

Our City

Well, it's snowing again. So at least you know which day I wrote this. Things were pretty much in high gear until today and then it all but stopped. Not much can be done about it except wait a day and this too will change. Spring in Idaho, no two days the same in succession.

After our day of late winter, Daren Dahlke and the Street Department plan to put a temporary hold on work at the tennis courts and start fixing some of the worst sections of our city streets. The City and County are working together under a memorandum of understanding that allows for the procurement of materials at a cost that is much more beneficial to the City than having to buy them separately and have them transported to a site. With luck, the weather will finally stabilize in the next day or so and next week should see some good progress on street repairs.

In a meeting I had with Dahlke, Superintendent Fehringer and Clerk Herndon we discussed an alternate plan for the tennis courts, so it is for the best that they are on hold for a bit. My compliments to Chris Fehringer for doing some more research in the construction of the courts. In trying to meet all the requirements set upon us by the United States Tennis Association (USTA), the cost of construction was quickly going to exceed our budget. As it turns out, we may be able to construct the courts without the aid of the USTA and make them multiple use. Todd Winters has been talking to me for the better part of two years about Pickle Ball. I am not sure what it is, but I know it is popular, and sounds fun. The USTA will not allow any other lines to be included on courts that they help fund; but, that seems like such a waste of a good surface to me and many others. Anyway, if things turn out like I hope we should be able to construct the courts without the help of the USTA and include Pickle Ball lines on the surface; which again is better for more folks – the smart thing to do.

With school almost out and if you have young kids or grandkids the smart thing to do would be to get them signed up for t-ball if you haven't already. Superintendent Fehringer has extended the deadline to register your child until May 26. Forms can be found on the City's website or at City Hall. Please take advantage of this program and keep your children active through the summer.

With summer almost here that also means that many children in general will have a lot more time on their hands. And, you know what they say about idle hands. It is no coincidence that as summer starts, vandalism goes up significantly. So as parents and guardians I am asking you to please be mindful of your children. The City's curfew will be enforced and as such children out and about when they should not be will be detained until you come and collect them. It is one of the few recourses we have available to encourage everyone to be responsible. I hate starting summer off on such a bum note, but I want to be up front about the consequences for you and your

children. Appropriate supervision and responsibility goes a long way in saving us all time, money and grief. Once again, I thank you in advance for your help and cooperation in this matter. I hope with your help this summer will break the succession of summers where vandalism has been a problem.

Until next week...