

**PINE VALLEY SPECIAL SERVICE DISTRICT
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON A PROPOSED FEE INCREASE**

Notice is Hereby Given that the Pine Valley Special Service District intends to increase the annual fire assessment fee and will hold a public hearing on a proposed increase.

These fees have only increased once since 2015. It was a five dollar increase in 2018. The department is run entirely by volunteers. In 2023, 28 volunteers donated over 4000 hours and responded to nearly 100 calls for help from the community. Eight of these volunteers are EMT's and another three are EMT's with Advanced Certificates. There are two types of fees that fund the fire department. 1) A one-time impact fee is required for all new building construction and new additions or outbuildings larger than 200 sq ft. These funds can only be used for capital expenses. 2) An annual fire assessment fee that covers the expense of fire protection equipment; complying with fire safety regulations; and operating and maintaining the ambulance now based in Pine Valley. In order to keep rates essentially flat for these nine years, it has been necessary to use funds from the department's reserve account. That is no longer sustainable. The reserve fund totaled \$187,000 in 2015. It has been depleted to \$37,000 in 2024. There are not sufficient funds for the state mandated new radio systems; the annual costs of fuel and maintenance; replacement costs of critical systems; as well as rebuilding a capital fund to replace antiquated equipment that puts our volunteers at risk.

The timing of this proposal has been delayed, as Washington County intended to consolidate the Pine Valley Service District with other nearby communities. The Commissioners voted in February NOT to consolidate.

	<u>2018-2023</u>	<u>2024 Proposed</u>
Annual Fire Assessment Fee		
• Residential Homes	\$135	\$250
• Vacant Lots	\$ 50	\$100
• Commercial and STR's	\$255	\$475
• STR Fire Inspection	N/A	\$200

Hearing

A public hearing on this proposed increase will be held by the Pine Valley Special Service District on Wednesday, May 1, 2024 at 7:00pm at the Pine Valley Fire Station, located at 680 East Main, Pine Valley, Utah 84781. At the hearing, an explanation for the proposed increase will be provided and comments will be received regarding the proposed fee increase.

Individuals with speech and/or hearing impairments may call the Relay Utah by dialing 711. Spanish Relay Utah: 1-888-346-3162.

Posted on March 25, 2024 in the following locations:

1. State of Utah Website for Public Meeting Notices (www.utah.gov/pmn)
2. Pine Valley Website (<https://pinevalleyutah.org>)
3. Pine Valley Post Office Bulletin Board
4. NextDoor Website (nextdoor.com)