



# Mayor's Monthly Newsletter

Written by Mayor Rod Erskine

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### Thank You

It has been nearly two years since I was elected Mayor and wrote my first newsletter, and nearly six years since I was first elected to council. As my time as an elected official winds down, I look back on what has been a positive experience for me. Over the past two years, council, staff, and our committees have worked together as a team to ensure that we continue to enjoy excellent city services including responsive, well-staffed police and fire departments to serve our residents, and live in a fiscally strong community where the day to day operations of our city are not at risk.

First, I would like to thank the city's residents for their support in electing me to office, and for the privilege of serving the city as a mayor and member of council. Even though we live in a small city, it still takes a lot of help to win a contested election, and I am thankful for that support. I'm also very appreciative of the group of you who took the time to attend council meetings on a regular basis, and provide me feedback.

Second, I want to thank all the council members and committee members - past and present - that I served with, and the time they committed to working the issues together. I have been fortunate to have served with a diverse group of individuals on council, particularly educational backgrounds, work experiences, and perspectives on life. I believe these different approaches to problems helped us find better solutions. Our committee members, while being less well known in the city, make key contributions by volunteering their time and expertise on a range of activities from social events like the Spring Fling, to recommendations for improvements on the golf course, to drafting and reviewing our ordinances and zoning regulations, to reviewing the city charter.

Finally, I want to thank our city staff. We are blessed to have a very capable group of city employees who keep JV running day to day. I have enjoyed a good working relationship with our department heads, and our city manager over the past six years, and will miss those interactions.

In closing, one area I hope we can improve is increasing the feedback from residents to council before decisions are made - whether it is through email to council members, speaking at meetings, or by phone. Decisions will be made - it is your tax dollars being spent and your input is important. While you may disagree with me, it is my opinion that posts on social sites like NextDoor are not input to council. If you feel strongly enough about an issue to post on the site, please take the time and send the same note to your council members.

Thanks again,