



Harrisburg City Council Minutes June 11, 2014

The Harrisburg City Council met on this date at City Hall located at 120 Smith St, at the hour of 6:30 p.m. Presiding was Mayor Robert Duncan. Also present were the following:

- Roger Raven
- Kimberly Downey
- Don Shipley
- Mike Caughey
- Robert Boese
- Sarah Puls
- Youth Advisor Garrett Ross
- City Administrator Brian Latta
- City Recorder/Asst. City Administrator Michele Eldridge
- Finance Officer Tim Gaines (Arrived 6:35 p.m.)
- Public Works Foreman Rick Nelson

Concerned Citizens in the Audience:

- Cynthia Burgeson of NW Student Exchange was invited here by Mike Caughey. She was looking for host families for high school level students. She spoke about her program and mission, and asked Council members to please consider hosting a student, or to ask their friends to do so. She would wait until the end of the meeting to talk with individuals about the program and what it had to offer.
- Les Rose, 871 S. 9th St, was here tonight to complain about a situation in his neighborhood, located in the Max Hammer Subdivision. That area is a combination of single family, and multiple family residences, and consists of a dead end and cul-de-sac both. The post office complained to him, because they couldn't get to the mailboxes, which are located in front of his home. It's the vehicles from the neighbors; that and the multiple family residences causing the problem. They would pull in close, and would only be a foot or so over the yellow stripe in front of the boxes. The deputies won't tow away the vehicles, but they said to write a ticket, they needed to see more of a yellow stripe. The post office delivery vehicles aren't allowed to back up, so they can't get into the space in front of the post boxes, if a car is abutting the boxes, and the deputies won't

write a ticket for someone who's only a couple of feet over a yellow stripe. He handed out photographs (Please see Addendum No. 1) that he took in this area. A very nice family across the street had five vehicles and only two spots in which to park them, so they parked wherever they could. There were other families who did the same.

Latta talked about the same neighborhood, and some problems that they were having with people leaving trash cans out on the street. Council ascertained that this was a separate issue. After discussing several ways in which to solve the problem, including checking in with the post office about what they are allowed to do, Council felt that the problem could be helped if the City lengthened the yellow stripe leading up to the mailboxes, so that it could leave something like a car length there. In that manner, the post office could pull up to the boxes.

The matter of Paying the Bills for the month of May, 2014

- Downey **motioned to approve the payment of the bills, and was seconded by Shipley. The City Council then voted unanimously to approve the payment of the May 2014 bills.**

The matter of Discussing the Option to Sell a Public Works Vehicle.

Staff Report: Latta told the City Council that after Tim Bunnell passed away, his wife had expressed the desire to purchase the vehicle that he spent so much time in. Since then, they've decided that they didn't really have as much attachment to it as they thought, but would still like to purchase the vehicle. We had been willing to consider it, which is why we had done the analysis that you see in the agenda bill. However, if the reason is no longer sentimental, then he would say that we should keep the vehicle for the next Public Works Director. There are certain steps we have to follow when declaring property as surplus, and we can't choose who to sell the vehicle too.

City Council agreed with his reasoning, and felt that with the low miles, and the maintenance upkeep on it, that we didn't need to sell it. They felt that if Amy Bunnell was ok with that, then they could hold onto the vehicle.

- Downey **motioned to not sell the 2004 GMC. She was seconded by Shipley, and the City Council voted unanimously to hold onto the 2004 GMC for the next Public Works Director, rather than declaring it surplus, and selling it.**

The matter of Discussing the City's Water Issues

Staff Report: Latta said that he didn't have much to add to the agenda bill. The Council has set the goal of trying to correct the water issue. The primary issue is the aesthetic quality of the water, particularly the taste and odor. Council made a preliminary investigation a few years ago, but hasn't taken comprehensive actions to do something. Almost all of the potential solutions will increase rates, and are quite expensive. We have to be careful on how we set rates, because there is a possibility to lose revenue from that. The best way to address this is to start with a list of topics to address at the Council level, as well as going to the committees, who can make recommendations to Council.

- Mayor Duncan said that water has always been an issue, as long as he remembers. Citizens won't even pass a fire station, or support H.A.R.T., and he thinks all of the solutions are too expensive. His main concern is not the aesthetic quality of the water;

we know it's terrible. The quality of the water, and the ability to obtain a safe permanent choice, that provides a good amount of water, is important. Digging wells as we grow won't be as productive for us. We've got water rights now, but how much will it cost to filter it, and treat it? Does anyone want to pay \$40 more a month for better tasting water? His bill right now before summer is about \$120 a month; he can't see paying \$160 for better tasting water. But we do need to explore this for the sake of the citizens. A good number of citizens' have added their own filtration systems. If they spent a lot of money to get that system, then they won't want to pay increased rates or taxes on top of it. It's a real enigma, wrapped around a conundrum. Our main goal should be presenting all the facts we've learned over the years, so they understand why we aren't doing what they think we should be doing; which is giving them great tasting Perrier type water. He's not being negative or cynical, but it's really going to be an issue. We can inform the public, but in his heart, he knows that they won't spend the money to make it taste better. Most people want perfect water that doesn't taste bad. No matter where you go, the water sucks. We have water everywhere in the valley, but what we have is not wonderful.

- Shipley disagreed with him a little bit about most of the people. He feels that we have an obligation to provide citizens with good quality water. We need to take the idea of a filtration station to the people of Harrisburg. Then when they vote it down, we can say that we tried to provide them with good tasting water, but they made the decision. He feels that we should try to sell it to them in some matter. That way they know that we tried to do something.
- Downey agreed that she would carry that torch. She liked what she was hearing.
- Raven totally agreed with that, but he would take it a step further. We not only present it to the voters, but if they turn it down, we present it again. We keep putting it in front of them. If they complain, then we tell them to make a grassroots thing, and to do door to door. They can quite talking about the City not doing anything.
- Latta said that he didn't have people calling him on a daily basis, talking about why we need a new fire station, or to preserve the H.A.R.T. center. He does get daily calls about the water.
- Puls said that we need education and promotion.
- Mayor Duncan agreed totally with that. It's the outcome of that he worries about.
- Raven agreed with him. His idea is to keep presenting it. This is up to the citizens, not us. You need to convince others.
- Latta said that he gets daily calls about the water, while preserving the H.A.R.T. Center, and building a fire department, get rare phone calls. (Except for those who are intimately concerned about those areas.) It's up to the City and Council for how this is presented to others. We've had time, and we have time to get out, involve and engage citizens, hold town hall meetings here, put it on the reader board, promote it, and otherwise get people engaged in the process. You get a grass roots movement before you go for a vote.

Les Rose said that in year's past, your City Engineer did a water test. Downey said that we did a test of the water from our wells. They included filtered water and different well water. Rose said that one of the things that came up, that Council thought about was the possibility of the City subsidizing water filtration systems. Just like Raven said, keep after the voters. He felt that there was a way to come up with something that would slide in with the voters. Mayor Duncan commented that we met recently with Senator Merkely at the high school, and he mentioned something about trying to get funds to help with infrastructure costs, and water systems. He can't remember the name of the bill, or the committee, just that there might be a possible release of funds. He doesn't know how that would help. In years past, we approached the state and the feds, and told them that the water was terrible, and they said as long as you have it, and it's healthy to drink, then too bad. He's trying not to be cynical. We can run a vote at every general election if we'd like. Shipley said that another thing to remind them about with dealing with an increased cost is that we see delivered water bottles all over town. If we gave them decent water, they don't have to pay that bill.

- Caughey said that he just got done re-reading the last water master plan for the 3rd time around. He's read it before, but knowing this was coming up, he went through really carefully, and paid more attention. Taking water out of the river is by far, the most expensive alternative. This was updated in June of 2008; that's six years old now. He thinks that we ought to look at having our engineers updating this. He thinks a lot of data is already here; we just need to update numbers, and come up with comparative costs. We need to find the two best solutions, one might be getting the water out of river, and the other is going with filtration, such as reverse osmosis. What Staehlin said was that they were the most viable solutions, but they were also the two most expensive. We need to get rid of all the problems with the water. He thinks we need to update the cost factor.
- Boese asked what the cost on that was.
- Mayor Duncan reminded him that those were all spread out over 20 years.
- Caughey said that the cost was over \$11 million, and the upkeep was much higher than all the other alternatives.
- Mayor Duncan thought it was cheaper in the long run, because it was over a 20 year period. The Willamette is not going anywhere, whereas wells can fail, you can dig a hole, and the waters not there. He's thinking 50 years from now, we may quit digging wells.
- Caughey agreed that continuing to get well water is self-defeating, and in the long term, will cost more. The facilities' that we have are non-usable with river water. Almost all the facilities, along with storage, have to be built new. The intake has to be built. The other thing he didn't know until he reread it was that during two months of the year, we can't get it out of the river, and have to buy stored water?
- Shipley told him that refers to the stored water upriver; they turn it loose.
- Caughey said so then we pay for that additional amount.
- Shipley remembered that the farmers pay about .10 cents for a certain measure of water, but a City pays \$100 for same amount. The LOC is trying to fix it so City's don't have to pay so much. That's a huge difference.

- Caughey liked the idea of it going on the ballot. Get updated data for whatever alternatives we are considering, such as river water or reverse osmosis. Then either next May, or the following November, we take it to the voters. As you say, the citizenry thinks we aren't doing anything, and we aren't because of the numbers, and what we'll have to do it make it happen. So we can show them that we can borrow money, do a bond, or what we'd have to do to get funds to do that. The likelihood is that the first two times, it's not going to be approved. But if we show we are doing something, here are the answers, this is how much it will cost, and the voters can decide yes or no.
- Rose remembered that the engineer said it doesn't matter if you get water from the river. The people will benefit that are close to the new well and/or filtration, but the further you go out with the old pipes, you pick up what used to run in the pipes.
- Puls said that's what she asked Brian about.
- Latta agreed, and said that's why we need to address that as a larger issue. It's not only where we get water, but how do we deliver the product. You do have to look at everything, because we do have a lot of dead end lines, where the water sits, minerals get deposited, and grow over time, or sediment settles. There are a lot of those issues to think about. How do we get quality water at farthest point away?
- Shipley said it would suck if we spent that money, and it's not any better.
- Nelson said that he gets that from people. The closer they are to the water tank, the less complaints he gets. If we do spend millions here, will we give the citizens at the outskirts better water?
- Caughey asked what kind of pipes we had?
- Nelson spoke about the types of pipes we had in town; mostly cement or steel for the old ones. The newer ones are all C-900 plastic. Both Puls and Caughey had questions for him, and he did the research for them on it. They wanted to know about why we have brown water, and what causes it. He explained about when we flush the water, and the period's in-between, and how he has to adjust the residuals. When the residuals are higher, then it causes the chlorine to react with the iron in the water. You have to constantly tweak and change the residuals in the system.
- Puls asked if all it is, is iron in the water. Not sediments.
- Nelson said that was correct, chlorine is reacting with the iron. When you flush, you are breaking up sediments.
- Downey had never lived in a City before where we have to flush like this.
- Nelson said that other cities do.
- Caughey thought that Well No. 8, had separate chlorination. Was that correct?
- Nelson told him yes.
- Latta asked if we had a looped system, would flushing be affected?
- Nelson told him that we have 55 dead ends. That's a lot. Anytime you have to run a line to the end of a field, or the end of a subdivision, then you have a dead end. That water sits there, and the lines aren't super deep. If we didn't have dead ends, it would be perfect. He explained that in some parts of town, the water lines generally are dirtier,

those we tend to flush every three months. Some of those dead ends are done fully every 3 years.

Council was concerned about some of the dirtier water that they had heard about. Puls knew that certain bacteria's can be in brown or reddish tinted water. Did we have some of that? Nelson said that we do all the state samples, etc., that would be tested for. Latta said that we need to do research on all the issues, and then what are all the solutions to those? We don't know if we know all the issues yet. Caughey was dismayed that some of it may not change at all! You can get clean water at the source, and it may not change in some areas. Council asked for Nelson to check to make sure that the bacteria in question was on the state form. Nelson said that Puls also asked if we had comprehensive information on all of our water distribution lines, and we don't. We don't have anything about how they are deteriorating, if they may be now, or how fast they could deteriorate. Steel lines can be affected by soil. Plastic has more inside deterioration. We can inspect sewer systems, but with shut valves on water lines, we can't TV them. Downey asked what the difference was between sewer and water lines that you couldn't TV the water lines? Nelson told about a sewer book that he had, and a study they had done. It cost the City a lot of money to blanket the entire City. Shipley added that you can't TV a water line, because it's sealed, and under pressure. Nelson said that the more holes you cut in a water main, then the more chances you have of getting something in there you don't want. Nelson then talked about some of the water lines that should be upsized, and some of the areas that they could easily loop.

Nelson said that Caughey had asked about how many meters were still left to upgrade to radio read. We have 363 meters left to upgrade. It's roughly a \$500 cost per house to do the upgrade. Gaines said that he thought we had \$16,000 budgeted this year for that, but he would have to check that figure for certain. Nelson said that we have parts for only 30 meters left right now. So we have 333 left to budget for. Nelson said that we've already upgraded 808 meters in the City, since we've started. To upgrade the last 363, it would cost \$166,000 at this year's prices. That goes up each year. Latta asked if Council wanted to propose a way to address these issues. Should we go through the committee first? He wanted to know what priorities they'd like to focus on. Shipley agreed with Caughey that we should update our information from 2008. Puls agreed, have them update it, and give us our two best options. Latta asked if we should look at all the options. Downey liked fresh eyes on them from an engineer standpoint. Puls wanted to identify what the problems are with the distribution. Will there still be brown water in our dead ends. Shipley (a former Public Works Employee in a different City), said that he would think that after time, if we pump clean water, the lines would clean themselves.

Nelson said that when the fire department had the big fire recently, they were pulling water so fast, and he was worried that we would have dirty water. But there was not one complaint the next day. After questions from Council, he explained how he kept up with the water demand, by changing the system to pump water the entire time. Council also had questions about sand in the lines. Some citizens were worried about what they were getting. However, Nelson said that was normal. Both Puls and Shipley agreed that it happened in other cities as

well. Sand can be pulled from wells, and can settle in storage tanks. They are cleaned out on a regular basis. Latta suggested that he make this topic a revolving agenda item, which he can bring back once a month. We'll also discuss this in the respective committees, and as new ideas come up, or things come up that we need to address, then we'll talk about that at the Council level.

The matter of Discussion of the League of Oregon Cities Legislative Priorities

Staff Report: Latta told the Council that when there are new legislative sessions scheduled, that the LOC puts out a list of priorities, and asks its member cities what they are most interested in. The current list was six pages long, and covered a range of topics. The ballot will need to be returned by July 25th, with Council's top 4 priorities on it. We can discuss it at length tonight, or take it home to review it, and discuss it at the next couple of meetings.

Council liked the thought of having more time to review the topics. They wanted to focus on the marijuana dispensaries and revenue streams, such as franchises fee rates. Caughey was confused by a few of the descriptions and topics. Latta suggested that if the Council needed more information on any of these that they could convey those to him, and he would get answers for them at the next meeting.

The matter of a Resolution Extending Workers' Compensation Coverage to Volunteers

- Shipley **motioned to approve Resolution No. 1078, "A RESOLUTION EXTENDING THE CITY OF HARRISBURG'S WORKERS' COMPENSATION COVERAGE TO THE VOLUNTEERS OF THE CITY OF HARRISBURG FOR THE POLICY YEAR 2014-2015."** He was **seconded** by Caughey, and the **City Council voted unanimously to approve Resolution No. 1078, and thereby extending Workman's Comp Coverage to the volunteers who did work on behalf of the City.**

The matter of Appointing an H.A.R.T. Family Resource Center Board Member

- **Mayor Duncan recommended the appointment of Cheryll Lynn Ressler to the vacant term on the H.A.R.T. Board.**
- **Shipley motioned to appoint Cheryll Lynn Ressler to the H.A.R.T. Family Resource Center board for a term ending on June 30, 2016. He was seconded** by Downey, and the **City Council voted unanimously to approve the appointment of Cheryll Lynn Ressler to the H.A.R.T. Family Resource Board.**

The matter of Approving a Resolution Indicating Council's Support Towards Local Efforts to Secure a WealthWorks Northwest Grant

Staff Report: Latta explained that RDI, Rural Development Initiatives, was promoting the innovative WealthWorks approach, which promotes economic development. A local group of individuals, in the Tri-County area, was working hard on coming up with ideas. He had been involved slightly, in addition to others.

- Eldridge, who was part of the group of individuals spearheading this project, explained a little further what they were trying to do. The idea that the group had settled upon, was a

cooperative or something similar, that would be similar to a farmer's market, but would also involve artisan's, as well as using an educational approach. They had planned on bringing a mobile market as well, to each of the towns in the Tri-County area. Latta had come up with a great idea as well, but one of the grant criteria was to make sure that people, who were disadvantaged, would be assisted by the program. We were still going to incorporate some of his ideas, because we would include recreational opportunities in what we were doing.

- Latta added that they were asking for our support of the grant process, since they had to demonstrate local support.

Downey had attended a couple of the sessions, and felt it would benefit our community, and Latta added that he felt that we should support it.

- Downey **motioned to approve Resolution No. 1079, "A RESOLUTION INDICATING THE CITY OF HARRISBURG'S SUPPORT TOWARDS LOCAL EFFORTS TO SECURE A WEALTHWORKS NORTHWEST GRANT FOR EXPLORATION OF NEW BUSINESS IDEAS IN THE TRI-COUNTY REGION."** She was **seconded** by Ross, and the **City Council voted unanimously to approve Resolution No. 1079.**

Others:

Linn County Deputies Report

- Latta said that the most recent report (Please see Addendum No. 2) showed two more citations than in the past, and was still mostly warnings. He attended Justice Court, because he issued a citation. The Judge does a good job, and we are getting that revenue.

Water Email

- Latta had given the Council a copy of a couple of emails that he had received. (The copies are in the office of the City Recorder.) They were from a couple of students who had done an experiment with plants using different water. They were convinced that our water was causing problems. However, he'd like to note that if that was the case, all the plants throughout the entire City would be reacting in the same way. It was obvious that there was more to their experiment than meets the eye.
- Puls thought that maybe they had a water softener. It can do that to plants.
- Downey commented that they are welcome to come to Council if they'd like.
- Latta said that he had invited them, because it was coincidental that we are discussing the water system now, but they didn't join us.

Reader Board Issues

- Latta said that it had been installed, but it's not complete. It looks as though it fell off a truck and was run over. He's concerned that some parts are not working, and he talked about quite a few components that were either damaged or missing. The person who sold it was coming by for an unrelated event, and he had asked him to drop by....he'll have words with him about fixing the problems, or they can refund some of the money

- Mayor Duncan didn't want to have 2nd best on this unit.
- Latta agreed, and said that they've exchanged a number of heated emails already. Erickson Electric did the installation, and they were complaining about the state of the unit as well. It does work.
- Boese said that it should be working right from the get-go.
- Latta agreed, and said that it was working at first, and then didn't. It was pretty damaged.
- Caughey advised taking a hard line on this, and maybe make them replace it.
- Latta agreed with him.

ACT (CWACT – Cascades West Area Commission on Transportation)

- Shipley said that he attended the last meeting. They don't actually give out grants, but they do make the recommendations on whom to give the grants too. One of the railroads had asked for a grant, and the poor guy really got an earful from all of us. They ask for money, but then they are poor business parents, and don't take care of what they have.

The City Council then discussed the railroads, and how hard it was to work with them on any projects. It was extremely expensive to do any work due to the insurance costs on everything. In some cases, the insurance can cost almost as much as the project. They discussed how upset they had been when they were trying to tell the railroads and the ODOT rail division that the middle dividers wouldn't work, and then had to remove them. They were very frustrated about that experience as were the area farmers, since they had all warned them about it.

Goodbye to Youth Advisory Council member Garrett Ross

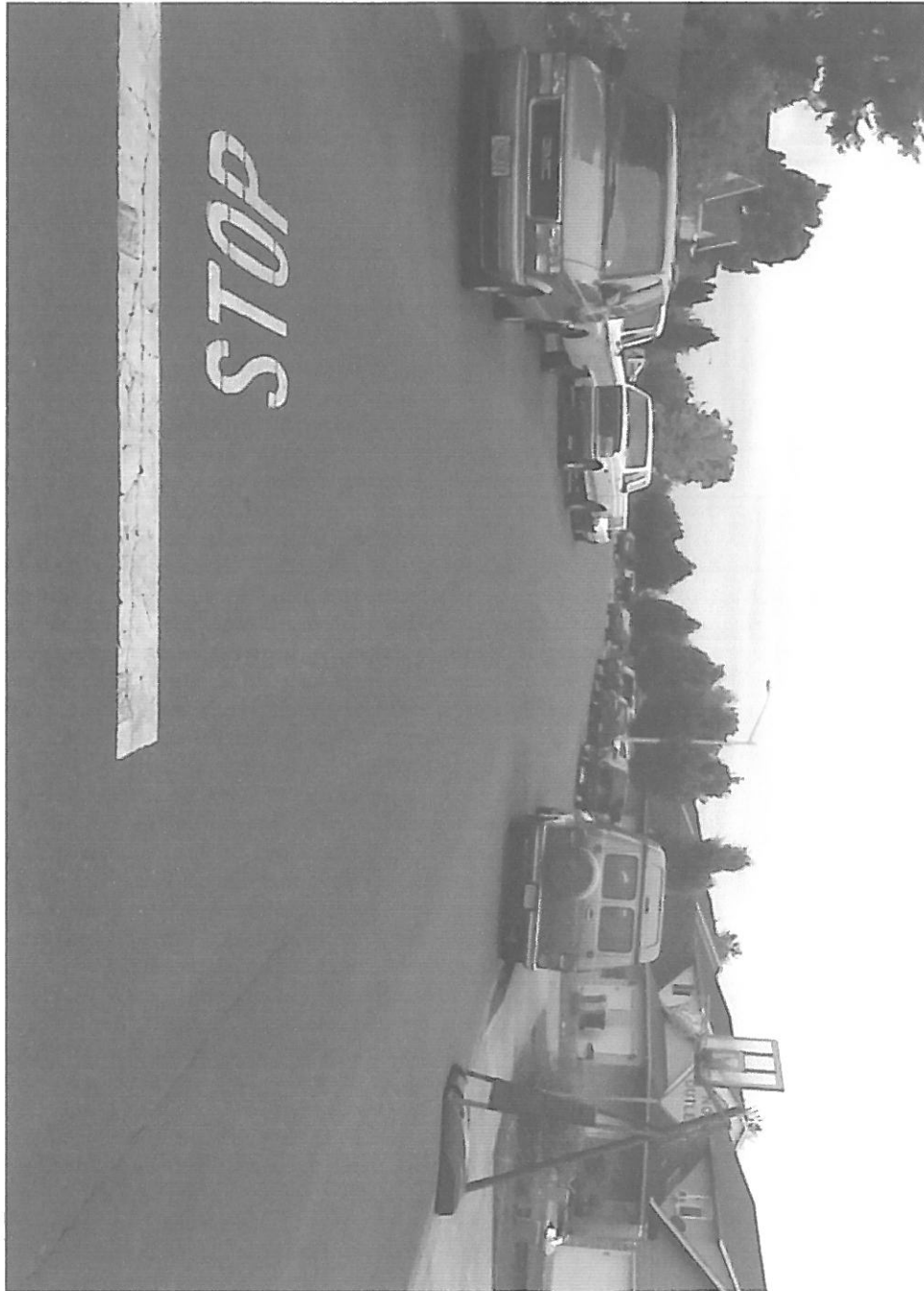
- Ross told the Council that this was his last meeting. He had enjoyed the experience. He's learned a lot about planning, and how Council works. There are good kids coming up behind him. He will be attending OSU in the fall.
- Caughey and Mayor Duncan both told him how much they appreciated his opinions and that he was bold enough to comment and state his own ideas.

With no further business to cover, the City Council adjourned at the hour of 8:07PM, in order to go to the HRA Board Meeting.

Mayor

City Recorder









My home



LINN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Bruce W. Riley, Sheriff

1115 S.E. Jackson Street

Albany, OR 97322

Phone: 541-967-3950

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2014

MONTHLY REPORT TO THE CITY OF HARRISBURG FROM THE LINN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

FOR THE MONTH OF:

May

TRAFFIC CITATIONS: -----	7
TRAFFIC WARNINGS: -----	16
TRAFFIC CRASHES: -----	2
ADULTS CITED / VIOLATIONS: -----	0
ADULTS ARRESTED: -----	2
JUVENILES CITED / VIOLATIONS: -----	0
JUVENILES ARRESTED: -----	1
COMPLAINTS/INCIDENTS INVESTIGATED: -----	106

TOTAL HOURS SPENT IN:	Harrisburg	435
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70 PERCENT COVERAGE OF FOUR DEPUTIES PER MONTH= 404 HOURS

**Bruce W. Riley,
Sheriff, Linn County**

By: Sgt. Brad Kelley