

Mayor Report - Rick Eberlin, City of Grafton

The City of Grafton is up and running at full speed after its prolonged battle with the high water from the end of April to the middle of June. All businesses are open and are excited to welcome you into their establishments. In addition to the waters receding, the Grafton Ferry re-opened the weekend of June 16-18 after being closed for 6 weekends due to high water. It is an important mode of transportation and a tourist attraction in its own right. When in operation it boosts business revenue in Grafton by as much as 30%.

Council meetings have calmed down tremendously in recent months and there seems to be a sense of optimism in the air. A new Chief of Police was appointed at the first council meeting. Chief Eric Spanton is a retired IL State Trooper and brings with him a wealth of experience. His philosophy of being a public servant first and his diplomatic approach to law enforcement is a perfect fit for our tourist town.

We also have re-implemented the 50/50 grant program for local business improvements with some subtle language changes. A Zoning map was also approved for the first time since 2005.

We, as a city, are extremely excited about the upcoming 4th of July weekend. Several venues have entertainment planned throughout the weekend, beginning with Music in the Park on Saturday at 7:00 p.m. at The Grove Memorial Park. The fireworks display will take place on the east end of town on Saturday, July 1 at approximately 9 p.m.

We look forward to seeing everyone!!

June 2017