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| City of Iona Newsletter | |
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| Planning and Zoning Meeting: January 13, 2016 at 6:30 p.m. City Council Meeting: January 19, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.  Planning and Zoning Special Meeting: January 7, 2016 at 6:30 p.m. Town Hall Meeting: January 28, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. Mayor’s message Dear Iona Patrons:  I would like to take this opportunity to provide you accurate information regarding the recent petition going around the City regarding the installation of water meters.  In March 2015, a volunteer water committee comprised of Iona’s citizens was established to examine the water system. They have been working long and hard to come up with suggestions on how to sustain and improve the City’s water system overall.  To date, they have discussed topics such as, overwatering, conservation options, enforcement, water meters, water usage, purchasing additional water rights, and funding projects to help improve the system. These options are discussed in detail below.  1. In our first town hall meeting, (we have had two) the Water Committee discussed different options and one option was installing meters throughout the City over a three to five year period. Most of the patrons at that meeting did not want to do this. As a result of that meeting, the decision was to install a few meters to gather data on how much water people are using per month. The average right now is approximately 45,000 per month for non-residential usage. So we have purchased 23 meters; plus the 4 that we have already installed we are going to put them on different size lots, the school, all City parks, businesses, churches, etc. We will then subtract everything out that is not residential and this will give us a more accurate monthly residential average. The meters are only for data and leak collection; not for enforcement purposes or for charging the patrons.  2. Refurbishing the existing 500,000 gallon tank.  3. Purchasing land for a new tank which could also potentially be used for a 4th well.  4. Purchasing more water rights.  5. Emphasis on enforcement of those who waste water.  6. Raising the water rate from the current rate of $23.00 to $30.00  At our next City Council meeting scheduled on January 19th, we will be discussing raising the monthly water rate from $23.00 to $30.00. The intention behind raising the rate is to help fund the needed projects listed above and avoid the City borrowing money from the bank through a high interest loan. On January 28th, we will have our next town hall meeting to discuss more on the issues stated above, and provide the public the opportunity to continue to give their input.  I would like to reiterate that the City is not installing meters throughout the City. City Council’s process has been and will continue to be receiving all the information from the Water Committee and gathering and listening to the input from the citizens via town hall meetings. At that time, then the City Council will make a decision based on what is best for the City and the majority of Iona’s patrons.  I encourage you to be a part of this important topic by attending our meetings or please give me a call if you have any questions regarding the information being provided to you.  Sincerely,  Brad D. Andersen, Mayor community **“Daddy-Daughter Princess Palooza Dance/Party – January 20, 2016”** - The Iona Community Library is hosting a Daddy-Daughter Princess Palooza Dance/Party Fundraiser on January 20, 2016 at Rocky Mountain Middle School’s cafeteria from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Light refreshments will be provided. Cost is $10 per Daddy/Daughter; each additional daughter is $1. Pictures are optional and will be sold for $5. This is for dads and daughters of all ages. Tickets are available at the Iona Library or at the door.  **“Story Time Volunteers”** – The Iona library is looking for story time volunteers for the 1st, 3rd, and 4th Tuesday of each month from 10:00 am to 10:30 am in the city council room. Volunteers read books, sing songs, finger plays, and crafts. Anyone that is interested in volunteering can call Debbie Denning at 339-6931 or Karen Johnson at 589-6518. events **“Town Hall Meeting”-** The City of Iona’s Council has scheduled a Town Hall Meeting on the evening of January 28, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. at the Iona Community Center to discuss the Water Committee’s current goals and priorities. Public hearings **“Raising the Monthly Water Rate”-** The City of Iona’s Council has scheduled a Public Hearing on the evening of January 19, 2016 at 7:15 p.m. at the Iona Community Center, which is located at 3548 N Main St, Iona, ID. The purpose of the hearing is to consider increasing the monthly water service fee from $23.00 to $30.00 in the City of Iona, Idaho.  Written comments will be accepted up to seven days prior to the hearing. The public is invited to attend and public comment is encouraged. Police **“Hooky Bobbing”** – Idaho State Statute 49-716 – Clinging to or following vehicles. (1) No person riding upon any bicycle, coaster, roller skates, skateboard, sled, or toy vehicle shall attach it or himself to any vehicle upon a highway “roadway.” Hooky Bobbing is an infraction with a fine attached. Public works **“Depositing Snow on Public Roadways”** – City residents are reminded that it is unlawful to deposit snow upon public roadways. Piles of snow left on or near the roadway can freeze into a solid mass, creating a hazardous situation for vehicles and snowplows. Collisions and damages caused by snow piles placed in the roadway may result in liability to the property owner. Also, please keep vehicles off of the City streets.  **“Snow Removal Assistance” –**Seniors and residents with disabilities who are experiencing difficulty can contact the City office at (208)-523-5600 if they need additional assistance removing snow from their sidewalks and driveways. | |