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DATES OF INTEREST:

- July 4th City Hall Closed in Observation of Independence
- July 13 Regular City Council Meeting 6 p.m.

PLUMMER DAY, JULY 15, 2017

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LIST OF EVENTS

Fun Run	Wellness Center	7:00 a.m. -
Breakfast	Legion Building	7:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.
Parade Line Up	Veterans Memorial Park	9:00 a.m. - 9:45 a.m.
Parade	See Attached Map	10:00 a.m. - finished
Wellness Fair	Wellness Center	11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Vendors	Community Center/Wellness Center	8:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.
Tractor Show	County Lot beside Gateway Café	11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Watermelon Eating Contest	Community Center	2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

EVENTS FROM 11:00 A.M. - 7:00 P.M. AT THE COMMUNITY CENTER

July 15, 2017

3 on 3 Basketball Tournament	Extreme Obstacle Course
Ball Toss Game w/prizes	Double Lane Wet Slide
Pop the Balloon Game w/prizes	Tropical Slip-N-Slide
Ping Pong Toss Game w/prizes	Dunk Tank
Rubber Duck Fishing Game w/prizes	Story Telling
Barbeque Cook Off	Basket Weaving

Dinner and Movie in the Park is from Dusk till finished.

Streets

Due to the severity of the past winter we are unable to do the Dust Abatement this year. Please do the speed limit or slower to help with keeping the dust down during these summer months.

Library News

1937 - 2017 Happy Anniversary! Plummer Public Library has been in continual service to the community and surrounding area for 80 years. The library began as a volunteer effort in 1937 in the Plummer Congregational Church basement (now known as Plummer Bible Church) and moved to the Federated Women's Club building in 1943. Later the club donated the building to the city. It underwent a couple of remodels and served its purpose well until 2010 when the library's contents were moved into a new facility at its present location at 849 D St. The old building was torn down to make room for the parking lot.

Be sure to stop by the library and check out the summer reading children's Lego Creations in the display case.

Monday-Wednesday: 10a.m. to 6 p.m.
 Thursday: 2p.m.-6p.m.
 Friday & Sunday: Closed
 Saturday: 10a.m.-2p.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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Electric Rate Increase

Effective this billing the new rates for Electric are as follows:

Residential: \$20.95
 Usage: 0.082 per kWh

Commercial: \$27.56
 Usage: 0.104 per kWh

Commercial Demand: \$44.10
 Usage: 0.050 per kWh
 Demand per kWh: \$4.52

Industrial: \$49.61
 Usage: 0.048 per kWh
 Demand per kWh: \$4.63

Message From The Mayor

Well, here it is July. Finally starting to feel like summer!

Here's what's happening. Our USDA loan application is in the committee review stage, and this means we could get the green light to start work on the reconstruction of the electric system as part of phase one of the entire project any time now. Remember, this entire project will happen in four "yearly" phases. Mike from Toth & Associates, our electrical engineers, has walked the lines and done an inventory of the hardware and equipment throughout our electrical system. This is so when construction begins we know exactly what is on the poles so the contractors are well stocked when they go to replace them. This will ensure a smooth workflow. Additional detailed descriptions and elements of the system are being added to our basic GIS mapping system. Everyone, including you, will be able to go to our map online, click on any particular area, and see what kinds of lines, phases, equipment and hardware is at that location. If the lights go out because a tree limb fell on the lines or a transformer shorted out and you happen to live where you can see it, you can look it up and when you call in the outage you can provide the information like which pole numbers are affected and what transformer it was that shorted out. That is, of course, if you have a smart phone and can access the web from it since in all likelihood your home computer won't work since your power is out. But this is an example of the interactivity between us, and you the consumer, we are hoping to achieve. Should make targeting, troubleshooting, and getting any problems fixed much quicker!

Leonard and the crew are working on ways to do something with our streets. They patched a big chunk down on A Street last week. We have access to some money from LHTAC, but it isn't much, and we are looking at the areas where that money can make the biggest impact. We are making the switch to LED streetlights. Leonard found a competitive price that is affordable for us, and that will make for some long-lasting energy and replacement savings.

Since the rains have slacked off some, the sewer plant is performing to its design capabilities and we aren't violating at the moment, which is a relief! We are still waiting to hear from the tribe and IHS on the equalization basin. That should be going through any time now as well.

I don't know if I mentioned this before, I'm sure I did, but we applied for a High Five grant last fall. We came in second or third and got a "consolation prize" grant of \$50,000 to purchase and install playground equipment. We advertised in the City newsletter and our Facebook page a community meeting for two weeks to get the community involved in what you would like to see, but it being summer, we didn't get any turn out. It was a requirement of the grant, but at least we fulfilled that criteria and Shannon Sparks from High Five was here with us so we got the green light to move forward, purchase the equipment, and get it installed at the Community Center park. That will be happening shortly. Speaking of the Community Center, we are still going to apply for a grant to upgrade that building. Deadline is next March.

On a disappointing note, the analysis I had done regarding the sewer bond and the \$40 payment came back negative. At current interest rates refinancing right now would not reduce our payments, i.e., would not get that \$40 burden off our backs! They didn't give me a forecast of when that could happen so I tasked them with giving me that information so I can pass it on to you. We have to be able to do it sometime, and

I want to know will it be 3 years? Five years? Ten years? When?

On a higher note, Sara got to spend part of a week down in Boise at the Association of Idaho Cities Conference. She attended several classes, one dealing with Strategic Economic Development for Public Officials and Civic Leaders. In this class, she learned about setting the culture and customer service relationships. She also learned that there are regional economic developers through the department of commerce. She acquired some very valuable tools on how to help our economy to improve and provide a nice look to main street and build stronger relationships with business owners in our community. She attended a training for funding for cities as well. They provided her with some keys for success such as plan, always call and never give-up and always follow-up. They went through each of these keys for successful funding. Under the plan section one of the important things that Sara said we really need to have is more public input to help with our plans and to help our community succeed. Sara also attended an accounting, auditing and internal control best practices session. She was shown how to create a written internal controls policy and where she can find samples. She was also informed about the new GASB updates that our auditors handle so nothing different for Sara to complete. She will be putting together an internal controls policy here in the very near future so we have written policy. Sara also found us another funding opportunity while at the conference. The funding opportunity would hopefully go to starting to fix up the community center along with the grant from the Department of Commerce. For the funding opportunity that Sara came across there is a total of \$500,000 available and they are hoping to award at least 50 projects. The grant was originally due on June 30th but has been extended to July 15th. We will be getting our names in for this grant opportunity.

I've started a relationship with Timber Plus's Kristi Scott, the economic development director serving Benewah County. We're going to be taking a hard look at ways to get input and ideas on how we can all help in improving our economic base and growth for our community. We want to include all of you, particularly achieving involvement from our younger residents, ages 25 through 35 since that demographic are our future leaders. In that regard, we are going to be utilizing our social media more so everyone can stay on top of what's happening here in Plummer and ways they can be involved. I encourage as many people as possible to create groups and committees to address our needs and concerns here, and interact with the city council and staff. I'll be writing more about that in future articles.

Plummer Day is coming up the 15th, and Leonard and I will represent the city in the parade. I hope to see a good turn out this year! The 4th of July is upon us, and while we have no ordinances restricting fireworks, I hope that everyone will use caution and respect during the holiday.

When I hear back about when we might be able to refinance that sewer bond, I'll let you know.

I'll close with a quote from author Doug Griffiths from his book "13 Ways to Kill Your community."

“Success is all about attitude. For too long we have watched our communities weaken and wither and wondered when somebody is going to fix them. Guess what? You are somebody. Now go out and fight the attitudes that sabotage success. Our communities are worth fighting for . . . and remember – you are not alone. You will face criticism and negativity, but our advice is to simply smile and remind the critics that, “those who say it cannot be done, should not interrupt those who are doing it.”

Until next month...

Mayor William Weems