

Report on 2004 and the State of Springville City
January 2005
Mayor E. Fritz Boyer

In January 2004, three newly elected members of Springville's City Council were welcomed by other members of the Council and sworn in by Judge Dean Olsen. J. Niel Strong, Phillip Bird, and Rodney Burt were presented with orientation briefings from the City's administrative staff and given a general overview of Springville City's mission.

As a local government, the mission of Springville City is both stable, as it is principle based, and dynamic, as it evolves with time and change. Our current mission includes a collective and important responsibility to:

- Assure a safe, healthy, family friendly environment for business, industrial, and residential use;
- Provide public utilities and services along with recreational and cultural opportunities;
- Provide an adequate, fully qualified administrative and technical staff to serve the public, maintain existing infrastructure, and manage community resources;
- Provide open access to City government, clearly documented by traditional news releases and letters, and by electronic means;
- Involve interested citizens by providing volunteer and appointed community service opportunities on boards, commissions, and committees, etc.;
- Plan to accommodate the future and inevitable change caused by growth, development and obsolescence.

The following comments are offered as an analysis of the state of Springville City in January 2005 using the mission statement as a general outline.

Public Safety: Three of the City's sworn police officers are school resource officers (SRO) who work full time in local schools. As a result of their efforts, and the combined efforts of City sponsored youth oriented programs, juvenile arrests are at the lowest level in over 10 years. But while juvenile arrests continue to decline, adult arrests are trending upward. As our City grows, crime will undoubtedly increase. To address that increase, the City Council and I are committed to provide the Police Department with the necessary tools and manpower, limited only by the resources available, to keep our community safe.

During 2004, the City acquired and outfitted a command vehicle to be used during large-scale incidents affecting public safety, e.g. natural disasters, fires, major emergencies and events. The command vehicle can also be used as an emergency dispatch center in the event the current dispatch center becomes inoperable.

In conjunction with other local law enforcement organizations, the City's Police Department has implemented a more proactive drug enforcement campaign targeting hardcore drug sellers and users. An innovative officer awareness program has led to

more drug related arrests and has become a model for other agencies. These efforts, while time consuming and costly, provide high visibility enforcement, aid in demonstrating the City's zero tolerance policy towards illegal drug use, and help ensure the City as a safe place to live.

The City's volunteer Fire Department continues to have an excellent reputation among volunteer departments in the State. These dedicated volunteers donated over 2600 hours training and fighting fires in Springville. In 2004, they responded to 1334 calls for service, including 11 structural fires, an increase of 40% over the year before.

The call volume for ambulance service also continues to rise each year as the City grows. To assist with ambulance and fire calls, the City hired a part time EMT/Firefighter. With two EMT/Firefighters, the City is able to reduce response time and assist ambulance service volunteers and firefighters in performing medical treatment for the injured and sick. Undoubtedly, quicker response time saves lives. (Note: The ambulance service is seeking additional volunteers as they currently have only 26 of the 32 members authorized, and a target objective of retaining a volunteer staff of 30.)

Public Works: There was a major change in Public Works administration during the past year. Bradley D. Stapley, P.E., was appointed the Director of Public Works/City Engineer in July, and Jeff Anderson, P.E., was hired as the Senior Engineer.

The Public Works staff, in conjunction with consulting engineers Hansen, Allen & Luce, prepared a draft drinking and secondary water system master plan. This plan addresses both *current* and *future* issues associated with the collection, transmission, storage, and distribution of drinking and secondary water in the City. As required by U.S. law, the staff and consulting engineers also conducted a security risk assessment of the City's culinary water system to determine and report any vulnerability to attack.

Also, the Public Works staff and consulting engineers developed a storm water management plan addressing "discharge from ... municipal storm water sewer system(s) to waters of the State." State and federal regulations will impact the City's current storm water system and will necessitate formation of a new Storm Water Utility to fund and implement the plan.

Like most of the smaller cities in Utah County, Springville draws its water from springs and wells and uses water tanks for storage. To meet current and growing demands for culinary water, hampered by the drought now entering its seventh year, the Public Works staff completely rehabilitated the 200 North well increasing production from 1500gpm to 3000gpm. Public Works is now in the process of rehabilitating the 400 South well with the expectation of increasing the wells historical production to 3000gpm. Completion of the 400 South well project requires construction of a new well house, pump, and associated piping and should be completed in May 2005. Drilling for the new Canyon Road well is now complete at a depth of 675 feet. The City anticipates production of 4000gpm from the Canyon Well and the well house, transmission pipelines, and pump installation should be completed by the end of July 2005. These

improvements have almost doubled our well production capacity to 12,000gpm. This will ensure that we have sufficient water resources to meet our needs, not only today but in the future.

A drinking water well/water storage tank plan, using the City's Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) system, was developed to control critical movement of water in the culinary water system. This plan ensured adequate amounts of water being transmitted to the various water storage tanks and pressure zones based on fluctuating demands in the City.

A word of caution regarding water usage is in order here. Of the basic needs to sustain life, water is the most critical. The real history of the West, without being glamorized by movies, was influenced primarily by access to water and water rights. The use of water is a management problem – a problem that all of us must solve together. There are no villains here. We cannot blame growth, nor should we, while the city is growing at 5% annually – 85% of the people constituting that growth have their origins here in Utah County. Essentially, they are our own children. Unlike the glamorized West and our own past, we will never again be able to use water indiscriminately and we must protect it as our most valuable resource.

The City completed an agreement with the Department of the Interior, the Central Utah Water Conservancy District and other local cities to build a pipeline that will carry water from the Strawberry Reservoir that will potentially provide secondary water resources for future use in a pressurized secondary irrigation water system. This project will not happen for at least ten more years.

Public Works projects carried out to improve public safety include: redesign of the Canyon Road and 1700 East intersection; installation of curb, gutter, bridge, and sidewalk, along with asphalt pavement along the east side of 400 West from 400 North to Center Street to provide access to the RR crossing leading to Westside Elementary school; installation of safety fences at Hobble Creek street crossings within the City limits.

Plans were finalized for the Main Street renovation and beautification project which runs from Center Street to 300 South. This project includes medians to improve vehicle and pedestrian safety, bike lanes, crosswalks, landscaping and new lighting. 80% of the costs of this project are funded by a Federal Transportation Enhancement grant.

Other Public Works projects, including those completed and ongoing, include: reconstruction of 1050 East; a major project undertaking in special improvement district 29, west of I-15, and south of 400 South; surface grinding and asphalt pavement overlay of Canyon Road between 400 South and 1700 East, and along 1300 East between 400 South and Center Street; asphalt paving of canyon parks parking lots; chip seal maintenance of 30 miles of roadway; 21 new handicap ramps; 572 feet of new sidewalks; etc. The Public Works Department also managed successful projects in the wastewater treatment plant, facilities maintenance of City owned structures, and cemetery operations.

Power: With the retirement of Calvin Baxter as Director of the Electric Department, and facing potential changes in long-term power arrangements and power sources received from UAMPS, the City has opted to temporarily divide the responsibilities of Department management between three supervisors: Matt Hancock, Generation; Leon Fredrickson, Distribution; Tony Fieldsted, Substations and South Utah Valley Power System (SUVPS).

The main receiving substation for Springville, the Baxter (formerly Evergreen) substation, has been dramatically improved to allow for the increasing load of the City. A new 10MVA power transformer has been purchased and installed to cover the new growth in the West Fields area of the City and circuit breaker protection has been added in front of both power transformers to replace existing fuses and enhance protection. A new distribution circuit breaker has been installed on the 12kV bus to reduce load on the other breakers and add capacity for future growth.

In addition, the staff realized that the total load growth indicates a need for another 46kV feed into the Baxter substation. To accomplish this, the Power Department advised by electrical engineering consultants, added another receiving circuit breaker and set up relaying to allow receipt of power from the Utah Power substation in Spanish Fork and the SUVPS substation at Dry Creek in Springville. These modifications will give the system an additional 50 MW of capacity and increase backup reliability.

With approval from the Utah State Division of Air Quality, selected generators in the Whitehead Power Plant (WHPP) have been fitted with exhaust catalysts to reduce dangerous emissions and are performing very well. Along with this emission control, a complete Constant Emission Monitoring (CEM) system has been installed on all engines at WHPP.

To improve safety in switching procedures and operations, SUVPS approved board monitoring and control of their transmission system at the WHPP dispatch center via SCADA.

Of somewhat less technical content, but of more probable interest to most Springville City residents are the following comments regarding electrical power:

The Department has completed its investigation into the potential for providing Internet services through power line carriers, current wireless technologies, and a fiber cable backbone. A small pilot program deploying a full high-speed network using all three elements in construction was tested in 10 homes. The test was successful and the test area will be expanded to 200 homes.

As part of a strategy to diversity our power resources and stabilize the cost of power, on December 21, 2004, the Power Department submitted a proposal to the Mayor/City Council that would secure 15MW of base load power from Deseret Generation and Transmission (DG&T), a coal power production plant. The City Council

voted unanimously to accept the contract and put it in force as soon as possible. The proposed contract is designed to increase to a maximum of 25MW over the next 20 years. Springville has also secured ownership in the San Juan project, also a coal powered project, and is receiving 4MW of power. These two long-term contracts will significantly reduce the City's risk to the volatile power market and will help stabilize power rates.

At the present time, the City Administration and Mayor/City Council are studying means to raise the basic power rate and reduce the power cost adjustment (PCA) to accommodate new power sources and provide greater overall power cost stability.

Recreation and Culture: Recreation programs for City youth are flourishing along with community education classes. Plans for bike lanes and an urban trail through the City connecting to the Hobbie Creek trail are progressing and will be implemented in the Spring, 2005. Property was purchased from the LDS Church at about 600 North and 300 West to develop into a small neighborhood park. The City's swimming pool, which has endured for years beyond its designed life, is still useful to student swim organizations and other resident swimmers. Continuing maintenance and modifications are required, with renovations to shower rooms high on the preference list.

With the landscape upgrading and beautification of the roadside areas along South Main Street by the under-passes, an effort has begun to mark entrances to the City with permanent attractive signs. The first sign will be placed in the recently improved area on South Main and will be used as a model for other City entrances. Plans are being prepared to design an automated sprinkling system for Kolob Park, the last park watering system to be so automated.

In May 2004, after twelve years of devoted effort on the part of many people, and generous donations from 265 donors, the new George S. and Delores Dore' Eccles Wing on the Springville Museum of Art (SMA) was finally dedicated by Elder W. Rolfe Kerr, a general authority of the LDS Church. However, some work remains to be done before the SMA can be accredited and therefore qualified to host more important and meaningful exhibitions. The climate control system (HVAC) needs to be balanced and some installation flaws corrected; some roof tiles need to be replaced; a sprinkler system needs to be installed; etc.

In 2004, Natalie Peterson and Dr. Virgil Jacobsen joined the Museum staff as Associate Director for Operations and Curator of Education respectively. Both are outstanding people and bring to the SMA new professional experience in both administration and education.

The year was filled with highly important exhibitions, the permanent collection was enriched with 116 new acquisitions, the SMA continued its central role as home of the Statewide Art Partnership, and the Museum's volunteer programs now include 130 regular volunteers and about 480 total volunteers. Dr. Vern Swanson, Director of SMA, said that 2004 was the most important year in the Museum's history.

The Springville City Library's circulation for 2004 was 395,231, including books, books on tape and CD, videos, kits and music CDs and tapes. The circulation per capita was 18.0. The State average for circulation from a library of our City's size was 10.0 and the average circulation for the entire State was 12.1, clearly demonstrating the high relative demand faced by our City Library's full time and volunteer staff.

In 2004, the library began checking out magazines; went online with a catalog; produced a brochure for every household in Springville; purchased new software for an improved circulation system; conducted a successful summer reading program for almost 1,000 children; held a young writer's workshop taught by a nationally recognized author, and more.

The Hobble Creek Golf Course remained the favorite of golfer's in Utah County. In order to maintain that status, the golf course staff placed asphalt on all the remaining cart paths needed to enhance accessibility and appearance of the course, purchased 30 new golf carts, and continued to plant wild flowers.

Future plans for improving the golf course include work on the driving range fence, remodeling and renovating the course restrooms, purchasing 20 more new golf carts, remodeling and leveling some of the tees. When possible, the golf course staff also plans to remodel the clubhouse and build an additional cart storage facility.

The Springville/Mapleton Senior Citizens now have about 275 members and have installed a new board of directors. Recently the senior citizens raised \$500 for the Primary Children's Hospital.

The City's Youth Council advised by Keri Gordon, a former member of the City Council, received statewide recognition for their efforts in early 2004.

Administration: Springville City upgraded *The Source*, an informative newsletter provided with the monthly utility bills. Springville City continues to provide press releases and encourage accurate coverage, has conducted two community forums, and has improved the City's website, all to aid in improving communications between citizens and the City administration, and to keep everyone informed about City activities and challenges.

The Personnel Department was busy during 2004, hiring 15 full time employees and 72 part time/seasonal employees to fill authorized positions. A number of substantial projects are nearing completion including a complete re-write of the Personnel Handbook and an update of all job descriptions and organization charts for City departments.

Newly renovated offices in the Finance Department have improved public relations and customer service. Credit card machines were installed in all sites that receive money for the City. Utility payments can be made on-line via the Internet and over the telephone increasing efficiencies in the cashier's functions. The City's independent auditor was again able to provide an unqualified favorable report on the City's financial management and policies in the annual audit report.

Out of 214 employees in 2004, there were 9 reportable injuries on the job with only 5.5 days lost due to injuries, an excellent record that will probably result in the return of a portion of the premium paid. There were 197 new businesses, including commercial, industrial, and home occupation businesses, approved during 2004, for a total of 888 active businesses in the City.

Community Planning and Development: The average annual growth rate for Springville during the period 2000 to 2004 is 4.45% meaning that Springville's population will reach 25,000 sometime early in 2005. These estimates are calculated based on the number of dwelling units recorded through the end of December 2004 3.42 persons per dwelling unit. The staff estimates that Springville's population will reach 29,000 to 31,000 by 2010.

The number of subdivision lots recorded in 2004 is 322, the highest total since 2000, the vast majority of which are located in the West Fields. The average valuation of housing units by type for 2004 is \$180,799 (142) for single family detached homes, \$115,022 (38) for duplex/twin homes, and \$81,415 (101) for multi-family homes. Most of the multi-family units were approved prior to 2001 under the Planned Development Ordinance. Duplex/twin homes and multi-family homes are generally less expensive than single family detached homes and help address concerns for affordable housing in Springville. Subdivision lot numbers have been fairly steady and are balanced with the numbers for new residential construction.

Several master plans addressing major specific concerns, including impact fee schedules, have been recently completed, or started, leading to a pending update of the City's 1997 General Plan.

The code enforcement officer position was transferred from Public Safety to Community Development in the latter part of 2004. Some fine tuning of responsibilities has and will continue to occur over the next year as a result of the transition.

Regional Planning: The City continues to work with local neighbors and State government to address critical long-term and regional planning projects that include the I-15 corridor, light rail, water and waste water treatment.

Conclusion: There you have it: a report of City activities during 2004 and of the current state of Springville City, with some indication of work to be accomplished in 2005 and into the future. There are many complex and important decisions to be made relating to the need for adequate facilities, capital improvement projects, staffing, policy statements, customer service, and more. Perhaps we can all relate to an observation made by Joseph J. Ellis in his Pulitzer Prize winning book *The Founding Brothers* (Pub: 2000 by Vantage Books). Mr. Ellis stated, "Grand visions, even ones that prove as prescient (def: having foresight or foreknowledge) as (George) Washington's, must nevertheless negotiate the damnable particularities that history in the short run tosses up before history in the long run arrives to validate the vision."

With that observation in mind, I feel fully confident in saying that Springville is, and will remain, a great place to live.