

TOWN OF BRIGHTON ANNUAL REPORT 2020



SETTING UP A NEW TOWN

- The Town of Brighton became official on January 1, 2020. The Mayor and four other Council members were sworn in at a ceremony at the Silver Fork Lodge at sunset.
- Town Council responsibilities were assigned: Unified Fire Authority (UFA) Board Member and Central Wasatch Commission (CWC) Board member-Dan Knopp; Unified Police Department (UPD) Board Member-Carolyn Keigley; Municipal Services Department (MSD) Board member and Wasatch Waste & Recycling Department (WFWRD) Board Member-Keith Zuspan; Animal Services Board Member and Mosquito Abatement Board Member-Jeff Bossard; Brighton Website -Jenna Malone.
- Three part-time employees were hired: Polly McLean-Town Attorney; Kara John-Town Clerk; Nate Rockwood-Assistant Treasurer. Jane Martain, a new part-time employee will come on in January 2021 to serve as the Town Emergency Manager.
- Brighton secured an office space for the new Town: 7688 S. Big Cottonwood Canyon Road at Fire Station #108.
- Created a Town Logo and a Town Seal.
- Created a Website (<https://www.brighton.utah.gov>) in a contract with Municode to provide website hosting and post Brighton ordinances along with other town needs.
- Compilation of Brighton Town Ordinances based on County Ordinances. They are currently being tailored to the needs of Brighton. Polly McLean has worked very hard to provide the foundation, and continues to fine-tune. The ordinances can be found on the website.

AGREEMENTS

- Entered into a franchise agreement with Rocky Mountain Power (February)
- Entered into Interlocal agreements with UFA and UPD/SLVLESA (March) and CWC (June)
- Entered into a contract with Granicus, a short-term rental compliance company (to begin January 2021).
- Accepted the donation of land across from Solitude upper entry from the DeSeelhorst family.

ACTIONS

- Budget compiled and submitted to MSD (May, December)
- Supported the adoption of the Canyon General Plan (July): Components include Land Use, Housing, Recreation, Transportation, Environment, Economy
- Brighton Compactor replaced.
- Tax Cut: Brighton Town Council eliminated a portion of property tax being used for the County Legal Defense Fund. It was part of our property tax when we were unincorporated, but it isn't needed to balance the Brighton Town budget, so it was cut.
- The firearm discharge ordinance was amended to read that it is unlawful to discharge or shoot any firearm, including shotguns, rifles, or a bow and arrow, or similar contrivance (except for public safety officers) within the town limits. The offense is a Class B misdemeanor.
- A Short Term Rental (STR) Committee was formed (Sept) to encourage STRs to be licensed, and mitigate impacts to the community. So far the Committee has recommended elimination of Conditional Use requirement and the requirement that STRs must have fewer than 4 bedrooms (not yet approved by Mountainous Planning Commission). The most common STR ordinance

violations are parking and noise. Code Enforcement has been difficult because the MSD code enforcers work 8-5 weekdays. Most of our infractions come on evening weekends.

- Brighton funded portable restrooms at the Lake Mary Trailhead to handle the increase in visitors during Covid summer.
- The Council provided a \$5000 allocation to BCCA for 2021. BCCA is coordinating the distribution of yellow Resident Passes with the help of the Town's Emergency Teams. Also, \$1000 of the funding was directed to the Wasatch Graffiti Busters for graffiti cleanup in BCC.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE

- Electronic Town Council Meetings began in April following several emergency proclamation orders to prevent Covid spread.
- There were several volunteer projects supported by the Town: Masks by Carolyn Fushimi; An At-Risk Residents Committee was formed to provide services to residents who need shopping, errands, etc. Goggles for Docs collection for medical profession; Food Donations for Utah Food Bank (150 lbs was donated!). Resorts were closed for summer (except Brighton Store). Resorts opened for skiing with mask and distancing mandates.
- Town Emergency Teams were called out 3 times: Earthquake (March 18) to check on water leaks and home safety, Windstorm (September 8) to check on tree damage, Resident Pass Distribution (November).

SUPPORT FOR TOWN PROJECTS AND CONCERNS

- Supported getting a full Census 2020 report for the Town of Brighton's first year.
- Supported Chipper Days (1.228 hours contributed) which was especially helpful following the windstorm.
- Supported Rocky Mountain Power Triennial Trim up to provide Defensible Space around power installations.
- UDOT Paving of HWY 190 in Brighton (June-August). The Town worked with UDOT to refine the Brighton Round-about. A HAWK crossing was installed at Cardiff, and a left-merge to downhill lane at Solitude lower entry.
- A FEMA fuel reduction grant application is being written for the area around Fire Station #108.
- The residents of Forest Glen, UFA, and SLC Public Utilities are working on a fuel reduction project below the Forest Glen neighborhood.
- The Salt Lake County Council designated Big Cottonwood Canyon as a Recreational Area to receive County General Fund money for public safety, since a disproportionately large share of public safety needs is generated by residents who live outside the area. (October 2019)
- Big Cottonwood Historical Society was formed (July) by the Brighton Institute as a non-profit to collect and disseminate historical information about the canyon. The Town of Brighton agreed to provide space for the Historical Library.
- The Willow Heights Trail was rerouted to provide a better tread and sustainable angle for the popular trail.
- The Wasatch Mountain Club turns 100 years old this year. The Lodge would like to participate with Brighton in any way possible. Subsequently the Englemann Mountain School (K-2) has contracted to use the Lodge as an classroom (January 2021).
- Promoted the Navajo Nation Christmas Project to provide school and grocery supplies for people hard-hit by Covid on the reservation in southern Utah.