

## Mayor's Corner

April 2018 Edition



I hope this month's corner finds all of you doing well. It's hard to believe that April has almost come and gone. Old man winter has been keeping a tight grip on the colder than normal temperatures in the early springtime in Lawson. However, this week may be our turning point as it appears our temperatures are climbing and hovering around normal temperatures for this time of year. Spring sports and activities are in full swing and in roughly a month Lawson High School will be graduating another round of seniors. Where does the time go? I first would like to send out a huge thank you to all of you who went to the polls on April 3<sup>rd</sup> to cast your votes for the 911 county sales tax which overwhelmingly passed. This is outstanding news as this will provide Lawson with some budgetary relief for our portion that we have in the past had to pay for the 911 service. Secondly, on behalf of Matt Nolker, Jack Woodring, and myself say thank you for all of you who went to the polls and cast your vote to re-elect all three of us for another two year term. Both Matt and Jack have been on the council for at least one term and as you know I am completing my first term and setting my sites for more progress in this two year term.

Working closely with the city manager (Steve Sellers) and the Economic Development Committee, the council and I are very excited to build on the momentum that we have seen in the past two years. New home starts have eclipsed a record mark for a one year period, significant progress in street upgrades have been achieved, and our focus continues on cleaning up the town. We still have so much that we want to accomplish and I believe you will see significant progress in 2018 and 2019. By the way, if you have not been up to city hall and seen firsthand the improvements being made to the council chambers/community center, please come to the next city council meeting and see all of the wonderful improvements that have been made.

Some current and upcoming projects are as follows;

- City Lake – Frisbee golf is up and operational. For those that have never played, come on out. This is a fun friend and family activity that is

absolutely free. Secondly, this past week we broke ground on the RV park. Yes, its official, led by our parks & recreation department excavation has begun which ultimately will feature numerous campsite pads, restrooms, shower house, and eventually a playground. You may have remembered me stating that the city lake was one of our treasured underutilized assets. Not anymore. We hope that this along with all of the completed projects done out at the city lake will attract visitors from the Midwest region.

- Bond Updates –We will continue to focus on various bond projects in 2018 and 2019. This year we will continue to upgrade existing roads, begin work on putting a road to the water tower, and complete a major storm water project on D Hwy. The storm water project will take place in early June and more information will follow to include detours and length of time that this project will take.
- Grocery Store Update –There is a small team of us that have been actively pursuing a grocery store for Lawson. I realize there are many of you that desire a grocery store once again in Lawson as do I. This is all going to be about timing and attracting the right partner. One of the major challenges that Lawson faces is the fact that we have two Price Choppers, and Aldi, and a Walmart Supercenter all within 10 miles or less of Lawson. I am confident that we will find the right partner and the right format for Lawson. Please be patient as the group is working diligently to get this done for our town.

There are numerous other projects that we are working on and will share with you in the coming months as we start to set our sights for strategic development for 2018 – 2020.

Finally, be on the lookout for Lawson's 150<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration which will occur in 2021. We will be looking for volunteers and a committee to begin planning for the exciting event.

With so much going on, what a wonderful time to live in Lawson!

- May 21st – 6:30 PM City Council Meeting @ City Hall
- Lawson Picnic – May 24<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup>

Your Mayor,

*Greg Taylor*