

Plummer News January 2018

DATES OF INTEREST:

- City Hall will be closed on Monday January 1st in observation of New Years
- Regular City Council Meeting January 11 at 6:00p.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

In accordance with Federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) policy, the City of Plummer is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability. To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington DC 20250-9410 or call 1-800-795-3272 (voice) or 202-720-6382 (TDD).

PCAT Christmas Lighting Contest

PCAT(Plummer Community Action Team) sending a special thank you to those in the community for decorating. Special recognition to the Hiway Motel, Bill Meagher, Sefo & Laura Laumatia. We greatly appreciate everyone's effort for decorating. Have a Happy New Year!

Newly Elected City Council

The newly elected City Council will take their seats at the January 11th meeting at 6:00p.m.

Library News

Happy New Year! The library has lifted the checkout limit on DVDs for the month of January and patrons may check out as many DVDs as they want this month. Checkout time for DVDs is one week. Brighten up the dark days of winter or beat the post holiday blues with a good movie, learn a new hobby, or check out some fitness videos.



Message from the Mayor

I hope everyone had a good Christmas and we look forward to a productive New Year! We've run into snag with our USDA electric project loan documents. The lawyers in DC somehow became confused about the form of the documents and had to start over from scratch in early December because we are a municipal power entity and not a PUD or Cooperative like they normally work with. I was afraid of that, as we have run into problems like this before. Top that with the DC side of the equation taking the entire Christmas season off until after the New Year. It's frustrating and time consuming, and can make the "wheels of bureaucracy" turn even slower than they already do. I just want to sign the papers and get the money flowing into our account so the real work can get going! We are doing small-scale jobs within our existing budget for reimbursement (I don't know if you've noticed new LED street lights along hwy 5 and hwy 95 for example), but the project really needs to be fully flowing and our system overhaul fully committed and started! We have been applying and have received some awards to work on our streets. Along with some disaster relief money we can at least start attacking some of the worst parts of our streets as the weather breaks this spring. We are applying for anything and everything that we may be eligible for. There are a few people who think we are just "mismanaging" or ignoring the streets problem, but that isn't the case. The streets budget is based on revenue from taxes and other sources. Which really aren't that much. Snow plowing wiped out our meager budget pretty much. And it wasn't only us that got creamed by last winter. The entire cross section of North Idaho and the rest of the state got it too, so any relief money that was built up got distributed to practically everyone massively reducing what local communities received and could use. Keep your fingers crossed as we enter in to the New Year that the weather doesn't slap us again. But we are looking under every rock to find funding to fix at least some of the streets.

Our water situation looks good for the coming year, but as usual our sewer capacity is still in trouble. We should be seeing some work start on the new catch basin as the weather breaks. I'm looking at other ways we can address that too.

In other words, same struggle, different day (and year)! We hope to see some real progress in 2018 though!

You will see a new face when you visit the front desk of city hall in the coming days. We have taken on a new employee, Lonna Simmons, who starts on January 2nd. Her duties will be answering phone calls, receiving utility payments and assisting customers with their utility accounts. Join us in welcoming her to the City!

In closing, thank you all for your patience and support in our endeavors to attack the problems that we face as a small Northern Idaho town! I know it can be slow, but we are making progress! I hope everyone has a happy and prosperous New Year!

Mayor William Weems