



December 31, 2015

Mayor Donald D. Lyons
City Council Members

Dear Mayor Lyons and City Council Members:

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

Upcoming Meetings: None

2015 Highlights

Part of the annual audit includes a section that highlights activities the City was engaged in during the fiscal year that ended September 30, 2015. The draft audit has been received and will soon be finalized. I thought the highlight section is a good “looking back” list for Council to consider as we close out the year:

Financial Highlights

- The City’s total assets and deferred outflows of resources increased \$1,287,057
- Property Tax revenue increased \$8,796
- GASB 68 was implemented and the MERS pension Unfunded Accrued Liability (UAL) is now recorded on the financial statements.
- MERS has been paid an additional \$60,000, (\$5,000 per month) above the annual required contribution for its defined benefit program in an effort to reduce the UAL
- State Revenue Fund Bond has been signed to assist with the construction of major improvements to the wastewater treatment plant
- Second year for Farmer’s Market at the Dowagiac Area History Museum
- Completion of renovations to the third floor of exhibits at the Dowagiac Area History Museum
- Eleven wayfinding signs were installed around the City
- Completion of construction of ambulance building in the Dowagiac Industrial Park
- The City entered into a three year lease with Pride Care with option to renew
- We completed our second full year of acting as account managers of the Cassopolis Area Utilities Authority
- Completion of James E. Snow Professional Building, second story became operational
- Started design engineering & planning for the first floor of the James E. Snow Professional building

- Firefighter personal protective equipment and washer was purchased in part by a USDA Grant
- Police department was able to purchase body cameras that will be partially funded by a grant from our insurance company
- Completion and dedication of Russom Park
- Completion of resurfacing numerous streets
- Completed of Main & Penn parking lot
- Started design engineering & planning on Riverside Drive extension
- Secured a grant to assist in the demolition of the Goerlich Building, a blighted industrial building adjacent to downtown
- Purchased properties and initiated the planning efforts for improvements to downtown parking and Division Street Corridor improvements

Limited financial resources force deliberate consideration and difficult choices when deciding how to prudently invest those finite resources. City's need to be committed to maintaining and improving the infrastructure necessary to support the economic and social systems necessary to improve the quality of life for all. The above list demonstrates that choices and financial commitments made during the last fiscal year have expressed a commitment Council has made to an infrastructure that continues to propel the community forward.

We look forward to what 2016 will hold.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kevin P. Anderson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Kevin P. Anderson
City Manager