



**CITY MANAGER'S  
WEEKLY HAPPENINGS  
TO THE WEST JORDAN CITY COUNCIL  
Week ending September 4, 2015**



Dear Mayor and City Council:

We are excited to announce that West Jordan will soon have a new City Manager. Mr. Mark Palesh has been selected by a unanimous decision of the City Council to start on Thursday, September 10<sup>th</sup> after he is sworn in at the City Council meeting on Wednesday night. Mark has a strong resume with a wealth of knowledge having worked in a variety of cities in Utah, New York and Alaska. Mark has asked to meet with all of the department heads on Thursday morning to introduce himself, learn about us, and set the stage for working together. He has also expressed his desire to get around the city as soon as possible to become familiar with staff and city facilities.

Many of you have asked how I am handling this transition. Please know that I am relieved that our administration will once again be fully staffed. I see this as my opportunity to learn from Mark's experience and allow him to work directly with the Council to help heal wounds and unite our legislative body. I publically apologize for lacking the skills and understanding of how to better assist with this myself.

As a mentor, Mark can help me grow and develop skills that will allow me to serve you better. I am committed to work with him to seek out innovation, strengthen relationships on many fronts, and to continue fostering a culture of dedication, caring, and high performance. His words and actions in the short time that we met communicated these attributes of his leadership style.

Please join me in welcoming Mark to our West Jordan family and be prepared to help him learn of all the great work you are doing, accomplishments we have made, and opportunities that lay ahead. I'm confident that we continue to control our own destiny by our words and deeds. The greatest chance of success will come from our ability to dream it and achieve it.

Please read on for more examples of how that is already happening in West Jordan during the past week.

**COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

Building permits issued in the last week included 6 new single family dwellings, 14 miscellaneous residential permits, 4 new multi-family units, and 2 miscellaneous commercial permits. Two new commercial permits were issued for Jordan Credit Union, a 3,578 square foot building at 4878 West New Bingham Highway, and Holiday Oil, a 4,000 square foot building at 2700 West 7800 South. Total valuation of all permits was \$4.4 million. Performed 207 field, investigative, and complaint inspections.



The Planning Commission held a public hearing on September 1, 2015 and reviewed the following items:

*The View at 5600 West:*

The View at 5600 is a 531 unit apartment development generally located at 5600 West 8200 South in the Highlands Master Plan. The Planning Commission conditionally approved the Preliminary Development Plan, Preliminary Subdivision Plat, and Preliminary Site Plan.

*Utah Natural Milk:*

The Planning Commission approved a Conditional Use Permit to allow for dairy operations on property located at 7482 South 5490 West.

*Farmers Insurance Rezone:*

The Planning Commission forwarded a positive recommendation to the City Council to rezone 0.3 acres of property from the Rural Residential (RR-1A) zone to the Neighborhood Shopping Center (SC-1) zone and to rezone 0.7 acres of property from the Rural Residential (RR-1A) zone to the Single-family Residential (R-1-10D) zone.

A pre-construction meeting was held for Broadmeadow Phase 2, a 25-lot single-family subdivision in the Highlands at approximately 8200 South Fall Oak Drive.

**FIRE**

Fire Dept. crews responded on the report of a gunshot wound. Dispatch reported that a person in a neighboring apartment had heard a loud noise and went next door to check on the occupant. The neighbor found a male with a self-inflicted gunshot, weapon still in hand. Upon arrival, they confirmed that the injury sustained was incompatible with life and he was pronounced dead on the scene. Scene turned over to police for further investigation.

B-Platoon crews coordinated and conducted their own mass casualty training. The training consisted of a classroom portion in order to review the components, problems, and command difficulties of mass causality incidents and a practical portion where the crews worked through the different areas using simulated patients.

On Sunday August 30<sup>th</sup>, Engine 52 responded to a vehicle fire that was reported by West Jordan Police Department. The police officer used his fire extinguisher which slowed the spread of the fire. Engine 52 arrived to find an older model Chevrolet pickup truck attached to a fifth wheel camping trailer with flames and smoke coming from the cab of the truck. Engine 52 not only quickly extinguished the remaining fire in the cab of truck, but also extinguished the grass fire that was a direct result of the truck fire. The fire was investigated as no one was found on scene upon arrival.

Engine 52 and Engine 53 responded into Midvale as part of a two alarm structure fire assignment. Crews from not only West Jordan, but Unified Fire Authority, Murray and Sandy responded to a dryer fire in a four-plex apartment building. Crews arrived to find one unit with smoke coming from the front door. The initial fire was quickly extinguished and crews had to search for the remaining fire which manifested itself through smoke venting from the roof. The flue space was compromised which caused the smoke to exit the roof. No injuries were reported and the fire is still under investigation.

On September 02, 2015 Medic Engine 54 A Platoon was dispatched on a natural gas leak at 6200 West 8700 South. Upon arrival they found that a construction company was digging a trench. They were using a track hole to dig and they hit a two inch gas line. Very lucky that this was in a field and the wind was dispersing the gas around. Questar Gas arrived and they had to dig another hole to get to the gas line to clamp it off. We stood by with a hose line in case of an accident. Once that was done Medic Engine 54 cleared the scene.

On September 01, 2015 Medic Engine 54 was told to move up to Station 32 in Sandy to cover their area while they were fighting the Quail Hollow fire. This fire was located on 9300 South and Wasatch Blvd. While we were enroute to Station 32, one of the commanders was asking for help to protect some homes. We were immediately informed by dispatched to go to the fire and help. On arrival we were given the assignment to protect a home on Green Hill Drive. We had three hose lines to protect this house. Engine 54 was also supplying several other hose lines to help protect other houses on that street. West Jordan crews were there over seven hours helping. On this call there were several other departments helping fight this fire, some from out of the valley. Great job to all that helped and to those that covered the rest of the valley.

## **ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES**

### ***Facilities***

Facilities accomplished the following this week:

- Remodel at Justice Center finished painting walls in Detective offices.
- Moved 125 boxes into the atrium at City Hall to be shredded.
- Repaired the on off switch to the Crematorium at the Animal Shelter.
- Replaced the motor and cleaned coils on the split HVAC System in the SCADA room at Public Works.
- Repaired ice machine at Public Works.
- Replaced cables in dog pens at the Animal Shelter.
- Painted the metal exit door in the E.O.C. room at Fire Station #53.
- Replaced sprayer on kitchen sink faucet at Fire Station #53.

### ***Fleet***

Fleet is finalizing the migration from our old software to the new software over the next few weeks. Testing should begin next week, and training and go-live should happen the week of the 21<sup>st</sup>. This has been a long process and we are excited to see it come to fruition!

The new Mack 10-Wheel Dump truck was received yesterday at the Herriman City Dig-Off in Herriman. We've dropped it off at Vehicle Lighting Solutions to have the emergency lighting installed, and are hoping to be putting it into service in the next week or so. The bobtail is close behind it, and should be here next week. Also, the third truck left from FY2015 is nearing completion at Semi Service, and should be delivered next week.

### ***Community Affairs***

Budget Book will be online and at the printer next week. Presentation to Salt Lake Board of Realtors is coming along and will use drone footage to capture aerial footage of different city sites of interest. Discount Derby tickets (\$10) are available at the Chevron on 7000 South and 1300 West. All seats are general admission and regularly priced \$12 online at [www.westernstampede.com](http://www.westernstampede.com) and \$15 at the door. 5K Stunt Run is Sept. 26 in Veterans

Memorial Park. This one-of-a-kind course was designed by actual Hollywood stunt producers and a creator of Nitro Circus and Thrillbillies. It promises to be crazy fun and proceeds benefit Be the Match, the nation's largest bone marrow donor registry. Endurocross is Sept. 26. Information and tickets at [www.westernstampede.com](http://www.westernstampede.com).

## **PARKS**

Parks staff is continually recruiting for seasonal staff. We are currently down several seasonal positions.

Parks staff is assisting with coordination of the many park projects that are scheduled.

Parks staff is installing the new landscape at the new parks maintenance facility.

Coordinating and scheduling installation of the Calsense central irrigation system.

Preparing for the demolition derby.

Compiling scope of work for the leathers playground repairs.

Weed abatement crew continues with weed abatement throughout the city.