it seems to hold up good. He asked Rex to investigate it to see if it is something we could use on our graveled roads.

Council Member Craig Hawkes reported that he contacted Landis about ripping in a 2-inch water line along 14400 N from the west canal to 18800 W. He is still undecided about installing a 2-inch or 3-inch line.

#### **April Utah trivia questions**

1. For what was Black Dragon Canyon near Green River named?
2. For which two forms of dance performance is Brigham Young University internationally recognized?
3. Which Jewish merchant was one of the original stockholders of ZCMI?
4. What well-known soprano is married to a Tabernacle Choir director?
5. What is the current use for the miners' hospital building erected in Park City in the early 1900s?
6. What bird is featured on Utah's state seal?

#### **Answers**

1. An Indian pictograph that resembles a dragon.
2. Ballroom and Folk dancing
3. Nicholas Ransohoff
4. JoAnn Ottley
5. Public Library
6. Eagle