

THE NEW WAVE

JANUARY 2004

MAYOR BREAKS SILENCE!!!

After three months of silence the mayor finally came forward with a report to the town. Not since October has the community seen a new issue of the NEW WAVE. This has lead many to believe that either Mayor has lost interest in his new job, or that he quietly snuck out of town never to be seen again.

In a recent conversation with the Mayor, this publication has learned that neither of the above is the case. It seems that there are several important CITY ITEMS he has been attending too, and that the holiday season called him to address his other vocations. AT any rate, here is his NEW YEAR REPORT!

CITY ISSUES FIRST C.D.B.G. GRANT!

The first housing rehab grant was approved by the city in December. Work on this first project has been completed, and the first completion of a CDBG project is final.

If you have a weather related EMERGENCY project that needs to be done, please contact the CITY CLERK. Immediate funds are available.

CITY COUNCIL WORKS TO SECURE TOWN LAGOON.

Since the 1940's, the CITY SEWAGE LAGOON has been on Medicine Lake Wildlife Refuge land. The town has been leasing the 7.28 acres from the refuge for many years. Due to changed in the US Fish and Wildlife policy, lagoons like ours can no longer be on refuge ground.

The town is pleased to announce however, that efforts are being made to purchase ,or land swap, the lagoon property. It appears the town will be able to work with MLWR and soon we will own the lagoon site. This deal will satisfy the refuge regulations and save the TOWN OF MEDICINE LAKE thousands and thousands of dollars!

If you need more information, see the Mayor.

(over)

DRY PRAIRIE IS HEADING TO TOWN!

The Dry Prairie Rural Water system has begun construction and laying pipe towards MEDICINE LAKE! Expected completion date is October of 2004. This will finally bring an end to the TOWN'S poor water quality. However, it will come at a price.

At the present the City Council is working on the new rate structure for the pipeline service. It will not be cheap. Along with Dry Prairie's charges, the City still has it's own maintenance requirements and debt payments. It could in fact DOUBLE our water rates.

In light of this the Council has taken the first steps to resolve the debt on the defunct treatment plant. We still owe a sizeable amount to Rural Development on the plant. Hopefully, we will be able to strike a deal with RD to reduce or eliminate that debt. This would be a big savings on every water users monthly bill. We will keep working on this and keep you informed. Again, if you have questions or comments stop by the CLERKS OFFICE.

CITY BOOKS AUDITED BY THE STATE!

In December the Town of Medicine Lake had their financial books audited as required by the State of Montana. We are pleased to announce that all was accounted for and that most every thing was in order. This is in part due to the fine work of our previous city clerk RHONDA OPP. She did a great job of managing the town's business and we still miss her.

We are pleased to announce however that LAURIE SWALLERS , our new clerk, has done a great job and is picking up where Rhonda left off. We are grateful for her efforts and for the towns patience during this transition.

HOLIDAY SEASON A GREAT SUCCESS!

Once again the holiday season was an overwhelming success in MEDICINE LAKE. Memorial trees, Santa day, community Christmas programs, hay rides, youth New Years overnight at the fire hall, and the usual cheer and goodwill prevailed throughout the town. Thank you to everyone who helped make this a great Christmas celebration and happy new year!

OUR NEXT MEETING IS JANUARY 12, 2004 AT 7P.M. YOU ARE WELCOME!

**until later,
Mayor tim**