

Bob Cooke

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From: wabsci@aol.com  
Sent: Friday, March 14, 2014 10:26 AM  
To: Bob Cooke  
Subject: failure of the legislation gives us time

Bob,

according to my understanding from the attorneys, the deadlines are off until after the primary.

as i drafted the fiscal plan, as well as the letters to neighboring utilities and fire departments, it occurs to me that this might be a good time for you and i to talk about the potential for refining certain service configurations, and whether the City could be considering other alternatives.

when an annexation is initiated, there's often a cacophony of yelling that makes it difficult to do anything else. but in some cases, discussion of annexation has been an opportunity to discuss public policies which revise revenues and perhaps reduce municipal costs.

since the pressure is off, i'd like to come down and visit with you on the specific topics of utility service and fire service configuration. annexation would be at the core of our discussion, but in some cases, other communities have found it possible to reorganize services in a manner that ends up being advantageous to all parties.

in some of the cases, special interests attempted to politicize the public policy discussions, but in most cases, the public could see the advantages of the public policy discussion in providing better management of services. i always hope that good government is good politics, but i know that sometimes the two are at odds. i am comfortable that you can help me understand the parameters in madison.

i have an annexation remonstrance hearing next week in boone county, but after that can we get together and just chat? you have a long experience in madison and i am largely ignorant, so i'd like to let you educate me, if you are willing.

thank you.

mike shaver

3/21/2014