



January/February 2024

Message from the Mayor



Hello 2024! I am grateful for a New Year and new beginnings, and for so much progress made in 2023 thanks to so many working together for our wonderful community.

The year recap includes:

- A completed Parowan Airport runway re-build project and planning for Industrial Park, new hangars and road improvements at the airport.
- A sustainable citywide water recharge project is in the planning phase with significant funding secured toward this needed and critical project.
- New road equipment for chip sealing is on its way which will be used to improve and maintain Parowan's citywide road system.
- With collaborative efforts and donations of time and money from many, the "P" on the hill is lit with solar and changes colors remotely for the holidays.
- Meeks Pond & Urban fishery is refilled and restocked with fish and being enjoyed by all ages even in the winter months.
- Old Rock Church Days and brick sales fundraised enough money to begin restorations on the Old Rock Church exterior.
- Spaces have been approved, funded and cleared for a new Pickleball court project and a Mountain Bike Training Park at Valentine Peak Sports Complex.

• We have a new City Art Program headed by Steve Decker that has had excellent attendance and will continue in 2024.

• The Veterans Memorial was beautified and enhanced with additional Veteran's name recognitions and foreign conflict plaques.

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173rd Parowan Birthday Celebration "Growing Up In Parowan"

The Parowan Birthday Celebration will be held on **Friday, January 12, 2024** at the PHS Gymnasium. There will be songs and dances provided by the High School and Elementary Students at 9:00 am.

A **luncheon** will follow the celebration at 11:00 am.

The **Town Meeting** will be held at 12:00 pm. This year's guest speakers will be citizens from Parowan telling their stories about growing up in Parowan.

The **Birthday Ball** will be held on Sat., **January 13, 2024** at the Iron County Fair Building from 7:00 to 10:00 pm. Come dance to the music of "Muddy Boots" and enjoy scones and hot chocolate.

Everyone is invited to the luncheon, Town Meeting and Birthday Ball! Come and celebrate Parowan History with us! For more information, please call 435-477-8190.





Thank you

The *Sub-4-Santa Program* would like to thank everyone who worked, donated food, gifts, money, and time all in the spirit of giving to ensure a Merry Christmas for so many families in our community. Thank you to our Parowan School students for their change drive, our civic, faith and business organizations for supporting, volunteering and contributing to this worthy cause. Each family was able to have gifts for their children, food to supplement the pantry and a turkey for Christmas dinner. It is wonderful to see so much generosity and caring that comes from our small community, helping those less fortunate at this special time of year.

Thank you again to each and everyone!

Utility bills not paid by the last business day of the month will be assessed a penalty. Parowan City Office hours are Monday-Thursday 9:00 am-4:30 pm, Friday 9:00 am-12:00 pm.

Parowan Animal Assistance League (PAAL)

PAAL has been very lucky to have two girls from the Life-Quest Girls Academy volunteer their time to help the dogs. This has been very special to us.

Jenna organized a fundraiser for the shelter. She set up a table on Main Street by the Dairy Freeze and sold treats and toys for dogs that she made herself. She made enough money to buy the shelter 7 bags of dog food and 5 boxes

of Milk Bone dog treats.

Kaylie painted portraits of Iggy and Harlow, the two Huskies that have been in the shelter since September, hoping that they will help get them adopted. She purchased treats and toys for Christmas for them.



It's so nice to have this community involvement from the girls. We look forward to more in the future.

The *Sons of Utah Pioneers* has undertaken the task of restoring the John C. Fremont Monument on the corner of Main and 100 South. It had been deteriorating for several years and has now been taken down. A stone mason has been hired to do the replacement monument on the existing site as soon as weather permits. When it is completed, a rededication will be planned.

Parowan Community Choir Rehearsals

Starting Monday, January 8th from 5-6:30 pm and every Monday thereafter until the Spring Concert. The rehearsals will be held in the PHS Band Room.

The Spring Concert is tentatively scheduled for Sunday, March 24th.

Our theme for the concert is "We'll Weather the Weather Whatever the Weather, Whether We Like it or Not!"

Parowan Public Works

Department wants to remind residents that for the plow to remove snow and ice in a safe and efficient manner, please keep all vehicles, including trailers, off the rights-of-way. Please keep fire hydrants clear and free of snow.



Parowan City Meeting Schedule

City Council

2nd and 4th Thursday @ 6:00 pm

Power Board

3rd Thursday @ 5:30 pm

Airport Board

1st Monday @ 4:00 pm

Theater Board

2nd Tuesday @ 5:00 pm

Planning & Zoning

1st and 3rd Wednesday @ 6:00 pm

Water Board

2nd Wednesday @ 6:00 pm

Economic Development

1st Tuesday @ 5:30 pm

Shade Tree

1st Thursday @ 6:00 pm

The **Historic Preservation Committee** meets as needed

Check our website, parowan.org, the day prior to the meeting for the Agenda and for meeting information

All meetings (except Theater Board) are held in the Parowan City Office Building • 35 East 100 North

Parowan High School



As a school, it is a great time to reflect on all of the wonderful things that we enjoy in our small community of Parowan. Our school is nearing the mid-way point for our teachers and students.

At this time, we want to take this opportunity to thank our awesome faculty and staff. These individuals dedicate their time to provide the best educational experiences possible for all of our children. We are lucky to have such great

people that work in our community. They ensure a bright future for all of us. Thank you! Your hard work does not go unnoticed.

Soon, we will be commemorating Parowan's Birthday. We invite all of you to come and celebrate with us in January. This community activity is so memorable for all involved. It is a great day to share friendship and heritage. This year we will host the celebration on Friday, January 12th. Please plan accordingly.

Once again, our Girls Vol-

leyball team took State, but this year they did it without losing a game. This kind of accomplishment is unheard of in the state of Utah. Our girls also defeated the 3A State Champion team during a tournament earlier in the season. Nice job girls and coaches. Thanks for a perfect year.

As we look forward to the coming new year, PHS would like to share our love and hope for a new and prosperous 2024. Thank you for all your help and service to make Parowan such a great community.

From Nicole with the Parowan Police Department

Did you know that November 2023 marked one year ago that Chief A. Adams was sworn in as our Parowan Chief of Police? Time sure does go fast. I must say that Chief Adams has done a great job keeping us together and is a great leader. We have an amazing team and crew for sure. I want to give a huge THANK YOU to all our full-time and part-time Parowan Police Department Officers. They all work so well together and I am blessed to be able to work with them and call them my blue family. Also, congrats to Officer Hart & Officer Dobrinski for being sworn in just a short year ago as well.

Like last year, we had a few officers and myself participate in Shop with a Cop; for many this is the start to their Christmas holiday season. I know that it always puts me in the holiday spirit. To see all the kiddos meeting up with first responders from Iron County, having breakfast and then shopping with them is so fun and heartwarming for sure. My favorite part is when they parade down Main Street in Cedar City with lights and sirens. This year we shopped on December 9th. Chief Adams, Officer Dobrinski and part-time Officer Abbott represented Parowan Police Department. Well, maybe Marshall Abbott was representing for Brian Head Marshall's Office, but we will still claim him as ours, cause why not?! To see the kids get to the checkout with their carts full of the items they picked and wanted is always fun to see. There are always kiddos that say "this is for my sister" or "this is for my brother" or "this is for my mom/dad" and they have the biggest smile on their face. Now if that is not heartwarming then I am not sure what is. It definitely makes me look around and be thankful for what I have as some don't have much and they are still all smiles.

Parowan Police Department wants to wish you all a safe, happy and healthy 2024!



Jesse N. Smith:
The man who always said, "I will go and do...!"

By: Sandra Benson

South of Parowan's town square, facing north, is what is said to be the most accurately restored pioneer adobe home in Utah. It was built by Jesse N. Smith, restored by the Jesse N. Smith Foundation and is now opened to the public upon request. Yet, one wonders how many Parowan residents really know Jesse N. Smith's history or how many have actually toured the home. Perhaps, January is the right time to refresh or introduce some of the facts surrounding the man and his family.

Jesse Nathaniel Smith, born Dec. 2, 1834 in Stockholm, New York was a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and was an amazing pioneer, Church leader, colonizer, politician, businessman, and frontiersman. Jesse was a first cousin to the Prophet, Joseph Smith Jr. Jesse's father, Silas Smith, 1779-1839, was a brother to Joseph Smith Sr. Jesse's father married his first wife in 1806. She bore him 7 children but died in 1826. Shortly thereafter, Silas married Mary Aiken, a school teacher in Stockholm, N.Y. Both sides of this union had grandfathers who served in the American Revolutionary War. According to family history, Nathaniel Aiken's grandfather, Mary Aiken's maternal line, served under General George Washington.

Jesse N. Smith was the youngest of Mary Aiken Smith's 3 sons. The children's father, Silas, died when Jesse

was a young boy. His mother, Mary, was a diligent teacher of her children and they are said to have been very well educated for the time.

The family followed the LDS Church to Ohio, Missouri, Illinois, and finally out west to the Utah Territory. At the age of 12, Jesse drove two yokes of oxen on the journey.

As a young married man, Jesse resided in Parowan. It was there he built the home still standing. It was begun in 1856 and completed in 1858. He was ambitious and hard-working.

In 1861, Jesse's cousin, George A. Smith, an LDS apostle, sent Jesse, then age 27, on a mission called to serve in Europe. Leaving behind a young family, he arrived in Salt Lake City and there was told he would serve in Scandinavia as Mission President. He served 3 years, went home, and then returned again to Scandinavia in 1868. He assisted more than 3,000 members of the church to emigrate to America.

Before and after his mission, Jesse was involved in local politics as well as Church leadership. He was the Mayor of Parowan from 1859-1861, a member of the Utah Territorial Legislature from 1855-1856, again in 1876, and still again in 1880. In 1880, he was called to colonize Snowflake, Arizona and served in the Arizona Territorial Legislature in 1897. Records would indicate that Jesse N. Smith is the only person to have served in two territorial legislatures, Utah and Arizona.

While in Utah, he was elected Probate Judge of Iron County in 1866 by the Utah Territo-



rial Legislature and received the same appointment by the Arizona Territorial Governor upon his arrival there. He served as Captain in the local militia while in Utah Territory and held the position of Deputy U.S. Marshal, Iron County District Attorney, surveyor, Parowan City Clerk, Town Councilman, and City Magistrate.

In business he was a stockman and established cooperative mercantile stores in both Utah and Arizona.

Jesse N. Smith passed at age 71. He had 5 wives, 4 of which survived him. He had 44 children, the first born when he was 18, the last when he was 70. Both of his homes, one in Parowan and the other in Snowflake, have been restored by the Jesse N. Smith Foundation and are available for public view. Smith's homes and stories are amazing and exploring this pioneer's life is interesting.

In the next edition, we'll take a written tour of the Parowan Jesse N. Smith home. And, perhaps, you'll want to take an hour come summer to walk through the home.

Mayor's Message

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- New trees were planted at Parowan High School, Meeks Park and other locations around town.
- The repairs at the Parowan City Library will be completed in the coming month with the library resuming regular hours.
- The historic Parowan Pool was reimagined and reopened due to generous contributions from Parowan residents, local businesses and surrounding communities.
- The Recreation, Arts and Parks (RAP) tax passed providing a new funding source for maintenance & improvements of our parks, trails, theater and arts programs.
- The new gymnasium/cafeteria at Parowan High School will break ground in spring of 2024 offering an additional facility location for Parowan City recreational programs.

I am sure I missed some other important accomplishments; it's been a big year!

Several new City plans and updates are either wrapping up or in-process including a Master Water/Sewer Plan, Master Transportation Plan, Master Drainage Plan, Power Rate Study, FEMA flood channel study, new Parowan Bridge study and Master Active Transportation Plan. These guiding documents will allow Parowan City to move forward with important infrastructure planning and will

give the City the ability to pursue the necessary funding and assistance to accomplish these projects for Parowan. Having these plans complete is the first step for needed upgrades and projects that will strengthen and update Parowan's water, sewer, power, roads, parks, sidewalks and trails as we continue to work together to pursue the best use of resources and technology to enhance and stabilize resident and business utilities and other critical infrastructure. It is a busy time, but the work is getting done, thanks to the dedicated efforts of our Parowan City employees in every department. Without each one of them, the high level of excellent services and amenities enjoyed by Parowan residents would not be possible. When you see them around town, be sure to thank them for all they do.

There is a lot to feel grateful and optimistic about as we begin the adventure of 2024 with an outpouring of thanks to the Parowan City Council, staff, Parowan residents and local businesses who continue to work hard together for the best possible outcome for all. Life is good in Parowan Utah!



In the coming year, we are working toward even better communication through our website, newsletter, social media and other avenues. Our website updates and will include monthly "cover photos" by another wonderful local photographer. Jerry Bixman who will be sharing his work this year, so watch for a new local picture on parowan.org each month. He will be following the fantastic 2023 line up we all enjoyed of stunning pictures provided by local photographer David Mineer Sr. What a gift it is to have such amazing talent right here in our own community. There is not a day that goes by that we don't all enjoy and appreciate the efforts of so many to keep Parowan the beautiful, little town we are blessed to call home. Parowan is Parowan because of the people who live, visit and work here; our people truly are our greatest asset.

All the best to you and yours for the coming year. May it be filled with peace, health, prosperity and joy in relationships with family, neighbors and friends.

If you have any suggestions for the newsletter/website or questions or concerns about our city, please do not hesitate to contact me (mayor@parowan.org), your Parowan City Council members, or Parowan City Administrative staff at 435-477-3331.

Sincerely,
Mayor Halterman