

Town of Kilmarnock

Mayor – Dr. Curtis H. Smith

VICE MAYOR - PAUL S. JONES
COUNCIL MEMBER-RANDY MOUBRAY
COUNCIL MEMBER-REBECCA TEBBS NUNN
COUNCIL MEMBER-BARBARA ROBERTSON
COUNCIL MEMBER- JOHN A. SMITH
COUNCIL MEMBER- HOWARD R. STRAUGHAN



TOWN MANAGER-TOM SAUNDERS
TOWN ATTORNEY - PAUL C. STAMM, JR.
TOWN PLANNER - MARSHALL SEBRA
TOWN CLERK -JACQUELINE BLENCOWE
TOWN TREASURER - JUDY G. STEVENS
POLICE CHIEF - MICHAEL S. BEDELL

STATE OF THE TOWN
JUNE 21, 2010

As I leave office I want to give the citizens of Kilmarnock my final report on the state of our Town.

Kilmarnock has a few weaknesses and many strengths. The recession that began in 2008 has hurt our businesses and put some planned developments and projects on hold but the fiscal year that ends next week will show an improvement in most business sectors over last year. That is strong evidence that we have weathered the worst of the storm and brighter days lay ahead.

Financially the Town continues to maintain a healthy position.

- We will end this year with revenues slightly exceeding expectations and expenses below what was budgeted.
- Budget reserves have been maintained.
- Our auditors continue to give us a clean financial opinion, with no deficiencies.

Businesses continue to find Kilmarnock an attractive place to set up shop. In the last year several new businesses have opened:

- Kilmarnock Entertainment Center
- Dunn-Rite Automotive
- Anna's Pizza
- Thai Pot
- Total Security Products (in the Business and Technology Park)

But we've lost a few, too. I'm particularly sorry to learn that Joe Curry is moving his business down Route 3 nearer to White Stone.

In my years on Council and as your Mayor some of the biggest issues we have faced have been connected with our water and sewer systems. The recent master plan study identified and ranked pressing needs in our infrastructure. Some of those needs have already been addressed and others will be improved when the Mary Ball Road block grant project is completed. But there will always be the need to continually repair and renew our aging system and I encourage future Councils to take the long view and do what is necessary to keep Kilmarnock operating as its residents, businesses and visitors expect.

One of our greatest assets is the cohesiveness and mutual support of our citizens. The terrible events of last winter tested us mightily but we pulled together and came out of the ordeal stronger than before. The work that is going on in the Mary Ball Road Neighborhood

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Improvement Project on the south end of town will extend badly needed services to a part of town that has been underserved for decades and, I believe, will help to strengthen the ties that bind us to one another even more.

If I could change any one thing about the last few years, it would be the way the zoning issue between Mrs. Diehl and The Kilmarnock Inn was handled. While the courts ultimately ruled in the Town's favor on every point of law I sincerely regret that it ever got that far and I wish that whole episode had been handled with more consideration and deliberation. To Mrs. Diehl I say, I'm sorry.

Going forward, the citizens of Kilmarnock can take pride in a community that is the envy of its neighbors. We have a strong administrative staff that is constantly working to provide better service at less cost. Just last week several of them traveled to Goochland to learn how to get more out of our existing financial software. We have an excellent police department led by an exemplary chief of police. Our utility and treatment plant staff is on the job seven days a week to make sure vital services are uninterrupted. Just last week we learned that the lab at our treatment plant has been licensed under strict new rules that will allow us to continue performing important daily tests that would otherwise have to be sent out at enormous expense and trouble.

To my fellow Council members, thank you for your hard work and your willingness to make the tough decisions. We have done good work together and I have enjoyed it.

To the citizens of the wonderful Town of Kilmarnock, thank you from the bottom of my heart for the great honor of being your mayor, for the opportunity to serve you and to work with you to make this an even better place to live and work. I will be eternally grateful.