From the Mayor: The state of the City Address

As my first year comes to a close, it’s time to give you all a report on the state of the greatest city in Utah. I am so privileged to be serving as your Mayor. It truly is an honor for me. I’m very pleased to report to you, the state of our beautiful city is great. We are moving forward on many important and exciting projects and programs.

The first phase of the expansion of the wastewater treatment plant is currently being designed and will be out for bid with construction this spring. It will take approximately 18 months to construct. When the project is completed it will double the current plant’s capacity, addressing a very pressing issue for years to come. At the same time we will be working to place a replacement program for the older wastewater collection lines.

Water issues are and will always be very important. We are developing two new wells this year. One is designed and bids have been received, with completion this spring. The other will be up and running late summer. They will help us to provide water service to each of our citizens efficiently and cost effectively. Because of the importance of water, we are working diligently, through negotiations and acquisition to increase our water rights and supply. At the same time we must, and will, continue to encourage water conservation measures.

Growth issues are being managed. As your Mayor I feel very good about the procedures we have in place to manage it. We will not allow growth, especially residential growth, to put us in a position that will in any way compromise our ability to continue to effectively provide city services. Development costs will continue to be the responsibility of the people doing the development, not the current residents living here. There is concern over growth issues. I hear and listen to those concerns. Growth will not dictate policy to Tooele City. We will direct and manage it, on our schedule, we’ll decide the type and size of the city’s growth. Developers and development will not make those decisions. At the same time we must protect individuals’ private property rights.

Quality of life is so important to us all. Is the state of our city safe? I can very confidently and proudly answer, “yes,” our police and fire departments are as good as there is. Our police officers and firemen are truly professional and dedicated people. They work and train tirelessly on our behalf to make sure we are safe and protected. This community owes them so much, our support for them will never waiver. In the near future the need for a new police department building and a new fire station and training facility in the Northern section of our city will be undertaken. We are taking the preliminary steps to accomplish these important projects.

Our parks and our recreation facilities are clean and attractive. With the addition of the Pratt Aquatic Center a couple of years ago, we have a building that meets a need for our community. It’s design allows for a much broader use, there are features for the very young, those looking to become more physically fit and active, as well as a fun safe place for our youth. We will be adding an exciting outdoor feature to the center this year, increasing the enjoyment even more.

We are very excited to be opening an additional 9 holes to our Oquirrh Hills golf course this spring. We now are in a position to accommodate many more golf enthusiasts, and attract more corporate sponsored events, providing a first class recreational opportunity to many of our citizens and visitors. Play will be increased, events will increase and revenues to help fund the facility will also increase. These two additions to our community along with our clean, attractive, safe, park areas are what help make our city special. Our plan is to continue to upgrade and develop recreational facilities that are functional, beautiful and cost effective.

It is also very exciting to let you know now we have a Tooele City Arts Council in place. Plans are being formulated to bring the arts to Tooele on a much larger scale. We will continue with our “Friday’s on Vine Series” this summer and add some programs for young people. Others will include not only the performing arts but visual, painting and photography, and hopefully theatrical and dance performances. Our goal is to reach out to our community with every aspect of the arts. I am very grateful to the wonderful people who are helping bring this very important community program to life.

The city is in an excellent position financially. I want you all to know, your tax dollars are being spent wisely and conservatively. We are always looking for ways to save your money; I believe there is nothing more important than strong financial leadership and decision making. Each of you deserves nothing less. We are currently formulating a long range capital financial plan, identifying needed capital projects and the means to pay for them. The old practice of reactionary fiscal policy does not work in today’s financial climate, you simply can’t wait for something to happen and then try to find money to fix it. Strong, sound financial policies put you in a position to plan for the future and to know it’s paid for.

I’m very pleased to report news was received recently concerning the 1200 North road project. After many years of state and federal required studies including 2 environmental impact studies and

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Community Events

March 15 & 16 AARP Safe Driving Class 12:30—4:30 p.m.
March 17 Tooele City Family Recreation Activity 9:00 am. at City Hall
March 21 City Council 7 p.m.
March 22 Tooele County Summit at Tooele High School 6:00 –9:15 pm
March 28 Planning Commission 7 p.m.

March 7 City Council 7 p.m.
March 9 USU Tooele Education and Career Fair Noon-8 p.m.
March 14 Planning Commission 7 p.m.
Tooele City Arts Council

Tooele City is excited to announce the formation of the Tooele City Arts Council. The purpose of the arts council is to promote, advance and preserve the arts in Tooele City. Tooele City has been collecting a small tax for parks, arts and recreation. Now it’s time to decide how to spend some of that money! Next month’s issue of Ninety North Main will include a survey asking for your interests in the arts. Please take time to fill that out and return it to the City. Mark your calendar for the open house on April 19th at 7:00 p.m. The arts council will be there to answer questions, listen to ideas, and talk about events citizens would like in Tooele City.

Tooele County Summit: Choose Who You Become, Become Who You Choose

The Tooele County Summit will be held on Thursday, March 22, 2007 at Tooele High School. The keynote presentation will begin at 6:00 p.m. and the Summit will end at approximately 9:15 p.m. The Summit is for high school students, junior high school students, and their parents. This year there will be over 20 different breakout sessions on various topics including: Fun and Cheap Dating Ideas, Self-Defense, Scholarship Searching, and many more.

Each school will be giving out different incentives for students and parents to attend. Check with your child’s school for more information.

(Mayor’s State of the City Address Continued from Page 1)

public hearings, we’ve finally received approval to proceed with this very important project. We are now preparing our funding documents and making important decisions on the road’s actual configuration. We are working aggressively to get this very important road under construction. In addition to the 1000 North project we have more funds available this year than in the past for road maintenance projects. Those repair projects are being prioritized, so repair can begin as soon as the weather permits.

Economic Development is vital to any growing city. Our economic development people work tirelessly to promote our city. Our successes have been impressive with the recent additions of Conestoga Wood Products, Carlyle Syntec, Home Depot, and others. Wonderful companies that bring opportunities for good paying jobs and much needed tax base. We will continue to recruit companies and businesses that will help us meet our citizens needs and support our financial well being.

As we continue in to the days to come I would like to extend my hand of cooperation to my good friends on the County Commission as well as the Mayor and Council of Grantsville, and others. We should be constantly looking for ways to work together, to share common goals and resources. I along with the City Council are saddened by the amount of tax payers’ money we have been forced to spend defending the citizens of Tooele City, against the law suit filed by the previous Mayor and City Council of Grantsville City, over the conversion of the old Tooele Army Depot. It’s money that should be spent on economic development and enriching the lives of our citizens, as well as those of the fine people of Grantsville. Let there be no mistake, I will continue to very aggressively defend against this law suit.

In conclusion I would like to acknowledge and express my appreciation to my staff and the dedicated employees that work for Tooele City. They are educated, experienced public servants. I am very proud and privileged to work with them each day. There is a feeling of pride now from our employees; the jobs they hold are professional careers, jobs that are sought by many. We will work hard to make sure our employees are treated fairly, they are compensated fairly, and they know they are appreciated. My relationship with the members of the city council is exceptional. I so much appreciate their service to this great city. Each brings experience and knowledge that keeps our community moving positively forward. There are many articles in the news about other cities around the state, where there is constant contention between the elected officials. It is important for each of you to know that is not the case in your city. We are about the city’s business. Our work on behalf of our citizens is the reason we serve you. There are no personal agendas, political or otherwise with us. We truly love and care about this wonderful community. I look forward to the coming year with excitement and confidence. We will continue to move our city in a positive direction. Each of you will be able to say with pride what a special place Tooele is. There is a sign on the wall in my office that has a very simple message: “Tooele- The Greatest City In Utah.” I will work diligently as your Mayor so that each of you feel it truly is.

FUN MARCH LIBRARY ACTIVITIES

March at the Tooele City Library will be full of Leprechauns. See if you can find all of them around the library. Win a surprise if you guess correctly the number of Leprechauns hiding in the library. This program will end March 28, 2007 at 7:00 p.m.

Remember children’s story time every Wednesday at 11:00 a.m. and children’s crafts each Friday from 3-5 p.m. For more information on these and other library programs, visit their website http://tooelecity.org/tcl/library.html or call 435-882-2182 or visit at 128 West Vine Street, Tooele, Utah.

ATTENTION: BUSINESS OWNERS

Business owners who have not renewed their 2007 Business License will receive a FINAL NOTICE postcard which states:

As per Tooele City Ordinance 2006-20, on March 15th your license will be INACTIVATED. If the fees are unpaid after March 15th, you will receive a notice, via certified mail, indicating that you will not be able to conduct business within Tooele City until ALL fees are paid.

If your business is closed, we need written notification by fax (435) 843-2119 OR e-mail lisac@tooelecity.org. If you have any questions please call (435) 843-2100.
Tooele City is Lucky to Have Families Like Yours!

Join us on Saturday, March 17th for the Family Spring Cleanup Service Project
Each family will be given the opportunity to work together as a family on projects throughout the City. This will be a great opportunity to serve others and to make our great City look beautiful.

Place: Tooele City Hall (90 N. Main)
Date: Saturday, March 17
Time: 9:00 a.m.

Are You Feeling Lucky?

Tooele City Family Recreation

“Families that play together, Stay together.”

Please pre-register your family by Wednesday, March 14th to Tooele City Parks and Recreation at 843-2142 or terras@tooelecity.org.

Water Conservation — Already?

By Paul Hansen, City Engineer

It’s hard to think about water conservation when we still have snow on the ground and winter weather conditions in the air. However, now is the ideal time to look forward to the coming warm weather season. The natural Resource Conservation Service reports that the snow—water equivalent in the adjacent Oquirrh mountains, as of February 26, 2007, is 69% average precipitation levels for this time of year. While this low number should not cause widespread panic, it reminds us the fact that we live in an arid climate, and need to take steps to conserve water.

Water conservation saves not only you as the customer in your monthly water bill through lower water usage, but enables the City to more effectively use it’s resources in order to keep water costs down for everyone.

Within a short time we anticipate that many residents will begin to water lawns and garden areas. With this in mind, we wish to remind all our customers of the following important facts:

1. Aerate your lawn when needed so water soaks in freely. Aeration is equally important in clayey soils and tight sands. Many experts suggest that lawn aeration may be more beneficial to establishment of a healthy lawn than frequent over-fertilization. Spring is an ideal time to aerate.

2. Don’t overwater, especially in the early season. Many residents have automatic sprinklers which are set to the same cycles year round. Water experts suggest that based upon average or normal weather conditions the following outside watering guidelines apply:

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<tr>
<th>Typical Outside Watering Schedule</th>
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<tr>
<td>Month</td>
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<td>Startup until March 31</td>
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<td>April</td>
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<td>May</td>
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<td>June-August</td>
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3. Mowing of lawns is the easiest thing you can do to improve their appearance. Setting your lawnmowers to 3” turf height encourages deeper root growth, which allows the grass to use water deeper in the soil. In drought, deeper roots can mean the difference between an attractive healthy lawn, and a thin, weak one. Healthy lawns are also more resistant to weeds.

The above are simple suggestions which we can all utilize to help improve the look of our lawns and controls costs.
SAVE $$ BY TAKING THE AARP CLASS

It’s time for another AARP class! Everyone over the age of 50 should take advantage of the AARP Driver Safety Program. This program is a 2 day class for 4 hours a day. After completing the class, you could qualify for a decrease in your auto insurance. The next class is March 15 and 16 from 12:30 to 4:30 p.m. at the Mountain West Medical Center. The cost is $10.00.

To register, or for more information, call Floyd Bracken at 882-6364, or James R. Nichols at 833-0931.

Tooele City would like to celebrate the week of the 4th of July by having an activity each day that week. Please contact the parks department at 843-2143 to give your ideas on what activities you would be interested in.

Together we can make this year’s celebration the best one yet!

Chance to Help Local Teen

A short time ago five teenage girls from Tooele were involved in a car accident while driving home from an indoor soccer practice in Salt Lake. One girl, Jenna Morgan, has not yet returned to school due to her injuries. This accident has caused a financial burden for her family. The Vine Street Market has purchased two mountain bikes that are going to be given away in a raffle on Monday, March 12, 2007 at their store. The raffle tickets are $3.00, or two tickets for $5.00. To help this wonderful family get back on their feet, please purchase tickets for the raffle. If you have any questions, please contact Guy Pomeroy at 882-4125.

You can also donate to the Jenna Morgan Donation Fund at Wells Fargo.

USU Tooele Regional Campus presents Education and Career Fair

Friday, March 9th Noon—8:00 p.m.

Utah State University
Tooele Campus
1021 West Vine Street
Tooele, Utah

Meet with advisors from Logan Campus
Financial Aid, Scholarships, Women’s Resources, Graduate Studies and Concurrent Education
Tooele Businesses will be on site to take resumes and discuss job opportunities
Free to the Public
Free Aggie Ice Cream 4 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Free tax return preparation and electronic filing available at 66 West Vine Street (SLCC). To make an appointment please call 843-4350.