

Mayor's Report

22 May 2023 – 03 June 2023

Larry Jacobsen

Greetings, boss! Here is my latest status report.

- **Parks Plan Kickoff**
- **Move Utah Summit**
- **Cache Waste Consortium**
- **Code Enforcement**
- **South Cache Communities That Care**

Parks Plan Kickoff

I previously mentioned that Nibley City will be updating our Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Master Plan this year. Perhaps you saw the budget introductory letter posted in the Mayor's Journal? I put the link below. The letter's focus is on the importance of parks and open space to our community, and the need to plan and manage these resources. Last week, Levi Roberts (Nibley City Planner) held a meeting with the consultant who will help us write the new plan, along with the Nibley-based steering committee. It is crucial that Nibley citizens help us write this plan by providing feedback and being involved in the process. The first opportunity will be at the Family Festivities during Heritage Days on June 17.

https://nibleycity.com/images/2022/Mayors_Journal/Budget_Message_2023_LJ_2023_05_12.pdf

Move Utah Summit

Levi Roberts (Nibley City Planner) and I attended an all-day UDOT summit held in Salt Lake City on May 24. The focus of the summit was on UDOT's role in active transportation. I have been impressed with UDOT's change in emphasis over the past several years that has shifted from moving cars to moving people (<https://uvision.utah.gov/>). This change started with SB 136 during the 2018 Utah Legislative session with an emphasis on using transportation to improve Utahns' quality of life. Landis Wenger (Cache County Trails Coordinator) talked me into participating in a panel discussion at this recent summit that recapped Nibley's involvement in the Centers for Disease Control's Virtual Walkability Academy that I mentioned in a previous status report, linked below.

https://nibleycity.com/images/2022/Mayors_Journal/2023_05_07.pdf

Cache Waste Consortium

The special service district that we formed when Logan announced they would no longer collect trash outside of their boundaries got together to adopt a budget before the fiscal year ends on June 30. For local government entities (including the Cache Waste Consortium), adopting a

budget is a two-part process. The first is finalizing income and expenses for the current year, and the second is predicting income and expenses for the coming year. Because the consortium just recently organized, the first part of finalizing this year's income and expenses was relatively simple. The only items were start-up costs totalling around \$5k paid proportional to population by each of the participating entities. The final contract with a private hauler, Waste Management, is still in process, so next year's expected income and expenses will be determined and adopted with a future budget modification. The costs for trash-collection service aren't entirely unknown, however. Waste Management won a competitive bid against two other companies using documented expectations, and we anticipate the new trash-collection fees to be within a dollar per month of what we have been paying to Logan for residential pick-up.

If you are interested, a get-acquainted discussion with Waste Management is on the agenda for the Nibley City Council meeting on June 8. As always, council meetings are public meetings, and you have a standing invitation to attend. The consortium has already discussed with Waste Management the communication channels between their company and the consortium's residents, and Waste Management will be pushing more information out to Nibley citizens in the next couple of months. We are working towards a transition from Logan to Waste Management around the first of November.

Code Enforcement

The Nibley staff, our new prosecuting attorney, and I continue to work on the goal of achieving fair and efficient code enforcement. Among other things, code enforcement includes enforcing the requirements for business licenses, enforcing the allowed number of dogs and other animals, and dealing with code-defined nuisances. I believe code enforcement is not the most fun activity in municipal governance. However, I also believe it is Nibley City's responsibility to enforce its ordinances. If we have the wrong city code, then the Nibley City Council can fix it. I'm a member of the council, so that includes me. A new idea that we are considering is to allow an administrative process involving city staff if the alleged offense leads to a citation, rather than always going through the Hyrum Justice Court. One of our debates on code enforcement is how much discretion the enforcement officer should have before a citation is issued. That discretion could come into play if, for example, the code-enforcement officer sees progress to rectify the offense. The risk of enforcement discretion is arbitrariness. It's no surprise that code-enforcement officers tend to prefer having the least amount of arbitrariness in the process so that their decisions are backed by code rather than interpretation.

Bear River Health South Cache Communities That Care (CTC)

The Bear River Health Department is organizing a coalition in the southern half of Cache County whose goal is to address risk factors in childrens' lives that could lead to undesired outcomes, including substance abuse. This coalition is broadly based, including schools, businesses, churches, and municipalities. Natalie Tippets from the Bear River Health Department asked if I would be a part of this coalition, and I attended an organizing meeting last week. I'm still learning my role in this group and will keep you posted as I learn more.

Heritage Days, Nibley's town celebration, is coming up on June 10 - 17! Please check the website to learn about many great activities for you and your families. I hope I have a chance to visit with you during the week.

Thanks for reading, boss. Please call, text, or write any time.

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My continued appreciation to Leslie Maughan for proofreading and giving me feedback on these reports before you see them. Thank you, Leslie!