

Mayor's Report
January 2011
By Mayor Robert Weger

2011 will continue to present challenges to balance our budget and reduce spending in light of anticipated federal and state budget cuts. November's recent election to increase the city income tax from 1.5% to 2%, however, will provide much needed revenue for our safety forces. We will plan to restore our Police Detective Bureau and bring our Fire Department staffing to acceptable levels. In our safety forces, as well as all other City departments, we will continue to be thrifty and spend cautiously in these volatile financial times.

I plan to continue my "Residents First" approach to city management, however, and will continue to serve our residents to the best of my ability.

Area C residents will begin to witness sewer installation very soon. The contractors and engineer will be in direct contact with the residents to ensure a smooth transition.

Our Service Department will maintain the streets with salt as needed during the winter, and provide patch to keep up with the potholes once spring emerges.

AARP will be coming to the Community Center in February through April to help our seniors with their federal and state income tax preparation. RITA will be assisting with city income tax in March. We welcome our senior residents to take advantage of this fine service offered by the American Association of Retired Persons and Regional Income Tax Agency, free of charge.

Please remember that we keep Cable TV Channel 12 current for our residents. I hope you refer to this information and recognize it as a great resource for community events.

This has been a rough winter so far in the City of Willoughby Hills and we still have the months of February and March to contend with. Please remember to drive safely and be smart about your health when going out in the cold or shoveling your driveway. It won't be long before we will be enjoying pancakes together at our Community Center at our Annual Pancake Breakfasts. Stay warm!