

## By Jan Schultz The Imperial Republican

Dave Fulton said he grew up in a family who served others.

That's what led the Imperial man to apply for the vacant seat on the city council left upon the recent death of J.D. Reeder.

Fulton got his wish Monday when the three seated council members voted 3-0 to approve Mayor Dwight Coleman's appointment.

Coleman said having to fill a council seat due to a death is something no mayor wants to do. He said he talked to a lot of people about the position and felt he came up with the best person to fill the seat.

The city received three application letters and the mayor said he visited with two others.

"I've had a lifelong desire to serve in an elected office," Fulton said the day after his appointment.

Fulton, who was named president of First Bank & Trust Co., in May 2013, said much of the influence to serve came from his grandfather, the only mayor Millard, Neb., ever had who served for decades.

Fulton said he used to drive his grandfather to the many meetings he needed to attend.

"I sat through a lot of meetings," he said.

The importance of service is evident in his resume.

It shows 25-plus years as a volunteer firefighter and EMT. He is a nationally-certified first responder and worked in coordinating EMS and fire training in Kansas. He also completed National Incident Management System courses and has decades of severe weather and storm-spotting work.

He holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in business administration from McPherson College and an Associates Degree in ag business from the UN School of Technical Agriculture in Curtis.

Since moving to Imperial, he has been active in the Imperial Lions Club and will be its president in 2015-16. He is also active in the Imperial Berean Church.

In his application letter to the mayor and council, Fulton said he would be honored to continue in service on behalf of the city of Imperial.

He and his wife, Patty, are parents of four grown children.

Fulton will be formally sworn into office at the council's May 5 meeting and will serve through December 2016.