



## CITY OF ASHTON

P.O. Box 689  
Ashton, ID 83420

Phone: 208-652-3987  
Fax: 208-652-3401

### UPCOMING MEETINGS

Regular City Council meetings are held each month on the 2nd Wednesday of the month. For specific dates & other meeting information please refer to our website: [www.cityofashton.com](http://www.cityofashton.com)



# NEWS FROM THE CITY

City of Ashton

## Town Hall Meeting

Please join the Mayor and City Council for a Town Hall Meeting on March 16th at 7pm at the Ashton City Building.

The City's Wastewater Facility Study is almost complete and the engineers working on the study will be describing the findings of the study. The meeting will be a casual meeting where anyone can ask questions, comment or simply get more information about what the study will mean to them as a sewer user.

The Environmental Protection Agency issued the City a new discharge permit in 2014. As part of this permit, the EPA has established lower ammonia limits for discharge. The current system cannot meet these limits. The EPA has given specific time limits and the City is currently working on a Wastewater Planning Study to meet these time limits.

At last month's Town Hall Meeting, the engineers explained the different alternatives that have been considered and

some improvements in the collection system that have been identified.

Alternatives that have been considered in the study include piping the discharge straight to the river, snowmaking similar to what Fremont County does at Island Park, enhanced treatment and winter storage for summer reuse.

Piping the discharge straight to the river would have the advantage of a larger water body to dilute the discharge. This alternative was eliminated because of the costs and concern for the river. Snowmaking and enhanced treatment both involve equipment that would be predisposed to problems with winter conditions and higher maintenance expense which eliminated them both as a solution.

The last alternative, winter storage, seems to be the best solution for Ashton. A new, larger pond would be constructed and the water kept through the winter and used in farming the next summer. This would also

eliminate the need for a discharge permit.

Through the study, they have found several sections of the sewer collection system (pipe) that need to be replaced. Some of them are cracking and/or are corroded through over 60 years of use. There will be a map showing the sections that will need to be replaced for viewing at the meeting.

A portion of the study is to develop a rate structure that will allow for payments on the loan required to complete the project as well as continuing maintenance costs. The engineers will be giving more information at this Town Hall Meeting about the City's rates and how much this upgrade may raise the sewer users monthly bill.

The Mayor & City Council would like to invite everyone to come to the meeting on Wednesday, March 16th at 7pm. Come and ask questions about the study and what effect a sewer project will have on the City's sewer rates.



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### MARCH 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

### APRIL 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

### MAY 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

### Calendar Key

City Council Meeting	Yellow
City P & Z Meeting	Cyan
Utility Bill Payment Due Date	Red
Utility Bill Mailing Date	Green
City Building Closed	Orange

*The City will be accepting applications for several summer jobs soon. These jobs are seasonal/temporary jobs at the City's Swimming Pool and Visitor Center. Please watch for more information in April's Newsletter.*

## ASHTON ARCHIVES

### Donate, Anyone?

*The Ashton Archives have many North Fremont High School yearbooks but they are missing a few. If you have a 1949, 1950, 1959, 1962, 1964 or 1995 edition, please donate it to share it with everyone! (we promise we won't read all the comments written in-*





NEWS FROM THE CITY



When planning for new signs, banners and flags please check with the City's Planning & Zoning office so we can help you find a sign that meets both your needs and the City Code.

It has come to our attention

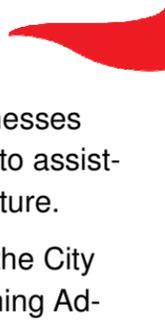
# Sign Placement

that there is some confusion over the placement of signs, banners and flags on Main Street. Ashton City Code 17.76.070H prohibits attaching anything to the City light poles, trees or utility poles.

We appreciate the cooperation that has been exhibited

by so many businesses and look forward to assisting them in the future.

You can contact the City Planning and Zoning Administrator Susan Baker for assistance at 652-3987 (City Office) or 569-5464 (cell).



# MAYOR'S CORNER



Mayor Stronks

I think about this time of the year is when everybody starts to have cabin fever. It makes us want to get out and clean up and repair.

We have had a great winter with the snow

pack. Our aquafer is in need of as much moisture as we can get.

I feel that I need to express on behalf of the council and myself a big THANK YOU to the American Dog Derby Committee. They did a super job and now we

can all participate with our time and talents with the upcoming Centennial next year for the American Dog Derby.

Thank you to our police and the public works crew helping as well.



Mayor Teddy Stronks

# FROZEN

In Ashton, the frost line or the depth that the ground-water in soil is expected to freeze is usually four feet. Snow cover can insulate the ground so that the frost depth is lessened but there is not much snow yet this year. Also, many residents move the snow in order to make parking easier which makes freezing easier. When the ground freezes, water lines can freeze also.

Moving water does not freeze as easily as standing water. The City water mains are running much of the time but many homes may not have water moving through their service lines at all times. This is where running a dripping faucet may help.

Letting the cold water in a

faucet drip can prevent frozen service lines. The drip can be very slight and can be adjusted depending on the weather forecast. If the weather forecast calls for colder weather, the faucet should be adjusted to a larger drip.

Since the frost depth is deeper with each below freezing day, it may be necessary to continue to let a faucet drip until spring arrives.

Some lines have frozen in the past here in Ashton. The City helped those residents to thaw the lines when possible or provided hoses and coordination with their neighbors to provide water to their homes. Billing for the water cost is then done by first averaging

the past water use of the neighboring home then after the meter is read, taking that average from the current water use. The average use is then charged to the neighbor and the remaining is charged to the user borrowing water.

It may take until spring for frozen lines to thaw. The cost of digging up the lines, the risk of freezing during & after the trenching and the mess caused by the digging are serious considerations. In most cases, waiting for the spring thaw is preferable.

The City encourages residents to use their own judgment in deciding when to run a drip to prevent frozen water lines.



## City or Chamber?



The City of Ashton receives many calls each week inquiring about Ashton Area Chamber of Commerce events or other chamber business. These inquiries are made because many citizens are confused as to what the difference is between the City of Ashton and the Ashton Area Chamber of Commerce.

The City of Ashton is a municipal corporation organized by the citizens within the City boundaries for taxing authority



to pay for public services such as parks and street maintenance.

The corporation also authorized the building and maintenance of City utilities. The water, sewer and garbage services provided by the City are paid for with user fees/rates instead of tax revenue.

All City business is regulated by the State of Idaho.

The City is ran by the Ashton City Council. The City Council is made up of elected officials including a Mayor and 4 Councilors. The City Council meets every second Wednesday of the month.

The Ashton Area Chamber of Commerce is an organization of local businesses formed to promote business in the Ashton community.

The Chamber is responsible for many of the local events such as the Soup Challenge and 4th of July Parade.

The City of Ashton is a member of the Chamber of Commerce. The City of Ashton does not sponsor events but does participate in many of them.



To participate in events or have input in the event, please call the Ashton Area Chamber of Commerce at 652-3355.

To find out information about City water, sewer or garbage services please call the Ashton City Building at 652-3987