



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
ECONOMICS | ENVIRONMENT | EXCELLENCE

Dear Branson Community,

Don't forget that daylight saving time begins at 2:00 a.m. on Sunday, March 14. For those of us who still own a few manual time keeping devices, remember to "spring ahead" one hour before you go to sleep Saturday night.

Interesting Factoid of the Week: I've been talking lately about the continuation of the Tourism Tax renewal you will have the opportunity to vote for in 25 days. I want to also make you aware of the bonding capacity which is tied to the continuation of the Tourism Tax renewal. Bonding capacity is determined by 20% of the assessed valuation for the entire city and will be paid for entirely by the Tourism Tax revenues. There are two principal reasons the city borrows funds: 1) the cost of needed infrastructure improvements is greater than the City's financial resources; 2) infrastructure improvements generally have a long useful life and borrowing allows users to pay for the improvement over that long life. Our bond ratings will also affect when we can borrow to fulfill the promise of our Public Safety Sales Tax to build new fire and police facilities.

To continue our **2020 Year in Review** our Human Resources Department had a significant role with ensuring COVID safety and risk protocols were in place along with working through new technological issues. While the department placed many vacant positions on a hiring freeze, the Human Resources team worked through the processes and procedures for future recruitment with a focus on ensuring quality candidates with diverse backgrounds and skill sets.

Your prayers are continuing to help support us. Please remain positive and be thankful for living in the best city in America.

Thank you for letting me serve you,

Mayor Edd Akers