PROPOSAL: CREATE THE "IVINS YOUTH CITY COUNCIL"

Date: January 17, 2022
To: Ivins City Council, Mayor, and City Manager
From: Ivins residents Jamy Dahle, Bob Morris, Dave Robinson, Mike Scott

---

We recommend the City Council creates the "Ivins Youth City Council." Youth City Councils exist all around the country. Washington City and Hyrum City are examples of very active and successful ones.

- https://www.facebook.com/HyrumCityYouthCouncil/
- https://washingtoncity.org/government/mayorcouncil/YouthCouncil

The Ivins Youth City Council would consist of 8 - 12 high school students who live in Ivins. They will:

- Provide advice to the City on youth issues.
- Provide service to the City and throughout the county at events and with projects.
- Be ambassadors for our City, and more…

The Ivins residents listed above will be the initial Advisors to this program. We will look for additional Advisors. One of the Advisors will be a City Council member, acting as a liaison.

The Advisors will appoint a youth Mayor. The students will elect five Council members. Others will have key responsibilities (City Manager, Recorder, Parliamentarian, Historian, Public Relations, etc.). They will meet twice monthly in the Council Chambers during the school year. Meetings will have agendas, minutes, and follow the same rules of order as regular City Council meetings.

The students will get information binders, shirts and jackets embroidered with the City logo & Youth City Council name, name tags, attend community events in Ivins and throughout the county, and attend the annual Legislative Day in SLC. Private donors have already committed all funding for the first year.

Among many other benefits to the City and to the participating students, the Youth City Council will:

- Give students a formal role in local decision-making on issues impacting youth.
- Offer real-world experiences with elected and advisory bodies.
- Provide an opportunity for the regular City Council to better connect with youth issues.

The students will know their voices are heard in City government. That will cement closer ties to Ivins among the students and increase City government awareness with their parents and relatives. Plus, their service is a bonus activity for college and scholarship applications.

Creating a Youth City Council is more important for Ivins than many other cities. We don't have a high school in Ivins, so this is an opportunity to ensure our youth identify with and are strongly connected to Ivins. It is also an opportunity for home schoolers to interact with their peers on important city issues.

A lot of the time citizens interact with the City only when they have a problem. Here is a refreshing opportunity to create a lot of interaction with students and their parents and all of it positive.

To launch the Ivins Youth City Council for the Fall 2022 - Spring 2023 school year, it needs to be approved in February 2022. That gives time to advertise for applicants (February - March), interview and select applicants, and hold an initial meeting before school ends in May (orientation, election of Council members, etc.). They will begin in the fall, but a few activities will be scheduled during the summer.

PROPOSAL: CREATE THE "IVINS YOUTH CITY COUNCIL"

Initial Advisors

You are familiar with Bob Morris, Dave Robinson, and me.



Jamy Dahle is the Assistant Director for Health Education and Prevention at Dixie State University. She joined the DSU Health & Counseling Staff in 2017. She graduated from Eastern Washington University in 2006 with a Master's Degree in Social Work. She is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker.

Jamy has worked in outpatient treatment settings for the past seven years in both direct practice, administration, and outreach. She worked as a Therapist and Clinical Director for the Bear River Health Department with an emphasis on substance use disorders. She has also worked in private practice providing treatment to victims of abuse and trauma.

Prior to becoming a therapist she worked in the Judicial System with at-risk youth. Jamy provides individual, couples/family, and group therapy. She has received specialized training for trauma and substance abuse issues. Her therapy models are brief intervention, solution focused and she is a certified QPR and Prime For Life Trainer, as well as certified for MRT.



