

Mayor Mark A. Tyler  
February 2010 – Kirtland Gazette Article

### **City Council Update**

The Swearing-in Ceremony for Kirtland City Council was held on December 1, 2009. Thank you to:

- Pastor Tim French of Kirtland Christian Fellowship who offered the invocation
- The Honorable Judge Joseph Gibson, of the Lake County Court of Common Pleas, who administered the Oath of Office for Council-at-Large members R. Robert Umholtz, Donald P. Webbe and Matthew G. Schulz.
- Father David Woost of Divine Word who provided the benediction.

The Organizational Meeting immediately followed, whereupon City Council re-elected Robert Umholtz as Council President and Tim Powell as President Pro-Tem.

Councilman Royal Brettrager decided not to seek re-election to City Council, but instead successfully ran for the Kirtland School Board. During his four years in office, he enthusiastically chaired the Public Relations Standing Committee and served on the Recreation, Finance, and Planning and Zoning Committees. We are grateful for the dedication he demonstrated in serving the residents of the City of Kirtland.

### **Kirtland School Board**

It was an honor and privilege for me to be invited to administer the Oath of Office on January 6, 2010 to newly elected Kirtland School Board members Royal Brettrager, Tim Kehres and Kat Torok.

We wish them every success as they work together to educate our youth, instill responsible citizenship, and inspire critical and creative thinkers. One of the greatest responsibilities that we share as a community -- is working together, as parents, administrators, teachers, and concerned citizens -- to enrich the lives of our children, our families and our community!

### **Planning and Zoning Commission Update**

After over ten years of exemplary service, Ted Wiese has decided to step down from the Planning and Zoning Commission. He served as Vice-Chairman of the Commission from 2001 through 2006 and as Chairman since 2006. Mr. Wiese also served on the Planning Advisory Committee for the City's Comprehensive Plan, adopted by Council in 2003. He generously gave of his time and talent in reviewing zoning regulations and revising ordinances. We appreciate his many contributions to Planning and Zoning in Kirtland and wish him all the best!

During the January Planning and Zoning meeting, the Commission elected Mr. Michael Denk, as the new Chairman. Congratulations Mike!

### **Charter Review Committee**

Every ten years a Charter Review Committee is appointed to review the City Charter. The last Committee met in 2000. The nine-member Committee is appointed by Council and is composed of two electors from each Ward and one elector at-large from the Municipality. The Committee shall review the Charter and propose for adoption any alterations, revisions or amendments which the Committee deems advisable. These proposals are reviewed by Council and submitted to the citizens of Kirtland for consideration at the next general election.

The Charter serves as the framework by which the city operates. I look forward to working closely with this Committee as they perform this important and necessary function.

**New Ambulance to Arrive**

Thanks to your support of the Fire-Rescue-EMS Levy, which was approved in November of 2008, the City will be purchasing a new ambulance in 2010. Our front-line rescue squad, used daily, is 14 years old and the back-up rescue squad is now 16 years old. This new squad will ensure our ability to safely and reliably respond to emergencies within our community.

**2010 Census Update**

Planning for the 2010 Census is underway. This process is vital to our local community, as it affects long-term community planning, federal funding for local projects and determines how many seats each state will have in the U.S. House of Representatives as well as the redistricting of state legislatures, county and city councils, and voting districts. Everyone counts and your participation in this process is important.

Questionnaires will be mailed in March of 2010. Title 13 of the U.S. Code protects the confidentiality of all your information and violating this law is a crime with severe penalties. In addition, other federal laws, including the Confidential Statistical Efficiency Act and the Privacy Act reinforce these protections. All Census Bureau employees take the oath of nondisclosure and are sworn for life to protect the confidentiality of the data. Please note that private information is never published. The information you provide is used to produce statistics. Your answers cannot be used against you by any government agency or court. Additional information is available via the official 2010 Census website: [www.2010.census.gov](http://www.2010.census.gov)

**Have a safe and warm February!**