

## August 2021

- 4** Truth in Taxation  
Public Hearing in the  
Moab City Council  
Chambers  
**6 p.m.**
- 5** Market on Center  
**5-8 p.m.**
- 6** Free Movie Moab at  
Swanny Park  
Screening *Raya &  
the Last Dragon*  
**8 p.m.**
- 10** City Council Meeting  
**7 p.m.**
- 10-17** Declaration of  
Candidacy filing  
period for 2021 Moab  
City Elections
- 11** Free Swim & BBQ  
Day hosted by Moab  
Police Department  
and MRAC  
**1:30 to 4:30 p.m.**
- 12** Planning  
Commission Meeting  
**6 p.m.**
- 19** Market on Center  
**5-8 p.m.**
- 24** City Council Meeting  
**7 p.m.**
- 26** Planning Commission  
Meeting  
**6 p.m.**
- 27** Moab Free Concert  
Series at Swanny  
Park  
**7 p.m.**

## Let's talk Property Tax!

The City Council is considering increasing the City of Moab's property tax, the rate is currently set at 0%. So what does that mean for you? You might ask, "Don't I already pay property taxes?" And the answer is yes, you do, Grand County sends out your property tax notices that currently include funds going to 11 primary entities. Some of these include the School, Library, Moab Valley Fire, and Grand County Cemetery districts.

If the Moab City Council decides to adopt a tax revenue at \$3.3 million then the City portion would increase your tax bill by about 20%. Council could decide to leave the rate at 0% (zero property tax revenue) or to increase the rate to a level between 0 tax revenue collected and up to \$3.3 million.

Tax revenues are recommended to go towards Capital Improvements, the Police Department, and the "Rainy Day Reserve" Fund. The City has over \$60 million in basic infrastructure projects such as water, sewer, and roads, much of this is long-term deferred maintenance. The Moab Police Department's staffing is below the desired level, and to provide reasonable responsiveness to emergency and non-emergency calls as well as traffic enforcement it is estimated that an additional eight officers are needed. The City's current 'rainy day fund' has dropped to 8% while the goal should be 25%. This fund is important for when unforeseen circumstances take place or emergencies happen. The COVID-19 pandemic is an excellent example of why the emergency fund is needed.

As part of the Truth in Taxation process there will be a public hearing on *August 4 at 6:00 p.m.* in the City Council Chambers. If you have comments, this is a great way to let Council Members know how you feel about the proposed tax. This meeting is for public comment only. The Council will not vote or hold a Council discussion on the proposed tax on August 4.

A Property Tax Informative Open House was held on July 14 and gave citizens a chance to ask questions but if you missed this or want more information and visual graphics visit <https://moabcity.org/582/Property-Taxes> or email questions to [propertytax@moabcity.org](mailto:propertytax@moabcity.org).

*“Mountains of music swell in the rivers, hills of music billow in the creeks, and meadows of music murmur in the rills that ripple over the rocks. Altogether it is a symphony of multitudinous melodies. All this is the music of waters. The adamant foundations of the earth have been wrought into a sublime harp, upon which the clouds of the heavens play with mighty tempests or with gentle showers.”*  
— John Wesley Powell

Water. It’s beautiful, essential, and on all our minds these days, with newspaper headlines screaming about drought emergencies and ominous looking maps of the western US with large swaths of deep red. Luckily, Moab is not currently in a drought emergency, but the City is using this moment as an opportunity to lead the way in organizing long term water management efforts by all water providers in the valley and also implementing local conservation measures. We are fortunate to have the time right now, before any shortages occur, to evaluate all our options, make good decisions, and bring everyone together to agree on how best to allocate, conserve, and manage our most precious resource. What we do now can create a sustainable water future for Moab and Spanish Valley.

There are many ways you can learn more about what’s happening, and there will be opportunities coming up soon to participate in the process. In the meantime, don’t hesitate to reach out with any questions, comments, or concerns you might have. We’re always happy to talk water!

**See the following for more information:**

- ◇ Water Resource Management Workshop, July 13 — presentations regarding the Water Resource Management planning process set to begin this month, and conservation measures as part of the Water Conservation Plan Update (draft). Find it on YouTube at the Moab City Government channel.
- ◇ Interview with Molly Marcello of KZMU news on July 26 on “This Week in Moab.” Carly Castle and Mila Dunbar-Irwin discuss the same topics as above.
- ◇ Draft Water Conservation Plan Update available \*soon\* on the City Sustainability website at [moabcity.org/sustainability](http://moabcity.org/sustainability)
- ◇ Attend Moab Area Watershed Partnership meetings on the 3rd Wednesdays of the month from 1-3p.m.  
Website: [moabwatersheds.org](http://moabwatersheds.org)

— Mila Dunbar-Irwin

**City Council Meetings** are held the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month at 7 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers. Citizens to be heard can comment in person or fill out the form online in the current meeting’s [agenda](#). You can also watch them live on our YouTube Channel at [youtube.com/MoabCityGovernment](https://youtube.com/MoabCityGovernment).

## Furry Friends in the City

Our Animal Control Division of the Moab City Police Department patrols and responds to animal-related problems throughout Grand County. These officers are trained in the care and security of animals. The City of Moab and Grand County require that all domestic pets be under their owner’s control by either leash, chain, cord, or other appropriate means of physical control when not on your private property. Pets must also have current licenses and rabies tags. If you have questions about animal licensing and regulation please contact the Shelter or refer to our [website](#).

The Bark Park (located on the SE corner of 100 East 300 South) is a great place to take your dog and let them run and play off-leash. We know you love your pets and we want to make sure they are safe!

[Animal Shelter](#) | 956 Sandflats Road

Shelter: 435-259-0199

Dispatch: 435-259-4321 (To request an animal control officer or report a problem. Please only call 911 if it is an emergency.)

