

Mayor's Message and Introduction to Special Meeting of Marble Rock City Council  
February 11, 2008

Welcome to this special meeting of the Marble Rock City Council. I have attempted to call a special meeting of this body in order to conduct the most urgent city business. I regret that I was unable to achieve a quorum of the city council sooner, but it seems I will have a difficult time receiving cooperation from members of the council.

I have consulted with several attorneys about the Rules of Procedure and all of them agree that the Rules of Procedure are statutory. They must be promulgated and offered in the form of either an ordinance or resolution signed by the city attorney. If the council believes they can push the rules through illegally or in an unacceptable form, I will not hesitate to utilize my veto power. I will appoint a committee to work out the very significant details of the Rules.

I will not consider any appointment for city attorney until all of the members of the City Council and the citizens of Marble Rock have been fully informed about the possible appointees. Again, I will appoint a committee to interview and gather information concerning the possible appointees such as, hourly fees, travel expense, availability for meetings, retainer fees, experience and more. Member Handley will not be the self appointed committee. He has chosen to ignore the January 7<sup>th</sup> council directive to work with me on this issue; therefore I will appoint other members of the council to select the appointee.

I am not going to get into the issues of past meetings. I am not going to ask for approval for tonight's agenda. I am not going to argue with council members. I am moving directly into the special meeting agenda. There will be no prior comments allowed by any of the members of the city council as they will more than likely result in the city's urgent business not being addressed.

Tonight I propose that this body find a neutral third party mediator. I feel that the problems we are experiencing can be worked out with a little cooperation and willingness. I feel that there must be a peaceful transition of power in Marble Rock. Our country is unique in that respect. We are admired world wide for our ability to transfer power peacefully and graciously. It would be refreshing if I were able to conduct the business of Marble Rock without the interference of the past administration.

Very Truly Yours,

Doug Merfeld, Mayor.