

## **2<sup>nd</sup> Email from Councilman Agold sent to residents on 12/29/25:**

This is my second email sent in preparation for our January council meeting where the subject of the roles of Mayor and Council are on the agenda.

We live in a country with three branches of government: executive, legislative, and judiciary. The branches are separate with their own responsibilities. This is true at the federal and at the state level.

In our little town, we don't have a judiciary branch.

The functions of legislative and executive are combined into one body. This system is not unique to EO. As I understand it, in the UK, the many members of parliament are elected by their respective constituencies. The majority party then elects the Prime Minister. The PM is simply a member of parliament who is selected to lead that body. He is the head of the government. He selects his cabinet from among the members of parliament.

I read a story about Winston Churchill, then PM of the UK. He met a few times with Stalin and Roosevelt during WWII as they fought the Axis. Churchill pointed out that Stalin was in power without end. Roosevelt would stay in power for his four year term. Churchill said that he, Churchill, could be displaced as PM tomorrow. Eventually, this did happen after victory in Europe (and before victory over Japan) when he was removed from his position. He returned to being just another member of parliament.

The PM is always in a tenuous position. He can be demoted any day.

Granted, our mayor is elected for a specified term. But, the similarity is that the Mayor is one member of the Council, the one who holds the gavel and presides over the meetings. The Mayor has no unilateral power above any other member. This is defined by state law as we learned at our last council meeting.

Our current point of discussion pertains to the function of the Mayor and what authority and duty go with that office.

My next email will give an example of the role of the Chief Executive.

This push and pull over authority is nothing new. Look at the federal government over the last year. One branch of government does something, and another branch pushes back.

This is how our lives are. It happens in our homes when one spouse does something, and the other spouse pushes back.

This should not come as a surprise that in our little government one person tries to exert some level of control such that another person or persons provides a check on what they perceive as an overreach. There is nothing new here.

I will stop here and continue soon with some more thoughts.

Don Agold  
Alderman