



CITY OF SARATOGA SPRINGS

AN OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE "CITY OF SARATOGA SPRINGS" - AUGUST 2007

FIRE CHIEF MICHAEL J. PENOVICH

The City of Saratoga Springs has been very saddened by the loss of our beloved Fire Chief Michael J. Penovich. The Chief died from injuries sustained in a car accident on July 5 when his vehicle, traveling along Highway 189 near Deer Creek Reservoir, left the roadway and fell off of an embankment and crashed into the shoreline. The City has lost one of its finest employees and a great friend. Many residents may know Mike since he worked tirelessly in both our Public Works Department and for the last year as our Fire Chief. He responded to the City's needs both day and night and was generous with his time and abilities in helping both employees and citizens. Mike is survived by a wife and two children who reside in Cedar Fort. Residents wishing to make a financial contribution to the Chief's family may do so at either Zion's Bank or Bank of American Fork.

PLANNING COMMISSION VACANCY

The City of Saratoga Springs has an opening on the Planning Commission for an alternate member. The Planning Commission consists of five members who review development proposals at public hearings and make recommendations to the City Council on those developments. When a Commissioner is not able to attend, the alternate is responsible for participating and voting on proposals. Persons interested in filling this position should submit a resume and job application to Sarah Carroll, Senior Planner in the Planning Department. Job applications can be found on the City's website, www.saratoga-springs.net.

YOUTH FLAG FOOTBALL

Registration: July 30th – August 17th. Cost: \$25.00, no late registration. \$8.00 for a shirt. Co-ed teams for grades 1st – 6th. Games will be played on Thursday nights starting at 5:30, at either Sunrise Meadows or you to let you know about practice. Coaches are needed especially for the 5th -6th grades.

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

The City currently has several job opportunities, including:

- Police Records Clerk (part time)
- Public Works Inspector
- GPS Technician

Please visit the city's website at www.saratoga-springs.net for more information and more listings.

TOWN HALL MEETING MEET CONGRESSMAN CANNON

The City of Saratoga Springs invites you to a town hall meeting with Congressman Chris Cannon. This is a great opportunity for you to discuss issues that are important to you and your neighbors with your elected representative in Washington, DC. He will be available to take questions on any topic that you feel is important. We especially hope to familiarize Congressman Cannon with the issues facing our City and the North West region of Utah County.

When: Wednesday, August 15, 2007, 7:00 PM
Where: City Offices, 1307 North Commerce Drive, Suite 200

NEW UTILITY RATES

The City's utility rates have been increased to keep pace with inflation and the increasing needs of the City. The City does not undertake these changes lightly, and makes these changes only after careful analysis. Current analysis showed no need to change sewer rates so you will note no changes there. Changes have been made in the water service and garbage collection. These changes are outlined below:

Service	Method of Assessment	Old Rate	New Rate
Culinary Water	Base Charge	\$8.93	\$10.72
Culinary Water	Monthly Usage Rate (per 1000 gallons)	\$0.97	\$1.16
Sewer	Base Charge	\$9.69	\$9.69
Sewer	Monthly Usage Rate (per 1000 gallons)	\$1.43	\$1.43
Secondary Water	Per Acre	\$39.78	\$47.74
Garbage	First Can	\$11.06	\$11.46

FLOODING ISSUES

The City has recently experienced severe cloudbursts and rainstorms that have resulted in some flooding and property damage. While this cannot always be avoided, there are several things that you can do to minimize your risk of flooding and potential damage to your property. Included on the back of this newsletter is a pamphlet regarding flood prevention. You are encouraged to read through that material and be prepared to address any risks that you may have.

Important Information Concerning Flooding in the City of Saratoga Springs

You may know by now that the City of Saratoga Springs is built in an area along the Wasatch Front that frequently experiences cloudburst-type thunderstorms. That is, we sometimes get a lot of water in a short period of time. This event occurred recently and some of you experienced flooding and even damage to your homes and property. The purpose of this information is to alert you to the possibilities of flooding, suggest preventative ways to avoid flooding and to let you know what the City is doing to reduce the risk of flooding to each of you.

The Lake Mountain & Cedar Pass regions of northern Utah County are susceptible to heavy thunderstorms that sometimes occur with little warning and can deposit a large amount of water in a very short time. These events cause torrential downpours that fill channels and low spots throughout the City in a "flash flood" manner. You may notice as you travel throughout the City, particularly east of Lake Mountain, that there are many channels and streams that have been cut into the ground. These channels are normally dry except during storms and occasional spring runoff. The only way to prevent property damage or loss of life when floodwaters fill these areas is to prepare ahead of time.

What can I do to prevent flooding?

During and after any storm of significant size, the City's administrative staff, including the City Engineer, inspects all of the areas that have flood damage. We notice that in almost every case of flooding, that there are contributing factors common to most instances.

First, flooding occurs often in cases where yards are not yet been finished. We also notice that in

neighborhoods where grass and finished yards are installed, there is normally little or no flooding. Installing your grass and completing any other planting that you are going to do will greatly increase your soil's capacity to retain water and reduce your risk of flooding from surface waters.

Second, we notice that most homes that receive damage to basement areas have not completed proper grading away from the house or have soils that are collapsed creating low spots near homes. Upon completion of any new house, grading away from the structure should be completed at a 5% grade or more. The City inspects this grade at the time a home is completed and a certificate of occupancy is issued; however, the City has no control over activities that property owners engage in that might alter this grade after occupying their homes. We also do not inspect or test for soils compaction around homes. It's essential that if your soils have settled since you moved in, then you should make repairs or add materials that once again achieve the proper grading away from your home and window wells.

Third, there are many new homes located within active construction sites where surface water may tend to impact homes and property more than in finished neighborhoods. If you live in one of these areas, please review your surroundings and take measures that may assist in diverting water away from your home even if those measures are temporary until other homes and yards are completed. Some measures such as sand bags and digging trenches may seem extreme, but may be necessary until your neighborhood is completed and everyone's yards are installed.

Finally, we notice that many neighbors, especially in hillside areas, have graded their properties in such a way that their runoff is accumulating on adjacent properties. You should be aware that common law dictates that each property owner is responsible for their own

storm water runoff and should not be allowing runoff from their property to cause damage to neighbors' property. We encourage you to be courteous and aware of how your property slopes and of how it may impact others, particularly adjacent properties.

What is the City doing to prevent flooding?

The City is also taking steps to prevent flooding. We have a storm drainage study of the entire geographic area of the City. This study indicates areas more susceptible to flood damage and makes recommendations concerning the correct locations of detention ponds, storm channels and culvert facilities. The City will be installing these improvements over the next 10 years, as needed, to accommodate growth in existing and future neighborhoods. The City has also had the practice of trying to raise awareness of issues like flooding so that you can take whatever steps you need to insure maximum protection.

The City has already made or required developers to make improvements to install storm drain ponds, underground drain systems, and open storm channels leading to Utah Lake. The City also has several regional park facilities planned of over twenty (20) acres in size that will collect storm water during large storms. These facilities are all designed to divert and collect water away from residential areas.

The City also participates in the National Flood Insurance Program. This allows us to stay current with federal programs and technical assistance and helps obtain reduced insurance rates for all residents who purchase flood insurance.

If you have any concerns or questions you may contact the City at 766-9793 or the City Engineer at 801-571-9414.