

## TRANSCRIPT – COUNCIL MEETING – January 12, 2004

**Randy Erdman:** Okay, I wanna add a couple of things here. First of all I checked with Austin and Mason City. They both do it. Mason City does theirs on live feed and they have a government channel and they also in addition to that they run clips on the What's going on in the Library, What's going on with Park & Rec, so on and so forth. They claim that their cable live is really highly rated. People do watch it and they have gotten more involved in local politics and there's a better understanding in how city government works. Austin video tapes theirs. They play them twice on Saturday, twice on Sunday. They also do the School Board in the Council Chambers, they also do Library, Park & Rec. if there's a big issue with. We've got an expansion of the airport coming up, they run the airport on there. So they use it for different things. Now, the County Board has their own ideas about video taping, but me personally, you know the cry is that everybody's been left out in the cold in this community and their not involved in local government and they don't know what's going on and everything's behind closed doors and so on and so forth. Well, this brings it out in the open and people are as informed as they want to be and this is a tool to get them more informed and more involved. And like Ron said it best, Mr. Gabrielsen, he said if you can get one or two more people involved, that's a plus. When I sat in one of these meetings and heard somebody from the audience holler at someone else to "shut up", that kind of motivated me to look to see about getting these on television to become more professional because I think if we can get people, better people, than myself to run for office and involved in government, the City is money ahead. That's my opinion.

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**Roger Bok:** Evening, 1012 Cato Drive. The Councilman over here, Erdman, commented that I told somebody to shut up up here. This is fine, use my name, Mr. Erdman. I don't even care and I did, and the man that did it, apologized to the Mayor because he was out of order. You should tell the public that. All of this stuff that comes about around here and you know I've never heard so many comments from my Mayor how good our help is and how come all this stuff is so bad out there? We've got Christmas trees down there that's got plastic all over them, throw them down there, take them all out there, save us the help.