

# April 2016 PLUMMER NEWS

M I C R O S O F T

**D A T E S O F  
I N T E R E S T :**

- April 14 Regular City Council Meeting 6p.m.
- April 28 Regular City Council Meeting 6p.m.

Plummer City News is published by the City of Plummer and provided to customers free of charge. An electronic version is available upon request. Any comments about this publication can be addressed to Sara Gauthier City Clerk at P.O. Box B, Plummer, Idaho 83851 or (208) 686-1641 or by e-mail at Sara@cityofplummer.org

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## PCAT Chili Cook-Off Winners

Our chili cook-off and fundraiser was a success. We raised \$2500 which will go to purchase materials towards our monument entrance signs. There was a full house, all 120 chairs were taken and we had 15 chilis. Best Over all chili winner was: Rose Sutton. Hottest was Richard Powers. Most Unique was Doug Colley and the Peoples choice was Ben Sergent. There was a silent Auction and a live auction and a baked goods table. Thanks to all who attended and all the many who donated baked goods, auction items and donating their time to help make this event a success and a fun night by all!



## Budget Pay Open Enrollment

Open enrollment for budget pay begins April 1, 2016, the deadline to enroll for the 2016/2017 budget pay program is May 6, 2016. If you are having problems with high monthly electric bills in the winter this will help alleviate the high bills and even them out over the year. If you are interested in being on budget pay please call City Hall at 686-1641 to be placed on the enrollment list.

**3rd ANNUAL SPRING**

## **RUMMAGE SALE**

**May 21 & 22, 10am to 6pm**

**In Support of the Plummer Seniors  
at the Plummer Park Community Center  
Come Shop away the day**

**Indian Taco, Homemade Soup, Fry Bread,  
& Much More**



Sponsored By  
Native Touch  
Nail & Skincare

Looking for Vendors!!! Have things you would like to get rid of? Come join us and support our Plummer Seniors! Vendor space fee is \$20.00 for the event. The vendors space fee's go directly to the Plummer Seniors. Make some \$\$\$ and help out our seniors. Please call 208-686-0424 or 208-582-4921 for more information. Leticia will e-mail vendor forms. Sponsored by NATIVE TOUCH!

### **Gateway Fire Protection District News**

We would like to congratulate Katie Wyatt for passing the EMT Test. We would also like to thank Claude Church for the donation of cars for extraction training. Thanks to the City of Plummer for leasing a building to the Gateway Fire Protection District for training purposes. Volunteers needs please contact Fire Station at 208-686-1313

### **Library News**

A Used Book Sale will take place Saturday May 7th in the public library's conference room from 9am. - 2 pm. Community yard sale day is coming up in June. The Friends of the Library plan to host another book sale along with a multi-family parking lot sale. Limited space and tables will be available for rural residents on the library's parking lot (weather permitting) Please pass this on to your rural friends and neighbors who might be interested and contact the library for details or to reserve space. 686-1812 or [plummerlibrary@gmail.com](mailto:plummerlibrary@gmail.com)

Monday-Wednesday: 10a.m. to 6 p.m.

Thursday: 2p.m.-6p.m.

Friday & Sunday: Closed

Saturday: 10a.m.-2p.m.

## Message From The Mayor

On March 25th I met with Idaho Parks and Recreation in Boise about Heyburn State Park and our electrical services. I met with Director David Langhorst, Development Bureau Chief James Thomas, and Operations Division Administrator Keith Hobbs. Tim Farrell of Mt. Waterworks, our city engineer, also accompanied me. We discussed the status of Plummer's electrical system, the condition of the service to Park facilities and residents, the expenses versus revenue of servicing the Park, doing a rate analysis and cost of service study, and potential solutions that would benefit both the Park and Plummer.

I explained the entire situation here, and the response by David Langhorst was very encouraging. He was staying at the park last November up here hunting, and he got to experience that storm and lights out for days first hand! He was aware of the problem and he and his staff want to work with the City and to preserve our relationship since he recognizes, as do I, the symbiotic relationship that we have. Plummer impacts the park, and the park impacts Plummer economically as well as both being part of a larger 'community.' He also knows that we, as customers here in town, are basically subsidizing the park in our electric bills.

Idaho Parks and Rec will be working on the electrical problem from their end and want to assist us by putting 'skin in the game' so we don't have to bear the burden of costs alone. We will be in communication as we address the issues that affect both entities, will be meeting again in the near future and Director Langhorst suggested making a site visit for that meeting. I'll keep you all posted as we go.

As Mayor, I am considered by some to be 'unorthodox.' I do not require nor do I favor 'posturing' or see the need for meetings to be conducted in a rigid, formal, or inflexible procedural way; and indeed, there is no law that states that a meeting has to be performed in this manner. A meeting can be formal, informal (casual), and even social in nature as long as it complies with the Idaho Open Meeting Law. Some of our council and certain residents find my preference for informal uncomfortable. But as Mayor, and Chief Administrative Officer, I am free to chair meetings in any manner I deem fit as long as city business is accomplished in a reasonable and timely manner.

I called a brief special meeting on March 17th to move the remaining money from our electrical reserves to the escrow account for the pole project that's finishing up. We had received a letter from KEC with a deadline of end of business Tuesday March 22nd. It's been coming down to this for the last several months and I had asked that it be moved over the last few meetings. We finally got the do it or termination notice.

The meeting was only going to be long enough for the council to make the motion and vote on it (10 minutes or so). Then something I found extremely disturbing occurred. We had just enough for a quorum, but Councilman Clark refused to participate and attempted to leave removing a quorum so no business could take place holding the city and its residents basically hostage because of where I sat (I didn't sit in the so-called 'Mayors Chair').

## **Message From The Mayor**

One of his excuses for this behavior was he wanted “some professionalism.” Let’s look at professionalism.

Professionalism. Noun.  
Professional character, spirit, or methods.

Councilman Clark obviously believes that the meeting itself, its ‘formality,’ outweighs the substance of the business of the residents’ needs via the City. By its very definition, being ‘unprofessional’ means being unable to make a decision, not being able to complete tasks or projects, breaking promises, being unprepared at meetings (not having picked up and read their packets), being oppositional without a valid argument or solution, or taking credit for someone else’s idea or work (or having a personal agenda while being in office). There is much more, but you get the idea.

Being professional means being competent, reliable, honest, having integrity, treating all residents as if they matter, seeking ways of staying current in knowledge about issues that confront the residents, being a problem solver, being supportive of work to do the right things (regardless of your personal feelings) for the citizenship, staying focused, and listening carefully. This, of course, is only the tip of the iceberg.

There is also a legal aspect that everyone should be aware of. As per Idaho Code: 18-315. OMISSION OF PUBLIC DUTY. Every willful omission to perform any duty enjoined by law upon any public officer, or person holding any public trust or employment, where no special provision shall have been made for the punishment of such delinquency, is punishable as a misdemeanor.

I will not tolerate the kind of behavior exhibited at the special meeting, or any meeting for that matter, and will if necessary use this code to enforce conduction of your business! Period! Speaking of business, I have met with Representatives Troy, Jordan, and Senator Schmidt. I have expressed my concerns and the issues/challenges we face. I have asked for their support through their work in the legislature if they can, and they do want to help as they can. I will be meeting with them again for more in depth conversations now that the session is over in Boise. I met with the Tribal Council and gave them a briefing and asked for their help in addressing our mutual concerns. Sara and I met with Hope Ross from Bonneville Power Administration. Hope put me in contact with some smaller electrical utilities and I am getting operational suggestions from them. I am also in a dialogue with Paul Kimmel, Avista Regional Business and Public Affairs Representative. I attended the Inland Northwest Partnership Conference as Paul’s guest to network with other organizations in our search for help. Saving our system can be accomplished. In closing, we are proactively looking at solutions and we need your help! It’s your town! You have the right to participate! And I’ll be keeping you updated!