

Mayor's Report

10 January 2022 – 15 January 2022

Larry Jacobsen

Still working on learning the new job and hitting the cadence. It's coming along. Here are the Nibley items I worked on this week.

- Met to discuss comments for Logan's Planning Commission Public Hearing for a rezone on the west end of 2200 S.
- Attended a Logan Wastewater Rate Setting Committee
- Met with our City Attorney, Rob Patterson
- Met with Cache Council of Governments to discuss 1200 W plans
- Wrote a letter to the Utah Legislature supporting funding for 1200 W development
- Met with two Board members of the Millville-Nibley Cemetery District
- Met with staff to prepare the City Council agenda
- Held our first real City Council meeting
- Attended a Cache Mayors function
- Helped at the Loaves and Fishes Community Meal

The Logan Planning and Zoning Commission held a Public Hearing on 13 January to receive comments on a rezone of property to Commercial on the west end of 2200 S. This property is south of 2200 S and close to Hwy 89/91. The Logan P&Z did not disclose or discuss what the property owner intends to do if it is rezoned. That lack of disclosure is typical of a rezone request. Our City Engineer, Darren Farar, wrote comments that addressed our view of ground water, roads, and Nibley utilities in the area. The Logan P&Z recommended the rezone, and now it goes to the Logan City Council.

As you know, we send our wastewater to a regional treatment plant owned and operated by Logan City. As a customer of Logan, we have a seat on the Wastewater Rate Setting Committee, and as Mayor, I am Nibley's representative. The committee establishes the voting percentages of each of the communities based on their pro-rata contribution of wastewater and recommends per-gallon rates for treatment. When the committee recommends a rate increase, the respective City Councils will be asked to ratify that rate. Logan, alone, accounts for about two-thirds of the total water treated by their plant. Therefore, when it's time to increase the cost to treat a gallon of wastewater, Logan's vote will easily carry the decision. There is currently no proposed rate increase. The new treatment plant will start to treat wastewater this summer.

I had a chance to meet our City Attorney, Rob Patterson, when he visited Cache Valley. Justin Maughan and I had a couple of general questions about City land ownership, and I had a specific question about the Utah Open and Public Meetings Act. Rob is a good guy and has given Nibley City great service for the past several years. He is easy to talk to, and he gives straight-forward advice. I look forward to working with him. We also introduced Rob to the Council on Thursday night and made sure the Council knows they have access to Rob without going through me or through staff.

The Cache Council of Governments (COG) is a planning and funding agency focused on transportation in Cache County. Nibley City has received support from the COG on several projects in the past, including the round-about currently being constructed at 3200 S and 1200 W. We met with the COG to discuss additional plans to complete 1200 W. I am impressed with our initial design for a 30 MPH road with

separate and protected bike lanes that will be well suited for bike commuting. We are working on a thirty percent completed design in preparation for a funding request that starts this spring.

In addition to possible funding from the COG, Utah has money available from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). Shaun Dustin is coordinating the effort to ask the Utah Legislature for help with finishing the Nibley portion of 1200 W. Nibley is joined by Hyrum, Cache County, and the COG in this effort. Justin Maughan and I wrote a letter supporting our request for funding.

The Millville-Nibley Cemetery District is a completely different political entity than either city, and it is funded by property tax collected in the district. I met with a couple of Board members to discuss cooperation between Nibley, Millville, and the Cemetery District.

I met with staff to prepare for my first Council meeting. We will have regular meetings each week to accomplish this. I won't report on Council Agendas or Council Actions in these reports because you can better learn that from the Nibley City Website (nibleycity.com). Please have a look under the Government tab. Our Agendas are published, along with the same Information Packet that Council receives, on the Tuesday before the Thursday Council meeting. I managed to get through my first meeting as Mayor.

Becky and I attended a Cache Mayors Association function. This was largely a social event (a bit out of character for me), and a chance to meet the other Mayors in Cache Valley. I realize that building relationships in this job is important, and it was good to attend. I had a chance to speak with several Mayors. In addition, each of our State Legislative representatives gave us a report on their focus areas in the upcoming session.

Finally, and although it is not associated with being Mayor, Becky made me help prepare for a Loaves and Fishes Community Meal on Friday night and then wash dishes on Saturday. This inter-faith organization provides a no-cost meal twice a month to anyone in our community. Not only do people get a nutritious meal, but they also get a chance to connect with other people. Nourishment for the body and soul. It is an inspirational group of people that organize Loaves and Fishes, and if you get a chance to help, I recommend doing so. Sorry, Becky, for complaining beforehand about having to do it.

Please call, text, or email anytime.

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