

FROM THE MAYOR'S DESK

The regularly scheduled Council meeting of February 15th at 7:00 p.m. was called to order with David Summers leading the Pledge of Allegiance.

The previous meeting's minutes were read and approved. The Audience had no concerns.

Fire Chief, Sam Glency reported that they received 6 new pagers at a cost of \$2610.00, which was within their budget. The Chief also reported that he needed recalibration for their air tanks on the truck, which is where they refill the air tanks that each firefighter wears into a fire. He reported that the Elks will allow them to work 3 fish fries this year with the proceeds going towards new equipment. Thank you Elks. As always, your generosity is much appreciated! Sam also reported that soon he would have a Highway Safety Class on Feb. 27th for the entire department and it was open to other Fire Departments.

For those who might not know, Councilman Jack Nordin is currently in the hospital. We all wish him a speedy recovery. Police Chief, Jim Chambers reported that we were not involved in the high-speed chase which occurred hours before this meeting, but that we were on standby for assistance if needed. He also reported that our new Police car, a brand new Tahoe was now in our possession. We received a grant to purchase 2 police cars with grant money paying for one. It was a buy one, get one grant through Rural Development. We could not pass this up as we desperately needed them. Our other car, a Crown Vic will be delivered in April. He reported that his department was running smoothly.

Emergency Preparedness chairman, Kevin Payne reported that they recently attended a CPR class held at the North Scott Ambulance garage, south of town, last week. The class lasted several hours and was very informative. There were 6 participants attending. He also asked the Council to approve the purchase of 6 pocket facemasks used in CPR. They would carry these masks as their own personal masks. The cost of these masks was \$8.00 per mask. The Council approved the purchase.

Diane read the bills for Council's approval to be paid. These were approved. She also reported to the Council that there was a seminar through Infnisource, which deals with insurance changes particularly involving Cobra. The Mayor noted how important it was for her to attend this seminar in St. Louis. The Council approved the cost of the seminar and the cost of a motel room the night before as she must be there at 8:00 a.m.

The Mayor opened discussion in regards to the hiring of a City Administrator. Apparently in the Mayor's absence at the last meeting, due to serious illness, it was discussed at great length. The Mayor had questions in regards to qualifications, pay scale, and duties. The Mayor also raised the issue of how to pay this person. Councilman Jack Simpson, asked where we would

find this extra money, beings that this past year, we had a spending freeze, a hiring freeze and no one received a raise? The Mayor instructed the Council that the first step would be to form a small Committee to sit down and review all these questions and set forth a list of requirements and give explanations to these questions. Steve Loucks made a motion to nominate Darlene Crocker as the Chairman of said committee. She accepted. Also Ryan Pennington, and Doug Sutterfield offered to be on the committee. They will meet and study this and make recommendations to the Council.

Dennis Glasstetter brought up again, the problem in his neighborhood with a citizen conducting a business in a residential neighborhood and junk cars on the property. The Mayor instructed him to take it to the Chief since it is against the law. The Mayor called for a motion for the Council to enter into a short closed session in regards to litigation. The Mayor bid the Audience good night and thanked them for being there. The Council was in closed session for a very short period of time and a motion was made to go out of closed session and back into regular council meeting at which time the Mayor thanked all Council members and declared the meeting adjourned.

The recent snowfalls were beautiful, but it sure made things difficult for getting around in it, and coupled with the cold temperatures, it seemed more like we were living in Alaska. Please check on your neighbors to make sure they are at least comfortable. A little kindness goes a long way. We really are our brother's keeper! Praise to the Public Works employees for keeping our streets as clean as humanly possible. Our community is lucky to have these dedicated employees.

AS ALWAYS, THANK YOU FOR ALLOWING ME TO WORK FOR YOU!