

# **KIRKSVILLE CITY COUNCIL**

## ***NEWSLETTER . . .***

Mari E. Macomber, City Manager  
January 10, 2011

### **SUBJECTS:**

**DATES TO REMEMBER  
COUNCIL FILING  
STATE OF THE CITY  
EMPLOYEE INFORMATION  
LEGISLATIVE SESSION  
SALES TAX REPORT  
GRANT APPLICATION  
AIRPORT UPDATE  
T-MOBILE FINAL SETTLEMENT  
THANK YOU  
WASHINGTON STREET JAVA  
KDIC UPDATE  
ADAIR COUNTY HUMANE SOCIETY  
FLUORIDE  
SANITARY SEWER BREAK  
TRASH CONTAINERS  
SIREN UPDATE  
UNDERSTANDING STREAMS  
STORMWATER UPDATE**

### **DATES TO REMEMBER**

1/11 – KREDI Meeting @ 4:00 pm  
1/17 – No Council Meeting – Martin Luther King Holiday – city offices closed  
1/20 – TCRC Executive Committee Meeting  
1/21- State of the City – 7:30 refreshments, 8:00 am State of the City address  
1/25 – Council on the Radio

### **COUNCIL FILING**

As of Friday, there had been one candidate file. Candidate filing closes Tuesday, January 18, 2011. Two positions are open on the Council this time – Mayor Todd Kuhns and Council Member Martha Rowe.

### **STATE OF THE CITY**

The State of the City event will be held on Friday, January 21 at 8:00 am. The presentation format will be much like it was last year with an introduction, a review of Council goals, and a summary report from each department. If there are other thoughts or if any member of the City Council would like to participate in this presentation, let me know.

## **EMPLOYEE INFORMATION**

Employee recipients of service awards for January include Mark Findling – 15 years, Lendal Arnold – 5 years and Michael Bishop – 5 years. Also, in 2011, employees will pay less social security tax. A new law passed by Congress reduces the social security tax rate for employees to 4.2% down from 6.2% in 2010 (employer's rate remains at 6.2%). Example: If you make \$25,000 per year that means \$500 more in take home pay in 2011. And finally, in 2009, Congress passed a "Making Work Pay Tax Credit" as part of a stimulus bill. This tax credit ended December 31, 2010 and Congress elected not to continue the tax credit. We will be notifying employees of these changes.

## **LEGISLATIVE SESSION**

The 2011 Legislative Session for the State of Missouri is in full swing. A list of bills that have been filed thus far that could have an impact on municipalities is included with this Newsletter, along with correspondence that was sent to Representative Wyatt from our Prosecuting Attorney regarding the current requirement that the City have a paper version of the City codes in the Council Chamber, as opposed to being able to site the document online.

## **SALES TAX REPORT**

Included are the latest General One Cent Sales Tax numbers and the CID collection numbers. We have modified how we are reporting this information starting with this report. Instead of showing when the funds were received, we are showing when they were actually collected. This may help to give a better perspective on the trends and what is occurring within the community.

## **GRANT APPLICATION**

An application was submitted to the MoCAP Technical Award for Community Transformation Grant Preparation with the Missouri Foundation for Health. This is a grant that was submitted on behalf of KACHI. AT Still will serve as the primary point of contact. KACHI's aim is to implement, disseminate, and evaluate community preventive health activities in rural Adair, Knox, and Sullivan Counties in order to reduce chronic disease factors such as obesity, poor nutrition, low physical activity, tobacco use, and psychological distress. The Adair County Public Health Department and the City of Kirksville already have stepped up to help lead this effort. The health departments and local governments in the two neighboring rural counties will be approached and encouraged to participate early in the grant development process. Kirksville's role will be the implementation of the current MFH grant. KACHI leaders will also seek to engage relevant health officials/advocates at the state level (e.g., at the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services).

## **AIRPORT UPDATE**

The City Council asked that we place the new airport advertisement on our website. The video is embedded directly on the Airport page, as well as on the City's YouTube channel. If you click on City Videos in the left hand menu, it will take you to YouTube where the video is located. A letter was sent to the FAA at the end of last week, asking that they support a change to the City's Airport Improvement Plan. The next project on

the fundable list is for improvement to our concrete apron. We are asking that the FAA support a change by placing a runway lighting project ahead of the apron work. Our argument is both of safety and costs. With the concrete apron project, we have the ability to repairs and maintenance in-house. The runway lighting project is costs us money each week, there is new technology and we do not have a backup or in-house alternative.

### **T-MOBILE FINAL SETTLEMENT**

The City Council approved a settlement agreement in August of 2010 with T-Mobile. We received the final payment information from the T-Mobile Settlement Administrator last week and have been notified that we will receive payments for back taxes no later than January 12, 2011. The amount owed to the City is \$4,639.92. In addition, the funds that were paid under protest will be released by January 18, 2011. The amount the City has held in protest was \$8,918.72.

### **THANK YOU**

The City's Codes Department was called out to inspect a home that was occupied by an elderly gentleman. The occupant could not be reached. The department was able to enter the home with the assistance of the police department and found the occupant in a chair incapacitated. The gentleman was taken to the hospital. The condition of the home was inhabitable. There was a pathway from the back door to the chair where they found him. Apparently, there was no water to the house. The City had made several attempts in the past to make contact with anyone living there but had been unsuccessful. We had assumed after our efforts that the house was vacant. Arrangements are being made with the home owner to clean up the house. Family members are making arrangements to take care of this gentleman. The Department of Health and Senior Services sent a thank you to the Codes Department for their help in this matter.

### **WASHINGTON STREET JAVA**

Last week there was a news story regarding the closure of Washington Street Java. Washington Street Java closed its doors on Tuesday. The KTVO report originally cited the closure as a result of the business owner not obtaining a city business license. The real reason the business close was due to the Adair County Health Department issuing a cease order after the business failed to produce appropriate documentation. The highlighted language was added to the article after a phone call was made to KTVO. This is important to know because the City's current ordinance does not allow us to take such action. Article as found on KTVO website at: <http://www.heartlandconnection.com/news/story.aspx?id=562859> KIRKSVILLE, MO. -- A long time downtown Kirksville business facing court action by both the city of Kirksville and the Missouri Department of Revenue, was closed Tuesday. A sign reading "Closed Today" greeted customers of Washington Street Java Tuesday morning, when they arrived for their morning cup of coffee. The business had been operating without a city business license for some time, which caused the court action by the city. **The business also failed to renew it's permit with the Adair County Health Department. The Health Department had served the business with a cease order after failing to**

**renew it's permit. The health department stressed the cease order was NOT related to any health issue.** The business also is behind on sales tax payments to the state, which has obtained three court judgments against the business within the last month. Those judgments total nearly \$30,000. According to court records, business owners Steve and Jan Collins of Kirksville, filed chapter seven individual bankruptcy on December 30th, listing their debts as primarily business debts. KTVO called Washington Street Java Tuesday and received no answer, a call to Kirksville attorney J.D. Smiser who is handling the bankruptcy for the Collins', has not been returned.

### **KDIC UPDATE**

Councilmember Chrisman is serving as the City Council representative for the KDIC and was appointed the chair of their Finance Committee. The Committee met to discuss the Community Improvement District (CID) funding option and made a recommendation to the full board to approve the pursuit of a CID. This funding source was identified in through the DREAM process. The KDIC will be moving forward by educating the local business and property owners of the benefits and reasons for the CID. The City will be assisting them as we can. We have a meeting with KDIC representatives on Wednesday of this week to discuss further.

### **ADAIR COUNTY HUMANE SOCIETY**

We did have an agreement between the City and the Adair County Humane Society, which terminated in 2002. I read through that agreement and did not find anything that would not allow the City to expand an ordinance for additional animal issues. I have directed the Chief of Police to get with the Humane Society, update the agreement so that it can be brought forward to both the City Council and the Humane Society board.

### **FLUORIDE**

The US Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) has proposed a revised recommendation for "Fluoride Concentration in Drinking Water For Prevention of Dental Caries". The AP has picked up on this recommendation and the underlying CDC study, and there have been reports from the AP on both local TV and Radio. There was a news article in the Kirksville Daily Express this weekend on this issue. The HHS recommendation is just that-a recommendation. They have no regulatory authority. The recommendation will be published in the federal register, and then a 30 day comment period will follow. A final recommendation, which will then be addressed by the regulatory authorities, is expected in the spring. The current recommended fluoride concentration is 0.7 to 1.2 mg/l (ppm). The higher level is recommended for systems in colder climates, under the theory that people in warm climates drink more water. The new recommended level will be 0.7mg/l for all systems. The City of Kirksville adds fluoride to our water with a target level of 0.9 to 1.2 mg/l. Fluoride is measured at the clear well and in the finished water tap every other hour while the plant is running, and in the system on a monthly basis. Typical readings at the tap have been 1.1 mg/l recently. Fluoride is an EPA regulated 'contaminant". The national primary MCL is 4.0 mg/l (ppm). Staff will monitor the progress of the recommendation and any implementing instructions from EPA and MoDNR. We do not plan to adjust our dosing rate until after the final recommendation is published and DNR provides implementing

guidance. We will review the impact of reducing the dosing rate of fluoride on other finished water characteristics such as pH and stability. The dose rate we have been using has been in place since 1962. We are a cold climate, so dose at the higher level. The problem cited by the CDC is not the dose rate in water, but the fact that children are getting fluoride from many other sources today. The problem is dental fluorosis, which caused spotting on teeth in youth. Also, research has shown that there is no longer a significant difference in the amount of water consumed by young people based on the climate of their home. They (HHS) believe the amount of fluoride can be reduced to the lower recommended level.

### **SANITARY SEWER BREAK**

This past week, the Public Works Utility Maintenance crew was doing some routine inspections and discovered a leak in the sanitary sewer line that serves Thompson Campus Center. It was damaged by a tree that had fallen on it. We believe that the tree may have fallen during the last major storm, which would have been in September. We estimate about 72000 gallons of water that ran through the line. This sewer line runs across Big Creek and connects to the main line which runs parallel to Missouri Street. We have notified the Missouri Department of Natural Resources. From what we can tell, the pipe was cracked allowing only liquid into the stream.

### **TRASH CONTAINERS**

We are in the process of sending letters out to property owners, mostly those with three and four-plex apartment houses, which have trash cans sitting in the front of the houses, some along the right-of-way for periods extending beyond the time allowed by current ordinance. The letter will also address the wooden containers that were constructed in the past that housed the trash containers. Again some are probably on the City's right-of-way, but all are out in front of the house, where they are kept all the time, in violation of the trash ordinance. The new trash containers no longer fit and the containers cannot be obstructed due to the mechanical pickup now use by Veolia. We have received complaints from residents and will be addressing this issue.

### **SIREN UPDATE**

The voice messages were installed and tested on January 4, 2011. The sirens have five different messages, the messages are as follows: 1) The National Weather Service has issued a severe weather alert. For further instructions tune to local radio stations. 2) Warning! This is a tornado warning. Residents should immediately take cover. This is a tornado warning. 3) This is a test. This is a test of the emergency warning system. This is a test and only a test. 4) A severe thunderstorm is approaching the city. Expect high winds, large hail, deadly lightning and flash flooding. 5) A tornado watch is in effect for this area. Stay alert.

### **UNDERSTANDING STREAMS**

The Green Hills RC&D will be hosting several stream management workshops in mid-February. The workshops are designed for landowners, agricultural producers, land planners, local officials and decision-makers, in addition to agency staff who work in or around streams. Attendees should expect to gain a basic understanding of the

dynamics of stream water flow and explore proven techniques to mitigate large scale stream bank erosion and channel migration near bridges, roads, buildings, and farm fields. These workshops present a unique opportunity for local units of government and land managers to gain insight which can save long term financial outlays for expensive infrastructure repairs. The City Manager will be attending one of these workshops.

### **STORMWATER UPDATE**

The Notice of Interest form was completed and sent to FEMA for the Steer Creek Culvert Replacement Project. Total Project Cost Estimate - \$438,648, Federal Share % - 75% - \$328,986, Non-Federal Share % - 25% - \$109,662.

#### Attachments

General Fund 1 Cent Sales Tax

CID Sales Tax

Legislative Request – Zach Wyatt

2011 Missouri Proposed Legislation

Thank You - DHSS

**SALES TAX COLLECTIONS  
One-Cent General Sales Tax**

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2010 YTD Growth/-Loss Comparison to			
						2009	2008	2007	2006
<b>BUDGET</b>	<b>2,274,290</b>	<b>2,440,470</b>	<b>2,578,240</b>	<b>2,584,485</b>	<b>2,466,000</b>				
January	322,180.50	261,636.75	241,502.73	266,740.40	259,347.52	-2.77%	7.39%	-0.87%	-19.50%
February	214,395.10	208,545.59	219,903.17	195,734.29	200,778.78	2.58%	-8.70%	-3.72%	-6.35%
March	42,975.59	78,334.89	132,002.16	147,892.81	156,669.64	5.93%	18.69%	100.00%	264.55%
April	332,297.08	325,352.21	253,028.44	246,130.84	232,500.31	-5.54%	-8.11%	-28.54%	-30.03%
May	219,132.32	284,843.75	220,972.61	216,847.11	233,120.21	7.50%	5.50%	-18.16%	6.38%
June	84,424.76	90,815.59	148,541.83	142,964.71	143,943.57	0.68%	-3.10%	58.50%	70.50%
July	313,225.26	339,353.59	279,431.55	279,236.50	265,660.28	-4.86%	-4.93%	-21.72%	-15.19%
August	212,575.62	198,332.97	222,179.31	203,838.29	208,953.81	2.51%	-5.95%	5.36%	-1.70%
September	71,710.31	104,648.03	140,078.56	146,129.55	131,838.50	-9.78%	-5.88%	25.98%	83.85%
October	309,706.14	315,420.19	235,788.79	237,555.14	252,020.17	6.09%	6.88%	-20.10%	-18.63%
November	201,467.60	180,902.81	209,464.69	222,488.00	207,549.97	-6.71%	-0.91%	14.73%	3.02%
December	181,920.03	204,890.74	204,920.17	153,163.14					
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,506,010.31</b>	<b>2,593,077.11</b>	<b>2,507,814.01</b>	<b>2,458,720.78</b>	<b>2,292,382.76</b>	<b>-0.57%</b>	<b>-0.46%</b>	<b>-4.01%</b>	<b>-1.36%</b>
<b>VARIANCE from BUDGET Growth/(Loss)</b>	<b>231,720.31</b>	<b>152,607.11</b>	<b>(70,425.99)</b>	<b>(125,764.22)</b>	<b>(173,617.24)</b>				

**SALES TAX COLLECTIONS BY FISCAL YEAR  
Community Improvement District 1-Cent Sales Tax**

<b>FY 2010</b>	
<b>Budget</b>	20,394.00
<b>Actual Collections:</b>	
January	N/A
February	N/A
March	N/A
April	N/A
May	N/A
June	N/A
July	N/A
August	N/A
September	N/A
October	6,241.06
November	8,017.15
December	
<b>Total Tax Collections</b>	<b>\$14,258.21</b>
<b>Variance Growth/(Loss)</b>	<b>(\$6,135.79)</b>

Zach:

I am assistant city attorney for the city of Kirksville. I am writing to request that you file a bill allowing for a court to take judicial notice of electronically published codes of city ordinances. By way of background, courts can take judicial notice of state statutes, meaning that when asked to do so by an attorney, a court can simply acknowledge a statute exists without further proof because state statutes are published and are generally available. City ordinance have never been that way, and prosecutors have always had to prove up the ordinance by having the city clerk certify a copy of the ordinances and file them with the court.

Here is the law on this subject from the Missouri Practice set:

### **a. Public Laws**

Missouri courts take judicial notice of state law, including constitutional provisions, [\[FN1\]](#) statutes, [\[FN2\]](#) appellate decisions, [\[FN3\]](#) and general customs and usages. [\[FN4\]](#) Notice has also been taken that certain acts are not illegal or that certain actions are not legally required. [\[FN5\]](#) Missouri Courts have a duty to notice state law, [\[FN6\]](#) even if no request is made by a party, [\[FN7\]](#) and in so doing they may refer to any relevant sources. [\[FN8\]](#)

### **c. Ordinances**

Neither trial nor appellate courts may take judicial notice of the existence or contents of municipal [\[FN14\]](#) or county ordinances; [\[FN15\]](#) they must be proven like any other fact. [\[FN16\]](#) Unless an ordinance is admitted into evidence [\[FN17\]](#) or stipulated to, [\[FN18\]](#) the court does not know its terms, [\[FN19\]](#) and prosecutions, [\[FN20\]](#) license revocations, [\[FN21\]](#) and other actions [\[FN22\]](#) premised on the ordinance will fail. However, by statute courts may take notice of ordinances in municipal violations cases if a certified copy is filed with the judge's clerk. [\[FN23\]](#) Statutes also require judicial notice of extensions by ordinance of the city limits of a municipality, [\[FN24\]](#) the absorption of one municipality by another, [\[FN25\]](#) the incorporation of certain cities, [\[FN26\]](#) the change of name of a city, town, or incorporated village, [\[FN27\]](#) and local census results. [\[FN28\]](#)

In this day and age of electronic documents, many cities, including Kirksville, only publish their ordinances electronically and they are available on the internet (Actually the city has a hard copy on file with the city clerk, but few other copies. I rely on the online set, as does the police department and other city departments). See Kirksville's ordinances here:

<http://library.municode.com/index.aspx?clientId=12018&stateId=25&stateName=Missouri>

At one time the City had many copies of the ordinances that could be filed with the clerk as set forth above in paragraph c of the Missouri practice set. But that is no longer the case. It is quite expensive and time consuming to keep ordinances updated. The Code of Ordinances is not a static document; as ordinances are adopted, the publisher has to prepare update insertion pages which have to be sent to everyone that maintains a copy of the ordinances. If someone doesn't get a page put in the right spot or simply doesn't remember to update the ordinance book, the ordinances are no longer accurate true copies of the set on file with the city clerk. For that reason, the online set is much, much better.

On behalf of the City of Kirksville we would ask that you consider proposing legislation that allow courts to take judicial notice of ordinances that are published on the internet and are generally available to the public.

Thank you for your consideration.

John Slavin

## SENATE

S.B. 1 Right to Work (Ridgeway)...employers are barred from requiring employees to become or refrain from becoming a member of a labor organization or pay dues or other charges required of labor organization members as a condition of employment. Employers who do so commit a class C misdemeanor.

S.B. 8 Workers Comp. (Goodman)...ensures that co-employees are released from liability for negligence in performing the non-delegable duty of an employer to provide a safe workplace when the negligence harms another employee unless the negligent employee engaged in purposeful, affirmatively dangerous conduct. Similar to H.B. 91. H.B. 91 Workers Comp. (Nolte)... limits co-employee liability in workers' compensation cases. Similar to S.B. 8

S.B. 11 Texting While Driving (McKenna)...prohibits all drivers from texting while driving, currently only drivers under 21 years old and younger are prohibited from driving while texting. Similar to H.B. 93. H.B. 93 Texting While Driving (Shively)...prohibits all drivers from texting while driving, currently only drivers under 21 years old and younger are prohibited from driving while texting. Similar to S.B. 11

S.B. 16 Red Light Cameras (Lembke)...prohibits political subdivisions from using automated photo red light enforcement systems to enforce red light violations. S.B. 73 Red Light and Speed Cameras (Kraus)... fines collected for a red light and speed camera violation shall go to the local school district. (Opposed by MML Policy)

S.B. 24 Seat Belts (Keaveny)... increases the fine for a seat belt violation from \$10 to \$50.

S.B. 46 Jury Duty (Wright-Jones)...allows elected officials to be excused from jury duty during their term of office.

S.B. 52 Property Assessments (Cunningham)...requires county assessors to consider foreclosures, bank sales, and the average time homes remain on the market when establishing the value of real property for property tax purposes.

S.B. 75 Political Solicitation (Kraus)... prohibits political fund-raising activities in buildings owned by the state or political subdivisions.

S.J.R. 1 "Mega Sales Tax" (Ridgeway)...replaces all taxes on income with a sales and use tax, sometimes referred to as the "Fair Tax". (Opposed by League Policy)

## HOUSE

H.B. 26 Earnings Tax (Jones, Tishaura)...changes voter reauthorization period on city earnings taxes from five years to 20 years.

H.B. 38 Escape from Detention (Pace)...requires a municipality to notify the Missouri Uniform Law Enforcement System (MULES) of an escape of a person being held for a "dangerous" felony.

H.B. 30 Pawn Brokers (Sater)...allows a law enforcement officer to request that certain property used to secure personal credit loans from pawnbrokers not be sold for 10 days from the request.

H.B. 36 Sales Tax Exemption (Sater)...exempts all-terrain vehicles used for agriculture purposes from local and state sales taxes. (Opposed by League Policy)

H.B. 48 Gas Tax Exemption (Cookson)...exempts fuel used to operate school buses from state's motor fuel tax. (Opposed by League Policy)

H.B. 51 Court Fee for Law Enforcement and Fire Safety Training (Taylor)...requires the collection of a \$2 surcharge in cases involving a violation of state traffic laws, including infractions. The surcharge will be disbursed equally between the Peace Officer Standards and Training Commission Fund and the newly created Fire Safety Training Fund.

H.B. 52 Streamline Sales Tax (Ellinger)...implements the provisions of the Streamlined Sales and Use Tax Agreement.

H.B. 53 Speed Cameras (Meadows)...prohibits the use of automated speed enforcement systems to enforce speeding violations; except in a school, construction, or work zones. (Opposed by League Policy)

H.B. 55 Sales Tax Exemption for Over the Counter Drugs (Sater)...exempts the counter drugs from state and local sales taxes. (Opposed by League Policy)

H.B. 60 Homestead Tax Relief for Seniors (Nolte)...limits the increase in assessed valuation of residential property by the percentage of increase in Social Security benefits for the elderly and disabled who own and live in their principal residence. (Opposed by League Policy)

H.B. 64 Unclaimed Payroll Checks (Curls)...changes the unclaimed property abandonment period for payroll checks from five years to one year. If abandoned property turned over to the state is listed solely in the name of a government entity or political subdivision, the amount reported is public information.

H.B. 68 Misuse of Emergency Telephone Service (Scharnhorst)...This bill prohibits a political subdivision from imposing a fine or penalty on the owner of a pay telephone or on the owner of any property upon which a pay telephone is located for calls to an emergency telephone service from the pay telephone. (Opposed by League Policy)

H.B. 81 Sales tax Exemption for Automobiles (Nolte)...exempts automobiles assembled and sold in Missouri on or after January 1, 2011, from state sales and use taxes. (Opposed by League Policy)

H.B. 89 National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) fees (Pollock)...extends the NPDES permit fee, which expired on August 20, 2010, to 2013. H.B. 97 Clean Water Permits Fees (Ruzicka)...allows the Missouri Department of Natural Resources to continue to levy NPDES fees until 2015. The fees expire on December 31, 2010.

H.B. 90 Residential Sprinkler (Scharnhorst)...prohibits the adoption of ordinances, rules, or codes requiring mandatory installation of residential sprinkler systems. H.B. 46 Residential Sprinkler Systems (Diehl)...repeals a conflicting statute regarding the installation of fire sprinkler systems and removes the December 31, 2011 expiration date for Section 67.281, RSMo

H.B. 95 Municipal Elections (Dugger)...allows municipalities with a population of 10,000 or less to cancel nonpartisan elections when there are the same numbers of candidates as open offices.



State of Missouri  
 Department of Health and Senior Services  
 Division of Senior and Disability Services  
 101 West Monticello PO Box 262  
 Edina MO 63537  
 Telephone: (660) 397-2297  
 Office FAX: (660) 397-3370



**Debra Blessing**  
 Adult Protective Community Supervisor



State of Missouri  
 Department of Health and Senior Services  
 Division of Senior and Disability Services  
 320 W Main  
 Kahoka MO 63445  
 Office Telephone: (660) 727-3393  
 Office Fax: (660) 727-1020  
 E-mail: kristina.chamley@dhs.mo.gov

**Kristina Chamley**  
 Adult Protective and Community Worker  
 Telephone: (660) 727-3393

**THANK YOU**

Braci, Reid and Dong,  
 Kris and I wanted to thank you  
 for all of your help with Mr. Lawrence  
 and helping us get him the  
 medical attention he needed so  
 badly.  
 If we can ever be of service in the  
 future please feel free to contact  
 us.

Thank you again for all your  
 kindness and patience.

Sincerely,  
 Duane Blessing DDS, Kris Chamley  
 DDS

School of Business  
(660) 785-4346  
(660) 785-7471 FAX



Violette Hall 2400  
100 East Normal  
Kirksville, MO  
63501-4221  
<http://business.truman.edu>

JAN 4 RECD

December 21, 2010

Kirksville City Council  
Attn: Mari Macomber  
201 S. Franklin  
Kirksville, MO 63501

Dear Mari,

Please express my gratitude to Mayor Kuhns and the other members of the city council for accommodating my freshman leadership class at the October 18<sup>th</sup> city council study session and meeting. The group loved the Cub Scout flag ceremony and learned much about volunteer leadership from the portion of the meeting they observed. Some of the group had been to similar meetings in their hometowns and remarked that they were very similar: democracy at work, at its best, and on the local level where every opinion and vote does indeed count.

Please thank Vicki for "going the extra mile" to prepare the proclamation. The students were thrilled to be recognized. It may seem routine for the council, but official recognition of good civic works is appreciated. I remember, (years ago), when the Japanese owners of Ortech were here, the senior member was so honored to meet the mayor and council. I think that is how my students felt: a special welcome to new freshman extended by the Kirksville community.

Again, thank you and best wishes for the holiday season.

Charles M. Boughton  
Instructor, Business & Accountancy