

Welcome to the Mayor's Update September, 2013

The Mayor's Update is an attempt, on a monthly basis, to better inform Orange City's citizens and others on the progress and activities occurring within the community. City Council decisions, retail and commercial development progress, business activities and other actions affecting the community are included in a brief and, hopefully, informative manner.

City Economic Development Director

Mr. Mark Gaul, the new City Economic Development Director, will begin his work on September 3. Hopefully, many of you will get an opportunity to meet him in the next few days and weeks.

Mark successfully served as the Executive Director for the Chamber and Development Corporation in Sheldon, Iowa, for the past 10 years. He has a BA Degree in Business Administration from Briar Cliff College and is extremely active in economic development organizations in northwest Iowa and statewide.

Update on Puddle Jumper Addition #5

1. The streets in PJ #5 are now installed.
2. As mentioned previously, lots are presently available providing affordable housing opportunities of 1400 sq. ft. or less to be constructed. The lots are priced at \$20,000 per lot. Additional information regarding the purchase of lots can be obtained by contacting Ken Meendering at the City Office, 707-4885.

City Housing Incentives Reminder

Housing incentives in Orange City, approved by the City Council, include:

- First time home purchase in Orange City:
 - 1% of purchase cost of home - Up to \$1,000 total savings from City
- New housing construction - Tax abatement options:
 1. Two year tax abatement:
 - ✓ A newly constructed home valued at \$200,000 – approximately \$3,158 per year, \$6,316 total savings
 2. One year tax abatement and \$2,000 cash:
 - ✓ Approximately a \$3,158 tax abatement + \$2,000 cash for an approximate \$5,158 savings
 3. Additional savings - A 3.95% construction loan @ Orange City lending institutions available with no origination fees .

Additional information is available by contacting the City Office, 707-4885.

Hampton Inn Hotel

Orange City has officially received approval of its franchise application for a Hampton Inn Hotel by Hilton Worldwide. The hotel will be located just east of the Event Center along Highway 10 East with construction to begin later this fall. An early spring completion date, 2014, is projected.

Bomgaars' Building

Construction plans project that the new Bomgaars' building will be completed around the 1st of October, and a move to the new building would take place around the 1st.

This will be an exciting addition to the Industrie Centrum.

Once again, thank you citizens of Orange City for making our community a special place to live, work, worship, and play.

Les Douma
Mayor, Orange City