

MAYOR'S DESK

February 2021

Hello, Everyone,

I hope all of you had a wonderful, safe, and healthy holiday season. As the pandemic continues, we still need to be respectful and do the things that keep each other safe, not only from the COVID, but the other illnesses that go around like colds and flu. I can only tell you what I know from personal knowledge. The death numbers are inflated; I don't know why, I just know that is true. If you are sick you can spread all kinds of viruses, so stay away from others if you're sick. If you have no symptoms, it is almost impossible to spread the COVID-19 virus. I do know people need to be with, talk, touch, see face-to-face and spend time with each other. We were created that way, and it is unhealthy both mentally and physically to be isolated. These are a few things I know and believe to be true. If you like, you can believe what news says this week and the different things they want you to believe next week. I choose to ignore the B.S. on TV and believe what I get from real knowledgeable people.

The tree removal should be coming to an end and Top Tear Tree Service has done a great job. I really hate to see the empty spaces. Shellsburg Area Community group has and continues to collect donations to replant trees in the parks. When it comes time to plant and water, PLEASE give them a hand. The watering will go on for a couple years. It would be a shame to lose the trees twice. This project will take many hands, a lot of man hours, and some tender loving care. Show your support and volunteer some time.

The council has changed two ordinances, one to eliminate pet licenses and the other to eliminate golf cart and UTV licenses. These changes should be on the web site and Facebook. If you have questions, call city hall.

The council has finished up the budget workshops, and now Barb will be trying to match funds with wishes. Then comes reality and final options to choose from. We have been trying to develop some strategic long-term planning and that proves to be quite interesting with a budget that is so tight it would play a tune if you rubbed the pages together. I'm not sure the state rules are designed for real planning, but if we don't try nothing will happen.

I want to take a moment to thank the council for all the work that is being done, some seen, most unseen, but if some of these visions start to come to fruition, our town will benefit greatly. These tasks have taken a great deal of time and go way beyond the pay or expectations of their position. Most of you will never know how hard they have worked, but I do, and I also know they are not doing it for recognition but because they love this town. I just wanted to say THANK YOU.

That's all for now.

As always thank you for your time,

Lonnie

