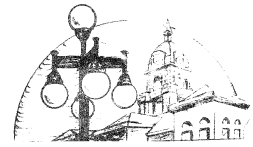


# VINTON VIEWPOINT



March 2008

## Coordinator Notes

We have had an interesting winter so far. Street Department employees along with help from water and water pollution control departments, have been out constantly clearing the snow off the streets. There is little or no sand and salt left as supplies have run extremely low. We have been very fortunate that everyone has realized this and have taken it easy while driving out there. Thanks for keeping alert and watching out for the city employees as they go about clearing the streets.

We have been getting some complaints regarding snow removal from sidewalks. City Code states that it is the responsibility of the abutting property owner to remove the snow and ice. If this is not done, the city can have the snow and ice removed and charge the cost against the property tax. If you have a public sidewalk on your property, please be considerate to those who want to use the sidewalk and clear off the snow and ice.

Also, when parking downtown, please park at a close to normal angle. I realize that it is hard to judge where to park without the line, but if a car is parked at less than a regular angle, it is hard for other vehicles to pass between the parked car and any windrow that may still be present after a snowfall.

## Local Option Sales Tax (LOST)

On January 29, the electorate of Vinton decided to pass the local option sales tax referendum. An immediate benefit from the LOST is the reduction of the city's property tax levy of slightly over \$1 for Fiscal Year 2008-2009. Near the end of June 2009, the city will have a good understanding of the amount of revenue that will be collected each year and distributed according to the referendum. The city has started to make plans for street improvements according to a priority basis. There was a large turnout for the vote and the city appreciates everyone who took part in this democratic process.

## Vinton Police Department

As everyone is aware, this has been a very unusual winter for Vinton. It appears there has already been a record on the amount of snowfall. We would like to remind everyone that city ordinances prohibit parking on a city street unless the snow has been removed or plowed from that street and the snow has ceased to fall. This helps to make the snow removal job more complete and can keep your vehicle from being buried under the snow. A fine of \$15 and possible towing may result for violations of this ordinance.

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