

# *City of West Branch*

~A Heritage for Success~

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Office of the City Administrator

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

June 16, 2015

Contact: City Administrator Matt Muckler (319) 643-5888

### **West Branch Mourns the Passing of Mayor Mark Worrell**

West Branch, Iowa – The West Branch City Council and staff join the community in mourning the loss of Mayor Mark Worrell. “Mark Worrell put all his heart and soul into his beloved City of West Branch,” stated Councilmember Jordan Ellyson. “He will be greatly missed, and our thoughts and prayers are with all his family and friends.”

Mark Worrell was first elected to the West Branch City Council in November of 1995. He served in that role for over seventeen years, until he was appointed as Mayor to fill the unexpired term of Mayor Don Kessler on March 18, 2013. Mayor Worrell was then elected to a four-year term in November 2013.

“Mark spent countless hours working on behalf of the West Branch community,” said Mayor Pro Tem Colton Miller. “He truly was a public servant and wanted to do what was best for West Branch as a whole.” Soon after taking office as Mayor, Worrell successfully lobbied the City Council to add the Pledge of Allegiance to the agenda of each Council Meeting. He was passionate about improving the City’s infrastructure and parks.

Mayor Worrell served as the vice-chair of the Cedar County Economic Development Commission (CCEDCO). He was very interested in maintaining high quality public safety services for the residents of West Branch. Mayor Worrell often expressed his satisfaction with the planning efforts that were adopted during his tenure as Mayor, including the City of West Branch Capital Improvement Plan (CIP), annual City Council goal setting and the Strategic Plan for Park & Rec Capital Improvements. He was instrumental in the implementation of the CIP into the Fiscal Year 2016 Annual Budget.

Mayor Worrell worked hard to ensure that Hoover’s Hometown Days was a celebration that inspired pride in the West Branch community. He was a strong advocate for the City’s partnerships with local businesses and service organizations, the Herbert Hoover National Historic Site, the West Branch Community School District, Main Street West Branch, Scattergood Friends School & Farm, the Herbert Hoover Presidential Library-Museum, the Hoover Presidential Foundation, CCEDCO, the Iowa City Area Development Group (ICAD), and the Mayors of Cedar County.

Per the City Code of Ordinances, Mayor Pro Tem Colton Miller will assume the duties of the Mayor.