IN THIS ISSUE:

PAGE 2- FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

PAGE 3- THE MORE YOU KNOW

PAGE 4- SUMMER RECAP

PAGE 5- UPCOMING EVENTS

PAGE 6- MONITOR YOUR H20

PAGE 7- CITY NEWS

PAGE 8- WINTER REMINDERS

VOL. 24, NO. 2 | OCTOBER 2024



WHERE TOMORROW BEGINS



A MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

ear Ammon Residents,

I sincerely hope that your summer 2024 has been a memorable one. While it certainly has been hot, I love summers in Ammon! I hope you enjoyed Ammon Days, complete with the hot air balloons, the Ammon fireworks for Independence Day, fun at the pool or splash pad, and Ammon parks and recreational activities. As you may know, there is more fun to come in the fall, with the Pumpkin Walk and Lightapalooza events.

First, I wanted to give you an update on the Eastern Idaho Regional Sewer District. Some of you will recall that a few years ago we voted on whether or not to convert our regional sewer system into a sewer "district." The public voted overwhelmingly to make that change.

I am pleased to inform you that the result has been extremely positive. First of all, we now have a fully functioning board of elected directors with a majority of representation coming from Ammon. Before the change, we only had one appointed representative on a four-person board. You will recall that one of the major reasons we created the sewer district was so that we could obtain the necessary financing to double the size of the sewer plant. This financing has now been accomplished, and expansion construction is well underway. None of this was possible prior to the creation of the sewer district. This new expansion only serves to benefit all users of the sewer system.

Another reason we formed the district was to consolidate the existing bond debt with the sewer district, moving it off of the records of the City. This has been accomplished, and is another reason the district was able to obtain needed construction financing.

We had a big decision to make a few years ago, but together as a community we made the correct decision and I am proud of that. I'm also proud of the excellent work that is being done by the new sewer district. There are a lot of really great people working hard and committed to its success.

The next thing I wanted to mention is streets.

The steps are being put in place for full First Street construction. You may have seen Curlew and John Adams buildouts—those are to provide access during the time that First Street may be down. The John Adams bridge will soon be finalized. Everything is being done with an eye toward the summer 2025 construction season for full buildout.

You will also be able to vote in November on an Ammon street levy. The proposed street levy would raise \$1.25 million dollars a year for two years, with funds going solely toward the cost of improvements to existing Ammon roads. The estimated annual cost per \$100,000 taxable value would be \$56.07. This is a reduction from last May's street levy request.

I am truly grateful to live in this City among so many wonderful people. You give and serve and love your neighbors. You take care of one another and care for our community. You are what makes Ammon so special. I hope you have a wonderful fall season, and that you always remember that you can reach out to your City officials anytime with questions or concerns.

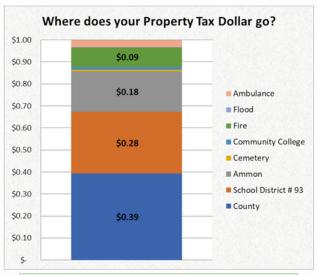


FINANCIAL & BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

Bonneville County prepares property tax statements for residents of Ammon that include multiple taxing districts. Different taxing districts have their own taxing district area and their own levy. For most residents in Ammon, the taxing districts that are included are Bonneville County, School District #93, City of Ammon, a Cemetery (Ammon or Lincoln), College of Eastern Idaho, Fire, Flood, and Ambulance districts. When a resident pays their property tax statement to Bonneville County, the funds are distributed to the different taxing districts, as illustrated in the chart "Where does your Property Tax Dollar go?" to the right. This reflects 2023 levy rates. The City of Ammon tax levy is one of the lowest for cities in the State of Idaho, for 2024 it will be .001185697. Which means that for every \$100,000 of taxable property, the City is levying \$118.57.

In the City of Ammon, the fiscal year 2025 begins October 1, 2024. The budget includes revenue from property taxes for properties located within City limits and revenue sharing from the State of Idaho that is distributed by population. These are the main sources of funding for our government services. These limited resources are distributed as shown in "Ammon Property Tax and State Revenue Share Dollars at Work."

In City news, the City Hall remodel is wrapping up, we are looking forward to being able to work more efficiently in the new space. 2025 will be a big road construction year for Ammon, we are working on the 1st Street Bridge and 1st Street improvements from Hitt Rd (25th E) to Ammon Rd (35th E). Fiber Local Improvement District #6 is under construction, and more subdivisions are now connected to pressurized irrigation. We look forward to this new year and continuing to improve our community.





AMMON MAYOR'S YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL (MYAC)

The mayor needs you! MYAC stands for Mayor's Youth Advisory Council. It's a group of youth from the community who volunteer to make the City of Ammon a better place for all. If you are in high-school we need you to be a part of the solution. More problems can be solved when we have a group of different voices united for change. Think about how much difference you can make and pick up an application at the City building to be a part of the solution.

I have been a part of MYAC for about 4 years and I love it. I love being able to serve people through volunteer work and learn more about certain aspects in our community. As a MYAC team we have toured the jail and loved it. we have toured the courthouse and learned more about the legal system, as well as many other places. We have participated in numerous food drives and drug take backs, as well as other cleaning and beautifying the City streets and paths. We are all united for change and encourage anyone else to join the team and make a better tomorrow for everyone.

-Danyelle Bankhead, MYAC Member

Fill out an application to participate. Go to <u>Cityofammon.us</u>, click on "Departments," then "Administration," then "Mayor's Office" to access the application and get additional information.



THE MORE YOU KNOW



TREE MAINTENANCE

The City of Ammon is starting a "free passage" campaign beginning this fall. Staff will be canvassing the streets to ensure trees overhanging public streets and sidewalks have adequate clearance for maintenance vehicles and pedestrian travel. Our snowplows, street sweepers, and other large equipment are unable to safely and efficiently perform work on many City streets because of overgrowth. The City has spent several thousand dollars in broken mirrors and light replacement trying to work around trees that are too low. Pedestrians on sidewalks are having to duck underneath limbs in order to travel on foot. Please, take a few minutes to assess the trees on your property, and do your part. If you have trees that are too low, please trim or have them trimmed so our friends and neighbors can travel with ease, and we can maintain our public streets more efficiently.



All trees in Ammon should maintain a 15' clearance over streets and 7' over sidewalks to allow for safe vehicle and pedestrian passage.

For more information, reach out to the Ammon Parks Department at 208-612-4040.

PETS IN AMMON

As a reminder, the City's Animal Services are provided by Snake River Animal Shelter (SRAS). Ammon's lost and found dogs, sick or injured cats and kittens under 6 months old will be accepted at Snake River Animal Shelter located at 3000 N Lindsay Blvd. in Idaho Falls. Residents wishing to participate in our Trap, Neuter, Return (TNR) Program for cats will need to coordinate with SRAS prior to setting traps in order to coordinate surgeries and releases (Ammon has TNR traps and dens available to use with a deposit).

We are enjoying SRAS's participation in community events as well as their assistance for Ammon's pets in need. Check out Snake River Animal Shelter's Facebook and Instagram pages for information on lost, found, and adoptable pets as well as our own Ammon Pets Facebook group!

Is your furry friend licensed and ready for the ultimate adventure? Don't miss out—dog licenses are a must for all pups over 4 months old! Plus, make sure your dog's rabies vaccination is up-to-date to keep those tails wagging safely. Licensing is a breeze online, so you can handle it in just a few clicks. Keep your dog in the know and on the go with a shiny new tag today!

Please contact the Enforcement Office at 208-612-4072 with any questions.

YOU DECIDE

On November 5th, residents of the City of Ammon will see a question on their election ballot asking whether to implement a temporary Street Levy that would be used for repair and maintenance of Ammon roads.

The levy would be used to fund the continued construction, repair, and maintenance of City of Ammon streets and costs of equipment, materials, and

personnel related to the work. The dollar amount estimated to be collected each year from the levy is \$1,250,000 for each of the tax years 2025 and 2026.

The estimated average annual cost to the taxpayer of the proposed levy, is \$56.07 per \$100,000 of taxable assessed value, per year, based on current conditions. When you visit the ballot box, you'll see the information to the right:

Questions? Please contact 208-612-4051

City of Ammon Street Levy CITY OF AMMON BONNEVILLE COUNTY, IDAHO

Shall the levy upon the taxable property within the City of Ammon be increased to produce the sum of One Million Two Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$1,250,000) in excess of that otherwise allowed by law, for each of the tax years 2025 and 2026, approximately a tax of \$56.07 per \$100.000 of taxable assessed value, per year, based on current conditions, to provide additional funding for the City of Ammon street fund and the continued construction. repair, and maintenance of City of Ammon streets and costs of equipment materials, and personnel related thereto as provided in Resolution No. 2024-015 of the Ammon City Council adopted on the 15th day of August 2024?

OFFICIAL BRIEF STATEMENT:

The purpose for which the levy shall be used is the continued construction. repair, and maintenance of City of Ammon streets and costs of equipr materials, and personnel related thereto. The date of the election is November 5, 2024. The dollar amount estimated to be collected each year from the levy is \$1,250,000 for each of the tax years 2025 and 2026. The length of time in which the proposed levy will be assessed is two years. The estimated average annual cost to the taxpayer of the proposed levy, is \$56.07 per \$100,000 of taxable assessed value, per year, based on current conditions.

- IN FAVOR OF increasing the levy by \$1,250,000 for each of the tax years 2025 and 2026
- AGAINST increasing the levy by \$1,250,000 for each of the tax years 2025 and 2026



SUMMER RECAP

Ammon Parks & Rec

2024 brought many exciting things for the Parks and Recreation Department. A new pavilion, sidewalk, and asphalt parking lot were built at Sand Creek Park behind Broulim's. The Groundwater Conservation Park at 4445 Dry Creek Way was completed and officially opened by way of a ribbon cutting ceremony. Come out and play pickleball, check out the live water usage data for the City, and find conservation minded landscaping ideas for your yard. The long-awaited splash pad repairs and renovations were completed, providing countless hours of fun for the community. The volleyball court at Eagle Pointe Park was renovated. The Parks Department and Public Works removed old weedy bark, brought new sand in, and installed a new net.

Thanks to many generous sponsors, there were five Movies in the Park with fun events before each movie, free hot dogs, and treats. Thank you all for coming out, the audience numbers were fantastic and we look forward to more Friday night movies next summer!

Swim lessons had an enrollment of 1,251 in the Ammon pool, and the splash pad was reopened after extensive repairs. The Lazy Man Triathlon took a mammoth task and made it doable, giving people a month to accomplish what some, more motivated people, do in one day. Our final new event was "A Splash Day for the Dogs". After the pool was shut down for the year, we let dogs have their day in the pool, and 125 dogs made the most of the opportunity with lots of tennis balls and toys.

Thanks for another successful summer of fun in Ammon!





Ammon Days was a tremendous success this summer! We welcomed nearly 150 vendors, great food options, prizes, and giveaways. There were over 100 vehicles in the car show, bounce houses, giant slip and slides, zip-lines, obstacle courses, kids games, face painting, watermelon eating contests all day, and many other fun activities. The hot air balloon festival included 16 hot air balloon pilots and their crews from all over the intermountain west. Plans are already in the works for Ammon Days 2025 to be bigger and better! There are many sponsorship options available. Anyone interested in sponsoring or having a booth next year, please email rmiller@Cityofammon.us.



Ammon Little League

Nearly 1,200 local youth participated in Ammon Little League this summer. A community organization in every sense, Ammon Little League offers divisions for ages 4-12 (t-ball, coach pitch, machine pitch, and player pitch softball and baseball). There are approximately 100 teams with volunteer coaches, scorekeepers, and committee members. Early registration for the 2025 season will open shortly after the holidays for players that already have a commitment from a coach. Waiting list registration will open in February or early March. There are 12 players per team in every division. The only way to guarantee being on a team is to coach or make arrangements with a coach. There can only be as many teams as there are coaches. Anyone interested in coaching and/or sponsoring a team next year, please email rmiller@cityofammon.us.

UPCOMING EVENTS



Pumpkin Walk

Ammon Pumpkin Walk registration is now open. The kickoff is Saturday, October 19th from 12:00-3:00 pm at McCowin Park with vendors, food, and music. Displays and giant pumpkins remain at the park through Halloween. This unique event is free to enter, a great way to promote local organizations, and participants have a chance to win prize money. What is the Pumpkin Walk? To view previous years, visit the City of Ammon Facebook page and search "pumpkin walk." Registration deadline is October 11th and all details, rules, and how to register can be found at pumpkinwalk.cityofammon.us.

Fire Department Tricks or Treats

Halloween night at McCowin Park. The fun begins at 5:30 pm at the concessions stand area. Bring the kiddos over for candy, meet the firefighters, see the fire trucks, and enjoy free hot cider and coffee.

Annual Nogathon Fun Run

We kick off the holiday season with the second annual Ammon Nogathon Fun Run on Saturday November 9th at McCowin Park at 2:00 pm. This is a mile long run on a quarter mile course. Participants drink 8 ounces of delicious Reed's Dairy eggnog before each lap. Cost is \$15 to enter and all runners receive a t-shirt and swag bag full of goodies. The Idaho Falls Community Food Basket will be there collecting food for the holidays. East Idaho Community Action Partnership will be collecting toys and cold weather clothing. Come dressed in your favorite holiday costume. Registration deadline for a guaranteed shirt and swag bag is October 21st. Register at nogathon.cityofammon.us.

Gazebo and Tree Decorating

With the help of Dillard's and Costco, a local family will be selected to decorate the gazebo and 14 foot Christmas tree from Sunnyside Gardens as the central focus for the holiday lights at McCowin Park. The family selected will have access to the lights and decorations the City of Ammon already has, as well as shop at Dillard's for \$1000 and Costco for \$200 worth of decorations to add your personal touch for the community to enjoy for the holidays. New products from Dillard's and Costco remain the property of City of Ammon. Any family interested in this opportunity, please send an introduction and why you would like to participate to rmiller@cityofammon.us.

Winter Lightapalooza

This years' Holiday Lightapalooza will have a different twist. The party will be Saturday December 7th at McCowin Park beginning at 6:00 pm. The park will be beautifully decorated. Santa will arrive at 6:30 and will visit with the children at the gazebo. For safety reasons the parade floats will be stationary at McCowin Park on Southwick Street. The floats will have candy and treats, and you can vote for your favorite. Join us as we celebrate the holidays with vendors, food, and music.

Holiday Lighting Contest

The Ammon holiday outdoor decorating contest will be held December 8th-14th. The contest consists of four categories- Best Traditional, Most Lights, Most Creative, and People's Choice. A link will be posted on the City page to enter. All addresses will be posted, allowing people to vote for their favorite. Winners will receive Kneaders gift baskets valued at \$100, \$75, and \$50 per category. All addresses must be in Ammon.

<u>Icy Inferno</u>

The Icy Inferno Christmas tree bonfire and fireworks show, presented by Lookout Credit Union, will take place Saturday evening, January 18th at McCowin Park, at the corner of Williams and Targhee. Vendors will be open by 6:00 pm, and the fire department will light the fire at 6:30. Fireworks will commence when the trees are burning. This is a community event, in the truest sense. Please bring your live, undecorated Christmas trees to the park, beginning December 26th to contribute to the pile. The larger the pile of trees, the more spectacular the fire!



MONITOR YOUR H20

Conserving water is essential to sustaining our community's resources and protecting the environment. By using water wisely, we help maintain a steady supply for everyone and reduce the energy needed for water treatment and distribution. Simple actions like fixing leaks and using water-efficient appliances can make a big difference.

As our City grows, so does the demand for water. Conservation efforts today ensure a stable future. Let's work together to protect our water resources and build a more sustainable City of Ammon!

Did you know?

- Minor water leaks account for nearly 1 trillion gallons of wasted water each year which is equal to annual water usage of nearly 11 million homes.
- 10% of homes have leaks that waste 90 gallons or more per day.
- A leaky faucet dripping at the rate of one drip per second can waste more than **3,000 gallons** per year.
- The average household water consumption more than doubles in summer—mostly due to irrigation.
- Homeowners use 30-60% of their water outdoors. 50% of that is wasted, in part, due to **overwatering**.

POSSIBLE CAUSE OF LEAK	INTERMITTENET LEAK	CONTINUOUS LEAK
Outside faucet, garden or sprinkler system leaking	√	✓
Toilet valve not sealed properly	√	✓
Toilet running		✓
Faucet in kitchen or bathroom leaking	✓	✓
Leak between the water meter and the house		✓
Hot water heater leaking		✓



CITY NEWS



Ammon Fiber Updates

We're excited to announce that the process for LID 6 is well underway! Our team is gearing up to bring this project to life, and are currently scheduling in-home meetings with Quail Ridge residents. During these meetings, we'll discuss and plan the placement of the fiber optic device in your home, and where the conduit will run from the street to your house.

Meanwhile, our crews are working diligently on other projects to bring fiber-ready neighborhoods online across the City. We're committed to expanding our network and ensuring every resident has access to top-tier internet services.

We encourage eligible residents to opt-in to LID 6 and take advantage of this opportunity to enhance your connectivity. Visit https://ammonfiber.com/sign-up/ to sign up and learn more.

Please let your neighbors know about the Ammon Fiber Project and encourage them to sign up. Doing so will reduce the cost that everyone in those areas pays at the end.

Thank you for your continued support as we strive to build a more connected community!



Join the BCFD Ammon Fire Department for a Fire Prevention Open House October 26th 10:00am to 3:00pm at the BCFD1 Ammon Station - 2137 S Ammon Road!

Activities will include visits from the Chaplains of Idaho and their comfort dogs, Polka and Pepper, and the Disaster Awareness and Planning trailer from the INL FD. Take some time to meet your local firefighters, tour the fire station, grab some light refreshments, giveaways, and safety information. We hope to see you there!



Winter holidays are a time for families and friends to get together. That also means a greater risk for fire! The following tips will help keep you safe:

- Be sure to place lit-up pumpkins away from anything that can burn and far enough out of the way of trick-or-treaters, doorsteps, walkways, and yards.
- More than one-third of home decoration fires are started by candles.
- More than two of every five decoration fires happen because decorations are placed too close to a heat source.
- Some lights are only for indoor or outdoor use, but not both.
- Replace any string of lights with worn or broken cords or loose bulb connections. Read the manufacturer's instructions for the number of light strands to connect.
- Use clips, not nails, to hang lights so the cords do not get damaged.
- Test your smoke alarms and tell guests about your home fire escape plan.
- · Keep children and pets away from lit candles.
- Keep matches and lighters up high in a locked cabinet.
- Stay in the kitchen when cooking on the stovetop.



SAFETY

Prepare Your Home

- Check your heating systems and replace your filters regularly
- Check your carbon monoxide and smoke detectors

Prevent Falls This Winter

- · Choose the right shoe. Shoes and boots need to fit properly and have soles with good traction
- · Walk like a penguin. Take short steps and walk as flat-footed as possible on icy or slippery ground

PARKING

When the Snow Proclamation is in effect (November 15-March 15), no vehicles will be permitted to park on the street during a declared Snow Event. Violation of these policies may result in a ticket and your vehicle may be towed

Keeping parked cars off roadways helps plows move through the City more efficiently and effectively. Help us make your daily travel a little easier by moving vehicles off the road!

PLOWING

The Ammon Snow Removal Proclamation is in effect November 15 - March 15

- Snow Events are declared anytime a storm is predicted to produce or accumulate two inches or more of snow and are announced via social media and text alerts make sure you sign up today
- Homeowners are responsible for clearing their driveways and sidewalks of snow
- Snow may not be placed in the public right of way or be moved across roadways

Snow Removal Street Priorities

Snow shall be removed from City streets according to the follow priority order:

- -Priority 1: Arterial streets (17th, Sunnyside, Ammon, etc)
- -Priority 2: Collector streets (Curlew, Midway, Ross, etc)
- -Priority 3: Neighborhood streets. Remaining streets will be cleared as quickly as possible after Priority 1 and 2 streets are cleared and based on essential City services, garbage collection, and/or snow depth

