



May 30, 2014

Mayor Donald D. Lyons  
City Council Members

City Meetings: None

Calendar: Farmers Market, Wednesday and Saturday

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:

Facebook Data

It has been several months since I last reported the usage of the City's Facebook page. It has been interesting to watch the growth in visits to the page over the past 6 months. The following reports the number of reads that various topics have garnered:

Highest reads

Memorial Day Parade	505
Re-fine opening	424
Dogwood Chorale Concert	404
New Superintendent	379
Farm Market tomorrow	296
Storytime at Sculptures	230
Ninja Donkeys	171
New DDS building	100

Topics People Revisited

Relay for Life	783
White House Thanksgiving	246

Police Department Grant

The police department partnered with the Cass County Sheriff's Department on a grant through the Homeland Security 5th District for modems for all marked patrol vehicles. We were recently advised that we were awarded the grant. This grant will allow the police department to have modems installed in each patrol vehicle which will give us connectivity for future software as well as making the cars Wi-Fi "hotspots". This grant was awarded county-wide allowing all patrol vehicles to be similarly equipped.

### Front and Main Building

What a difference a week can make when watching the progress on the Front and Main building construction site. The steel beams, floor joists and decking has been placed for the second floor. The walls for the second floor should go up next week.



### Farmers & Artisan Market

Dowagiac's new Farm & Artisan Market opened on Wednesday at Division and Railroad streets at the museum. Eckler's Produce & Greenhouse and Sprague Farms were both on site with great produce, including asparagus, tomatoes, cucumbers, dill, summer squash, lettuce and spinach, plus rhubarb. Earl's BBQ has fired up his grill and is serving barbecued rib tips, ribs and chicken for lunch! Gardeners will also enjoy the great selection of beautiful hanging baskets and perennials. Overall, the vendors indicated that they were pleasantly surprised by the number of people who turned out on the first day.

More vendors have committed to participate on Saturday and we expect to see a solid, growing marketplace established during course of this summer.

Sincerely,



Kevin P. Anderson  
City Manager

Attachment