

Cedar City

10 North Main Street • Cedar City, UT 84720 435-586-2950 • FAX 435-586-4362 www.cedarcity.org Mayor Garth O. Green

Council Members Terri W. Hartley Craig E. Isom R. Scott Phillips Tyler Melling Ron Riddle

City Manager Paul Bittmenn

NEWS RELEASE

Contact: Gabrielle Costello Public Information Officer cgabrielle@cedarcity.org (435) 477-2217

Cedar City welcomes ten local students as part of the Cedar City Youth Council

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 6, 2023

CEDAR CITY, UT – Cedar City elected officials and staff are excited to announce the new Cedar City Youth Council members! On Wednesday, January 4th, 2023, ten local high school students were formally introduced with an oath of office and pinning ceremony at the City Council meeting.

Please join us in welcoming the following individuals:

- Andrew Barrick
- Kathryn Garza
- William Garza
- Braelynn Haley
- Brenna Haley

- Sadie Hinck
- Hadley Persons
- Lydia Smith
- Lara Sorenson
- Mary Jane Ward

After a few dormant years, the Cedar City Youth Council has been revitalized to encourage civic engagement for high-school-aged youth in the community. After a few dormant years, the Cedar City Youth Council has been revitalized to encourage civic engagement for high-school-aged youth in the community. The opportunity opened up in the past few months to gauge interest in the program. Interested students were then interviewed and invited to participate. "As their elected officials, it is our goal to connect with these future leaders and learn how we can better serve them in our community," explained Councilmember Phillips. "We want them to be familiar with local and state government and promote the importance of civic involvement today and in the future."

The ten students all have a GPA of at least 3.8 or higher and come from a variety of backgrounds and other extracurricular programs. Four students are from Cedar High School, four are from Canyon View High School, and two are a part of the homeschool community. They stood proudly in professional attire at the City Council meeting, raising their right hand to commit their oath to the U.S. Constitution followed by a name badge pinning from a loved one, a signed agreement, and an official handshake from city staff and elected officials.

The program will require them to attend at least one City Council meeting every month, shadow City Council members in their various committees and initiatives, and participate in community service projects.

On January 17th, the Youth Council will travel to Salt Lake City and participate in Local Officials Day. They will be given the opportunity to meet state representatives, participate in discussions, and familiarize themselves with the State Capitol.

The Cedar City Council looks forward to working with these engaged students and hopes their participation in the program will have a positive impact on them and our community.

To follow along their journey, please follow Cedar City – City Government on Facebook, @officialcedarcity on Instagram, and @cedarcityutah on Twitter.

###

About Cedar City, UT - Cedar City encompasses nearly 35 square miles and is located 250 miles south of Salt Lake City and 52 miles north of St. George on Interstate 15, with a current population of nearly 40,000 residents. Information regarding the City and the many programs and services provided to the community can be found at <u>www.cedarcity.org</u> and via Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.