WHEREAS, Sunshine Week is a national initiative to open a dialogue about the importance of open government and freedom of information; and

WHEREAS, Sunshine Week supports the principles of open government and the public’s right to know and have access to public records; and

WHEREAS, James Madison, the father of our federal Constitution, wrote that “consent of the governed” requires that the people be able to “arm themselves with the power which knowledge gives;” and

WHEREAS, every citizen in our participatory democracy has an inherent right to access to government meetings and public records; and

WHEREAS, an open and accessible government is vital to establishing and maintaining the people’s trust and confidence in their government and in the government’s ability to effectively serve its citizens; and

WHEREAS, the protection of every person’s right of access to public records and government meetings is a high priority of Kaysville City; and

WHEREAS, our government is one “of the people, by the people, and for the people;” and

WHEREAS, free flow of information ensures that our government acts fairly, lawfully, and truthfully; and

WHEREAS, transparency and open decision-making instills trust and confidence in our democracy; and

WHEREAS, equal access to information enhances people’s ability to exercise their rights and creates a more active and enlightened community; and

WHEREAS, Kaysville City is committed to continued openness and transparency in all aspects of its operations and seeks to set a standard in this regard; and

WHEREAS, Kaysville City commits to continually enhance the public’s access to government records and information, increase information provided electronically and online, and ensure that all meetings of deliberative bodies under its jurisdiction are fully noticed and open to the public.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Steve A. Hiatt, Mayor of Kaysville City, hereby proclaim March 15-21, 2015 as Sunshine Week in the city of Kaysville.

Steve A. Hiatt, Mayor