

Remarks: Reorg. 1.5.15

I want to start off by saying this year has been a lot like the advertisement I loved as a kid. The saying was " Sometimes you feel like a nut, sometimes you don't. Almond Joy has nuts Mounds Don't." This is how the running and attending the many meetings during 2014 made me feel. I must say now that 2014 is over I feel like the older lady in the Wendy's commercial that said " Where is the beef!"

Yes where is the beef or if I may change the wording alittle where are the challenges . I know from working with my committee appointments there are are many challenges this year. Let me first thank Mayor Lempert for having the fortitude and desire to serve this great town of Princeton. As someone born in Princeton I could never have been so proud to have a progressive and fair minded Mayor. I want to Thank Council President Bernie Miller for having the leadership skills to guide this council to consensus on issues where I for one has simply given up but when Council President Miller would ask lets give this another shot. At that point the council seems to come together to get things done.

Let me say that Princeton is lucky that Councilwoman Jenny Crumiller decided to Run for office and serve. Jenny brings a unique and different opinion that lets all of us think outside the box. I have said this before and I will say this again Jenny has a gigantic heart and really does care about everyone. On every Council there is a council person (which is a good thing) that understands and keep the process on course. Our process professional is Councilwoman Butler. Councilwoman Butler because of her keen eye and finance background has proved to be an Asset on Council this year. Sometimes municipal councils need " moral direction and a sounding board." Councilwoman Howard has been such a person. Our Latino's brothers and sisters and so many other groups that where taken advantage of soon learned there is a new " caring and persuasive " moral Sheriff in town. Last but not lease is that this council because of the large amount of information that we receive on a daily basis. We have a detailed and thoughtful councilman name Patrick Simon that dissects the information and may fix or recommend substantives change that help tighten the ordinance or complaint.

We are so lucky to have an excellent Senior staff that supports council and make things work. Special thank you for the 2014 hard workers, Bob Brushi, Marc Dahsield, Kathy Monzo, Linda McDermott, Chief Nick Sutter, Bob Hough, Bob Kiser, Gary DeBlasio, Bob Hough and Bob Gregory.

I wanted to just say this so when I say where are the challenges (or where is the beef) I want the public to know that you have a team in place to represent you and do what's best for Princeton. Princeton Council is ready for the challenges and our unique attributes are ready and able to serve.

I am hoping this year to work with my committee assignments and continue to assist as a positive lightning rod. On **Affordable Housing** we are hoping to finish the blending of ordinances and present a cohesive ordinance to present to council. Under the leadership of Kristy Peacock we are also on top of establishing more affordable housing opportunities in Princeton.

**Corner House** is running as efficient as anyone could hope for. The concerns are certain cuts from the county and other funding sources. We don't want these to impede in services that are rendered. The outreach to high risk teens is going well. All leadership programs are busting through the roof in participation. We have been so lucky to have the leadership of Executive Director Gary De Blasio To continue to think of ways to save our children.

#### **Princeton Alcohol and Drug Alliance:**

We are heading in a New Year with new vision and more robust plans to let many people know the importance of substance abuse. Under the leadership of Janet Giles We are looking for more members that are sincere and ready to make a difference through education and interaction.

#### **Public Safety Committee:**

Under the leadership of Chief Nick Sutter the Princeton Police should receive

An award for the most thoughtful, sincere and caring Police dept. in new jersey.

The list is through the roof of police and community interactions and the Public Safety Committee with the help of Police Commissioner Councilwoman Heather Howard should be recognized for doing a fine job. Challenges would be to complete the strategic planning process and continue to hire a diverse and Credible police personnel.

To make a long story short I am happy. I am jumping for joy. I am elated to take on the challenges of 2015. It is a blessing to have reached this point.

I am aware that reducing our towns debt was at the forefront of almost all council members goals for the year 2014. I am hoping we continue that goal for 2015 but not at the expense of slashing and dumping certain services that are essential for our community.

I am excited about the study that will be conducted to see what space is needed for the fire dept. personnel. These woman and men are our unsung heroes. They respond to fires and disasters that many of us (including me) would be afraid to do. I want this council to continue to support their efforts to consolidate and

Find the space needed to operate an efficient volunteer fire dept.

In closing let me thank all of you. Thank you for your support and thank you for having faith in your local representatives.

Happy New Year!!!

Thank you,

Lance Liverman