

STATE OF THE CITY ADDRESS

Citizens of the City of East Jordan, the state of the City of East Jordan is stable. As we all know many resources and revenues are on the decline. No one knows what the amount will be reduced as State and Federal officials continue to work at their financial status, and what avenues they will utilize to make their ends meet.

With all of this in mind we are able to inform you that the 2011-2012 fiscal year for East Jordan is predicted to end with a very small balance. Due to careful planning and handling of funds, some improvements have been made or are being computed at this time. Any business or property owner knows certain things need to be repaired and maintained, equipment reaches a time when it needs to be replaced and updates and improvements lead to better efficiency, in other words, pipes need replacing and equipment tires out. The art of balancing all of this with decreased revenues is a challenge and much time and diligence has gone into this by staff and commission. Some say exercising control in this area is micro managing. We all know that more time is required to make incoming revenues go as far as possible and some changes were made. When opportunities come along that fit into existing planning when possible it makes sense to use the low interest rates available to make needed improvements and increase efficiency. The Maple Street or M-32 project was one of those opportunities. It saved money to do the water and sewer upgrades before the State of Michigan blacktopped M-32. The first block of Second Street needed water and sewer improvements, sewage restrictions in that block were removed and new pipes and water pipes were installed. As is evident the street in front of the Post Office is much better, it not only benefits ever day users but is also more tourist attracting.

The weir at the mouth of the Jordan River has been removed, Vance, Pine and Elizabeth streets are being repaired, water and sewer in those areas are being upgraded and a new road topping will be installed. Along M-32 the new Emergency Services Facility is situated where visitors and citizens view it while using this main entrance to East Jordan. EMS continues to deliver its excellent services to citizens, area residents and we praise the professionals involved in this service. The Fire Department is receiving a new truck equipped to fight grass fires and changes have been made to allow for more needed Fire Chief responsibilities without resorting to a full time Fire Chief. New contracts for fire services will aid townships and the City. The DPW continues to stay within its reduced budget by operating with one less employee, but yet required duties are still met. They will receive a new plow truck and it will be used to keep

our streets plowed and cleared for safe use this winter and as needed in other seasons this year.

The Michigan Main Street Program applications will be filled this fall and the "Main Street" status will give East Jordan acknowledgement in the realm that potential investors, business people and perspective residents check on. It is important to know that the area of town affected by this project is not just Main Street; it includes all areas in the DDA District. This program will also give existing businesses an added edge in survival, however public support is essential.

With great effort to help keep water and sewer rates as low as possible over the last several years the recommended increases have been reduced considerably, but the cost for operation of treatment and delivery of these services continues to sky rocket. Every attempt to diminish these costs had been made and the improvement made in the construction areas in the past year have been made with efficiency and expansion of these services in mind.

Thank you.

Mayor Paul Timmons