

DECEMBER 2020

West Point City

WEST POINT OFFICIALS

ERIK CRAYTHORNE, MAYOR

GARY PETERSEN, MAYOR PRO-TEM

JERRY CHATTERTON, COUNCIL MEMBER

ANDY DAWSON, COUNCIL MEMBER

KENT HENDERSON, COUNCIL MEMBER

ANNETTE JUDD, COUNCIL MEMBER

KYLE LAWS, CITY MANAGER



CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS:

1ST & 3RD TUESDAYS

6:00 PM ADMINISTRATIVE SESSION

7:00 PM GENERAL SESSION

PLANNING COMMISSION MEETINGS:

2ND & 4TH THURSDAYS

6:00 PM ADMINISTRATIVE SESSION

7:00 PM GENERAL SESSION

MAYOR'S MESSAGE

Over the years I have appreciated those of you who have made it a point to reach out to me about my monthly newsletter message. As I close in on the end of my twelfth year as Mayor, quick math says I have written over 140 monthly messages. (And yes, I know some of you reading this are thinking to yourselves that twelve years is too long [you know who you are], and depending on the day I tend to agree). Regardless, sitting down and trying to write something that is worthwhile to all of you that take the time to actually read it is something I don't take lightly. So with that, here goes this month's Message from the Mayor.

As we finish up 2020, who could have predicted all of this? I am looking forward to the distribution of some of the vaccines we have been hearing about which will hopefully translate into a more normal 2021. Have we not learned enough patience this year to last us all for a while? I mean, being flexible is one thing but going through this has been ridiculous. As I type this message my family is once again in quarantine (for the second time) and my patience for all of these things left me long ago. However, a loss of patience is nothing to the suffering others have had to endure – I want to express my sincere sympathy and condolences to those who have been sick, have had to see and worry about their friends and family suffer from the illness, and especially to those who have lost loved ones from COVID-19.

Circumstances surrounding these untimely deaths and limited funeral options have made this time of grief and sorrow even worse. During this holiday season, and with cases increasing, please reach out to your neighbors, especially the ones who might be isolated from family and friends, to make sure they are ok during this challenging time.

I try to avoid being overly political when I write these newsletters but I hope you will forgive me this time. Can we all agree that there are many political affiliations with differing opinions in all of the circles we associate with? Just because we might not agree with someone doesn't mean they are crazy idiots without a brain in their heads. There are always going to be extreme versions of this on both sides of the aisle, but that extremism is now in mainstream ideas and political philosophies and we have two truly distinct parties. Our two-party system is what has made our country who we are today, the center point of the free world, and the country all others look up to, because we have been able to maintain enough of an overlap between the two (I know some of you will disagree with me on this, which is just fine), but it is exhausting for me to even watch the national news anymore – I don't know how to separate the truth about actual news from political rhetoric. We need to return to being more tolerant of people, rather than reducing them to a set of beliefs and political views.

Can't we all agree that when we wake up in the morning, we would do well to remember that everything else aside, we are all human and we can try just a little harder to be a little kinder? Instead of looking for ways we are different and superior can we look for ways to relate and uplift? As we close up 2020 and start looking for those New Year's resolutions, maybe being more tolerable and nicer can be at the top of most of our lists – I know it definitely needs to be on mine.

As we approach Christmas where we drive through our neighborhoods to see all the lights and decorate our trees, may it be a reminder of the opportunity this holiday gives us – a time where we spend time with our family (either in person or virtually) and reflect on what we have without focusing on what we don't. It truly is a magical time of year if you open up your heart and let the Christmas Spirit in. Look outward and try to do small acts of kindness to neighbors and friends – isn't that what a community like ours does? I wish you all the best in all that you do. May you and your families be safe and make wise and prudent decisions during this pandemic that will keep you all out of harm's way. As we close this unforgettable 2020, here is to a new start in 2021. From my family to yours, I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

- Mayor Erik Craythorne

SENIOR LUNCH

Until further notice, senior lunches will be canceled due to the concerns surrounding COVID-19.

Seniors 65+ are considered higher risk and recommended to avoid large gatherings.

Once there are no longer health concerns, we will resume our monthly senior lunches!

If you have questions about COVID-19, the Utah Department of Health has established a hotline at 1-800-456-7707 and has information available at www.coronavirus.utah.gov

YOUTH COUNCIL

This past month has been fun for the West Point City Youth Council. Even though we are still in this pandemic, we have found ways to meet and to continue to serve our community!

Last month we had our annual Veterans Day Flag Placement Program wherein we had the opportunity to place flags on the headstones of all of those in our cemetery who are veterans. We had a great turnout and love this time to be able to serve and reflect on the wonderful people in our community and world.

We also had our monthly meeting, which we held online through Zoom. We got to hear from Jessica Bigler from Communities that Care. That was such a cool experience to hear from her and all that she and the organization do.

We love to serve our community and love all of the fun things we get to do for our residents. Thank you for supporting us as the West Point City Youth Council!

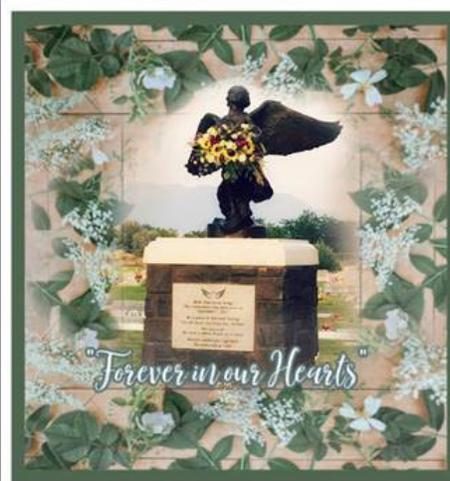
- Angelina Orton

West Point Youth Council City Recorder

If your student is interested in joining the West Point Youth Council, please submit an application found at www.westpointcity.org/community-affairs-events.

DEC 2020

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1 CITY COUNCIL AT 6 PM	2	3	4	5
6 CHILD REMEMBRANCE DAY	7	8	9	10 PLANNING COMMISSION AT 6 PM	11	12
13	14	15 CITY COUNCIL AT 6 PM	16	17	18 LUMINARY	19
20	21	22	23	24 CHRISTMAS EVE CITY HALL CLOSED	25 CHRISTMAS DAY CITY HALL CLOSED	26
27	28	29	30	31 NEW YEAR'S EVE	1 NEW YEAR'S DAY CITY HALL CLOSED	



Child Remembrance Day December 6th

The Annual Child Remembrance Ceremony held each December 6th has been **CANCELED** this year.

We invite you to still honor this day with those in your household group:

Beginning at dusk, luminaries will be placed on the resting place of your loved ones and white flowers will be provided for you to place upon the Angel of Hope statue.

Please avoid congregating with others and when appropriate, wear face coverings and social distance.

Angel of Hope Monument - West Point City Cemetery

DRIVE SAFELY

Please be very careful while driving through the designated school zones. Obey the crossing guards and STAY ALERT!

Parents, please remind your children to stay on the sidewalks whether walking or riding.

GREEN WASTE CAN

Beginning December 1st you can use your Green Waste Can for regular trash! Normal green waste service will resume on April 1st.

WASTE COLLECTION

Please do not overload your garbage, greenwaste, or recycling containers. If the lid on a container is open, it is considered overloaded and can be difficult to dump.

Please also remember to place waste in its proper container - no non-recyclables in recycling cans. Also make sure that your containers are 6 ft. away from other objects and at least 20 ft. away from any vehicles.

Please help keep our City as clean and sanitary as possible!

CITY COUNCIL & PLANNING COMMISSION MEETINGS

Written Determination of the Mayor and Planning Commission Chair of West Point City Concerning Electronic Meeting Anchor Location:

PURSUANT TO UTAH CODE ANN. 52-4-207(4), We, the undersigned Mayor and Planning Commission Chair of West Point City, hereby determine that conducting City Council and Planning Commission meetings at any time during the next 30 days at an anchor location presents a substantial risk to the health and safety of those who may be present at the anchor location. The World Health Organization, the President of the United States, the Governor of Utah, and the Davis County Health Department, have all recognized that a global pandemic exists related to the new strain of the coronavirus, COVID-19. Further, according to information from state epidemiology experts, Utah is currently in an acceleration phase, which has the potential to overwhelm the state's healthcare system. This written determination will expire thirty days from the date it is signed.

The public may monitor or listen to the meeting electronically and provide public comment when appropriate by following the instructions below:

- Open the Agenda posted on the City website
- Click on the "Join Meeting" link

or

Connect via Telephone: Dial 1(669) 900-6833 and enter Meeting ID: *listed on agenda*

Members of the public may also participate in the Citizen Comment or Public Hearing items via email prior to the meeting.

Email your comments by 7 PM to:

City Council: carnold@westpointcity.org

Planning Commission: mbailey@westpointcity.org

Subject Line: Must be designated as

Citizen/Public Hearing Comment for:

(Reference Meeting Date)

Email Body: Must include Full Name & Address and a succinct statement of your comment.

DATED November 3, 2020.

The original of this Written Determination is on file in the City Recorder's office and on the City website.

BUILDING/DEVELOPMENT

A drop-spot container is placed at the front doors of City Hall with a number to call to inform Staff that documents have been placed in the container. Staff will retrieve the documents as quickly as possible.

Payment for permits will be taken over the phone. If you are picking up a building permit, please call ahead and we will make arrangements.

Building inspections will continue as normal.

UTILITY ACCOUNTS

Utility Payments can be placed in the drop box in the northeast corner of the parking lot, mailed, paid online, or made by calling City Hall at 801-776-0970.

New Utility Applications can be printed online and emailed to

ldavies@westpointcity.org, faxed, placed in the drop box, or mailed. Once received, City Staff will contact you for the deposit payment and any additional information. Utility terminations or account updates may be done via email or phone.

STREET PARKING

Beginning November 1st - March 1st, there is no overnight parking on the streets from 1 AM - 6 AM

WATER QUALITY REPORT

Enclosed with this month's newsletter is the 2019 Water Quality Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality of our water and the water service delivered to you everyday. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water and we want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We encourage you to take a look at the report and contact City Hall if you have any questions!

CODE ENFORCEMENT CORNER

WINTER REMINDERS

Last month our Code Enforcement Officer posted many courtesy notices on vehicles, trailers, and boats parked overnight on City streets that winter parking restrictions are now in place:

West Point City Code 10.05.50(H)(3) prohibits the parking of any vehicles, trailers, recreational vehicles, etc, on the street between the hours of 1:00 AM and 6:00 AM from Nov 1st until the last day of February.

In spite of these notices, some are continuing to park on the streets overnight. The Davis County Sheriff's Department will now be issuing citations and/or towing vehicles in violation of this Ordinance.

Please help us to ensure that this winter season is a safe one, especially for our Public Works employees plowing snow on cold winter mornings.

You are also reminded to keep trees trimmed to at least 13.5 feet above the roadway and to make sure sidewalks are cleared.

Also, PLEASE be aware that pushing or blowing snow onto public streets is prohibited. As you clear snow, please ensure that the snow stays on your property and is not blown or plowed into the street.

Your cooperation in helping the City handle another winter is greatly appreciated!

Please call or email Bruce Dopp, West Point City Code Enforcement Officer at 801-776-0970 or bdopp@westpointcity.org. Complaints may also be submitted via the City website at www.westpointcity.org questions.

FREE HELP for COVID-19 related stress

THE UTAH STRONG RECOVERY PROJECT

If you or someone you know is experiencing stress, anxiety or depression because of COVID-19, talk to a crisis counselor seven days a week, 7a-7p. All information is confidential and free of charge.

Services include:



emotional support



crisis counseling



coping strategies



mental health education



referrals if more help is needed

Call/Text: 385-386-2289

**Email (first name and phone number only):
UtahStrong@utah.gov**

**For immediate response after hours:
1-800-273-TALK (8255)**

Counseling in Spanish and other languages available.



FRIDAY, DECEMBER 18TH

LUMINARY

WEST POINT CEMETERY - 80 N 4000 W

THIS YEAR WE WILL HAVE ALL LUMINARY BAGS PREARRANGED ON EACH RESTING PLACE. WE INVITE YOU TO OBSERVE THE LUMINARY AT DUSK.

PLEASE AVOID CONGREGATING WITH OTHERS AND WHEN APPROPRIATE, WEAR A FACE MASK AND SOCIAL DISTANCE.



WEST POINT RECREATION

Recreation sign-ups can be done online at www.westpointcity.org
Contact Kelly Ross at 801-529-3352 or Karly Norwood at 801-931-9716
for more information on recreation activities and sign-ups.

JR. JAZZ BASKETBALL

Practices are scheduled to begin this month and games are planned start in January.

Please check your emails and watch our City Facebook Page for more information and updates. If you have any questions, please give our Recreation Department a call!

Recreation Aide positions
may be available!
Visit www.westpointcity.org
for more information!

WEST POINT MILITARY MEMORIAL

LOY BLAKE PARK - 3500 W 550 N

WEST POINT MILITARY MEMORIAL COMMITTEE CHAIR:
MARV DRAKE - 801-825-5321

In the course of history there have been many noteworthy events which occurred on or near Christmas Day. Charlemagne unified the Holy Roman Empire and is crowned Emperor in 800 A.D. In 1066 William the Conqueror is crowned King of England. In 1776 George Washington and the Continental Army cross the Delaware and capture the Hessians. In 1814 the Treaty of Ghent is signed, ending the War of 1812. And in 1968, Apollo 8 orbited the moon, making the three astronauts the first men to leave earth's gravitational pull, the first to orbit the moon, the first to view all of earth from space, and the first to see the dark side of the moon.

But the event I wish to discuss here is the World War I Christmas Truce.

On December 7, 1914, the newly elected Pope Benedict XV suggested a temporary hiatus of the war for the celebration of Christmas. This was rejected. Apparently, those actually in the trenches, not knowing of the rejected proposal, elected the perfect Christmas gift on their own.

On Christmas Eve 1914, unarranged and unannounced, along much of the trenches of the opposing forces of the front, the guns unexplainedly went silent. In the ensuing quiet could be heard from the German trenches the beautiful music of Stille Nacht

(Silent Night). The Brits responded with their rendition of O' Holy Night. It was later reported that Christmas Carol after Christmas Carol floated back and forth across No-Man's Land until, in perfect unity, was sung Oh Come All Ye Faithful from the British lines and in Latin Adeste Fideles from the French and German trenches. With thoughts of home now on every mind, it afterwards was a very silent night.

On Christmas Day - apparently beginning with a German soldier carrying a sign which said, "You No Shoot, We No Shoot" - some of the adversaries tentatively ventured into the No-Man's Land between the trenches and, meeting in the middle, began to exchange gifts of cigarettes, candy, plum puddings and other such Christmassy items. It was not long until there were handshakes and back-slapping hugs being freely exchanged. There was even an impromptu game of soccer. Some articles of clothing and such never made it back to their own lines.

Both sides took advantage of the break in hostilities to retrieve the bodies of their comrades who lay dead in No-Man's Land. Some had lain in the area, on the frozen ground, for as long as two weeks.

The so-called Christmas Truce of 1914 came only five months after the outbreak of what would come to be called The Great War, and later, World War I. However, the soon-to-be outmoded idea of chivalry between enemies in warfare was already well on the way to extinction.

This "truce" was never repeated.

Merry Christmas.
Stay safe and stay healthy.

- Marv Drake

