

Mayor Report for February 2026

Meetings:

Feb 14, 2026 – Legislative Forum – Fairmont Library – Senator Winckler and Representative Croken hosted a legislative forum to discuss some of the current bills, as well as had a presentation from Common Good Iowa, which is a non-partisan organization. The documents from the Common Good Iowa had information about how property tax works, the budget for the State of Iowa, and the three current plans for the property tax reform in Iowa. Their website is www.commongoodiowa.org, then go to “Policy Areas”, then on the left hand side go to “State Budget & Taxes”. Under the “How do the three major property tax bills compare”, it lists the bills and how they compare. There is also a “Property Tax Expainer” that has some good information on it.

Feb 26, 2026 – Emergency Management Meeting – Discussion was on the FY27 Budget, the EMA operational Strategy & Internal Alignment, Severe weather & flooding outlook for 2026, Fire Study Update, Iowa DCA & IA, State RFP for Disaster case advocacy, HMGP grant, House study bill 689 and Senate File 2458. The outlook for flooding this year is minor, but our area has moved into tornado alley and the outlook for tornado/severe storms is above average.

Feb 28, 2026 – Legislation Forum – Scott Community College - Attended the legislative forum, where there were legislators from both parties and participants were able to ask questions of the legislators. Some of the topics were funding for schools, property taxes, funding for pediatric cancer research, human trafficking, property taxes, water & cancer issues, eliminate immunizations, limit libraries & book mobile, minimum wage, election bills, and some other issues.

I reached out to the railroad about the trains that have been stopped for longer lengths of time, the railroad ties that have been sitting for a long period, and about the width of the crossing at the beach memorial site.

I had a discussion with Mayor Gallagher (Bettendorf), Mayor Schutte (Blue Grass), and Mayor Puck (Walcott) to setup a meeting to discuss sharing resources. We are meeting on Mar 5, 2026.

Discussed with Senate Winckler and Representative Kurth about having a meeting in Buffalo to give residents/businesses an opportunity to ask questions about current legislation. This meeting is setup for Mar 14, 2026, at 1:00pm, at the Buffalo Community Center.

I visited a couple of businesses to check in with them to see if they had any concerns with the city, which they did not.