

City of Iona Newsletter

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VOLUME TWELVE

DECEMBER 2017

Planning and Zoning Meeting: December 13, 2017 at 6:30 p.m.

City Council Meeting: December 19, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.

City Council Work Meeting: December 19, 2017 at 6:00 p.m.

MAYOR'S MESSAGE

THE "W" IN CHRISTMAS

Each December, I vowed to make Christmas a calm and peaceful experience. I had cut back on nonessential obligations – extensive card writing, endless baking, decorating, and even overspending. Yet still, I found myself exhausted, unable to appreciate the precious family moments, and of course, the true meaning of Christmas.

My son, Nicholas, was in kindergarten that year. It was an exciting season for a six year old. For weeks, he'd been memorizing songs for his school's "Winter Pageant." I didn't have the heart to tell him I'd be working the night of the production. Unwilling to miss his shining moment, I spoke with his teacher. She assured me there'd be a dress rehearsal the morning of the presentation. All parents unable to attend that evening were welcome to come then. Fortunately, Nicholas seemed happy with the compromise.

So, the morning of the dress rehearsal, I filed in ten minutes early, found a spot on the cafeteria floor and sat down. Around the room, I saw several other parents quietly scampering to their seats. As I waited, the students were led into the room. Each class, accompanied by their teacher, sat cross-legged on the floor. Then, each group, one by one, rose to perform their song.

Because the public school system had long stopped referring to the holiday as "**Christmas**," I didn't expect anything other than fun, commercial entertainment – songs of reindeer, Santa Claus, snowflakes and good cheer. So, when my son's class rose to sing, "**Christmas Love**," I was slightly taken back by its bold title.

Nicholas was aglow, as were all of his classmates, adorned in fuzzy mittens, red sweaters, and bright snowcaps upon their heads. Those in the front row, center stage, held up large letters, one by one, to spell out the title of the song. As the class would sing "**C is for Christmas**," a child would hold up the letter "**C**". Then, "**H is for Happy**," and on and on, until each child holding up his portion had presented the complete message, "**Christmas Love**."

The performance was going smoothly, until suddenly, we noticed her; a small, quiet, girl in the front row holding the letter "**M**" upside down – totally unaware her letter "**M**" appeared as a "**W**". The audience of kindergarten through 6th graders snickered at this little one's mistake. But she had no idea they were laughing at her, so she stood tall, proudly holding her "**W**".

Although many teachers tried to shush the children, the laughter continued until the last letter was raised, and we all saw it together. A hush came over the audience and eyes began to widen. In that instant, we understood the reason we were there, why we celebrated the holiday in the first place, why even in the chaos, there was a purpose for our festivities. For when the last letter was held high, the message read loud and clear.

"**Christ was Love**" And, I believe, He still is. May we all remember the true meaning of Christmas and may you all have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Sincerely,

Mayor Brad Andersen

Source: Internet

COMMUNITY

“MYAC Adopt-A-Family” – Each year the Mayor’s Youth Advisory Council adopts a family during the holiday season and is asking for your help! To participate in this great cause please visit the Christmas tree located in the lobby of city hall. Pick an angel from the tree, see the # on the front and sign out your angel with office staff, return your wrapped gifts by December 18th, and sign your angel back in with office staff. Alternatively, you may call the City Office at (208)-523-5600 and select which angel you would like to support from the following list:

- 14 year old female – Needs: (Adult Small Shirts, Size 8W Socks, and Size 8W Adult Slippers) Wants: (Swim Goggles, Swimming Towel, Adult Size Small Pants, and Adult Medium Coat).
- 11 year old female – Needs: (Youth XL (14/16) Shirts, Size 6W Socks, and Size 6W Slippers) Wants: (Barbies, Legos, Youth XL (14/16) Pants, and Youth XL Coat).
- 6 year old female – Needs: (Youth Medium (7/8) Shirts, Socks, and Youth Size 12 Slippers) Wants: (Barbies, Legos, Youth Pants Medium Size (7/8)).
- 20 year old male – Needs: (Adult Small Shirt, Size 12 socks, and Large Pants (34x30) Wants: (Belt and Tie)
- Family Needs: (Towels and King Size Sheets) Wants: (Movies and Candy)



“Merry Christmas and Happy New Year” – from the Mayor, City Council, and City Employees. The City Office will be closed for the Christmas Holiday starting Friday, December 22nd, 2017 through Monday, December 25th, 2017. The City Office will be closed for New Year’s Day on Monday, January 1st, 2018.

“Daddy/Daughter Dance Party” – There will be a Daddy Daughter Princess Palooza Dance Party (fundraiser for the Iona Library) Wednesday, January 24th at Bonneville High School from 6:30pm – 8:30pm. Cost: \$10 for a dad and 1 daughter or \$15 for dad and 2 or more daughters. Optional pictures available for \$5 or \$8. Check or cash only. Call Karen at (208)-522-6418 for questions.

SNOW REMOVAL

Iona’s Public Works Department is determined to provide residents with outstanding snow removal to keep the roads safe during the winter season. However, this can only be achieved through a true partnership between RESIDENTS and the CITY.

What Residents can do to Help:

- Park all vehicles, trailers and boats off of the streets. Ridges of snow around vehicles parked on streets will freeze and can prevent or slow down future snow removal. It could also potentially cause accidents when a vehicle hits them. Iona City Code restricts the parking of any vehicles in the street right-of-way commencing on Thanksgiving Day to and until Easter Sunday of the following year. This city code helps to assist our Public Works Department in keeping the streets plowed during the winter months. Any vehicle parked or stored in violation may be removed by or under the direction of the City’s Police Department and may be impounded.
- Clear your sidewalks as soon as possible. In accordance with Title 6, Chapter 4, and Section 8B owners, renters, and persons in charge of real property are reminded that all snow and ice must be removed from sidewalks within 24 hours after any precipitation event. It is unlawful to place snow or ice removed from private property upon any public sidewalk, street, easement, right-of-way, or other public way, or alleyway. The following persons shall be exempt: (1) a person who is physically or mentally impaired in such a manner that they are unable, (2) a pregnant person, (3) a person who is eighty (80) or more years of age, and a lessee who occupies a multi-family dwelling unit owned by another person or entity and who is not an agent of the owner or a lessee having a legal and/or contractual duty to remove hail, snow, sleet, and/or ice from the sidewalk.



Your efforts will help our city employees be more efficient during snow removal and make this a safe winter season! – Sincerely, Public Works Director Zech Prouse & Chief of Police Karl Bowcutt