



# february

2014

# Virgin Town

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## TOWN INFORMATION

Office Address: 114 S. Mill Street  
P.O. Box 790008  
Virgin, UT 84779

Phone: 435-635-4695  
Fax: 435-635-0265  
Email: clerk@virgintownutah.com  
Website: virginutah.org  
Office Hours: Monday-Thursday  
9:00 am - 2:00 pm

Town Clerk: Monica Bowcutt  
Maintenance Supervisor: Chris Holm  
Cemetery Sexton/Town Historian:  
Lenny Brinkerhoff

### Town Council Members:

Bruce Densley (Mayor)  
William Adams, Danyale Blackmore,  
Jean Krause, and Jay Lee

### Planning and Zoning Members:

Steve Maisfield (Chair)  
Lori Rose, Dan Snyder, Kniesha Grow, and  
Valerie Wenz,

### DATES TO REMEMBER

Feb 8: Virgin Town Princess Pageant  
Orientation 2:00 pm  
Feb 12: P & Z Meeting 6:30 pm  
Feb 17: President's Day-Office Closed  
Feb 26: Town Council Meeting  
7:00 pm

### WHAT'S INSIDE

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The following is a general summary of Town Council proceedings. It is NOT an approved set of minutes.

## **Summary of the Town Council Meeting held January 22, 2014**

### ***Work Meeting:***

**a.** Jason Smith, Town Engineer, was present to update the Council on the Kolob Road re-alignment and the Capital Facilities Plan. He reported that he was still waiting on the BLM to sign the submitted permits. He also reported that the plans had been changed to decrease the earth work by 15,000 yards. The project had not gone to bid yet because of these two hold-ups. He anticipated it being posted in about two weeks. Mr. Smith stated that the plans showed a stream bed crossing using culverts, but a bridge was listed as an alternate. He told the Council that the appraisal was not the amount they were hoping for, but it was an improvement. He informed the Council that the appraisal should be sent to UDOT in order to get that amount towards the match on the grant. Mr. Smith also reported to the Council on the Capital Facilities Plan. He stated that all wording updates mandated by the Legislature were completed. Mr. Smith reported that by next meeting he would have recommendations for impact fees and other major items (land around BMX Track, water lines storage, roads, fee estimates, and road maps) completed for the Council to review.

**b.** Cimarron Chacon was present to discuss the 2013 Frog Hollow Bike Race. She stated that the adjustments that had been made (large signs for road closures and dust control) had improved the race. Mayor Bruce Densley stated that communication was the key. Ms. Chacon informed the Council that the 6 hour race had been moved to April 16, 2014 and the 25 hour race would still be held in November. She reported that she was already submitting her permit for 2014 and asked the Council if there was a way to split the \$1000 deposit. Council Member Jay Lee stated that there would be no problem with Ms. Chacon paying \$500 now and the other \$500 in November. The Council agreed, with the Mayor who stated that he would like to get locals involved. Ms. Chacon stated that the race was hosting 50 people from Scandinavia, which could possibly be a fundraiser for a local group.

**c.** Jake Thelen and Kenton McKesson from the Aspiro Bike Park were present to discuss a skills

park they would like to build. They explained that this bike park would be a place for all types of riders to build their skills. It would teach adults and children, beginner riders to advanced riders. Mr. Thelen reported that they had \$5000 to start building the track and would be teaming with the Town, with their students doing most of the labor by volunteering. He stated that the area around the BMX Track had great dirt, trails already in place, and was in a great location. Council Member Jay Lee questioned why they would build the park and then leave, expecting the Town to pay for it, run it, and be in charge of the upkeep. Mr. Thelen responded that the group would be here as support staff for 6 months of the year. Council Member Danyale Blackmore stated that she thought it was a good idea, but was worried about paying for the maintenance, and insurance/liability. Council Member Jean Krause questioned why Hurricane was not continuing with their track. Mr. Thelen stated that Hurricane had tried to hire someone else to build the track, instead of using volunteers, and found that it cost too much money. The Council agreed that they were open to the idea, but many more details were needed.

d. The Council discussed upgrading the Virgin Town Website, making it more useful. They would like citizen input on the matter, specifically wondering if upgrading would be worth the cost.

e. Mayor Bruce Densley asked the Council's opinion on whether or not the Town Office should be used by community groups needing a place to meet. He stated that until Heritage Town Square was complete, the Town did not have a place for meetings and/or gatherings. He suggested that there be a charge for having the key here and the cost of utilities. The Council did not object, but Danyale Blackmore expressed concern for it creating more work for the Town Clerk, Monica Bowcutt, and Maintenance Supervisor, Chris Holm.

f. Mayor Bruce Densley stated that several months ago Curtis Ludvigson, from the Rural Water Association, made suggestions for changing the water rates. Mayor Densley stated that this needed to be done and would be on the agenda very soon. He asked for citizen input on which rate increase scenario would be best for Virgin Town.

### ***Regular Meeting:***

1. Mayor Bruce Densley called the meeting to order.

2. Mayor Bruce Densley led the Pledge of Allegiance and offered Opening Remarks.

3. No Conflicts of Interest were disclosed.

4. Tom Dansie and Ray Justice from the Zion Canyon Corridor Council (ZC3) presented an award to Virgin Town. Mr. Dansie explained that the ZC3 was made up of all the communities from LaVerkin to Zion, plus the BLM, UDOT and other land management agencies. He stated that it was the goal of ZC3 to create a forum for all these different groups to collaborate and communicate about issues of regional significance. He stated that this Council was unique to Utah, therefore, the ZC3 had received the Rural Honors Award at the Utah Rural Summit held at SUU last fall. He stated that citizens are welcome to attend the ZC3 meetings, which are held bimonthly on the 3rd Wednesday at 1:30 pm at the Springdale Town Hall.

### ***New Business:***

5. Mayor Bruce Densley stated that a new Council Member was needed to fill the vacancy. He stated that it was a very difficult decision, and more than likely someone was not going to be happy. He stated that there were 6 well-qualified people who had applied, and who could have done the job: Sean Amodt, Larry Amodt, Linda Collet, Adele Pincock, Dan Snyder, and Bill Adams. He made a motion to appoint Bill Adams to fill the vacant Town Council seat. The Council unanimously approved the motion. Bill Adams was sworn in as a Town Council Member.

6. Mayor Bruce Densley made a motion to appoint Jean Krause as the Town Treasurer. The Council unanimously approved the motion.

7. Mayor Bruce Densley stated that Jean Krause would also be serving as the Planning and Zoning Liaison.

8. The Council approved the December 18, 2013 minutes with the grammatical changes made. Bill Adams abstained.

9. The Council approved the November, 2013 invoices and checks. Bill Adams and Jay Lee abstained.

10. The Council approved the December, 2013 invoices and checks. Bill Adams and Jay Lee abstained. Town Clerk, Monica Bowcutt, explained that the Council is now required by law to sign a paper each month stating they have reviewed and approved the invoices. The Council agreed that the invoices could just be emailed to Council Members in order to save paper.

### ***Old Business:***

11. The Council reviewed the 2014 Meeting Calendar. They unanimously agreed that Town Council Meetings would be held the fourth Wednesday of each month, except for November and December, which will be held the third Wednesday.

12. Mayor Bruce Densley stated that 5 bids had been received for the Old Church Restoration and the Support Building, but the bids were all above the amount of money that could be spent. Council Member Danyale Blackmore explained that the bid advertisement was not worded correctly to allow the Town to take one bid for the restoration and another bid for the support building, which is the reason the bids were too high. She further explained that Town Attorney, Heath Snow, had advised the Town to re-advertise for the project with the proper wording. It was discussed that by lowering some of the specs, the cost could be reduced. Council Member Bill Adams stated that he felt the project should be put on the fast track, which might mean holding a special meeting to open new bids and/or approve them. The Council unanimously approved the motion to reject all bids.

### ***Open Forum:***

\* George Rodinos stated that he was a resident of Virgin, a veteran of the US Air Force, and a photographer and he wished to welcome the new members of the Council. He referenced an article about the San Francisco Town Council who had made it against the law to have anything in a garage other than a car. He wondered why they would punish all of the citizens for something a few people had done wrong. He also spoke about the governor of New York who had publically stated that pro life and pro gun people did not represent the state and should leave. Mr. Rodinos stated that he felt there were many things going on that used to be wrong that had now become right. He showed three photos he had taken from places in Virgin: a lighted nativity, two flags on the same flag pole (US and New Hampshire), and a pro life sign. He felt these photos

represented the people of Virgin because this Town believes in freedom of religion, not freedom from religion. He stated that his one message to the new Council was: don't waste paper on any ordinance that was written, if it was going to trample our constitutional rights.

\* Sean Amodt stated that the Mosquito Abatement representative should be appointed by a resolution.

**Council Comments:**

\* Bruce Densley stated that the Council represents the people, but one thing about America is that not everybody is going to agree all the time. He stated that citizens need to be respectful. He felt that anyone who wanted to disregard the Constitution was out of the their mind, because it is the greatest document on the earth.

\* Jay Lee stated that the Utah League of Cities and Towns likes to bring attention to our area and publicize what is happening. They would probably like to film the Frog Hollow Bike Race and also do a documentary on the Old Church. He also mentioned that they would put a link to our website. Council Member Lee also suggested that a Pavilion at Falls Park should be completed before the Sierra Bella Park pavillion because it has been in the plans for many years. He also stated that paving Sheep Bridge Road should also be placed in the Capital Facilities Plan. He suggested that the trees hanging over the Kolob Road and the cement barricades are very dangerous, especially because of the new painted lines. The Council agreed that the Kolob Road should be maintained.

**The Council unanimously adjourned the Public Meeting and opened an Executive Session to discuss imminent litigation.**



# PUBLIC NOTICES



Introducing

## VIRGIN TOWN CITIZEN OF THE MONTH

The Town Council would like to honor citizens who help our town....behind the scenes! Here's how it works: 1- Watch for people who are positively affecting our town. (being friendly, sweeping sidewalks, smiling, encouraging youth, volunteering at Town functions, ANYTHING that is positive) 2- Let the Town Clerk, Monica, know who it is and what they did. Phone calls, emails, or a visit (even in the Post Office) will work. 3- The Council will invite this person to the Town Council Meeting to be recognized. *IT'S THAT SIMPLE!* When multiple names are submitted in one month, all persons will be recognized! So keep your eyes open and do some good yourself.



## **VIRGIN TOWN PRINCESS PAGEANT ORIENTATION**

Come get all the information!  
\* February 8, 2014  
\* 2:00 pm  
\* Amodt home  
\* 635-8290  
Girls must be between the ages of 14-18 and a resident of Virgin. Girls must be 14 by the end of September 2013. Parents are welcome and encouraged to attend! Anyone interested in being in the pageant plan on attending this orientation or call for more info.

### Fund Raising Possibility

The Frog Hollow Bike Race is hosting a large group from Scandinavia. This group will need to be provided with dinner and/or entertainment. Call the Town Office for contact info.



### Name for the New Park in Town

The area north of the highway, in the Sierra Bella Subdivision, is now a Town owned park. The Council would like citizens to let them know what name the park should be. Please submit your ideas to the Town Office.



## **What do you want to see, hear, and be able to do on the Virgin Town Website?**

Your Town Council would like to update the Town Website, but they want to know what citizens want on it to make it more useful. Let your voice be heard! Contact any Council Member or the Town Office to give input.



2013 Virgin Town Royalty

# 2014 Town Meeting Dates

# welcome

to Bill Adams as  
the newest  
member of the  
Town Council.

## **PLANNING AND ZONING**

Work Meeting at 6:00 pm  
Regular Meeting at 6:30 pm  
February 12  
March 12  
April 9  
May 14  
June 11  
July 9  
August 13  
September 10  
October 8  
November 12  
December 10

## **TOWN COUNCIL**

Work Meeting at 6:30 pm  
Regular Meeting at 7:00 pm  
February 26  
March 26  
April 23  
May 28  
June 25  
July 23  
August 27  
September 24  
October 22  
November 19  
December 17



### Dumpsters have been scheduled for 2014:

March 21-24 @ Town Office, New Fire Station lot across from 310 W on Hwy 9, and end of 225 N.

May 9-12  
August 1-4  
Oct. 24-27

If you have a request for placement of a dumpster, call Monica at the Town Office to put in your request.



# COUNCIL CORNER

## Water Rate Increases

### Why it is Necessary to increase Virgin's Water Rates

The town of Virgin obtains its water from the Washington County Water Conservancy District (WCWCD). It has been the policy of Virgin's Town Council to only charge the town residents what the WCWCD charges the town, and to not use the provision of water as a revenue stream for the town of Virgin. Over the years the WCWCD has increased the rates it charges Virgin, but the town has only passed on some of these increases to the town residents. In other words the revenue that the town receives from the water bills does not cover what the town pays out to the WCWCD, causing the town to run a deficit with regard to the cost of water and thereby draining the town's bank account. The town has been subsidizing everyone's water bills for years and this can't continue or the town of Virgin will be bankrupted.

This past year the Rural Water Association of Utah studied Virgin's water problem and one of their representatives presented the results of their study to the September 2013 town Council meeting. He presented seven scenarios that the town should consider when deciding how to increase the water rates to Virgin's residents. The town Council will be addressing and analyzing these scenarios at the town council meetings for the next few months. The goal is to enact new water rates that will go into effect beginning July 2014, since July is the beginning of the town's fiscal year.

Please attend the town council meetings for the next few months as we address this issue. A public hearing will be held sometime in the spring and we would like to receive your input before raising the towns water rates. We are giving the town residence plenty of notice that this will occur so that you will not be caught to unaware when a water bill with new rates arrives in your mailbox. We don't like to do this, but it must be done.

Jean Krause

## Planning & Zoning Commission Updates

The Planning and Zoning Committee (P&Z) is made up of volunteers appointed by the Mayor and/or Council; people serve for a defined period of time and then either stand down or may carry on for a further term if asked – and they agree!

P&Z is there to apply the rules (Ordinances) that have been created by the Town of Virgin. The Ordinances are based on the General Plan that most residents of Virgin have had the option to contribute to; it is due for a refresh soon, but more on that more later! The Ordinances are gathered together in a document called the “Virgin Uniform Land Use” or VULU - it can found on line at <http://www.virginutah.org/ORDINANCES---ZONING-.html> or search for “VULU Virgin Town”. We do have a paper copy in the Virgin Town Office if you want to see it, but the electronic version is going to be the most up to date.

We hope that the majority of the Ordinances are written well, although some are a little confusing I would agree. However, it is P&Z’s task to apply the rules as written, and P&Z cannot make exceptions, even if it seems the ‘obvious’ thing to do. If something really does need to be changed, there will be a Public Hearing about it, public comments and ideas will be taken and then, if appropriate, P&Z will make a recommendation to the Virgin Town Council to change that specific Ordinance. The Town Council will vote on it and it may, or may not, be approved for change. Bottom line is, P&Z does not change the rules, the Town Council does.

Recently a request has been made that P&Z ‘fast-track’ building applications outside of the P&Z schedule of meetings, this was requested so that builders and homeowners could get on with their projects as quickly as possible. One of the reasons that we have a published agenda and open public meetings, is so that residents of Virgin can be aware of what is happening in their town. I suspect that most residents would be interested if a development (house, garage, workshop etc.) is being proposed “right next door.” The P&Z process of agendas and meetings gives everyone the right to “have their say” and see what is going on; ‘fast tracking’ is not something we want to adopt.

The February agenda is still being written, but we have 2 Ordinance changes (carried over from last month), one removing a wording ambiguity and the other regarding changes about safety, fences and hot tubs. There are also two possible property development discussions 1) The Munn Property south of Highway 9 and 2)The Sierra Bella Subdivision. Please note, neither of these are fully confirmed as being on the agenda as of now.

Steve Masefield