



LEADERSHIP LETTER

Council Member Liz Sporrer
lsporrer@cityofpella.com

I've been thinking about what I would write for this letter since I joined City Council in January. When I

was assigned the December Leadership Letter, I was thrilled! I love the holiday season – it truly is the most wonderful time of the year! I was confident I would have had a year's worth of civic experience and valuable insights to share while reflecting on a great year.

And here we are. In some ways, those 11 months have flown by. A flurry of work, decisions, discussions and action plans filled our time as we worked to protect those around us. In other moments, the days, minutes and seconds dragged on as we sat at home or on another Zoom meeting watching the impact of the pandemic change our daily routines.

Now it's December and the experience and year I thought I would have had look very, very different from that daydream in January. I'm confident I'm not alone in this feeling. I'm also confident I'm not alone in the experiences I've gained and the lessons learned. I'll share mine. I'd

love to hear yours; email them to me at lsporrer@cityofpella.com.

Community matters. As we've been forced to stay apart, it's become increasingly clear how we need community - whether it's family gatherings, t-ball games on Saturday, morning yoga class, Bible study groups, weekly Rotary club meetings, happy hour with coworkers or strangers mingling in our local stores. Even though this year looks different, be a community. Find new ways to take care of each other.

You can only control what you can control. I have a friend who wrote KEEP GOING in big letters on her wall at work. It's in my line of sight during every meeting we have. When asked what it meant, she said, "I just feel like that's the message people need to hear right now." She couldn't be more right. There are so many things happening outside of our control; and that's ok. Do what you can. Keep your chin up. Keep going.

Joy comes with the morning. While it's easy to focus on the historical lows of 2020 or share the dramatic memes declaring 2020 a dumpster fire, I hope you

COVID-19 UPDATES

The City of Pella continues to monitor and develop appropriate plans in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The health and wellness of our community and team members is a top priority, and this includes maintaining public safety and other essential services.

As this situation changes frequently, we are committed to providing updates regarding actions and steps as they are implemented. Visit Facebook @PellaCityHall or [cityofpella.com/COVID19](https://www.facebook.com/cityofpella.com/COVID19) for the most recent information regarding City services. To receive a notification when future City-related updates are available, visit <https://pellaia.regroup.com/signup> and elect to receive Emergency Alert notifications.

In addition, we ask that you follow safety guidelines as communicated by the Marion County Public Health Department, Iowa Department of Public Health, and the Centers for Disease Control. Thank you for your patience, cooperation, and understanding during this time.

have each found moments of delight. But this year is coming to an end. And with a holiday season focused on hope and a new year upon us, may you all be and experience love and light in the days ahead.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, public meetings are only available to attend electronically. Meeting schedules and agendas will be posted at [cityofpella.com/meetings](https://www.cityofpella.com/meetings) at least 24 hours prior to each meeting. Each agenda will include instructions on how to access the meeting electronically. Individuals without internet access should call the City Clerk at 628.4173 with questions regarding meeting details.

AIRPORT COMMITTEE
12/11 – 7:00 a.m.

BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT
12/21 – 6:00 p.m.

CITY COUNCIL
12/1 & 12/15 – 7:00 p.m.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
12/9 – 5:30 p.m.

COMMUNITY SERVICES BOARD
12/18 – Noon

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
12/14 – 5:00 p.m.

LIBRARY BOARD
12/8 – 4:00 p.m.

P&Z COMMISSION
12/28 – 7:00 p.m.

SPECIAL DATES

FREE BUNDLED BRUSH PICK-UP
12/16 – 7:00 a.m.

CITY OFFICES CLOSED - HOLIDAY
12/24, 12/25, 1/1

GARBAGE/RECYCLING CHANGES
Routes on 12/24 move to 12/23
Routes on 12/25 move to 12/24
Routes on 12/31 move to 12/30
Routes on 1/1 move to 12/31

ENERGY ASSISTANCE

Having difficulty paying your energy bills? You might be eligible for assistance through the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) or Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP). Visit <https://iub.iowa.gov/consumers/low-income-home-energy-assistance-program-liheap>

CONTACT US

AQUATICS
641.628.1882

CITY HALL
641.628.4173

ELECTRIC
641.628.2581

LIBRARY
641.628.4268

PARKS & REC
641.628.4571

PLANNING & ZONING
641.628.0043

POLICE
641.628.4921

PUBLIC WORKS
641.628.1601

LIBRARY EVENTS IN DECEMBER

COVID-19 UPDATE

In alignment with the enhanced public safety measures issued by the Governor in November, all patrons over two years old must wear masks when visiting the Pella Public Library.

PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN

- **Story Time via Zoom**
Every Monday - Thursday at 10:30 a.m.
Register at:
<https://pellalibrary.libcal.com/event/6980419>
- **Recorded Story Time**
Every Friday
Register at:
<https://pellalibrary.libcal.com/event/7106142>
- **12/14 – 10:00 a.m.**
Take and Make Hot Chocolate Spoons
Register at:
<https://pellalibrary.libcal.com/event/7278210>
- **12/21 and 12/22 – 10:30 a.m.**
Holiday Story Time via Zoom
Register at:
<https://pellalibrary.libcal.com/event/7276160>
- Holiday themed coloring pages will be available to pick up at Miss Katie's desk during the month of December

PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS

- **12/14 – 10:00 a.m.**
Take and Make Hot Chocolate Spoons
Register at:
<https://pellalibrary.libcal.com/event/7278210>
- Holiday themed coloring pages will be available to pick up at the Library's main desk during the month of December

For more information on these events or services, call 628.4268 or visit cityofpella.com/library

CHRISTMAS TREE PICK-UP

Christmas trees placed on the curb by 7:00 a.m. will be picked up on the following dates:

- December 28, 29, 30
- January 6, 13, 20

Trees must be unwrapped and free from plastic bags, wire, nails, and stands in order to be picked up. Wreaths and roping with wire will be collected as normal household waste if placed within a closed tote.

Contact Public Works at 628.1601 with questions.

CITY EMPLOYEES RECOGNIZED

Congratulations to the following City employees who were recently recognized for reaching milestone years of service anniversaries:

- **40 years:** Curtis Jones
- **30 years:** Vivian Koolstra
- **25 years:** Timothy Donelson, David Vande Voort
- **20 years:** Chad Hardman, Seth Reineke, Brian Schroder, Roger Shever
- **15 years:** Ross Hildebrand, Mary Robertson, Christine Van Hemert, Jeanette Vaughan, Shawn Veenstra, Carol Weihe
- **10 years:** Jill Edwards, Tracy Jansen, Nancy Moreland, Chandler Nunnikhoven, Ryan Waddell
- **5 years:** Benjamin Anschutz, Erica Bossard, Keaton Brenizer, Noah Chaplin, Kolton Kiser, Alexandra Meyers

AFTER SCHOOL ART CLASSES

Registration for the Mon. or Wed. After School Art Programs will begin on December 16. The programs are available for students in kindergarten through 12th grade. For more information, call 628.4571.

PELLA SPORTS PARK AND SOCCER COMPLEX

2021 USER GROUP LEASES:

- Applications for user group leases at the Pella Sports Park or Soccer Complex will be received from December 8 through January 8
- Applications will be processed on a first come first served basis with preference given to local teams

2021 TOURNAMENT BOOKINGS:

- Applications for tournaments scheduled in April, May, or June will be accepted until February 28
- Applications for tournaments held in the summer or fall of 2021 will be accepted at anytime

Complete applications may be turned in to the Community Center office at 712 Union Street. For more information, call 628.4571.

PROJECT SHARE

Project Share is a program to assist households in paying their wintertime energy bills. Customers can help by adding a regular contribution to their monthly utility bills or providing a one-time donation. Funds received will be distributed to qualifying individuals identified by an area social service agency. A local committee also oversees Project Share to ensure all contributions are handled equitably and efficiently.

To contribute to Project Share, complete, and return the form below.

I WOULD LIKE TO HELP A NEIGHBOR IN NEED WITH A TAX-DEDUCTIBLE CONTRIBUTION TO PROJECT SHARE.

- I would like to contribute \$ _____ per month;
I understand the amount will be billed monthly on my utility bills
- \$ _____ enclosed as a one-time donation

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

Phone _____

Please fill out form and return to:

City of Pella
Attn: Project Share
825 Broadway Street
Pella, IA 50219