



January 3, 2025

Dear Tetonia friends,

We sailed through 2024 and now we have a New Year! 2025! Happy New Year!

I think of the many things that we accomplished in 2024. We had many positive experiences including our incredible city activities, school successes including sport wins, exceptional music and drama activities, successful business ventures, weddings, births and graduations. We also had some hard events such as the closure of Teton Pass, deaths, accidents, difficult business ventures, etc. The key is that we did it together. We all celebrated the wins and we mourned the losses. We were there for each other. Together, we are strong!

Given that we often see cold and snowy weather in January, remember to do the following:

- When the thermometer is below 10 degrees, keep your faucet dripping at night
- Keep cars and garbage cans out of the right-of-way so we can clear snow
- Do not shovel your snow into the street
- Make sure you safely use your fireplaces and heaters
- Drive appropriately for the weather conditions

We have incredible opportunities lying ahead in 2025. I am including an interview I did for the Teton Valley News which highlights the new year!

What are you most looking forward to for the city in 2025? The new year, 2025, will be a growth year for Tetonia. With our growth, we will have new opportunities. I most look forward to the chances I will have to interact with our Tetonia residents. Whether it be at one of our city celebrations, at a City Council Meeting, during my walks through the city or elsewhere in the valley, I love meeting and talking with our community members!

What was the greatest challenge you/the city navigated in 2024? The biggest challenge of 2024 was finding adequate funding for the City. We aggressively sought funding through grants, donations and fundraising to fund our different projects. Sadly, our Local Option Tax (which would have taxed our visitors who use our resources) failed by 2

votes. Still, we were able to get the funding we needed to keep our town running smoothly and well during 2024 -- while being fiscally responsible.

What is one thing you learned last year as mayor of Tetonia? I am always pleasantly surprised as to what we can accomplish when we work together! By working closely as a community, as a City staff, as a City Council, as a member of the valley and by partnering with agencies, other cities, the county, the State and our incredible non-profit organizations, we can (and will) do incredible things!

What do you feel are the most important priorities the city will need to focus on this year? Here is a list of my 11 top priorities for Tetonia for 2025! (1) Remain fiscally responsible; (2) Maintain and improve our water system for future growth; (3) Maintain and improve our sewer system for future growth; (4) Continue to work with the County to establish fair and reasonable parameters for our Area of Impact around Tetonia; (5) Foster growth in a way that retains our small town atmosphere and allows for improvements; (6) Create more opportunities to celebrate the heritage of Tetonia; (7) Improve our parks to allow for stronger and healthier individual, family and community opportunities; (8) Improve the Tetonia Rodeo Grounds to allow for more public use; (9) provide growth opportunities for our young people through our parks, library, and schools; (10) improve the look of Tetonia and (11) ensure that our residents have sufficient food, clothing and resources.

What's a goal you hope to achieve in 2025? I am excited for many of our plans for Tetonia during 2025! We will see improvements at our park including the construction of ADA approved restrooms and improved recreation facilities; improvements to our water and sewer system which will allow future growth; improvements with our roads as possible; new residents and new businesses! We will also have some incredible activities such as the Snow Plane Rally, Easter Egg Hunt, Tetonia Celebrates America, Trunk or Treat, etc. We will continue to partner with organizations such as Food for Good to make sure we continue to have adequate food, clothing and resources within our community. It will be a good year!

Thank you to all of you for being part of our wonderful community!

Looking forward to a great new year!

Mayor Brent Schindler