

# Oquirrh Park

July 2007

## A Sparkling Fourth of July

Our appreciation goes out to Kory Scadden and Richard Parkinson who hosted and organized this year's 4th of July events. It was a great chance for everyone to get together and enjoy contests, face paintings, music, and a great fireworks display. It is the volunteer efforts of our talented neighbors that make Oquirrh park such a unique and wonderful place to call home.



## common cents, part I

Scott Howell, Treasurer

I wanted to report on the HOA's budget performance for the first six months of 2007 and discuss some upcoming opportunities.

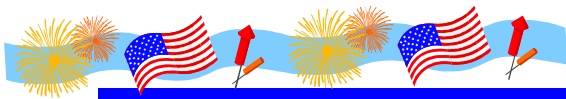
### Mid-Year Budget Report

As of June 30, the HOA is right about where we would expect half way through the year. We are slightly ahead of what was anticipated to be collected and we have used just under half of the total amount budgeted to be spent at this point. The chart below compares half of the annual budget to what we have incurred. If things continue as budgeted, we should complete the year on or under budget.

We have been very fortunate that Richard Parkinson and Jeff Coon have made significant contributions of time in caring for our pool. Other residents have volunteered to check chemicals and prepare the pool for each season; Brian McConnell repaired the hot tub plumbing pro bono. Our pool budget is very volunteer-dependent and if we ever have to hire out all of the work, our pool costs will increase significantly.

We have been lucky to have mild winters; a heavy, early, or late winter

*(Continued on page 2)*



## common cents (Continued from page 1)

would absorb our landscape and maintenance surplus. Current budget challenges include equipment needs for the pool, record-setting heat requiring increased watering, and overdue work for our roads. Right now our immediate road needs are being estimated around \$40,000. There may also be more extensive repairs that we are still looking at. Beyond that we are developing an understanding of how much our roads will cost over the next 30 years. I will discuss the roads in more detail next month after we have more information.



### A Forward-Looking Budget for 2008

The HOA has accumulated some savings over the past few years; I will discuss some ideas on how to apply them next month. As our HOA is relatively new, prior budgets have only provided for routine maintenance. We are now maturing as a community and our budget needs to anticipate more extensive future repairs. I would also like it to allow us to enhance our community's amenities.

If we only budget to maintain things as we have, we will not be able to keep them up. For example, a budget that has allowed the clubhouse carpets to be cleaned will not allow the carpet to be replaced.

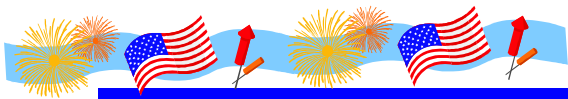
There are many good ideas for HOA improvement; I would like to develop future budgets to set aside funds to pay for them. Although not every idea can be done at once, we have to start somewhere and by saving for them we can start to make our HOA a better place to live and increase our property values. Some of the improvement suggestions made by residents include improving our playground areas, installing a second basketball court, additional parking, adding a kiddie pool, and building additional picnic pavilions.

### Upcoming Budget Meetings

As always, homeowners and residents are invited to attend the monthly HOA meetings held the first Thursday each month at 7:00 p.m. in the Clubhouse. In the August and September meetings, we will be dedicating time for residents and homeowners to share ideas, ask questions about, and help develop next year's budget. It is also a great time to better understand our current budget.

Before the budget is finalized and ratified in the October meeting, the proposed budget will be distributed to every homeowner. Included with that, I intend to be able to provide a detailed breakout as to where every penny of our monthly HOA fees are budgeted so we all can understand how our money is going to care for and improve our community.

General Budget Category	1/2 of Annual Budget	Amount as of June 30	Favorable / (Unfavorable)
Landscape & Maint.	\$ 23,250	\$ 18,348	\$ 4,902
Clubhouse	\$ 3,500	\$ 3,232	\$ 268
Swimming Pool	\$ 3,100	\$ 3,898	(\$ 798)
Utilities	\$ 12,900	\$ 8,183	\$ 4,717
Management Agency	\$ 10,320	\$ 10,443	(\$ 123)
Legal & Accounting	\$ 600	\$ 1,841	(\$ 1,241)
HOA Activities	\$ 1,200	\$ 1,462	( \$ 262)
Parking Enforcement	\$ 900	\$ 900	\$ 0
Insurance	\$ 900	\$ 1,649	( \$ 749)
Taxes	Omitted	\$ 222	(\$ 222)



## WHY ONLY 12 MPH??!

Jack took a long look at his speedometer before slowing down: 73 in a 55 zone. Fourth time in as many months. How could a guy get caught so often? When his car had slowed to 10 miles an hour, Jack pulled over, but only partially. Let the cop worry about the potential traffic hazard. Maybe some other car will tweak his backside with a mirror. The cop was stepping out of his car, the big pad in hand.

Bob? Bob from Church? Jack sunk farther into his trench coat. This was worse than the coming ticket. A cop catching a guy from his own church. A guy who happened to be a little eager to get home after a long day at the office. A guy he was about to play golf with tomorrow.

Jumping out of the car, he approached a man he saw every Sunday, a man he'd never seen in uniform. "Hi, Bob. Fancy meeting you like this."

"Hello, Jack." No smile.

"Guess you caught me red-handed in a rush to see my wife and kids."

"Yeah, I guess."

Bob seemed uncertain. Good. "I've seen some long days at the office lately. I'm afraid I bent the rules a bit - just this once." Jack toed at a pebble on the pavement. "Diane said something about roast beef and potatoes tonight. Know what I mean?"

"I know what you mean. I also know that you have a reputation in our precinct."

Ouch! This was not going in the right direction. Time to change tactics. "What'd you clock me at?"

"Seventy. Would you sit back in your car please?"

"Now wait a minute here, Bob. I checked as soon as I saw you. I was barely nudging 65." The lie seemed to come easier with every ticket.

"Please, Jack, in the car."

Flustered, Jack hunched himself through the still-open door. Slamming it shut, he stared at the dashboard. He was in no rush to open the window. The minutes ticked by. Bob scribbled away on the pad. Why hadn't he asked for a driver's license? Whatever the reason, it would be a month of Sundays before Jack ever sat near this cop again. A tap on the door jerked his head to the left. There was Bob, a folded paper in hand. Jack rolled down the window a mere two inches, just enough room for Bob to pass him the slip. "Thanks." Jack could not quite keep the sneer out of his voice. Bob returned to his police car without a word. Jack watched his retreat in the mirror. Jack unfolded the sheet of paper. How much was this one going to cost? Wait a minute. What was this? Some kind of joke? Certainly not a ticket. Jack began to read:

*"Dear Jack, Once upon a time I had a daughter. She was six when killed by a car. You guessed it - a speeding driver. A fine and three months in jail, and the man was free. Free to hug his daughters, all three of them. I only had one, and I'm going to have to wait before I can ever hug her again. A thousand times I've tried to forgive that man. A thousand times I thought I had. Maybe I did, but I need to do it again. Even now. Be careful, Jack, my son is all I have left." ~Bob*

Jack turned around in time to see Bob's car pull away and head down the road. Jack watched until it disappeared. A full 15 minutes later, he too, pulled away and drove slowly home, asking for forgiveness and hugging a surprised wife and kids when he arrived.

Life is precious. Handle with care. This is an important message; please pass it along to your friends. Drive safely and carefully.







### Recurring Activities

Playgroup Field Trips will be held each week. This is a great way to get to know others in the neighborhood who have kids the same age as yours.

Contact Anisa Scholes (253-1449; [ryanisa@earthlink.net](mailto:ryanisa@earthlink.net)) for a calendar.

The Third Thursday of every month is a Craft / Scrapbook / Project "GIRLS NIGHT OUT" from 8:00 pm to 11:00 pm at the clubhouse. Contact Anisa Scholes for information.

## **Oquirrh Park Days August 10-11**

**Everything is Free**

**Camp Fire Program** at 8:00 PM August 10<sup>th</sup> on the lawn by the clubhouse.

Come hang out and sing with us even if you don't plan to sleep over in your tent. We are looking for kids and adults to participate in the program. There will be awards for everyone that participates. Anything works for a talent like singing, musical instrument, poetry, story telling, dancing, gymnastics, etc. E-mail or call Kory to sign up. ([mel2kor@aol.com](mailto:mel2kor@aol.com) 913-7332) S'mores and cobbler after the program.

**Oquirrh Park Fun Walk and Run** at 8:30 AM August 11<sup>th</sup> at the clubhouse.

Bring your strollers, your dog, your running shoes and walk or run around Oquirrh Park with everyone. For our runners in the neighborhood there will be a 5K run that will loop the neighborhood. There will be prizes from the Wasatch Running Company. Muffins, cold cereal, and juice at the club house after the walk and run.

**Oquirrh Park Day Parade** at 11:00 AM August 11<sup>th</sup> at the clubhouse.

Kids get dressed up in a custom and bring their bikes or wagons to decorate it at the clubhouse and then to show it off in the parade. Johnny the Clown on his uni-cycle will be our Parade Master.

**Oquirrh Park Day Carnival** at 12:00 to 3:00 PM August 11<sup>th</sup> at the clubhouse.

Pot Luck Lunch at 12:00 PM (Last name A-H brings a main dish to share, I-P Salad, and Q-Z side dish) Dessert will be provided by Dryers Ice Cream. All the ice cream you can eat like last year. There will be carnival water games and slides, so bring your swimming suit. Johnny the Clown will be doing balloons and a show. There will be tables provided for anybody to share whatever. Email or call Kory to get a booth where you can share, show, or sell anything. It would be great to see the art work and crafts done by those in our neighborhood or to taste test some of our community's favorite ethnic recipes. Feel free to set up a booth that is a game the kids can play. It is going to be a fun weekend. Hope you all can make it and bring your family and friends.

**Want to  
reserve the  
Clubhouse for  
your next  
meeting or  
party?**

**Call Linda Auger  
at 254-8734**

### The HOA Board

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