

Mayor's Monthly Newsletter

October 2024

Hello Selah Community! Here are the highlights from October for the City of Selah.

Topping the agenda for this month was the replacement of well number 5. You may not have been aware that this well has been down for a while and has been determined to not be repairable. This is a critical need for the City to continue to meet the water demands of the community. The cost of drilling a new well with the associated pump and well house which will be designated as well number 9 is about 2.6 million dollars. The Council approved moving forward with this high priority project.

Solarity Credit Union has finalized an agreement with the Council to sponsor one of the softball fields at Carlon Park. This allows them to place signage indicating their sponsorship and the City gets added revenue to help maintain the field. Thanks for the partnership Solarity!

Selah Community Pride Awards are an important project of mine as Mayor to recognize individuals that are going beyond the norm. This month I recognized Edgardo De La Torre for his work at the Selah School District with migrant workers and their children to ensure that they are integrating into the community. His work goes above and beyond his normal work schedule. I also recognized, again with personalized certificates and a medallion, the Holland family children and father for their civic activity of promoting an election issue that was important to the children. They are Kyra age 12, Ayla age 10 and their brother Myca age 7. Their father Kevin, was recognized for educating and teaching his children in how to engage with adults in a positive manner.

Kevin McKay, Selah School Superintendent, gave a report on the State of the Selah School District with plans for the future and the continuing partnerships with the City.

Our two newest Police Officers were introduced to the community by Chief Soptich. Look to see them out and about in the community as soon as they finish their Police Academy training early next year. They are Branden Calahan and Brandon Jewett.

The Council approved the negotiation of a contract with CivicPlus to supply digital and customer service software solutions for the City. This will also enhance our ability to engage on many levels with the community.

Here are a few briefs to keep you informed:

We are currently advertising to hire an employee to fill our open planning department position.

Our utilities billing process is being restructured to improve how we provide customer service. Look to see more on this in the future as we move forward.

Public hearings on next year's budget are being held from 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM each day November 6th thru the 8th in Council Chambers.

Halloween Downtown continues to grow in popularity. This event was coordinated by the Chamber. Entire families dressed up and enjoyed the interaction with Selah's business community. The Training center provided soldiers as street crossing guards to make sure we were all able to safely cross. Speaking of the Training Center, their Fall Festival was once again a fantastic experience for the area's families on October 26th. If you missed either of these events, then plan to participate next year.

NEW THIS YEAR the City will provide Christmas light tours by bus around the Selah Community. These will be by reservation on a first come, first serve basis. Tours will be on December 20th and 21st with the bus leaving at 5:30, 6:15 and 7:00 PM each night. The bus will depart and return from the City Hall. Hot Chocolate, Cider and cookies will be served at the City Hall after each narrated tour. Plan to get in on this event. Contact the Civic Center to reserve your seats.

Get engaged with what's going on in Selah by being an active participant.

That's all folks for this month.

If you wish to be added or removed from the Mayor's Monthly email please send a message to michelle.damron@selahwa.gov

Roger Bell, Selah Mayor