

April 26th, 2021



On December 1st, 2020, I had the opportunity to begin working and serving the people of Gretna. Since that day, snow has melted, vaccinations have rolled out and Gretna continues to be one of the busiest communities in the state. While it has taken some time to get my first update out, my plan is to do one quarterly and to start offering some other venues where myself and others are available to you.

Thank you again for your interest in our community. It is important for you to know, myself, the city council and the staff are committed to serving the community. Our goals are to make Gretna one of the best communities in the State.

Mike Evans
Mayor, City of Gretna

Do You Have an Appointment

Since taking office I have appointed 9 individuals to different boards or commissions. In addition to the formal positions, I have assigned many more to other committees. We are continually looking for citizens to be involved in your government and the community. Be sure to “Like” our Facebook page and contact us when you see something you are interested in!

Gretna Crossing Park

This project has been a priority for me ever since taking office. A great deal has been accomplished so far, and much, much more is yet to come. We have contracted MCL to oversee much of the project, designs are being considered, bids are being accepted and our first round of funding has been completed. We should to start seeing dirt moved on this project around June and the early forecast is to have the entire project completed in the spring of 2023. We are developing a webpage, www.gretnacrossingpark.com, so you can track the project. We continue in negotiations with the YMCA as the manager of the Recreational Center and Outdoor Aquatics Pool. In the meantime, visit and “like” the REC 4 All Facebook page.

Low Rates

Just like many people around the country who have taken advantage of low interest rates, we have as well. We have refunded the General Obligation Bonds we were able to, providing a savings that will last for years. Combined with a AA rating for the Gretna Crossing Park from Standard & Poors, we were also able to take advantage of these low rates and secure a very favorable first round of financing for this project.

Thanks Jeff!

After over 8 years of service and leadership to Gretna, Jeff Kooistra has retired from his position of City Administrator. Jeff spent a total of over 43 years in city government in communities across Iowa and Nebraska. He will be greatly missed and not easily replaced. We have looked nationwide for the next City Administrator and have reviewed over 100 resumes from both coast, from north to south. On Thursday, April 29th we will be considering 3 individuals for Gretna’s next City Administrator.

Pool Opening....Help Wanted!

We are excited to get back into the pool. While our new pool at Gretna Crossing will be a big improvement, we will be opening our current one on May 28th. It has been difficult hiring enough staff to have our normal hours. Covid limited life guard classes last years and some previous employees have moved on. If you are looking for a part-time job this summer or know someone who is, email tammy@cityofgretna.com. Pool passes will go on sale May 3rd.

Build it and they will come!

We continue to see a great deal of interest and activity in the growth of Gretna from both the residential and commercial segments. Some projects require the city's approval, but others do not. If you like to follow the projects we see, make sure to attend either the Planning Commission meetings on the 4th Tuesday of every month or the City Council meetings on the 1st or 3rd Tuesdays of each month, both start at 6:30pm. If you cannot make it in person, we will continue to offer these online. The agendas and zoom links are located on the city's webpage. www.gretnane.org. Oh and yes, Fairway and Casey's are continuing their project as originally planned and scheduled.

More to Come

In the coming months I will work to create some more informative reports for you and offer other venues for us to talk. I enjoy hearing from you and have spoken to or replied to nearly everyone who has reached out.

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Please be safe!

