

Town of Iowa

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Monthly Mayors Report

May 12, 2023

THE UGLY

ASH RIDGE SUBDIVISION: We have initiated the process of addressing the issues with the drainage in Ash ridge. If the weather permits, we should be able to work through a few of these trouble spots over the next couple of months. Thank you all for your patience, while we sort these projects out.

THE BAD

DEBRIS: Still on our list is Debris. Please help us by reminding your neighbors that we do not have a debris service in town. Please remember we need the right of ways clear for the town to keep up the shoulders and weed eating ditches.

LITTER: Please help your neighbors by keeping your property clean. Let's take pride in our town.

Waste Management: Please remember that your trash cans should be placed out the night before trash pick up for your area. The following day the cans should be retrieved. We have gotten word that many are placing items on the top of the cans and the drivers can't pick up the cans with trash on top or stacked against the sides of the container.

THE GOOD

FLOOD MITIGATION: On May 1st the town of Iowa submitted the necessary documentation to apply for funding that could help mitigate the flooding in our area. This will directly impact residents north of the railroad tracks and east of Thompson. This could also indirectly impact many other residents in our town. We are anticipating securing up to 15-million-dollar grant through Louisiana Watershed Initiative, in conjunction with DOTD.

IOWA FARMERS MARKET: We are excited to announce that July 1st (Saturday) will be our opening day. It is our intention to have this open on the first Saturday of each month.

ADMINISTRATION

LOVE THE BOOT: On April 22nd the town participated in a statewide “litter” program. It was very encouraging having many of our town residents participate. A special shout out to Brent Stantz (State Farm Insurance) who donated the shirts; Lee Mallett who provided gloves; and Stine Lumber for providing buckets and trash bags. I would also like to thank Roy’s Meat Market for donating Jambalaya and In-Laws for Drinks and paper goods for all of those that participated. Also, a shout out to our Police Department for provided escorts as we walked the streets. As a result of the “trash collection” we picked up 26 contractor sized bags of trash.

If you happen to see any of the folks in this list- please thank them for volunteering their time to help beautify the town of IOWA!

Tommy & Gay Talbot; Carla Denison; Stephanie Faul; Kason Faul; Kemper Faul; Dustin & Roxanne Daigle; Leo & Cindy Mallett; Brent Stantz; Carson Washington; Tristan Soileau; Heather Gardner; Cassandra Bankens; Kendrick LeJeune; Abbie Stack; Kellie Stack; Stacey Monticello; Chris Monticello; Carol Baccigalopi and my wife Allyson Watkins.

For those that weren’t able to make it we hope to see you next year!!

DITCH CLEANING – We have started working our way around town jetting the culverts to make sure that they are clear of debris. This is not a fast process but when weather allows, we are going through each grid so that we can ensure that water does flow. Unfortunately, we can’t at this time correct undersized or improperly installed culverts; these items will be dealt with at a later time. Within the coming months we will prioritize either replacing or resetting improperly sized or installed culverts. Once that list is generated it will be posted and as we are able to address them a schedule will be available on the website.

IOWA POLICE MEMORIAL - Memorial service will be held on Thursday, May 18th at 5pm in front of the memorial wall at the Police station. Please come out and support our Police Department, I look forward to seeing each of you.

Mayors Chat: As a reminder, prior to each council meeting, I am making myself available for open conversations starting at 5:30pm and ending at 6:30 pm. I simply request that we have respectful conversations, regardless of the topic.

Mayor Watkins