

Mayors Notes

February 2009

As many of you know, the state is short of its budget. The numbers are somewhere between 4.8 to 5.1 billion dollars. The budget shortfall is for the 2009-2010 years.

The City of Wood Lake was not affected by the budget shortfall this year, since the government decided not to “touch” the cities with 1,000 people or less. We are well aware we will be on the list for the 2009-2010 cutting list.

What this means for the residents of Wood Lake. There were a few projects that were in the works, ex: the street maintenance, building a new city shop building. We do have some funds set aside for those projects but with the upcoming budget shortfall, we may have to use those funds. We will most likely have to postpone those projects.

We did not raise the taxes in the city for 2009. We most likely will not be so lucky in 2010. I do know that we cannot raise taxes enough to cover large losses in our state aid. It's very concerning.

If anyone has any suggestions, or would like to express your comments or concerns, please feel free to email me at wlmayor@hotmail.com, call my home at 485-3750, or come to our council meeting.