



West Haven City

November 2012

Community Calendar

November 4: Daylight Savings Time Ends– Remember to change those clocks!

November 6: Election Day– Polls open from 7 am – 8 pm

November 8: Youth Council Meeting– 5:00 pm @ West Haven City Hall

November 12: Veterans Day– City Offices will be closed all day.

November 22: Thanksgiving– City Offices will be closed all day.

November 26: Holiday Lighting event– 6:00 pm @ West Haven City Hall



City Council Meetings
1st and 3rd Wednesdays
6:00 pm at City Hall

Planning Commission Meetings
2nd and 4th Wednesdays
6:00 pm at City Hall

Special Services District Meetings
3rd Monday
6:30 pm at City Hall

Contact us
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Mayoral Message

By Mayor Brian Melaney

The Sheriff Situation

It is time I share more information as many are concerned. Our city will never be left without coverage as the sheriff must respond to calls. That being said, we want something better and have paid for extra coverage in the past and have seen it become less than what we expected with the additional monies we have provided. We have an agreement for 4 more years, but the Sheriff doesn't want to honor it. We have spoken and I have come to the conclusion that it is in the best interests of our city to have our own police force and am now working to move in that direction. I have been in contact with other Mayors and former police chiefs and am doing my homework so I can have something to share with the City Council. I can't have the city placed in a position of an annual negotiation with the Sheriff's department and can't put anything long term in place because they have shown they won't honor it.

County and City Property Taxes

The County has made the decision to no longer collect property taxes for the Sheriff's department (except jail services) because some cities have their own enforcement and feel they are doubly taxed. The County feels they best remove this tax and pass it on to the various cities to collect. Thus, the County is lowering the property tax for law enforcement and expecting the cities to increase their property tax for law enforcement the same amount so that the citizens will continue to pay the same amount, just collected by the taxing agency which is going to directly use the funds for that purpose. Thus, according to the County, West Haven City residents and property owners will realize a reduction of around \$135,000 off their County tax assessment. Other cities will adjust their assessments. West Haven City does not have a city property tax and we, therefore, cannot raise them to offset the County's

previous collections for our benefit. As the Mayor, I am responsible to give the Council a proposed workable budget and they are to vote in favor, modify, or reject it. As all this relates to the Sheriff's dilemma, something is yet to be resolved financially. I am not aware of a city without a city property tax that has its own police department. The dollars just don't stretch that far. This is the challenge that your Mayor currently faces. I believe I can make the dollars work for our own force and am now focused in that direction. At this time, I do not plan on asking the City Council to consider implementing a city property tax. What the future holds, I cannot predict. This much I do know, you can't buy what you can't afford and you can't let another agency dictate your financial standing when you have the ability to keep it in house.

The Cemetery

Much has been happening at the West Haven City Cemetery. Weber Basin is installing the secondary water line to the property, the road inside the cemetery will soon be cut, top soil is being delivered and spread, bids will soon be released for the sprinkling system, road base will be applied to the newly cut road, and final preparations for the grass to be planted when the secondary water becomes available next spring. We hope to be functional mid-summer 2013.

Annual Holiday Lighting Event

Our third annual holiday lighting event is scheduled for November 26th at 6PM. For those who have attended the previous two years, it is worth supporting. We'll have lights, food, hay rides, music, and a special visitor from the north. We hope to see you there.

Happy Thanksgiving!!!
Mayor Melaney

Ribbon Cutting Event

Tuesday November 13th at 4:00 P.M. under the I-15 overpass we will have the official ribbon cutting ceremony and opening of the additional 1 mile of pathways along the Weber River. We hope you enjoy this new addition to our pathways and are very thankful to RAMP for their funding of this project.

*Parking for the event @ Stevens-Henager College

Heart of the Holidays

Join us for our 3rd annual Heart of the Holidays event. Lights at City Hall will turn on at 6:00 P.M. on Monday, November 26th. Afterward we will have hay rides, local entertainment, and refreshments until 7:30 P.M. Rumor is that Santa might drop by. Come and mingle with your neighbors at this magical time of year!

Recreation

Boys basketball registration is open online at www.westhavencity.com and will run through the month of November.

Congratulations to our Mitey Mite Maroon team coached by Mike Muirbrook for being W.F.F.L. Mini Bowl Runner-Up.

Congratulations to our Midget team coached by Bret Hadley for being W.F.F.L. Mini Bowl Champs.

CERT

CERT and HAM Radio Operators of West Haven

We are holding our annual team training at the West Haven City Hall, November 13 at 6:00 p.m. Please RSVP Garry Hunter at garrymhunter@gmail.com by November 9.

Basic CERT Training January 10 – February 21, 2013

The class will be held once a week 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. in Ogden; to register, or for more information, contact Tammy at 778-6686. There is a \$30 participation fee for all new CERT participants. The fee covers the government required personal safety gear which is issued to each participant at the beginning of the class. West Haven City will reimburse the first 25 residents to complete the CERT training this fiscal year.

What is CERT?

CERT stands for "**Community Emergency Response Team**". CERT is a group of individuals who have taken the CERT training and have the basic skills needed to be better prepared in the case of an emergency. CERT training covers many topics including: Personal Disaster Preparedness, Fire Safety - Fire Extinguishers, Disaster Medical Operations (Triage, Medical Assessment, Treatment, Packaging and Transport) Light Urban Search and Rescue, Team Organization, Disaster Psychology, Terrorism Awareness, and Hazmat Awareness. The training takes about 20 hours to complete.

Stephanie Carlson
City Council – Emergency Manager