

## Chief's Address To The Nation From Page 1

(5) In his closing sentences Mayor Mainord states the "City would like to avoid litigation" and set the response date of February 14, 2014 or the City will "proceed with other legal options".

I immediately informed our Business Committee, tribal attorney, and staff through e-mail. The Business Committee conferred and decided to contact all four tribal nations to schedule a joint meeting. The Citizen Potawatomi Nation offered to host this meeting, and all four nations met with attorneys and staff in attendance.

This was truly an historical meeting with all the central tribes of the Shawnee area and their respective leaders in one room to join together to provide unity in a collective effort to protect our sovereignty.

The tribes jointly decided to answer the Mayor with a letter signed by each tribal leader.

The letter from the tribal leaders points out that 1) after careful review of Mainord's letter, it appears, at first glance, "to be based on a number of incorrect premises, both factual and legal, that will need to be reviewed more thoroughly before we can discuss your concerns", and 2) "the proposal does not allow for sufficient time for analysis".

The joint tribes proposed that the Mayor, his staff, the tribal leaders of the four tribes and their staffs, meet to discuss concerns on March 24, 2014 at 10 a.m., hosted by the Citizen Potawatomi Nation.

The letter from the joint tribes also requests that the mayor provide "the data used to support the premise that the City of Shawnee sales tax revenues are declining"; "the data used to support the premise tribal economic development is directly responsible for any declining City sales tax revenues"; "tax incentives and/or rebates offered or provided over

the last five years to non-tribal enterprises by the City of Shawnee or by the State for development or preservation of businesses within Shawnee"; and "donations, contributions, payments in lieu of taxes, and similar assistance provided over the last five years by the aforementioned Tribes to the City of Shawnee".

This was sent to Mayor Mainord under date of February 14th, and as of Monday, February 23rd, no response has been received.

The Sac and Fox Nation has two smoke shops and a casino located within the Shawnee city limits.

### Short Takes

- I'm issuing a public welcome to our new Chief of Staff (COS) Ernest Clark, Shawnee, OK and Chief Financial Officer (CFO) Phillip Ellis, Pawnee, OK.

- The Community Building parking lot is nearing completion. Use of the building and events should resume taking place by May 1st.

- The new lagoon located northeast of the pow-wow grounds should be completed by mid-March.

- Self-Governance training for our Business Committee; governmental staff; and tribal membership is in the planning stage and to have the national Self-Governance Communication and Education Tribal Consortium (SGCETC) staff conduct this training. The SGCETC office has been relocated to McAlester, OK and Sac and Fox Nation has a seat within this board.

Our Sac and Fox Nation is progressing. The groundwork has been put into place to move our Nation forward, and the struggle to protect our sovereignty continues - from the taking of our ancestral lands, removal to Oklahoma, and our right of self-governance as we continue our fight for our sovereignty.

Sincerely,  
George Thurman, Principal Chief



Bill Thorpe addresses those attending the Jim Thorpe Native American Games press conference. (Photo by Sac and Fox News)

## Jim Thorpe Native American Games From Page 1

the Opening Ceremony that will include a Parade of Nations, children's activities, health fair, and a stickball exhibition.

Thousands of Native American athletes, primarily young people, will participate in the Jim Thorpe Native American Games; making it one of the largest events of its kind.

"We are very excited about the opportunity to make the move to Shawnee. This community takes great pride in their ties to Jim Thorpe, and have welcomed the event with open arms," said Annetta Abbott, (Choctaw) Executive Director.

"The Native American communities know the importance and value of supporting healthy lifestyle choices for their youth. Some of the many benefits of the Games will include promoting leadership development, increasing cultural awareness and most importantly - motivating young people to achieve great things," said Abbott. "Our young people are not only the leaders of the future; they are the leaders of today."

The Jim Thorpe Native American Games are proud to welcome as presenting sponsors Nike N7, Muscogee

(Creek) Nation and the Citizen Potawatomi Nation. "Without the support of the corporate community and the tribes the Games would not be possible," said Abbott.

"I want everyone to know that I am very excited to hear that the Jim Thorpe Native American games are going to be conducted in our city this summer. I am always amazed at what can be done in a community when so many people pull together and what great things they can make happen," said Wes Mainord, Mayor of Shawnee.

"With Shawnee being the home of Jim Thorpe of the Sac and Fox Nation and his family, we are honored to host this event highlighting the athletic accomplishments of this Native American legend," stated Kinlee Farris, Executive Director Shawnee Convention and Visitors Bureau. "Our hotels, attractions, restaurants and retailers have come together to volunteer, provide sponsorships, and support this event. Without them, none of this would be possible."

For additional information on the Games call 405-208-9253 or info@jimthorpegames.com or visit their website www.jimthorpegames.com .

**SPECIAL PETITIONED GOVERNING COUNCIL**

March 29, 2014 @ 10:00 A.M.  
Sac and Fox Gymnasium

## Jim Thorpe Case From Page 1

the wrongs and injustices done to Indian people," Ward said. "It was written broadly by design. The circumstances surrounding the intended use of Jim Thorpe's remains as tourist attraction are among the many types of injustices committed in the past that

this law is intended to remedy."

The Borough has cited numerous legal grounds for its desire to keep the remains, Ward said, including arguing that it owns the remains as it would other property and that it has a constitutional right to keep them. Ward said the Borough's reasons do not have a sound basis in law. "From all appearances, the Borough is fighting the repatriation to keep the remains for basically the same reasons some schools have fought to keep Indian mascots," Ward said. "The case does not have any impact on the Borough's ability to keep the name Jim Thorpe." Ward, a former law clerk to the chief judge of the Tenth Circuit, said it is not known when a decision will be issued by the Third Circuit. He said the federal appeals courts attempt to issue decisions fairly quickly, but the process can often take a few months, due to the judge's overall caseloads and the fact that they may have to address other urgent matters quickly.

**SAC AND FOX NATION**

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A COPY OF THE LEGAL DOCUMENT CHANGING YOUR NAME AND A COPY OF YOUR NEW SOCIAL SECURITY CARD MUST BE ATTACHED.

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**URGENT  
NOTICE  
TO VETERANS**

Men and Women especially WW1, WW2 and Korean

The Sac and Fox National Public Library is asking for your DD 214's for their records and

**Memorial Monument Purposes**

See Cathrine Walker  
1-918-968-0705