



May 13, 2016

Mayor Donald D. Lyons
City Council Members

Dear Mayor Lyons and City Council Members:

Next meeting: none

The following report has been prepared to provide you with an update on current issues or projects in progress:

Local Street Paving

Preparations are underway for the local street paving project. As always, sanitary sewer and storm sewer repairs need to be completed prior to the start of paving. Two sanitary sewer and storm sewer manholes were replaced at the intersection of Center and Spruce Streets on Wednesday of this week and sanitary sewer wye locations were installed on Helena Street on Thursday of this week. It is anticipated that the paving contractor will begin work in the next few weeks.

The streets that are scheduled to be paved are Center Street, from West to Spruce; Green Street, from W. Wayne to W. Telegraph; Helena Street, mid-block to E. Prairie Ronde; Marcellus Highway, from Nubour Street east to City limits; Marion Street, from Wooden to S. Paul; Paris Avenue, from Second to Third; Second Avenue, from Paris east 50'; Singer Street, from Marion to Wolf; Third Avenue, from Paris to Henry; and Walnut, from Main to W. High.

As a reminder to residents and drivers, please be careful in those areas where paving is anticipated or ongoing. There may be times when access will be restricted when milling or paving is taking place. Please drive slowly due to the fresh asphalt needing time to cure. Avoid sharp turns and sudden stops and starts. These types of maneuvers could damage the fresh asphalt by causing ruts and gouges in the roadway.

Penn Township Water Agreement

For the past 5 years the City of Dowagiac has managed and operated the Penn Township water system. That 5 year agreement comes to an end in June 2016. On Wednesday night, the Cass County Board of Public Works met and approved the agreement with the City of Dowagiac to manage and operate the Penn Township water system for another 5 years. We look forward to continuing to help provide safe and reliable drinking water to the residents of Penn Township.

Nubour Water System

Last year Wayne Township completed construction of an extension of the City of Dowagiac water system to residents in the Nubour and Davis Lane areas. Residents are continuing to connect to the system and eleven (11) permits have now been issued.

Electric Rate True-up Meeting

On Monday the electric coalition of which we are a member, IMMUDA, will be meeting with AEP representatives to receive annual true-up information and established the wholesale power rates that the city and other members of IMMUDA will be charged for the next 12 months. I will have more information on this item in the next Friday Letter.

Airport Terminal Building

Staff and engineers continue to follow up and develop a plan for rebidding the construction of a new airport terminal building. It became clear from talking with contractors who chose not to bid that the August 31 deadline for project completion was too tight because of all the other work that is being bid or in progress right now. However, if they could start work this year but have the option of completing work in late spring/early summer of next year it is likely that we will receive 3 to 5 bids on this project. Starting the project this year is important because \$100,000 of federal grant money will no longer be available if money is not spent by August 31.

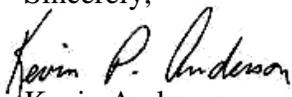
The plan now is to receive bids on June 15, 2016 with the expectation that the contractors will complete at least \$100,000 worth of work prior to August 31, 2016. That will allow the city to process payments and not lose out on \$100,000 of the eligible grant work due to strict federal timelines for spending.

Dowagiac Area History Museum

The closing event for the Dogwood Fine Arts Festival's 25th Anniversary Season will be hosted at the Dowagiac Area History Museum, Saturday, May 14, 7:00 pm. The exhibit "If Only I Could Fly: An Aviation Artist Comes Home," consist of works from Dowagiac native, Rick Herter. Program, gallery opening and artist reception is free and open to the public.

The previously, rescheduled event at the Museum is coming up soon. The program, "Southwest Michigan Eats: Food and Culture in Southwest Michigan" will be presented by Chef Daysha Amster of Olfactory Hue Bistro on Wednesday, May 18 at 6:30 p.m.

Sincerely,



Kevin Anderson
City Manager