May 12, 2016

Rapid City Common Council
300 Sixth Street
Rapid City, SD 57701

Dear Council Member:

The budget season is underway and I want to update you on a few things.

As the budget season progresses through late July, I will be trimming down my calendar events in order to leave more time available for budget work. In the final weeks of my contact with the City budget, I may not be taking any meetings whatsoever. You may see the effects of this in that you may receive an increase in requests for ribbon-cuttings, reading proclamations and other similar items which are currently being covered by me.

The budget process is extremely important to Rapid City and with the realization that 99% of the budget work occurs prior to any budget hearings, I need your help. I am looking for specific feedback on budget items such as streets, parks, subsidies or any other regularly budgeted expenditure that is important to you and your constituents. To be blunt, your feedback should not wait until budget hearings begin.

Priority based budget training is ongoing and City department heads are working hard articulating and refining programs under their jurisdiction. There are several more days of hands-on training for department directors and myself, and in summary, I will just simply say that the process is enlightening.

Let me know if you have any questions or concerns or would like to get together for a meeting specific to the budget.

Sincerely,

Steve Allender, Mayor
Rapid City, South Dakota

Cc: Rapid City Common Council