

Mayor's Report- March 2011

Feb. 8- Attended the Regional Trails and Bicycling Committee- I am looking into the possibility of University Heights becoming a designated "Bike Friendly Community". University Heights will have several signs coming soon marking the trail system, which continues the new trail signage that will be also coming to Coralville, Iowa City, North Liberty and Tiffin.

Feb. 9- Attended Conference Board County Assessors- FY2012 Budget was reviewed and approved to be published. A Public Hearing will be held at the March 3 meeting.

Feb. 26- Attended the Emergency Management Meeting- I reported in Feb. the City may be eligible for federal funds for the Feb. 1st severe snowstorm. It was reported, the State of Iowa did NOT qualify for federal funding for the Feb. 1st snowstorm. Therefore, the City will NOT be recovering any funds for that storm. The EMA is currently working on improving some of their disaster policies because of some difficulties experienced county-wide during the Feb. 1st snowstorm. A public hearing was held for the FY12 Budget. The budget was published and approved by the commission. The next meeting is March 30 at JECC @ 7:00pm.

March 1- Special Meeting of City Council. Des Moines attorney, John Danos, who was retained by the City for his expertise of TIF (tax increment financing), gave an overview of TIF with a question/answer period. (Mr. Danos was previously hired by the City in 2007 for his financial legal expertise with bonding for a Streets Improvement project).

I arranged for this meeting to be videotaped by our own John McLure and info will be on the city website soon as far as viewing times and a link. The goal is to get the meeting on Channel 4 starting March 12th. Special thanks go to John McLure for his many volunteer hours to accomplish this!!!!

March 3- Attended the Conference Board of County Assessors- Public Hearing was held for the budget. The FY2012 Budget was approved by the Board. Assessor Bill Greazel said that the County's residential property values will probably continue to remain flat for the next several years. The approximately 3% increase seen for the cities who haven't grown is because of the rollback.

The next MPO of Johnson Co (formally known as JCCOG) Urbanized Area Policy Board will be held, Wed. March 30th at Iowa City council chambers @ 4:00pm.

The next Transportation Technical Advisory Committee will be held, Wed. March 23rd at Iowa City council chambers @ 10:30am.