



# The City Shareholder

## “You are the City”



City of Blanding

50 West 100 South

News Letter

**Current City Issues**



**Christmas Lights, Fireworks and Tree For All!**

Tis the season to be jolly! Come out and join in the fun and excitement of the city lighting and annual Tree For All. Festivities will begin at 5:00 PM on December 4, 2009 at the Blanding Arts & Events Center and will continue until 9:00 PM. Enjoy the entertainment, see Santa, sit on his lap and receive a treat, shop at the numerous craft booths. Visit Santa’s workshop and make a Christmas craft. Plan on having dinner at a nominal cost. Fireworks will announce the arrival of Santa around 6:00 PM. The Tree-For-All and craft booths will continue Saturday from 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM Come on out and enjoy the spirit of the season.

**Left Over Centennial Histories**

A Centennial Family History Set will make a wonderful Christmas gift. The city still has several leftover sets available for sale at the city office or the visitor center. The four volume hard bound set will be sold at a discounted cost this Christmas of \$25 between now and December 31st. Don’t miss out on obtaining this valuable historical set which includes an overview of Blanding's secular history “This Part of the Vineyard” by Gary Shumway.

**Business License Renewals**

A reminder to business owners that business license renewals are due December 31, 2008. If you have not renewed your business license prior to this date you will be charged \$25.00 versus the renewal rate of \$15.00 if paid on time.

**San Juan Wellness Center - In Budget - Bids Awarded**

After advertising and going through a contractor pre-qualification process the City of Blanding bid out the San Juan Wellness Center project and received nine bids. The bids came in tight and per state law the City awarded the project to Onyx Construction out of Salt Lake City who was named the lowest responsible bidder. The City has previously bid out the outdoor swimming pool and was waiting to award the bid concurrently with the building construction to ensure that the project fell within budget before closing on the bond and proceeding. The pool is being constructed by RenoSys and will be a stainless steel uni-wall pool. The project scope was reduced by Council slicing the project into phases so the work could be completed as it was determined affordable. The plans were drawn so that two of four courts and the indoor wellness pool could be added in the future. Fund raising continues for these projects. Total funding available for the construction, furniture, fixtures, and equipment total \$3,500,000. The project will begin construction immediately and will continue as weather permits. Construction will finish in the spring.



**Election Results 2009**

The citizens went to the polls on November 3, and determined its Council representatives for the next two years. In the Mayor race Toni Turk won the election taking 52% of the votes over previous Mayor Jim Slavens. Mike Halliday won a four year seat with 59% of voters casting their vote for Mike. Just behind him Charlie Taylor won his first race with 50% of the vote, having previously been appointed to fill a vacant seat left after the tragic airplane accident in 2008. David Johnson ran unopposed and won his first election after being appointed to fill the seat of Kelvin Thacker whose work transferred him out of the area. Citizen turnout was good with 695 total voters and a 42% voter turnout. It takes a lot of courage to put your name forward for election and to make the commitment to give your time and talent for several years to the community. We wish to thank all those who showed that commitment by running for city office.



**Let it Snow, Let it Snow, Let it Snow!**

With winter approaching remember to move all cars from off city streets during and after a storm so that they don’t interfere with our snow plows. It is important to remember that this is a city law and is important to our public safety.

**Statistics**



**Projects In Process**  
\$6,350,000

**City Information**

City Offices 7:30 AM - 5:30 PM  
Phone # 678-2791 Fax # 678-3312  
E-Mail - [cityoffice@blanding-ut.gov](mailto:cityoffice@blanding-ut.gov)  
Home Page - [www.blanding-ut.gov](http://www.blanding-ut.gov)  
Utility Emergencies # 678-2916  
Police # 678-2334 / 678-2916  
Fire/Life Threatening # 911



**Other Projects in the Works**

**Deep Well Integration** - The City has awarded a bid to Brown Brothers out of Loa, Utah to equip and integrate Well A North of Blanding. The City was able to get a grant through stimulus funding to pay for the project. Well A will be completed by the end of the year. Well B&C were completed this last quarter and the wells pumped into the system, storing water all the way to the storage tanks next to the treatment plant. The wells will provide between 800 and 900 gallons a minute over 90 acre feet a month. This new water source will go a long way to supplement city supply during consistent periods of drought.

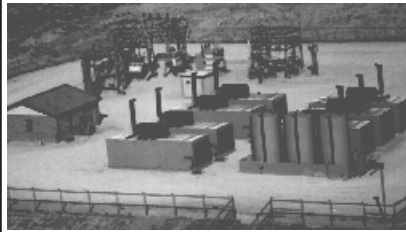
**New Treatment Plant** - The new Blanding water treatment plant is nearing completion and will be running and testing within the next 60 days. The project will allow the city to meet compliance with the more stringent federal Safe Drinking Water Act standards being imposed on the City. **Water Master Plan Update** - The City secured grants for \$45,000 to complete and update our City Water Master Plan. Hansen Allen and Luce Engineers were retained to complete the project. The majority of identified City improvements will be in its distribution system.

**San Juan Wellness Center** - Per the story on the front page the City has awarded the construction of the Wellness Center and it should be completed by mid summer.

**Bucket Truck** - The City has funded the purchase of a used bucket truck. The truck was funded out of the major equipment savings account and will be used for installing Christmas decorations, main street banners, and all the utility departments.

**Crack Sealing Machine** - The City has funded the purchase of a new street cracking sealing machine. The City has had to rent the equipment in the past and has been unable to complete all work as planned. The new equipment will show a return on investment to the community as we extend the life of our roads.

**Your Utility Companies**



**Green Power Requirements**

Times are changing and with the global warming scare, the ongoing energy crisis, and the change in administration the electric utilities are looking at increased regulations and restrictions with respect to where it gets its power. The Blanding City Power Company has in the past received most of its supply from Coal fired generation plants either city owned or through contract agreements. Regardless of your opinion on the reality of global warming or the need to reduce our "carbon footprint" the government is phasing in the requirement for power suppliers to provide 20%-25% of their power from a renewable energy resource, such as solar or wind. As this requirement is implemented it will mean an increase in power costs to Blanding citizens of about 2¢ per kilowatt hour. This is about a 20% increase. The City is doing all it can to find the least expensive renewable resource contracts available to meet this requirement.

**Net Metering**

Federal and state governments are offering incentives to those individuals who install solar and wind systems, again in an effort to reduce the carbon footprint. Some citizens have asked about the possibility of the City adopting a net metering policy that allows the City to pay and take excess power generated by their systems at a pre-determined rate - this is called Net Metering. So in addition to the savings in your home, you can reduce your power bill by the city purchasing your excess power. The City is currently investigating the feasibility of a net metering program.



**SAVE\$-Convert to Natural Gas**

With winter time coming on now is a good time to consider switching to Natural Gas. Beginning December 1, 2009 the City will be offering incentives for each appliance converted.

Furnace / .005¢ Per BTU Up To	\$400.00
Water Heater	\$150.00
Clothes Dryer	\$ 50.00
Range	\$ 50.00

Natural Gas is the cheapest source of energy we have in Blanding and it will provide a pay back to you to help cover the costs to convert. Cost to convert can be minimal especially if you are on propane. It often can be accomplished with the change of an orifice in your existing appliance. If you have been paying the \$8.00 a month you will not need to pay the hook up fee nor any cost of construction up to the meter. Natural Gas costs this winter will be around \$1.06 per therm which equates to \$1.15 per gallon of propane. If you are paying more than \$1.15 per gallon for propane we can save you money. Call the City Office at (435) 678-2791.

**City Calendar**

Dec 4 @ 5:00pm	Tree-for-All
Dec 8 @ 7:00pm	City Council
Dec 10 @ 5:00pm	Utility Bills Due
Dec 22 @ 7:00pm	No City Council
Dec 25 Closed	Christmas Day
Dec 28 @ 5:30 pm	Utility Late Fee Applied
Dec 31 @ 12:00 pm	Closed Noon New Year Eve
Jan 1 Closed	New Years Day
Jan 7 @ 7:00pm	Planning Comm
Jan 11 @ 5:00pm	Utility Bills Due
Jan 12 @ 7:00pm	City Council
Jan 18 Closed	Martin Luther King Day
Jan 25 @ 5:30pm	Utility Late Fee Applied
Jan 26 @ 7:00pm	City Council

**City Council**

- Toni Turk, Mayor 678-2428
- Erik Grover, City Council 678-2307
- Kelly Laws, City Council 678-2474
- Joe Lyman, City Council 678-2400
- Charlie Taylor, City Council 678-2208
- David Johnson, City Council 678-2415