

## Dear Leeds Residents:

It is an honor and great opportunity to serve as Mayor of our great Town of Leeds. We are surrounded by wonderful people and beautiful country. As we enter a new decade, it is a fitting time to consider our past, plan for the future, and take the steps today that are best suited for our general progress and happiness as a Town.

One of the main challenges that our Town is currently facing has to do with our budget. Solutions will be sought that ensure a strong Town with the ability to service its Residents as it should. We must be prepared for unforeseen expenses and revenue fluctuations that we may face. I want the Town to know that I will ensure that the financial strength and solvency of the Town is a top priority. Now, I have three specific action items I would like focus on during the beginning months of my term:

**Form a Cultural Committee-** This is something I proposed to Mayor Law probably 1 1/2 to 2 years ago. I was watching how the Fire Department was taking upon themselves the coordination efforts and costs (I'm sure) for cultural events--all because they could see the need. I feel strongly that this load and opportunity needs to be spread out and coordinated by our Town. The committee to work with the Historical Committee, LDWA, LASSD, County Residents, etc to coordinate meaningful and memorable events for our Residents.

**Form a Preparedness Committee-** this is something that our Fire Chief, Steve Lewis, originally brought to the forefront of my mind. The formation of a standing committee to work with the LDWA, LASSD, County Residents, etc to develop, test, and coordinate emergency plans for our Residents and for surrounding areas.

**Town of Leeds Festival.** I propose the Town begin holding an annual festival with a three-fold purpose: 1. Have fun, create memories, and encourage greater unity in our town. 2. Increase awareness of our Heritage and History. 3. Possibly generate more revenue for our local businesses. At the formation of the Cultural Committee, I will request that this topic be placed on their agenda to work in conjunction with our local Historical Committee. I have more detailed ideas and suggestions for such a festival and hope to get as much input as possible from all Citizens of our Town.

Something else that I have felt very strongly about is the need to **improve communication** in our Town. Accordingly, the text for my speech today is found on a new blog called the Mayor's Corner --Leeds UT. Shortly a link to this simple blog will be found on our Town's website ([www.leedstown.org](http://www.leedstown.org)). The purpose of this blog is to have a venue where the Mayor can provide more information to Residents.

I recognize that even with the best of intentions and efforts there will be times of disagreement and perhaps some frustration during this term. Please come to the meetings whenever possible, and read up on the information about the issues the Council may be facing at any given time. Please tell me of your concerns. Let's talk things through and come to the best answers together. We have a wonderful culture of independence, volunteerism, small and fiscally responsible government, all set in a rural atmosphere. There are so many other wonderful aspects of our community that we all love. If we want to preserve this and decide upon our own destiny as a Town, we must be strong and organized in our efforts. I pledge my time and efforts to this end.

In conclusion, my overarching goal during my term as Mayor will be to **unite our Town** more in mutual respect and friendship--with a shared vision. This is the purpose behind the proposed committees mentioned above and the proposed Festival. Additionally, I will work with members of the Town Council to update our General plan based on the information gathered and consolidated in the recent report generated through the great work of Peter and Elisa at Form Tomorrow.

Sincerely,

-Mayor Hyrum D. Lefler