

FROM THE MAYOR'S DESK

NOVEMBER 2020

Hello, Everyone,

I hope you are all doing well. It's been a tough go this year, but we are tough, and we will get through it. Great things are going to happen in November. First, the political ads will stop. Yeah, hallelujah!!! Yes, we will elect people, I hope the ones I vote for win, but if they don't it won't be the end of the world as we know it. We still live in the best country, best state, best town in the whole darn world! Someone always wins and someone always loses; the hope I hold on to is that at some point in their career, all of them wanted to do what was right for the people. My continued hope is that when it really matters, they will do so again. So, for a little while, the political ads will stop but then something important will happen, and they'll be out trying to get your money, and the ads will start again.

November hosts the best holiday ever. A time to think about the blessings we have, give thanks, enjoy family, and eat your way into a food coma. Please be safe regarding COVID. I will not live my life hiding from this horrible virus, but I am not trying to get sick either. The experts have always said they were trying to slow the spread, never stop it. Maybe that is why the rules keep changing. Be safe, use your head, and try to enjoy Thanksgiving. I heard pie is a deterrent to COVID; I am going to have several pieces of protection. Ok, I made that up, but I'm still having several pieces.

The trees are changing color, although you might have to travel to see them. Fall is a great time to take a drive and see what Iowa has to offer. Take some pictures and share them. It always amazes me how beautiful things are if we take a moment to enjoy them.

Things are starting to get back to normal with the city. Some of the projects we started earlier this year kind of got delayed but we are slowly putting things back on track. You might notice the ash piles are gone and the fire department lot looks ready for a building. That might take a little bit while they fund raise, but the lot is ready, and we thank them for the use of it. We started working on the ordinance update again, that takes a tremendous amount of time. Thank you, Nancy Thorkildson, for your hard work and dedication; this project is way more complicated than we expected. I know there is a lot of construction being done due to the storm, but please remember to get a building permit if you are changing anything rather than repairing it. It is better to ask than pay a double fee because you didn't get a permit. We are still dealing with insurance and FEMA, but things are getting repaired. The biggest problem is and will be tree removal. As of now, we have 103 trees that need to be taken down. You might not believe this, but the paperwork and the hoops we have to jump through are kind of complicated. I know, sarcasm, but I can't help it, this kind of stuff just brings it out. I don't have the patience for this. Like I have a choice. There I go again. Oh well, we will get through this just like the storm, one thing at a time. Keep your head up and keep on going, things are going to get better.

As always, thank you for your time.

Lonnie