

SPRINGVILLE NEWS

From the City Clerk's office at 304 Broadway
Telephone: 854-6428

Visit our web site at: www.ci.springville.ia.us

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January 2010

Happy New Year!

The holidays are over and the New Year begins, along with our 'resolutions' to do better in a variety of ways. May you all be successful and healthy!

Talk Around the Hydrant For January 2010

Hello everyone,

Wow 2010! It doesn't seem possible for it to be 2010 already. Before you know it, it will be spring again. It won't come fast enough for some of us and to soon for the rest. One thing to look forward to will be SFD fish fries. The planning is already under way and the dates have been picked, so mark your calendars for February 26th, March 12th and March 26th. We hope to see all of you there.

Remember to dress for the cold weather still. It only takes a few minutes to frost bite flesh when it is exposed to the extreme cold temperatures and only a short time longer to freeze flesh. Not to mention the wind chill, so bundle up and limit your time out when it's really cold. Work in short periods of time, take frequent breaks. Be sure not to over exert while moving snow or chipping ice. Be safe out there!!

We have responded to the following calls since the last edition.

- | | |
|----------|--------------------------|
| 1. 11/29 | Medical Call |
| 2. 11/29 | Medical Call |
| 3. 12/01 | Medical Call |
| 4. 12/02 | Medical Call |
| 5. 12/09 | Snowmobile/ Vehicle Fire |
| 6. 12/11 | Medical Call |
| 7. 12/13 | Medical Call |

Springville Fire Chief,
Todd Wyman



2009 Library News

Playaways are back! We are starting the rotation of playa ways from East Central Library Service over, so we have many new titles to look forward to. It is a great way to listen to a book in a hands free way. Stop in and see what we have.

Congratulations to Barb Hennings! The winner of our Dessert a month for a year raffle. The Hennings will have a 2010 with dessert!

Remember we can get books tapes and movies from other libraries through an interlibrary loan system; we can draw from any library in Iowa. This is a service we offer our patrons.

Lots of new fiction have been coming out come in and ask the librarian. We can also suggest authors that you might want to try.

January 4th we are having a program for the kids to celebrate the New Year. Come to the library at 11:30 am and we will have a great time!

A TIDBIT OF INFORMATION

Bertram: Linn County was named for Capt. John Bertram of Massachusetts who assisted in building the first railroad that ran through Linn County.

SPRINGVILLE CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

December 7, 2009

Mayor Cooper called the meeting of the Springville City Council to order at 7:00 p.m. Present on roll call: Grimley, Ballantyne and Clothier. Williams arrived at 7:20 p.m. Neff was absent. Also present:

Mary Gerdemann, Chuck Lange, Karen Anderson, Doug Beard and Deputy Brady.

Consent Agenda: Bixler and Lange answered questions from Grimley on 2 separate warrants. M/b Clothier, 2nd/by Ballantyne to approve the consent agenda as posted. All ayes, motion carried.

Citizen's With Concerns Not on the Agenda: none.

Sheriff's Report: Deputy Payne gave the patrol report for November 16th through. December 7th. November hours of service: 104.80.

Maintenance: No parking signs have been installed on North Street and 8th Street. Snow fence has been put up and 2 curb boxes repaired. The snow equipment was ready for use. The hydraulic hose blew out on the dump truck the first time out for snow plowing. The guys are ready for the blizzard predicted for Tuesday night through Wednesday. Additional personnel are lined up in case the guys need help. There is some chipping to do yet, but the chipping company is not returning phone calls. Chuck hopes they haven't gone out of business.

Clerk: Bixler reported on attendance at several seminars. The finance committee has rescheduled their work session for December 13th.

Other Reports: Council received the overtime report for November, minutes of the November 3, 2009 Library Board meeting, the December activity calendar and October finance report.

Old Business: Nuisance Abatement: Deputy Brady reported they are monitoring the 173 Broadway property. Mayor Cooper will contact Atty. Jeff Taylor on the status of his research on ownership of the property.

Attorney Update on Review of Documents for Building Inspection Contract Service with City of Marion: tabled due to no report.

New Business: Appointments: M/b Grimley, 2nd/by Ballantyne appointing Karen Anderson and Mike Hanshaw to the Board of Adjustment for 5 year terms. All ayes, motion carried.

FY 2009 AFR: Council reviewed the 2009 Annual Financial Report provided by the clerk.

Holiday Tree: Mayor Cooper informed the council a 15 foot blue spruce tree was offered to the City for placement at Upper Butler Park. Placement of the tree and related materials would all be donated. M/b Ballantyne, 2nd/b Clothier approving donation and placement of the tree in Upper Butler Park. All ayes, motion carried.

M/b Grimley, 2nd/by Williams to table Ordinance #6-2009: AN ORDINANCE RELATING TO ADOPTION BY REFERENCE OF THE INTERNATIONAL BUILDING CODE, 2006 EDITION AND THE INTERNATIONAL RESIDENTIAL CODE, 2006 EDITION AND PROVIDING PENALTIES. All ayes, motion carried.

Correspondence: EIASSO training classes and the abstract of votes were reviewed by the council.

Comments: Mayor Cooper encouraged the new council members to attend Municipal Leadership seminars provided by Iowa League of Cities. Mayor Cooper noted these seminars are excellent sources of education for new council members. Mike Hanshaw and Karen Anderson were welcomed as new ZBA members. The next meeting of the Springville City Council is set for **December 21, 2009.**

Motion by Clothier, second by Ballantyne to adjourn at 7:50 p.m. All ayes, motion carried.



SPRINGVILLE CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS
December 21, 2009

Mayor Cooper called the meeting of the Springville City Council to order at 7:00 p.m. Present on roll call: Grimley, Ballantyne, Neff, Williams and Clothier. Also present: Mary Gerdemann, Chuck Lange, Karen Anderson, Doug Beard, Rev. Karen Downey Beals, Barb and Roger Shebetka, Jack OToole, Andy Hoge, Rick Heeren, Abbe Walters, Steve Shaffer, Michelle and Phillip Legate, Jim Heeren and Deputy Lemense.

Consent Agenda: M/b Clothier, 2nd/b Grimley to approve the consent agenda with the stipulation that proof of dram shop insurance would be provided to Alcoholic Beverages Division for Bailey's Bar and Grill by December 31st. All ayes, motion carried.

Citizen's With Concerns Not on the Agenda: Mary Gerdemann inquired why holiday lights were not put up this season. Chuck replied during his maintenance report they did not get it done this year.

Sheriff's Report: Deputy Payne gave the patrol report for December 7th thru December 21st. November hours of service: 104.80. Discussion took place on vehicles not being removed from Broadway Street. Snow removal is being hampered. Parking regulation signs are posted in the business area. Vehicle will be tagged for 24 hour removal notice.

Maintenance: The guys continue to get the snow equipment was ready for use. There has been some damage to the tractor. The guys thought they could repair it themselves, but the scope of the project proved to be above the capability of what could be done in the shop. Chuck reported the generator powered on and ran just fine during the power outage. He is concerned about the fact that the generator just powers itself up and no emergency call is placed by the system. Council person Ballantyne reported a plugged storm drain. Chuck said all the drains would be checked and cleaned before the bad weather predicted for the holidays rolls in.

Clerk: no report.

Other Reports: The YTD building permit report and the December finance report for the Library were provided for the council.

Employee evaluations have been handed out to council members and employees and are due back to Robin as soon as possible.

Old Business: Nuisance Abatement: Complaints have been received concerning lack of snow removal on the sidewalks surrounding the 173 Broadway property. The public works department will clear the sidewalks. Labor expense on clearing the sidewalks will be kept track of and assessed back to the property at the end of the season. Mayor Cooper reported Attorney Taylor has not gotten back to him on the status of his research on ownership of the property.

Attorney Update on Review of Documents for Building Inspection Contract Service with City of Marion: tabled due to no report.

New Business: Oath of Office: Mayor Cooper gave the oath of office to Mayor Elect Richard Heeren, and incoming councilpersons Roger Shebetka & Mary Gerdemann. Jeff Grimley presented Mayor Cooper with a plaque expressing appreciation for 11 years of service to the City first as a councilman and then as Mayor. Bixler presented certificates of appreciation to retiring councilmen Jack Clothier and Sean Williams.

Public Hearing: M/b Ballantyne, 2nd/b Neff setting January 4th at 7:00 pm for the public hearing on vacation of an alley that intersects Mike and Dixie Brady's property at 104 1st Avenue. All ayes, motion carried.

Utility Rates: Jeff reported on the finance committee meeting pertaining to utility rates. Utility rates have not been increased since March 2004. Current rates are funding operation and maintenance

expenditures adequately. However, funds are being depleted by large scale emergency repairs, capital improvements and unfunded routine maintenance items such as water tower cleaning and painting. The committee met and reviewed water and sewer utility rates studies completed by Iowa Rural Water (IRW) and Iowa Association of Municipal Utilities (IAMU) on the current system. Bixler will develop a spreadsheet of rate scenarios recommended by IRW and IAMU for review at a future meeting.

Gazebo Project: Mayor Cooper and Andy Hoge representing the Visioning Group and Presbyterian Young People's Committee spoke on the concept of erecting a gazebo at Upper Butler Park. Mayor Cooper gave a brief history of the community visioning process the committee participated in for approximately 9½ months. Cooper noted the gazebo was a component of the visioning plan for enhancement of Upper Butler Park. The proposed gazebo is of similar design to that of the original one that once graced Upper Butler Park. Hoge explained that when Presbyterian Church celebrated its 150 anniversary a goal of that celebration was to give back to the community. The Visioning Committee approached the church to partner in the project. Much fund raising has been done. A set of blue prints for the gazebo was furnished by Martin Design and \$17,000 has been raised for the project. Total cost of the project is approximately \$30,000 to \$32,000. Construction of the gazebo would be accomplished by volunteer labor. The gazebo would be placed north of the old drinking fountain. The gazebo would be handicapped accessible, conducive to giving band concerts and community events. Cooper noted the project has been endorsed by the Park Board and P&Z Commission. Also, that they have just received a \$5,000 grant from HACAP. Mayor Cooper was asking three (3) things of the Council: endorsement of the gazebo project in order to move forward with other aspects of the project, willingness to be the financial accounting representative, and a \$5,000 monetary commitment. Mayor Cooper noted a \$5,000 commitment from the City is excellent leverage of funds to achieve a \$32,000 community improvement. Also, that such community support commands council support. Questions/concerns voiced by the council included: break down of project costs; finance committee needs criteria for budgeting purposes and lack of completed project specs. Rev. Karen Downey Beals spoke on the commitment of the congregation as shown by the fundraising effort and plans already developed for the project. They are seeking the same commitment from the city council. This commitment is vital in gaining support from other organizations in the community. At this point the organization is merely seeking council endorsement of the project to be able to move forward. M/b Clothier, 2nd/b Ballantyne approving the request for council endorsement of the gazebo project. All ayes, motion carried.

Ordinance #6-2009: AN ORDINANCE RELATING TO ADOPTION BY REFERENCE OF THE INTERNATIONAL BUILDING CODE, 2006 EDITION AND THE INTERNATIONAL RESIDENTIAL CODE, 2006 EDITION AND PROVIDING PENALTIES. No action.

Correspondence: none.

Comments: Mayor Cooper noted it has been a rewarding and also a pleasure to serve the community. He also related the new members are undertaking a large responsibility. Council members are the decision and policy makers for the community, steward of the citizen's money, planners and organizers and monitors of all city business. Mayor Cooper encouraged the new members to ask questions, remember they represent the citizens and their decisions affect everyone. Mayor Cooper stressed the importance of a Capital Improvement Plan as the backbone of a city budget. He noted the 2 new council members have attend the first session of the Municipal Leadership Academy which speaks well for them. Mayor elect Heeren has previous council experience which should serve him well.

The next meeting of the Springville City Council is set for **January 4, 2010.**

M/b Clothier, 2nd/b Williams to adjourn at 8:41 p.m.

All ayes, motion carried.

REMINDERS/NOTICES

≥ Water meter readings & payments are due on the 15th of the month. Bills not paid in full by 8:00 am on the first business day following the due date shall be considered delinquent and subject to disconnect. Bills can no longer run 45 days behind. Payments can be put in the drop box in the city door. Readings can be emailed to cityofsp@netins.net, or left on the answering machine at 854-6428.

≥ Rudd Trash Tags (\$2.00) are available for purchase at the City Clerk's office, Casey's General Store and Woody's One Stop. Recycle tubs available for \$14.00 at the City Clerk's office.

≥ Deadline for items in the next newsletter/community calendar is **Jan. 18th**.

DID YOU KNOW?

The Vietnam Memorial, In Washington, DC is often referred to as "The Wall." It consists of 2 black granite walls 246 feet 9 inches long. One wall points toward the Lincoln Memorial and the other toward the Washington Memorial.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Springville Area Historical Society to meet Jan. 13, 2010

The Springville Area Historical Society will meet Wednesday, January 13, at 6:30 p.m. in the Community Center. The public is invited. Guest speaker will be local history expert Richard Thomas of Mount Vernon. Coffee and cookies will be served.

A retired professor of American history at Cornell College, Thomas was originally scheduled to speak to the Historical Society Dec. 9. However, the program had to be canceled because of a blizzard.

Thomas will discuss important considerations in starting a local historical society, goals and resources, ways to deal with challenges, and opportunities for enriching the community. He will also answer questions.

Historical Society president Bev Franks noted the addition of the word "Area" to the name of the group. She said, "This change was made because it's not only for Springville residents, but also for those in surrounding areas."

The Historical Society was organized in October 2009 as a subcommittee of the Springville Economic Development Corporation. Eventually it will be an independent organization.

The first public event of the Historical Society, "Farewell to an Old House," was held Dec. 13. Attended by 35 persons. The purpose was to provide a final look at the historic home at 158 5th Street.

Springville & Whittier books rescued from destruction!

Please, think twice before you toss out old papers, books or photos. What's junk to you might be history to other people.

The Springville and Whittier communities owe a debt of gratitude to Sam Swenson of Marion for saving two irreplaceable books that describe the towns as they were in 1946. The books had been discarded in a recycling tub.

It happened seven or eight years ago, when Swenson was on the Cornell College maintenance staff. Someone at the library there evidently decided that the books – senior theses written by sociology students in the Class of 1947 – were not worth keeping.

At the time, Swenson was living in Springville, so he rescued the book titled "A Community Survey: Springville, Iowa." Then he saw "Whittier: A Community Study," and saved that one, too. In the recycling tub, "there were a lot of (books about) other towns, too," he recalled.

Swenson presented the two books he saved to the Springville City Clerk's Office Dec. 14, after reading

an article in the Cedar Rapids Gazette about the Springville Historical Society.

"This is a priceless gift, and we are extremely grateful to Mr. Swenson," said Karen Bixler, City Clerk. "Because they are one of a kind, the books will not circulate, but can be viewed at City Hall."

The author of the Springville book was the late Barbara Keipp Hanel. The Whittier book was written by Donald L. Colburn.

(See back of the calendar for an excerpt from this thesis)

SEDC Fall/Winter Update

Good News! The next Springville Economic Development Corporation indoor Winter Farmers' Market will be held on Saturday, January 9. The wonderful products are fresh leafy greens, beets, potatoes, onions, artisan bread, fruit pies, sweet rolls, herbed breads, coffee cake, fresh brewed coffee, chocolate truffles, wood turned items, hand made aprons-hats-scarves, fresh frozen pork-beef-lamb, spices, honey, jam, kolaches—in addition to all these wonderful items, we'll have live harp music. So bring your friends, family, and neighbors and plenty of cash. If you are a vendor and you DID NOT participate in the December market or you did not already pay for the winter season, PLEASE call or email me to let me know if you will or will not be at our January market—space is limited so dropping in without a reservation will not guarantee an indoor space for you.

Market details: **Where:** Market will be held in the Springville Community Center, 265 Broadway in downtown Springville. Vendors, please park in front for unloading/loading then please move your car to another spot.

Time: Market will be held from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Vendors: you may set up beginning at 10 a.m.

When: Monthly on the following Saturdays:
January 9, 2010
February 20, 2010
March 20, 2010
April 10, 2010

Cost: \$20 payment in full for remaining four markets
 \$7.50 for drop-in vendor

Advertising: Bank Marquis (two local banks)
 Listing in the Gazette, Springville City monthly Newsletter.

Weather permitting, our regular a-frames will be out in the usual spots along the highway in town, and any flyers you choose to take and place for advertising (churches, schools, stores, etc)

Vendors: A limited number of tables are available for your use and will be made available on a first come, first serve basis.

This is a NO SMOKING, no pets facility. Restrooms are available. Handicap and wheelchair accessible.

Best wishes to all for a happy, healthy New Year!

Sincerely, Lena Gilbert, Market Manager,
 SEDC President

SANSI NEWS

The winners from the **Santa at the Fire Station** kid's movies were Kelcie Clothier and Zach Hess.

Dee Wagaman and Daryl Pearson won the turkey and ham. Thanks to Randy Kelley for the peanuts, and to the Legion for the candy donation. A special thanks to Don Simmons!

Thank you to the Christmas Committee, organizations, churches, businesses and community for the many donations given to SANSI this past year.

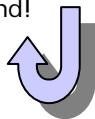
The SANSI Annual Soup Fundraiser is Sunday, February 28th at St. Isidores. Serving time is 11:00-1:00 pm.

REMINDER FROM THE MAINTENANCE DEPT.

Please remember to move your parked vehicles when it snows, so the plow can clean the streets. Thank you for your cooperation.

OTHER COMMUNITY EVENTS

January 12, 2010 J-Turn Intersection Open House Forum @ American Legion. 5:30 to 7:00 pm. Everyone is encouraged to attend!



Don't forget to turn in your receipts for School Cents!

Also...

Please check the Springville Telephone/Cable 'blue channel' to keep updated with other events that we may not have been asked to list..

Clerk's Corner

A recent item on the council agenda has been the addition of building inspection services for Springville. This change has been necessitated in part due to the fact the State of Iowa is now requiring inspection of electrical service installation and the requirement for inspection of plumbing installation in the near future. Such inspections are required for new construction, remodels, additions and alterations.

These inspections require the services of a trained professional. Other such construction considerations of this type include: gas pipe rough-in, framing rough-in and final inspections. In light of all the new housing construction in Springville and in order to keep up with these regulations the Planning & Zoning Commission worked for over 2 years on developing an inspection system and a building permit and fee schedule that addresses these regulations. The P&Z Commission has made a formal recommendation to the Council to contract for inspection services with the City of Marion Building Department and developed a new building permit and fee schedule. Inspections will be based on the regulations contained in the 2006 Edition of the International Building Code and the 2006 Edition of the International Residential Code. Currently the documents related to an agreement for inspection services with Marion are being reviewed by the City Attorney. When the documents are approved by the attorney, and are an agenda item for council approval, the Public Works Department and Clerk's Office will move forward in implementing the new procedures.

THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION WILL ONLY BE OF INTEREST TO YOU IF YOU CAME FROM IOWA, KNEW SOMEONE FROM IOWA, LIVED IN IOWA FOR A SPELL, MARRIED SOMEONE FROM IOWA (IF SO, IT MAY BE BEST TO KEEP THESE FACTS TO YOURSELF UNTIL SUCH TIME AS YOUR SPOUSE BRINGS UP SOME OTHER OBSCURE FACT), HAD OTHER RELATIVES (NO MATTER HOW DISTANT) FROM IOWA, WENT TO SCHOOL IN IOWA, DROVE THROUGH IOWA; OR, LIKE US LIVE IN IOWA!! SHOULD YOU BE ONE OF THOSE VERY RARE PEOPLE WHO HAS A DEEP SENSE OF PURSUIT OF IOWA FACTS - A RARE PERSON INDEED, IOWA TRIVIA---KNOWLEDGE WE CANNOT LIVE WITHOUT!



Ripley's Believe It or Not has dubbed Burlington's Snake Alley the most crooked street in the world.



Strawberry Point is the home of the world's largest strawberry.



Iowa



Scranton is home to Iowa's oldest water tower still in service.



