

Members of the City Council, city employees, and members of the community:

I appreciate this opportunity to deliver the State of the City address for 2023.

I want to begin by thanking those who have supported me in my first year in office. I'm grateful to my family, to the members of the city council, city employees, and the citizens of this great city.

As we look back over this past year, there have been many successes as well as some challenges. I appreciate those who have given their time, talents, and energy toward endeavors that have bettered our community.

I make a special note of those who are willing to volunteer in these efforts - everything from our volunteer fire department to coaching or advising youth activities to organizing community events to just being a good neighbor. All of these efforts add to the, if not "small-town" feel, then the "home-town" feel that we enjoy.

As we look to the future, I can see some challenges on the horizon for us. Everyone is aware of the state of the national economy and the stress that is placed on families to make do with the resources they have.

As a city organization, we also need to live within our means without raising taxes and placing more of a burden on our citizens. The housing market in our city has slowed dramatically in the past several months. Applications for home building permits are down. This has an effect on the bottom line for our revenues.

This is the time for us, as city leaders, to take a critical look at our budgets. We need to maintain services to our citizens as we look to future needs such as a new sewer plant.

In campaigning for this office and throughout this past year I heard from many of our citizens about issues including growth, our parks, our cemetery, infrastructure, and transparency in our city government.

Those are concerns that I share with our citizens. I ask for your cooperation and support as I pledge to keep working and striving to keep Grantsville a great place to live.