

Mayor Mark A. Tyler  
March 2009 – Kirtland Gazette Article

It is official -- SPRING is just around the corner! Friday, March 20<sup>th</sup> marks the beginning of a season known for colorful blossoms, more frequent sunshine, and a chance to enjoy a little fresh air outside. The days officially become longer, too! Sunday, March 8<sup>th</sup> marks the return to Daylight Savings Time, when we turn the clocks forward and gain one hour of daylight. It is also a month to celebrate the Irish in all of us! St. Patrick's Day is a day for parades, corned beef and everything green!

Finance Director Keith Martinet and I have been diligently working on the 2009 Budget. The Mayor's Budget, which includes the operating budget for Fiscal Year 2009 and a five-year capital plan, was presented to City Council on Wednesday, February 18<sup>th</sup> for their review. City Council approved temporary appropriations back in December, for the first quarter of 2009. City Council is now required to approve the final 2009 Operating Budget before the end of March.

Thanks to efficient fiscal management, every city department successfully came in under budget in 2008. Even though estimated revenues are projected to remain flat throughout 2009, the residents of Kirtland should expect to receive the high caliber of city services that have traditionally been provided. Thanks to the citizens of Kirtland, a new ambulance will be purchased with revenue generated from the successful Fire-Rescue-EMS Levy, last November. Funding from a grant will provide for replacement windows at the Community Center, dramatically improving energy efficiency and cutting operating costs. Additionally, the proposed budget allows for the replacement of a snow plow and a police cruiser.

The city will also remain diligent in pursuing alternative funding sources. The passage of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, better known as the economic stimulus package, will bring potential opportunities for financial support. The city has already begun to submit proposals for projects that fit the objectives of this legislation. We look forward to working closely with other elected officials and government entities to secure funds for projects that will provide lasting benefits for our city and create jobs in the process.

Collaborative efforts and an open line of communication between Kirtland, our elected officials, and local, state and county agencies is important to Kirtland's development. I am proud to announce that I was recently appointed to the Governing Board for the Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency (NOACA). This agency is a regional organization comprised of representatives from five counties in Northeastern Ohio – Cuyahoga, Geauga, Lake, Lorain and Medina. The agency serves as a forum for local officials to cooperatively work together, in accordance with federal and state mandates, on initiatives involving transportation, air and water quality, and the environment. The agency also administers federal funds for projects related to these important initiatives. It is an honor to be selected to serve as the only Mayor from Lake County and to have the opportunity to work closely with other area elected officials and heads of regional and state agencies, such as the Ohio Department of Transportation and the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency.

The City of Kirtland is also continuing to diligently work with Waste Management on the new solid waste and recycling program. **Effective April 1, 2009 all residents using plastic bags, for solid waste collection by Waste Management, will be REQUIRED to use a bag that is of a unique color assigned ONLY to Kirtland. This does NOT affect customers that have signed-up for cart service for their solid waste collection.** The required bags are available for purchase at:

**KIRTLAND MARKET  
8232 Euclid Chardon Road**

**DAIRY MART  
9370 Chillicothe Road**

The bags will cost \$4.05 per bag. A roll of 5 bags will cost \$20.25. The bags are in stock and ready for purchase at your convenience. Please keep in mind that there is no additional charge for recycling.

**SENIOR CITIZENS (residents 60 years of age or older) can purchase bags, at a reduced cost of \$3.25 per bag, ONLY at:**

**KIRTLAND SENIOR CENTER  
7900 Euclid-Chardon Road  
Hours: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. – Monday thru Friday  
For evening and weekend hours, please call 256-4711**

**This discounted bag price will ONLY be available through the Kirtland Senior Center.** The bags will be sold as a roll, with 5 bags to a roll, for a total cost of \$16.25 per roll. Identification is required at the time of purchase to confirm your date of birth. If you have any questions, please contact Waste Management Customer Service at 1-800-343-6047. We appreciate your ongoing cooperation, as we finalize some of the details in the new program.

Throughout the coming months, I look forward to keeping the residents of Kirtland informed about the important and exciting developments within our city.