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## From The Desk of Mayor Mary A. Liske City of Luna Pier, Michigan

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### **Mayor**

Mary A. Liske

### **Inaugural Address**

January 10, 2008

### **City Administrator**

Gregory Stewart

### **City Council**

Dawn Gramza  
Chris Heid  
Kenneth Kruzal  
Richard Murray  
Richard Russell, Jr.  
Nola Young

### **City Clerk**

P. Michelle Cureton

### **City Treasurer**

DeAnn Parran

### **Building Inspector**

Michael Demski

### **Assessor**

Chris Renius

Change is both exciting and unsettling. To create change takes a lot of courage and considerable effort. We now find ourselves with an opportunity to recreate ourselves and move in a positive direction for the improvement of the community. This can already be seen by the simple movement of furniture in both the Administrator and Mayor's Offices, something both of us did without discussing it with each other. The rearrangement of these spaces now invites the public to approach those who work for them. This may seem simple and insignificant, but it speaks volumes about our personalities, and our willingness to be both open and available.

In order for all of us to maximize our potential, a few sacrifices will need to be made. We will all have to look forward and not behind. If we want to move forward, we will have to give up what we assume is our "right" to dredge up the past. We need to attack the problems and not the people. I am confident that, through problem solving, seeking counsel, and negotiation, we can address and solve the issues that face our city.

First and foremost are the waste water treatment plant, and the upgrades that need to be made to the plant. It is essential that we hit the ground running as we address all the issues that will need to be solved in order to make this happen before the deadline in 2010. I ask that the Council consider information provided in a timely manner, so that decisions can be made without delay.

As in many similar communities, we face financial difficulties. There never seems like there is enough funding to go around in order to accomplish all of our obligations. We will have to be wise, creative and use every resource available. The city of Luna Pier has done what some of us do in our private lives; We overspend without regard for our needs in the future. The last administration has begun the difficult process of changing this bad habit. We will continue to look ahead; Anticipating our future demands making the necessary preparations. I probably do not need to voice how long and arduous this process will be. We will continue to focus and move forward by updating the master plan for our community.

I have had many people, residents and non-residents tell me that our city is "A diamond in the rough". We must decide if we want Luna Pier to be a destination, a wonderful place to live and raise a family, or both. As we define what we want our city to become we can take hold of the vision that will chart our course. This is the privilege and duty of every citizen. My hope for this City Council is that we will make every effort to participate and attend activities within the community. We must listen to every voice; young and old, rich and poor. Only then can we assure that we have a grasp on what our constituents desire. Let us face forward and focus on the prize!