

2007 State of the Town Address

Welcome:

Councilman:

Paul Pettit
David Knight
Mark Crocker
Cheryl Antkowiak

Other Officials/Department Heads

Deputy Supervisor	Debbie Gaskill
Town Clerk	Nancy Brooks
Highway Superintendent -	Lewis Hagen
Building Inspector -	Gene Nenni
Town Assessor -	Kevin VanDusen
Budget Director	Robert Lipp

Special thanks to the entire Town staff for their great efforts and accomplishment towards our goals this year. Our ability to accomplish our goals is directly attributable to their hard work.

I'd like to give a special thanks to my wife Christina and my two son's Stephen and Ian for there help and support this year. They pitched in at family movie nights or weekend stops at Town hall to pickup paperwork. Also for helping answer the telephone so I could help residents with their concerns.

Last January I was able to speak to you about the many exciting projects we were about to undertake here at Town Hall. I am here tonight to tell you that we were able to accomplish our goals for 2006.

Item #1

We studied the possibility of combining our water and sewer districts for Carlisle Gardens and Lincoln Village. We studied to various cost option and set these smaller districts upon the course of financial stability. Our wish is that with the changes we have put into place these smaller districts will be able to support future repairs without the need to dramatically raise the resident's water/sewer rates. If all goes according to plan we hope the residents will vote in favor of joining the balance of the Town in one large water / sewer district in the future. This way they can spread the future risk of costly repairs with the balance of the Town.

Item #2

Our acquisition of property for future pathways and roadways continues quietly behind the scenes. We have worked diligently to finalize our pathways plan and will continue to work on establishing our future roadways plan in 2007.

Item #3

Transit Road gateway Corridor Program has progressed well in 2006. This multiyear program will shift into a new phase in 2007 by reaching out to residents of the three communities. We will show you the work that we have created in 2006 and solicit new partners to bring the project into focus with all our residents.

Item #4

We created a resident satisfaction and complaint tracking system for the Town of Lockport. Currently available on the Town's web site, our residents can now keep us informed through the internet regarding the issues important to them. This created another great way for us to keep in touch with what is most important to our residents.

Item #5

Asset Review of the Towns infrastructure was completed within the past two weeks. This critical review of our hidden assets projects the useful life of our most costly infrastructure, water and sewer lines. We now have a guideline of what we have underground, when it is expected to fail, and what it might cost to repair or replace it. We can now plan ahead and maintain stable expense so that the Town can maintain NO Town tax for the future.

Other Items:

1. We conducted the first ever Town wide resident survey.
2. We made numerous updates to the Town web site.
3. We published meeting agendas for most meetings in advance.
4. We are finishing the process of replacing the East High Pump Station.
5. Construction will start soon for our cold storage building. (multi storage needs)
6. We completed the creation of the new City/Town area map.
7. We studied the installation of emergency power for Town buildings and budgeted for installation of part of that need in 2007
8. We upgraded the heating system in the Water Garage
9. We successfully bid the updating and repair of our Courthouse roof.
10. We dramatically upgraded the content and quality of our Town newsletter
11. We received notification that the Town was awarded three grants.
12. We took possession of the Day Road Park
13. We installed the walking path, parking lot, rules signs and lights at the park
14. We installed the first ever playground at Day Road Park.
15. We completed the fist installment of major improvements at the Slayton Settlement Park by improving approximately 50% of the trials.

16. We installed new signs at Town Hall, Water Garage, Historians building
17. We Completed reconstruction of our Highway Annex and moved the IDA office into that building.
18. We remolded the Snyder room, Town Board Office, Employee Break room, created a new storage room, and new office signs throughout the building.
19. We created many new employee policies to update our internal procedures for the 21st century.
20. We upgraded our computer network and software so that we can share information more easily amongst various departments.
21. We created an internal “IMS” Information Management System for Town staff to have at their fingertips much of the important mapping data available to the Town.

We established goals for 2007

1. We will continue to work on the Transit Road Themed Development
2. We will be making some revisions to our Master Plan and Zoning
3. We will further look into emergency power systems for various Town Buildings
4. We will be undertaking a review of the Towns drainage systems and regulations.
5. We will be establishing an INI preventative maintenance program.
 - We will have public meetings and work with our planner to establish future roadways in the Town.
 - We will start working on modernizing our 30 year old restrooms.
 - We will integrate our IMS system and make much of the information available on the Town’s web site.
 - We will see if we can find grant money to move the Transit Road water line so that we can start other improvements along the corridor.

Above all we will consider your tax dollars as YOUR hard earned money. We will continue to look for ways to improve our efficiency. “It is not our money!” is the statement we remind ourselves of each day.

Keeping fees low and having NO Town Tax will remain our primary focus.