

Mayor's Report
December, 2016

Winter can be a trying time for everyone if snow interferes with daily life. I have heard criticisms and questions about the City's snow removal. Whenever there is a storm threat, city staff participate in a National Weather Service online briefing to get accurate information.

Based on that information, Julie Krueger, City Manager and Dave Anderson, Public Works Director will set a snow removal plan into action. They set 12 hour shifts to run the first 24 hours and then for as long as necessary. The City uses 3 pickup / plow / sander units, 1 truck plow sander and a grader. Snow removal, grading and sanding will start with major streets and work toward neighborhoods. In addition, when the freeway is closed, the city provides areas for long haul truck parking that also must be cleared. These are dedicated city employees working long hours in storm conditions.

On January 9, 2017, Darcy Long-Curtiss will be sworn in as the newest member of city council. She will have been given an orientation binder with a copy of the City Charter, Rules for City Council, ethical guidelines from the state of Oregon, a list of committees and other basic information.

After the election of November 8, the City Clerk certified the election results with Wasco County. I then read a proclamation of the final vote into the record and signed it. All officials elected to a new term will be sworn in on January 9 and the Council will thank Dan Spatz for his 8 years as a city council member. On that date, committee assignments will be announced.

A budget orientation session is scheduled for January 11 and Goal Setting for the 2017-18 fiscal year will occur January 18. Bid openings for a new airport hangar for Life Flight will open January 5th and the selected bid will be presented to the council January 9th. Hope is that this building will be constructed no later than August, 2017. A work session to discuss the draft for a new transportation System Plan is scheduled February 6, 2017.

If you are interested in serving on a city committee or commission or on a task force, please contact Izetta Grossman, City Clerk at 541-296-5481 ext 1119, or myself at 503-807-0724.