

Town of Butte Falls

Altitude over 2,400'

In the land of pure water, pure air, sunshine and health

Butte Falls, OR 97522

Reflections from the Mayor's Desk

February 2014

Once again I would like to share with you my reflections on some of the major issues facing our town.

Budget Review—First six months of current fiscal year 2013/14

In reviewing the last six months (July 1 thru Dec. 31 2013) of income and expenses for all of our various departments, I found that, generally, we were able to keep within our budget. However, we were not able to reduce the previous year budget deficits in the General Fund of \$13,000 and the sewer department of \$12,000 for lack of sufficient income and in spite of cutting expenses to the bone.

Also the Restrictive Reserve Accounts for the 1977 Sewer Bond, the 2000 Water Bond and the 2009 Sewer Loan are still in negative territory by approximately \$30,000.

Or in other words our fiscal house is still in negative territory by \$55,000 and will challenge myself, the council and the budget committee to bring these accounts into balance as we prepare the upcoming 2014/15 budget and the subsequent years.

Budget Planning 2014-2015

I am happy to announce that our Budget Officer, Linda Stockton has recruited a group of very qualified people for the Budget Committee: Elizabeth Krambeal worked in accounting for a government office, Cheryl Equitz is the manager of the Butte Falls General Store; Michael Burns was a manager in government; Vickie Burns managed a charity project; and, Linda Spencer was a project manager in the federal government. We appreciate their willingness to take on this difficult task.

But, it will be important for us to have help and input from town residents as we grapple with solutions. Do circle your calendar and **plan to attend the Budget Hearings on May 7th and 14th at 6:30pm at the Community Hall.**

Police Officers -in-Training

We are happy to announce the strengthening of our police force (at no cost to the town) with three reserve officers-in-training from the Reserve Police Academy: Jacki McBride, Jason McGinnis and Jason Servacous. If you see these young officers around, be sure to welcome them to the community. Their assistance will enable our Police Chief Chris Hanson; Deputy Chief Hank Hobart and Reserve Captain William (Red) Smith to provide more extensive coverage of the town to ensure the safety and protection of our residents.