

Community Update with Mayor Nickels

01-03-2010

“A Look Into 2010”

I hope everyone had a blessed New Year celebration. We can look at the highs and lows of 2009 – but we always must remember to look to tomorrow, and 2010 has quickly come upon us.



As we look forward to a new year we can see many of the same challenges we faced in the last one. The economy continues to be stagnant, unemployment numbers are high, and the signs of a speedy recovery are faint. The City of Manitowoc is no different than any other city in those regards.

However, the City of Manitowoc continues to hold its own, and continues to be successful even through some of the most difficult times some of us have ever seen.

As we move forward into 2010, our focus will be more in depth, first with the Dermatology Associates project, an estimated \$8,000,000 facility in the heart of our downtown adding upwards of 200 well paying jobs over the next few years. Then, the larger picture of retaining and attracting jobs to our market. We need to put that as our main focus as we look toward a possible economic rebound nationwide, and I want to be ahead of the curve. We have done a lot in Manitowoc, which has separated us from most, but we still need these manufacturing jobs which have created what Manitowoc is today.

The key there is job retention. Companies such as Orion Energies, Tower Tech, the Manitowoc Company, Burger Boat, our entire Industrial Park, have been huge assets to our community for many years – and we need them to be for many years to come. There is one common phrase that business leaders have commonly said throughout our community, that is: “things are looking better”. It is gratifying to hear that as they continue to provide quality jobs to our citizens.

2009 was a rough year for all of us, we look to 2010 to turn that boat around and make things better.

Additionally, if you get an opportunity, stop down to Jovial Coffee located in the younker’s mall, they serve coffee all day, along with great snacks in a warming atmosphere. Help support one of the newest businesses to locate on our north end of the city.