

# Town of Alta Newsletter



Vol. 5 Issue 2

April — July 2013

## Municipal News

### TOWN COUNCIL NEWS

At the April 11<sup>th</sup> Town Council meeting, Merebea Danforth was unanimously nominated to fill the seat vacated by Steven Gilman. Ms. Danforth moved to Alta in 2006 after graduating from Brown University with a degree in Human Ecology and currently works for Friends of Alta as the Executive Assistant. Ms. Danforth ran for office in 2012 and lost to Mr. Gilman in a coin toss. Ms. Danforth will hold this seat until the end of 2013 and has declared candidacy to fill the remainder of the term through 2016.

The Town 2013-2014 budgets (General Fund and Sewer and Water Enterprise Funds) were approved at the June 20<sup>th</sup> Town Council meeting. The certified tax rate (CTR) went from .001065 to .001091 and will generate \$292,800 in property tax revenue. This increase in the CTR is a result of a decrease in the total assessed value of property in the Town of Alta. The total general fund budget is \$1.57 million dollars.

Over the last few months the Town Council has been reviewing and discussing a Business License Fee Study prepared by consultants from Zions Bank. The Town Council will hold a work session at 9:30am prior to the August 15<sup>th</sup> Council meeting to discuss possible changes to the business license fees.

The next meeting of the Town Council will be held August 15<sup>th</sup> at the Alta Community Center (Library) at 10am. **Please note this is a change from the regularly scheduled meeting.** Meeting agendas and minutes can be found at: [http://www.townofalta.com/gov\\_agendas.shtml](http://www.townofalta.com/gov_agendas.shtml)

### PLANNING COMMISSION NEWS

Planning Commissioner Lee Kapaloski has resigned after 41 years of dedicated service to the Alta Planning Commission. Lee was a founding member on the Commission as the Town transitioned from Salt Lake County to local control of land use and development issues. Mr. Kapaloski was involved with virtually every modern development beyond the original Town from Sugarplum, to Powder Ridge and to the updated Base Facilities Zone. His expertise and guidance helped form the Alta we see today. His contributions to the Town are greatly appreciated and will be missed.

Elise Morgan has been nominated by Mayor Pollard to fill the vacancy created by Mr. Kapaloski's resignation. Elise has been an Alta resident for 10 years and currently works for the Alta Ski Area performing administrative and GIS work. Elise has a M.S. in Environmental Science from Western Washington University, a B.S. in Environmental Science and Ecology from Sierra Nevada College, and a Geographic Information Science (GIS)

Technology certificate from Salt Lake Community College.

The Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, August 14<sup>th</sup>, at 4pm at the Alta Community Center/Library. The purpose of the public hearing is to hear and receive input on recommendations to amend the height, coverage, and setback provisions in the Base Facilities Zone of the Alta Land Use Regulations, and to add a section addressing height limits and screening requirements for mechanical equipment, elevator towers, and other such rooftop appurtenances. Anyone interested in commenting on the proposed changes may do so in person or in writing at the hearing, or in writing to: Alta Town Office, P.O. Box 8016, Alta, UT 84092 or [jhg@townofalta.com](mailto:jhg@townofalta.com) or [claire@townofalta.com](mailto:claire@townofalta.com) by noon, Monday, August 12<sup>th</sup>. Questions may be directed John Guldner or Claire

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# Municipal News

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Woodman in the Alta Town office during normal business hours at 801.363.5105. Additional information can be found online at: [http://www.townofalta.com/gov\\_planning\\_agendas.php](http://www.townofalta.com/gov_planning_agendas.php)

The next meeting of the Planning Commission will directly follow the August 14<sup>th</sup>, 4pm public hearing at the Alta Community Center (Library). Meeting agendas and minutes can be found at: [http://www.townofalta.com/gov\\_planning\\_agendas.shtml](http://www.townofalta.com/gov_planning_agendas.shtml)

## GENERAL ELECTION INFORMATION

The Town of Alta will be holding a municipal general election on November 5<sup>th</sup>. There will be no primary election. The following people have declared their candidacy for office:

### Mayor:

Tom Pollard

### Town Council (4 year positions):

Cliff Curry, Maura Olivos, and Paul Moxley

### Town Council (2 year position):

Merebea Danforth

Those wishing to register to vote or apply for an absentee ballot may do so in person at the Salt Lake County Clerk's office located at 2001 South State, Suite S1100 or by going to their web site at [www.clerk.slco.org](http://www.clerk.slco.org). The deadlines for mail-in voter registration are October 7<sup>th</sup> and October 21<sup>th</sup> for in-person and online voter registration.

Early voting will take place from Tuesday, October 22<sup>nd</sup> through November 1<sup>st</sup> in the Alta Town Office conference room. Hours have yet to be determined.

## OTHER MUNICIPAL NEWS

Recent court decisions involving the Town of Alta can be accessed through a fee-based subscription service called XChange. XChange provides summary information about cases by searching the names of parties, assigned judges, or attorneys of record. Information available may include names of parties, party addresses, assigned judges, attorneys of record, documents filed, hearings held, judgments entered, and the outcome of completed cases. Images of public documents filed in several case types are available for purchase on XChange. The Xchange website can be accessed at: <http://www.utcourts.gov/xchange/index.asp?content=what>

The summer program is in full swing with the summer booth open and staffed every day of the week except for Tuesday. The free shuttle service will run out of the Albion Base parking lot on weekends and holidays and will make stops at Catherine's Pass trailhead, and Cecret Lake trailhead parking lots. Please note that a section of the Albion Meadows Trail from the Albion base to the Town Park will be closed this summer due to construction at the Rustler Lodge. All hikers and bikers are asked to use the transfer tow road.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Town Trail and Restoration day was held on July 13<sup>th</sup>. 68 volunteers were on hand contributing over 360 hours of service to rehabilitate damage caused by "rogue" bike trail building. Special thanks to Cottonwood Canyons Foundation, Alta Ski Area, the U.S. Forest Service, Friends of Alta, REI, and the outstanding volunteers for their excellent team work and support of this effort. Over a mile of illegal trail was rehabbed and restored with native vegetation. Miss out on the fun? Don't worry, additional summer stewardship opportunities can be found on page 4 of this newsletter.

A reminder from the Marshal's Office that any discharge of fireworks is prohibited within the Town of Alta boundaries. Currently, fire and open flame restrictions on public lands within the Town of Alta are limited to attended fires and cooking devices and are allowed in developed campgrounds and the Town Park. Although discouraged due to increasing fire danger, back-country camping/campfires are allowed in accordance with US Forest Service and Salt Lake City Watershed regulations which require camps to be further than 1/2 mile from any roadway and 200 feet from any water source. The Town of Alta anticipates that more stringent restrictions may be implemented in the near future. Please be vigilant in your awareness of fire danger and report any unattended fires or unsafe situations to Alta Central.



ABOVE: Volunteers gather for the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Trail and Restoration Day. (Photo courtesy of Maura Olivos)

## Message from the Mayor



The regional mountain transportation effort finally has a name. The project will be going forward under the name of "Wasatch Summit." The Wasatch Summit study area extends from Salt Lake City to Park City and over to Little Cottonwood Canyon, and will address transportation needs as well as the intertwined issues of environmental, economic, watershed, and recreation conditions.

I continue to serve on the executive committee and John Guldner and Claire Woodman represent the Town on the steering committee. As I have mentioned before, I believe this project could have a significant impact on the Town and its residents, businesses, and visitors, and I remain committed to keeping you informed as the project moves forward. This project is quite an undertaking and I hope the following is a useful summary of the project.

The Wasatch Summit project is a collaborative regional effort with representation from eleven governmental agencies, as well as environmental, recreation, and economic development interests. An Interlocal Agreement has been drafted and will be signed by all eleven governmental agencies. This agreement will be on the August 15<sup>th</sup> Town Council meeting agenda for approval. The agreement sets out the scope and terms for all of the governmental agencies to move forward to analyze issues and alternatives related

to transportation, land use, recreation, wilderness, watershed, and economics in the Central Wasatch Mountains and also sets the financial contributions from each agency. The Town will be contributing \$25,000 over two years.

A RFP has been released for a Program Facilitator as well as Environmental Consulting services. Once these services have been secured the project will really get moving. The project has been broken into two phases and the NEPA (National Environmental Policy Act) work will officially begin when the Federal Transit Authority issues a Notice of Early Scoping. Phase I will take 18-24 months and will define project purpose and need and will analyze alternatives with the potential of selecting an alternative to move forward. If an alternative is selected, the project will move to Phase II and will be initiated by a lead federal agency publishing a Notice of Intent. Phase II will take 2-3 years and will study preliminary engineering and design of the selected alternative, provide environmental analysis, identify corridor environmental impacts, and funding mechanisms. The project culminates in the preparation of an (EIS) Environmental Impact Statement. Both phases will incorporate extensive opportunities for public involvement and we will keep you informed about these opportunities.

I have received a lot questions about if this is "just another study." I assure you that this isn't "just another study." It is the next and required step in the NEPA process and has to be done before implementing any selected alternatives. The Town's involvement and input is critical as we move forward, so please contact me if you have any comments you would like to share with me about this effort. Read up on the project at: [wasatchsummit.org](http://wasatchsummit.org).

Enjoy the rest of your summer!





# ALTA

## SUMMER STEWARDSHIP EVENTS

### JULY:

9-13: ALTA RESTORATION PROJECT DAYS

9 (1PM) & 16 (5:30PM): INVASIVE WEED REMOVAL

20: ALTA SKI AREA CLEANUP

27: WILDFLOWER FESTIVAL

### AUGUST:

6 & 20 (5:30PM): INVASIVE WEED REMOVAL

### SEPTEMBER:

7: ALTA SKI AREA SEEDLING PLANTING

10 (2PM): "STEWARDSHIP SOCIAL" INVASIVE WEED REMOVAL FOLLOWED BY POTLUCK

13 (9:30AM): MEMORIAL TREE & SEEDLING PLANTING

ALL MEETING LOCATIONS ARE AT THE ALBION BASE PICNIC TABLES OUTSIDE THE ALBION GRILL.  
\*TO REGISTER OR FOR MORE INFORMATION EMAIL: [VOLUNTEER@COTTONWOODCANYONS.ORG](mailto:VOLUNTEER@COTTONWOODCANYONS.ORG) OR CALL PUBLIC LANDS INFORMATION CENTER 801-466-6411



# Alta Events Calendar

## July

23	4:30 PM	ACE Event: Lawn Games and Lemonade, Snowpine Lodge (outside patio), FREE! ACE will bring some food but please feel free to bring a dish to share, or perhaps a secret family lemonade recipe. Also enjoy music by Talia Keys.
26-28		Wasatch Wildflower Festival. Alta's day is Saturday, July 27th. Full line-up of events can be found at: <a href="http://www.wasatchwildflowerfestival.org">www.wasatchwildflowerfestival.org</a>

## August

6	6:30 PM	ACE Event: LCC Pinewood Derby, OLS, \$5. You must pay and pre-register before the derby. Please find additional info at: <a href="http://altaarts.org/events/pinewoodderby2013">http://altaarts.org/events/pinewoodderby2013</a>
14	4 PM	Planning Commission Public Hearing, Alta Community Center/Library. Regular meeting to follow.
15	9:30 AM	Town Council work session to discuss business license fees, Alta Community Center/Library.
15	10 AM	Town Council Meeting, Alta Community Center/Library
15	10 AM	ACE Event: Herb Walk, \$5. Meet at summer booth parking area. Bring water, lunch, walking shoes, and your favorite herb books.
20	6 PM	ACE Event: Kitchen Knife Sharpening and Skills Class, OLS, Free!

## Free Downloads from Salt Lake County Library

By Stephanie Bertin, Librarian

Did you know that you can borrow eBooks and eAudiobooks from the library? Even eMagazines?

With your Salt Lake County Library card, you have access to over 50,000 downloadable books. Read and listen to eBooks & eAudiobooks from the library on the go or at home. The library's digital materials can be borrowed for up to 3 weeks and there are no late fees.

Salt Lake County Library recently added eMagazines to their digital collection, with over 300 popular titles to choose from. Magazine issues can be streamed, downloaded or kept on your device to be read whenever you want.

These downloadable library materials can be enjoyed on a variety of devices - your computer, an eReader, a smartphone, an iPod or an MP3 player. There are apps available for most desktop and mobile platforms including Android, Apple, Kindle Fire and Nook tablet. Check out Reader's Café portion of the library website, [www.slcolibrary.org](http://www.slcolibrary.org), to find eBooks, eAudiobooks, and eMagazines. There are a variety of videos and tutorials on our site to help you get started.

For additional assistance come in to a library branch or call the library at (801) 943-4636.



ABOVE: Volunteers working hard at the 2nd annual Trail and Restoration Day. (Photo courtesy of Maura Olivos)

# Town Information and Contacts

## Town info

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

Town of Alta Phone:

(801) 742-3522 or  
(801) 363-5105

Town of Alta Fax:

(801) 742-1006

Post Office Phone:

(801) 742-2142

Library/Community Center Phone:

(801) 742-2068

Justice Court Phone:

(801) 742-2407

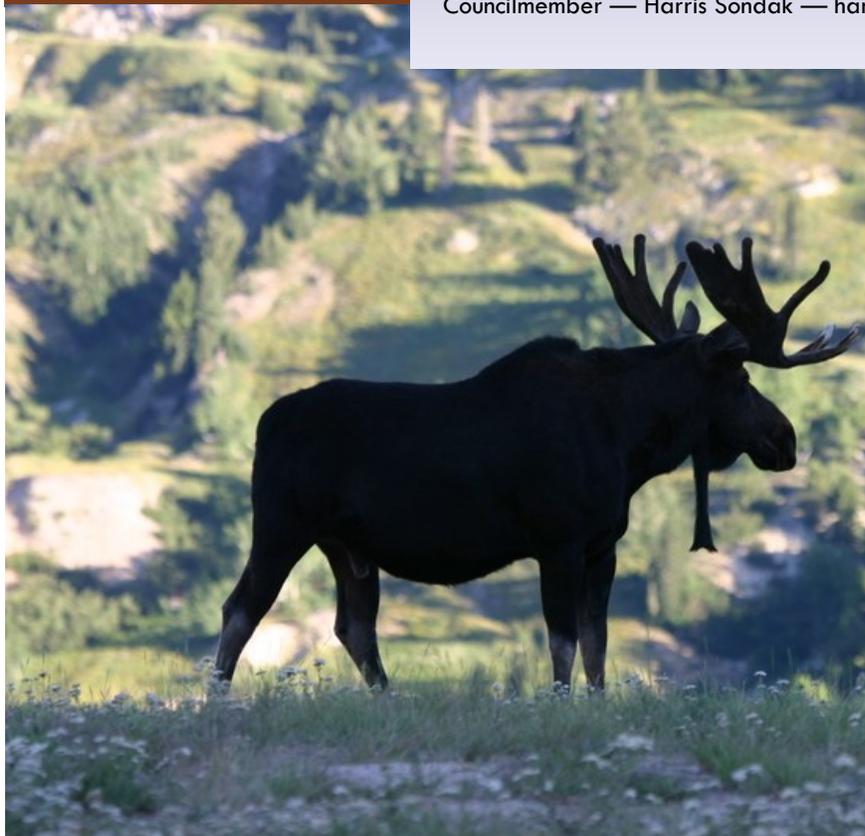
Alta Central Info Line:

(801) 742-3403



## Town Council contact info

Mayor — Tom Pollard — [mayor@townofalta.com](mailto:mayor@townofalta.com) — Term expires 2014  
 Councilmember — Cliff Curry — [cliffcurryaltautah@gmail.com](mailto:cliffcurryaltautah@gmail.com) — Term expires 2014  
 Councilmember — Merebea Danforth — [merebea@gmail.com](mailto:merebea@gmail.com) — Term expires 2014  
 Councilmember — Paul Moxley — [pmoxley@djplaw.com](mailto:pmoxley@djplaw.com) — Term expires 2014  
 Councilmember — Harris Sondak — [harrissondak@gmail.com](mailto:harrissondak@gmail.com) — Term expires 2016



## Staff contact info

John Guldner — Town Administrator  
[jhg@townofalta.com](mailto:jhg@townofalta.com)

Kate Black — Town Clerk  
[kswb@townofalta.com](mailto:kswb@townofalta.com)

Piper Lever — Assistant Town Clerk, Justice Court Clerk, Business License Official  
[plrem@townofalta.com](mailto:plrem@townofalta.com)

Mike Morey — Town Marshal  
[mmorey@townofalta.com](mailto:mmorey@townofalta.com)

Claire Woodman — Assistant Town Administrator, Newsletter Editor  
[claire@townofalta.com](mailto:claire@townofalta.com)

The Town Office is open Monday through Friday from 8:30am to 4:30pm. Please call us at 801.742.3522 or 801.363.5105 or stop in for assistance.