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August 2019

Dixie Springs Community Newsletter

www.dixiesprings.info

UTAH TAX RESTRUCTURING

On 29 June 2019, a public meeting was held to get input from the public about how best to change Utah's tax structure. The meeting was held by the "Tax Restructuring and Equalization Task Force". They are holding public meetings throughout Utah to get feedback from citizens.

Background:

Utah's population is growing; demographics are changing. The current tax structure, which was designed in the early 1930s, is outdated and not meeting the needs of the current economy. Utah state government has adequate revenue: the issue is allocation. State funding sources are siloed into four areas:

1. Property tax – is collected by local governments to match state funds for public education.
2. Income tax – is constitutionally dedicated to education funding to support public and

higher education.

3. Gas tax – is constitutionally dedicated to funding transportation infrastructure. The state anticipates spending \$1.7 billion on transportation but the gas tax will only bring in 500 million. The rest of the money comes from the general fund.
4. Sales tax – can be used to fund any state government service. It pays for essential services such as public safety, clean air programs, and social services like Medicaid. It also supplements support for public education, higher education, and transportation infrastructure.

Utah's sales tax base is not declining. It's growing but not as fast as the state's economy. People are purchasing more services and less goods. This is partly because technology has changed what we purchase. We purchase more online services and

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less goods. For example, streaming services have replaced DVDs. Therefore, the sales tax has not kept up with the growth, while income taxes and property taxes have. This is causing the imbalance.

HB 441 was a bill the Legislature considered during the 2019 General Session that would have addressed the imbalance in the state's tax structure by broadening the sales tax base to include most services, lowering the sales tax rate, and providing income tax relief through lower rates and the expansion of certain credits and exemptions. HB 441 did not pass. The task force may choose to consider some of that bill's provisions, but the task force plans to consider all other options as well.

The meeting on 6/29/2019 in St George started with an introduction of the members of the Task Force. The Task Force is a combination of members of the Utah House and Senate, and people with expertise in areas helpful to the process, such as tax law.

Next, comments were taken from the public. People signed up ahead of time. They could only take a certain number because of time constraints. About 30 people gave comments. After each comment, there was a show of hands for those that agreed with the comments. Each person was given a time limit. Most of the comments were against the taxing of services. The arguments against taxing services ranged from raising the cost of the price of a new home, raising the cost of legal services, to the burden it would place on small businesses. It was also clear that people did not want any new taxes. They wanted the government to look for places where cuts can be

made.

It was also brought up that the sales tax shortfall may be partially fixed because of the legislation passed in 2018 forcing online companies to collect sales tax starting in 2019. The requirement applies to companies that do at least 200 sales for \$100,000 worth of sales in Utah each year.

There was a group of educators that were worried about removing the silos because it would allow money that is currently allocated to schools to be used elsewhere.

After the public comments, there was a question and answer session where questions gathered before the start were grouped and asked of the Task Force. One question concerned putting a floor on the amount of money that education could get so that the funding for education could never go below that floor. They also discussed that Utah spends a high percentage of the revenue on education (Kindergarten through 12th grade education accounts for 23% of the state budget.), but it is in last place when it comes to money spent per student. That is because there are more children per capita than any other state. Utah also has the nation's smallest working age population. Utah is last in funding from the Federal Govt, due to the low percentage of lower income students and the modest state and local funding. Utah spends more than most states on teacher benefits and only 7% is spent on administration.

The Task Force then talked about what they have learned so far in their meetings. They have heard that people do not want new taxes. They emphasized that currently Utah does not have a

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revenue problem. They have an allocation problem because they are restricted in how the revenue is spent because of the silo system.

The Task Force is in the process of getting public feedback from various locations in the State. The last meeting is July 30th. After that, they will verify the challenges and needs, explore options, and then recommend what should be done.

At the meeting, you could vote on one of four options:

- Adjust existing tax rates
- Modify tax base
- Reduce services and investments
- Break down revenue silos

RECYCLING PROGRAM UPDATE

“In the last few weeks, we’ve had many phone calls from residents, who, having heard that our contract with Rocky Mountain Recycling is being terminated, mistakenly think that the entire recycling collection program is being terminated as well, and so they want to know what to do with their blue can or when will someone come by to remove the blue can, etc.

To help correct any misconceptions about the recycling program, we want to emphasize the following: (1) that although our contract with Rocky Mountain Recycling for processing recyclable materials is being terminated, we are contracting with another entity for processing of recyclable materials for the remainder of the contract term, (2) that this new contract will

Modify the tax base means taxing a wider group of people. The example given was doing your taxes each year. If you purchase the TurboTax CD, you are taxed on that purchase. If you use TurboTax over the web, you are not taxed. The change would tax the web based Turbo Tax.

Even if you did not attend the meeting, you can still make your voice heard. Go to this web site:

<https://strongerfutures.utah.gov>

At the bottom of the page is a comment form.

The handouts are available online, and the FAQ in the Resources menu item has good information.

result in all collected materials being transported to Las Vegas so that nothing will end up in our landfill, (3) that the collection of recyclable materials will continue for the remainder of the contract period (until February of 2021), at which point we’ll need to determine where to go from there, (4) that the cost to the residents will remain unchanged, and (5) that we’ll be making a few changes as to the kinds of materials that should be placed in the blue cans for recycling. Residents are asked to only put the following items in their blue can; Cardboard, Metal food and beverage cans (aluminum and tin), plastics #1 and #2 (ie. milk jugs, water bottles)

We are not, at this point, terminating the recycling program.

CALENDAR

Washington County Fair

<http://washcofair.net/>

7—10 Aug 2019

The Fair is off route 9 in the fairgrounds near the DMV.

St George Concert in the Park

Vernon Worthen Park, 7:30 pm to 8:30 pm

Second month of each month. Free.

12 Aug, The Famous Unknowns, Show Band

9 Sep, High Rocktane, Cover Band

Bring blankets, lawn chairs, food and family.

Hurricane Concert in the Park

The concerts are the Third Thursday of each month. They are in Pioneer Park at 200 North Main Street. The concerts are FREE!

15 Aug - Way Off Broads

Sunset on the Square

Friday August 09, 2019 6:00 PM - 11:30 PM

“Footloose”. A city teenager moves to a small town where rock music and dancing have been banned, and his rebellious spirit shakes up the populace. NOTE: the original 1984 version.

Friday August 23, 2019 6:00 PM - 11:30 PM

It's been five years since everything was awesome and the citizens are facing a huge new threat: Lego Duplo invaders from outer space, wrecking everything faster than they can rebuild.

Dixie State University Events can be seen at:

<https://events.dixie.edu/mastercalendar/MasterCalendar.aspx>

For **Events in St George**, see:

<https://www.visitstgeorge.com/calendar>

For **Events in Hurricane**, see:

<http://www.hurricanerecreation.com/>

HURRICANE CITY COUNCIL CANDIDATE UPDATE

Candidates Danielle Crofts, Phil Carter and David Mooneyham have withdrawn their candidacy even though their names will still be on the ballot.

ACC MEMBER NEEDED

One of the members of the Architectural Control Committee (ACC) will be moving from Dixie Springs and a replacement is needed.

The primary purpose of the ACC is to approve all home plans and all changes to the outside of existing homes to ensure they comply with the CC&Rs and building standards.

If you would like to help your community, or would like more information about being on the ACC, send an email to webmaster@dixiesprings.info and someone will contact you.

This is a great opportunity to get more involved in the Dixie Springs community.

DIXIE SPRINGS AND AREA ACTIVITIES

Skeet Shooting

Every Wednesday at 9 am, meet at the Purgatory Clay Sports range for fun shooting skeet.

Hurricane Community Choir

The choir rehearses each Wednesday evening at 7 pm starting again on 4 Sep 2019. Contact webmaster@dixiesprings.info for more information.

Pickle Ball

A number of residents go every day to play Pickleball at 8 am Sullivan Park in Washington. Contact Rose Card at card_rose@hotmail.com.

Ladies Luncheon

The ladies of Dixie Springs meet for lunch on the first Tuesday of each month at noon at the Sand Hollow Golf Course restaurant. Come join us!

ATV

If there is someone that can help manage the ATV group, contact Nancy at webmaster@dixiesprings.info. The group has gotten so large there is a need for people to help manage the group.

Weaving

Calling all weavers, spinners and “want to be” weavers and spinners! For info, see the web page at <http://www.mmawg.org/SWUtahBranch.htm>

All RVs

If you have an RV, join the Red Rock Rovers! They are a great group that plans amazing trips 4 times per year. All types of RVs are welcome—trailers, fifth wheels, and motorized RVs For more info, go to <http://www.redrockers.org/>.

Woodworkers

Looking for other hobby woodworkers to meet and

share ideas, projects & skills. I did belong to the Woodworking Guild in Salt Lake before moving to Hurricane. Contact Jeff Blonder at 801-205-5605

Orchestra

All levels of stringed instrument players are invited to join the Desert Strings Community Orchestra. We meet on Thursday night from 6:30 to 8:30. See <http://www.desertstrings.org> for information.

Learn a Stringed Instrument

Want to learn to play a stringed instrument or get back into playing after maybe really long absence? Join the New Horizons group. You will get instruction and play with a bunch of great folks.

<https://www.zionmusicensembles.com/>

Bicyclists

For any Dixie bicyclists that are up for 20 to 50 mile road rides from the Springs, text or email me, I am riding all the time. Also like getting on the dirt and gravel for those fat cats, although my mountain bike is a bit old school. Patrick McEwen, Jopj888@msn.com, 801-455-2988

DIXIE SPRINGS STATISTICS

Section	# Lots	# w/houses	Percent
A	225	177	79%
B	231	182	79%
C	274	187	68%
D	204	141	69%
E	259	165	64%
F	111	58	52%
G	86	60	70%
Total	1390	970	70%

SECTION CAPTAINS

Section Captains contact new people, welcome them to the community and ask if they would give their email for the newsletter. This is a great chance for you to meet your new neighbors. It also ensures that everyone feels welcome to our community.

Dixie Springs is platted into lettered sections. We have sections A through G.

To see the sections, see the following web page:

<http://www.dixiesprings.info/information.htm>

If you would like to help, contact Nancy at webmaster@dixiesprings.info

RECOMMENDED VENDORS

The list of recommended vendors is on the web at <http://www.dixiesprings.info/vendors.htm>. If you had good service from a vendor, submit your information so everyone can benefit from your experience.

LIVESTOCK, INCLUDING CHICKENS, NOT ALLOWED IN DIXIE SPRINGS

Just a reminder. Here is a quote from the CC&Rs:

Section 4. Household Pets Permitted.

No animals, livestock or poultry of any kind may be raised, bred, or kept on any Lot, except that dogs, cats and other household pets may be kept in homes, upon the owner's Lot, or on a leash while off the owner's Lot.

DIXIE SPRINGS COMMUNITY FUND

The Dixie Springs Community Fund is used to:

- Fight threats to our residential community by establishing a relationship with a lawyer who can provide council and other representation
- Fund the Dixie Springs Community Web Site
- Fund the email messages (free now but there is a cost once we get to a certain size).

No funds would be used without approval of a committee of community members.

The fund will **not** be used to enforce CC&RS.

The money for the fund comes from voluntary donations. We recommend \$100 per year per

home, but any amount is welcome. Any use of the money will be reported in the newsletter.

To contribute to the fund, put your donation into the following account at the Mountain America Credit Union: 9992856. Put your name and lot number or address as a memo on the deposit.

You could set up a \$10 a month automatic deposit into the account, if that would be easier.

Please help your community. You may not be impacted by some of the threats now, but you may be in the future and will be glad of the support of your neighbors and the fund. Let's all work together!

SAND HOLLOW EVENTS



JOHNNY CASH'S GRANDSON

THOMAS GABRIEL

◆ AUGUST 9TH ◆
\$25

VIP TICKETS

(INCLUDES SEATS WITH
MEET & GREET AFTER THE SHOW)



\$10

LAWN SEATS

(BRING YOUR OWN CHAIRS OR
BLANKETS FOR THE LAWN SECTION)

PERFORMING LIVE AT THE ROCK BOWL AT SAND HOLLOW RESORT



FRIDAY, AUGUST 9TH, 7:30 PM

FOR TICKETS CALL 435-656-4653 OR VISIT EVENTBRITE.COM



sandhollowresort.com

5662 West Clubhouse Drive,
Hurricane, UT 84737

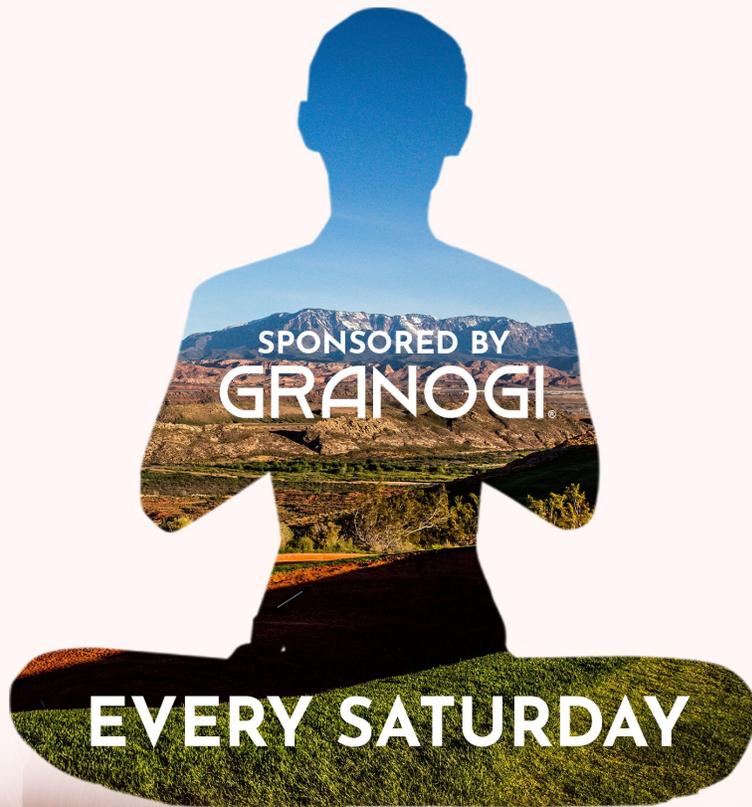
SAND HOLLOW EVENTS



SUMMER EVENT SERIES

OUTDOOR YOGA

AT THE ROCK BOWL
AT SAND HOLLOW RESORT



CHECK IN 6:30 AM

YOGA: 7-8 AM

BRING YOGA MATS

\$20 PER CLASS

INCLUDES BREAKFAST AND COFFEE
AT THE GRILLE AFTERWARDS

SIGN UP ON EVENTBRITE