



# PIEDMONT PUBLIC NEWS

January 2016

Piedmont  
111 2<sup>nd</sup> Street  
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[www.piedmontsd.com](http://www.piedmontsd.com)

Phil Anderson-Board President  
Jack Parks-Board Vice President/Streets  
Jim Runyan- Board Trustee/Library  
Bill Paris-Board Trustee/Code Enforcement  
Sony Hemsher-Board Trustee/Park  
Diana Evans-Finance Officer  
Karlene Silver-Deputy Finance Officer  
Anna Ball-Administrative Assistant  
Jeff Kottwitz-Water

Office Hours are:  
Monday thru Friday  
9:00 – 5:00

**You are Welcome to Attend:**

Regular Meetings on the 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays of each Month at 7:30 p.m. at City Hall  
-these are formal meetings Open to the Public and Agenda items are discussed.  
Planning Meetings on the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays of each Month at 7:30 p.m. at City Hall  
-these are informal meetings with open forum for discussion, questions and concerns. Possible Agenda items for Regular Meetings are discussed.  
Planning & Zoning Meetings on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each Month at 6:00 p.m.  
at City Hall.  
Library Board Meetings on the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of each Month at 7:00 p.m. in the Library.  
Park Board Meetings on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each Month at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall.

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**Notary and Fax Services are available during City Hall Office Hours-No Charge**  
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In Office Schedule:

Karlene Silver who does Water billing and Bookkeeping is in the Office on  
Wednesdays and Fridays.

Diana Evans who does Administrative (most everything else) is in the Office on  
Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays.



# PIEDMONT VALLEY LIBRARY

111 Second Street, Piedmont  
718-3663  
piedmont.library@hotmail.com  
www.piedmontlibrary.net  
Hours: Tues 9-7, W-F 9-5, Sat 9-1  
Summerset Satellite: M-F 9-5

LIKE us on Facebook!

We are excited to announce a big change to our catalog system. As a member of the Black Hills Library Consortium, we have upgraded our catalog to a vastly improved service. You may now view our catalog in a wonderful new format with many great features. Easily search for items anytime—even browse our shelves by the covers! Here's where to find our catalog:  
<http://piedmont.blackhills.bywatersolutions.com/>

Log into your account to:

~see your checkouts ~view your account status ~renew items ~place items on reserve ~make purchase suggestions ~create lists ~make comments  
~read reviews ~create tags, and, in the future, easily request items from the other Black Hills libraries to be brought by courier. This new system works on many devices too!

We have scheduled some new catalog training dates for our patrons:

Weds. Feb. 3 at 2 PM; Sat. Feb. 6 at 10 AM; and Tues. Feb. 9 at 6 PM.

Of course, you may ask for assistance at the front desk anytime.

**YOU WILL NEED YOUR BARCODE TO LOG INTO YOUR ACCOUNT** (and also to access our free downloadable e-books and audiobooks). Call the library at 718-3663 or email to request your barcode number.

*We hope you like our new and improved service!*

### GENEALOGY GROUP

Meets the second Monday every month at 10 AM. Members have been researching for many years and can offer tips and advice for your family search! The library also has many genealogy books to loan.

### BOOK GROUP

Meets the third Thursday every month at 7 PM.  
February's read is: *One Summer: America, 1927* by Bill Bryson  
Borrow the book from the drawer & join the discussion.

### The Friends of the Piedmont Valley Library

#### 2016 OPEN HOUSE AND

#### GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

February 28, 2:00PM

Please join us for refreshments and a short presentation,  
Hiking West River Trails with Marv Espeland and  
Wes Stromberg, before the general business meeting.

### JAN/FEB ART EXHIBIT

#### Coloring Art

We have several coloring books for all ages in the library. Choose a page, color it at the library or at home, and we'll display it on our art wall!

Browse the many beautiful submissions while you're there! Put your name, phone and age on the back for random drawings at the end of Feb. for a free coloring book and pencils!

**PRE-SCHOOL  
STORYTIME**  
10 am  
EVERY  
THURSDAY

It's Story  
**TIME**  
@your library

**NEW ITEMS:** We have many of the Golden Globe winners and Oscar nominated movies and some on pre-order:

Bridge of Spies; Ex Machina; Furious 7; Infinitely Polar Bear; Inside Out; Mad Max: Fury Road; The Martian; Shaun the Sheep Movie; Spy; Trainwreck

Watch for these, not yet released:

Creed; The Good Dinosaur; Hateful Eight; Trumbo; The Peanuts Movie; The Revenant; The Danish Girl; Concussion; The Big Short; Joy; Brooklyn; Spotlight; Room; Carol.

We take requests for movie titles!

Don't forget, the library offers free downloadables of e-books and audiobooks. There are thousands of titles including the best sellers. Also, we DO offer inter-library loan, so if we don't have the title you are seeking, we'll do our best to get it for you! Call or visit the library for more information about either service.

**Phil's corner:**

Last year was very busy for the small town of Piedmont, and the year coming up looks even busier. We have been working on the water system for the town and are progressing steadily towards having a system that will be supported by fees and not require a subsidy from taxes. We had a good year for sales tax revenue and that, coupled with good fiscal management, allows us to keep the property tax low. Our property tax, with the exception of Keystone, which gets all of its revenue from sales tax on their tourism industry, remains by far the lowest levy in the Black Hills. The wheel tax, which we were told would be balanced by a reduction in property taxes, and apportioned amongst the county, city, and townships, turned out to be a bait and switch with the county keeping all of the revenue and giving the rest of us nothing. Talk to your state legislators.

We did get a tax increment district established and our engineer should have a preliminary plan drafted this month to allow us to continue our quest to put central sewer in the old section of town and promote some commercial development around exit 46.

This spring we will start on the reconstruction of portions of main and second streets. There is a program of the state of South Dakota to help upgrade the main streets of small towns. We applied for a grant and were fortunate to be one of the towns to be awarded one. This coupled with monies the city has saved over the past several years will allow us to complete this project without taking on debt. We feel that all of our residents will appreciate the smoother travel on their way to the post office

I would like to express my appreciation to all the residents of Piedmont for their support and especially to the members of our planning commission, park and library boards. We are improving our community at a rapid rate because of the involvement of our citizens both inside and out of city limits. The spirit of volunteerism is alive and well in our town.

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**Open Burn Permits**

The City of Piedmont allows Open Burning within the Municipality provided a permit is obtained. To obtain a permit contact the South Dakota Division of Wildland Fire Suppression for a Class A permit (wood materials only).

Permits can be obtained by going to:  
<http://apps.sd.gov/applications/ag73burnpermit/login.aspx>

With Internet access you can obtain a permit anytime that they are being issued, even during holidays, weekends or after hours. Or you can call 800-275-4955 from Monday-Friday 8am to 4:30pm.



## Board of Trustees Doing's, Vol. VI

Happy New Year to you! I hope 2016 finds you well and your holiday season was a good one. The Board has been busy over the holidays, closing out our fiscal year as well as our calendar year. We have finished out the 2015 budget itemizations, finalized the proposed 2016 budget, held the bidding for the Main Street paving project, awarded the winning bid for the project to the contractor, held equalization meetings with Meade County & the City of Summerset to set planning and zoning boundaries between our two Cities and the County, and updated and passed some new ordinances to better streamline our city functioning.

Before I run past that las bit about ordinances, let me tell you about one that will impact a lot of folks here in town. That would be our new dog ordinance, There has been an increase in the last year of pets running loose in the town. We have also seen at least one cat dumped off up in the Indian Hills subdivision recently, which was trapped and taken to the rapid City shelter. Our new ordinance requires that all pet dogs & cats residing within city limits MUST have current rabies shots.

As always, we will try to work with you on this new ordinance. I don't see us starting to pick up loose dogs out of yards or on street corners but if the problem gets worse we may have to. If we were to pick up your animal for some reason and they didn't have a rabies shot you would incur a kennel fee, fine, and vet bill. Believe me, a rabies shot is cheaper and is good for two years!

We consider your dog to be under your control if it is on a leash, in your vehicle, or under your voice control. As for your cats, if anyone can figure out that one, please let me know. (I would strongly recommend neutering them, however.) There is more in the dog ordinance than I can go into here. I recommend you try to see it in full or if you have any questions about the ordinance, it is available at City hall. We are trying to get it posted on our City website as soon as we can.

Bill Paris  
Piedmont Board of Trustees/Code Enforcement

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### **DON'T MAKE YOUR NEIGHBORS MAD**

**Please make sure that vehicles are not on the sides of the Streets when it is snowing. Pull into your driveway if it is snowing.**

**If it is difficult for the snow plow they will not Plow your Street.**

**A simple move makes it easier and nicer for everyone!!**

**Thank You! ☺**

## **Run Water To Prevent Service Line Freeze Ups**

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Prolonged cold temperatures may cause extreme frost depths resulting in service lateral (the portion of the line that runs from the water main to the house) freeze ups. Piedmont Water Department is offering suggestions to its customers to prevent such damage. Customers may choose to run a continuous pencil-lead sized stream of cold water from a faucet in their home or business to prevent a freeze up. Customers with a relatively low amount of water usage are of special concern. This includes customers on dead ends. Pipes that freeze most frequently are those in unheated interior spaces such as crawl spaces, basements, attics, and garages. But pipes that run through your cabinets or that are against an exterior wall are also at risk. Customers are encouraged to take periodic temperature readings of water at a cold water faucet closest to the meter. This may be done by letting the cold water run gently over a household thermometer for approximately one half minute. If the cold water temperature is less than 38 degrees the pipes are in danger of freezing.

### **How to prevent pipes from freezing**

Once the temperature starts plunging outside, you could take measures inside to keep your pipes warm and run water. This may go against your better instincts of conserving water and heat but the extra expense is nothing compared to a hefty repair bill. Here's a few ideas.

- Keep garage doors closed if there are water supply lines in the garage.

Open kitchen and bathroom cabinet doors to allow warmer air to circulate around the plumbing. (If you have small children, be sure to remove any harmful cleaners and household chemicals

**Safety**

I would like to thank our emergency services for their good work. They could use more volunteers and the lack is starting to be a concern.

City just put in boundary lines. This is really important so that we are secure from encroachment and everybody knows where the lines are.

Some things I would like to see happen:

Flood Mitigation – I am working on this in the hope of a grant from the state. Water from the foothills can't be stopped but we can direct the flow safely through our community.

Sewer – The city is working on this, but it will take some time for all the plans, engineering and money to come together.

Survey the right of ways – This spring I want to survey the right of ways for dead, damaged or diseased trees to prevent accidents.

Urban Forestry – We also need to look at the forest since I have noticed some dead trees. If they need to be removed or thinned, I will check into funding to assist in this project.

Sony Hemsher



**Foothills Area Cracker Barrel**

Saturday, February 13, 2016 from 2:00 pm to 4:30 pm at the American Legion Post 311. Legislators in Districts 29 & 33 have been invited.

Following the Cracker Barrel the American Legion will hold their monthly Steak & Chicken dinner from 5-7 pm

**PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT**

STREET CLOSURE AND TEMPORARY "NO PARKING" RESTRICTIONS

Main Street from Sturgis Road to Third Street

And

Second Street from Park Street to Walnut Street

Effective Monday, 25 January 2016, portions of Main Street between Sturgis Road and Third Street, and Second Street between Park Street and Walnut Street will be closed for asphalt removal, grading, and gravel surface installation. Residents in the work area should have any vehicles off the street between 7:00 AM and 5:30 PM, each work day.

Traffic Control will be placed, with designated detour routes during, work hours, as applicable.

If you have any questions, please contact Rapid Construction LLC at 605-343-5162.

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I know that it is sad to see all the trees coming down around Main Street and the Park, but Please know that your Trustees have given a lot of time to the planning of this project. A lot of these trees have become a hazard in the last few years, due to age, and need to be replaced. There will be a bit of a mess for a while, so bear with us, but when it is finished I am sure you will enjoy it.

With this project you will get:

- 1) A nicely paved road (2 blocks of Main Street and 2<sup>nd</sup> in front of the Park & Library)
- 2) Parking on both sides of the street with curb & gutter
- 3) Drainage (to help control the destruction from some of our storms)
- 4) Sidewalks
- 5) Conduit for future street & park lights.

And the Park Board and the City are working on a Tree replacement plan. Know that we care also!!

Thanks Diana Evans

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**Look for the next Newsletter in April 2016!!**

**Thanks for being a part of our beautiful little community!**

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The City of Piedmont is an equal opportunity provider and employer.