

# The Noon News

July 6, 2009

Published by



Waterloo Exchange Club

**On Being Mayor** – Nancy Showers introduced Waterloo Mayor and Exchangite, Tim Hurley. We waited in anticipation of an introspective look back by Mr. Hurley at what it's been like to be these last six years to serve as the Mayor of Waterloo.



Waterloo Mayor Hurley and Exchangite Dick Cole

Well, Mayor Hurley was in a largely pensive mood, not one of introspection. So, about the closest we got to some personal insight from the Mayor was an observation that with six months left he's: "coming to work later now and going home earlier."

Unexpectedly shedding his coat, the Mayor launched into a "six year overview from 20,000 feet".

The overview began with Mr. Hurley reminding us that the Club played a role in the outcome of the elections six years ago with the forums we hosted for the candidates involved in several of the races at that time.

Then we were treated to an excellent assessment of the city's accomplishments, under Mayor Hurley's leadership, in the four goals that served as the basis of his platform 6 years ago: Economic development; Improved image of the city; Improved financial health and Effectiveness at City Hall.

*Economic development*– Mayor Hurley's assessment is that the city has "done very well" in this area. He points to 5 record breaking years (as defined by building permit valuations) of growth. Understandably, he expects 2009 to be down a bit. He's proud of our collaboration with Cedar Falls.

*Improved image*– Projects such as the Grout Museum expansion, Phelps Youth Pavilion at the Waterloo Center for the Arts and the Riverfront Renaissance initiatives were cited as progress in this area. Waterloo is #1 in the state in getting rid of dilapidated houses. The property maintenance code ordinance that was recently implemented is making apposite contribution to improvements in the way the city looks.

*Financial health*– The "rainy day" reserves are being significantly increased towards the desired level of 25% of annual expenditures- currently the level is at 16%. The city's bond rating has been improved twice. Improvements in the financial audits reaffirm good stewardship by our city leaders.

*City Hall effectiveness*– Mayor Hurley cited additions to the code enforcement staff and police force as progress in this area, as well as addressing the salary gap issue for non-bargaining unit employees.

Then Mayor Hurley laid out the remaining issues he's working on. He cited completion of the River Renaissance projects, increasing single family home starts, crime prevention, retirements in several key positions.

Finishing up, Mayor Hurley observed that he had laid out his personal code of ethics when he started the job and he was able to stick with them. In the end, not much else really matters... Fine job Mr. Mayor.

## NEXT MEETING LOGISTICS

**Program** : Closed Business Meeting  
**Prayer** : Mike Grillo  
**Pledge** : Glenda Husome  
**Menu** : TBA

## PROGRAM SCHEDULE

**Jul 13:** Closed Business Meeting  
**Jul 20:** Exchange Convention Update  
**Jul 27:** Waterloo Airport Overview

## WHAT'S FOR LUNCH

*The Elks Club management is working on the menu currently. We will publish the schedule as soon as it's received.—Charlie*

**Order Chef Salad one week in advance**

## BIRTHDAYS

**Jul 10:** Barb Berquam

## THOUGHT OF THE WEEK

*"A man is a success if he gets up in the morning and goes to bed at night and in between does what he wants to do." Bob Dylan*

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**Exchange Cruise** – Pat Cole presented \$350 to the club from the Alaska and Southern Caribbean cruises the club sponsored last year. The travel companies provide a \$50 reimbursement for each cabin the club members use. So it's a great fund raiser—taking a great vacation and “earning” money for the club.

Pat said she's putting the final touches on the 2010 cruise. Details will be available shortly.

**Meals**—Craig Holdiman reported that he and Larry Shollenbarger have recently met with concerning the meal plan for the new year. They were able to put together a plan that will provide our lunches at the same cost as we currently pay, with some modifications to the menu in the way of some smaller meals.



Pat Cole presents the cruise rebate funds to Sharon

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### Meeting each Monday at noon

Elks Lodge  
407 East Park Avenue  
Waterloo, IA

**Editor:** Charlie Lott - [lottc@mchsi.com](mailto:lottc@mchsi.com)