

16 July 2015

Please accept this as my letter of resignation from Mount Vernon City Council, effective immediately. I request that this and the statement below be read aloud at the July 20th, 2015 City Council meeting and that it be entered into the minutes to become part of the official record.

Respectfully,

William J. Niemi

William J. Niemi Date: July 16, 2015

Witness: Michael Bunn Date: July 16, 2015

To my neighbors in Mount Vernon,

I will be unable to finish my term on City Council due to health and other personal concerns. It has been an honor and privilege to serve you. Thank you for trusting me with this responsibility.

During my 18 months on Council, I feel that we raised the awareness of the importance of fiscal responsibility and struck a reasonable balance between our wants and our needs. In August of last year we changed the prevailing concept of what a sustainable community center can be in a city of 3500 permanent residents. There are still possible viable options and I am gratified that people have a better understanding of the project's financial implications. We need more work to explore the financial impact of the various options on our budget, and the Wellness Center Committee should reconvene with broader representation from the community to determine what we can afford. Any decision to raise your property taxes for the community center will require a public vote with a 60% margin, so the voters will have the final say on what kind of community center we want, if any.

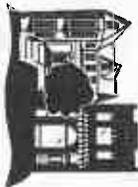
Soon the City will be electing 4 new Council members and a mayor. Eric Roudabush will be the only holdover on Council and we would do well to elect at least 2 more fiscal pragmatists. Whomever we elect will need our support and feedback to let them know our priorities.

Special thanks to those who worked hard to help with my election campaign. Many thanks also to City staff, Chief of Police Mark Winder and the entire force, and especially to City Administrator Mike Beimer who will be retiring soon. You all do admirable work and have been a great help to me during my term of service.

Best wishes to all.

Bill Niemi

CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION



Mount
Vernon
IOWA

In deepest appreciation and recognition of your service to the community of Mount Vernon, Iowa, we the people of Mount Vernon do hereby extend our heartfelt gratitude to

WILLIAM NIEMI

For service as City Council member

FOR THE CITY OF MOUNT VERNON, IOWA

James L. Moore, Mayor

Date