



# City Manager's Report

June 14, 2021

## Economic Projects

<b>River Front - Powerplants</b>	MeDEP awarded the environmental study of the powerplants to County Environmental. MeDEP is including the tanks into the scope of work (tanks still owned by Merlin One). City working with potential buyer, agenda item for this meeting.
<b>Broadband Initiative</b>	Met with Spectrum to discuss expansion options. Sent them a list of 448 homes that need service. They will get a bid back. Still waiting for cost of expansion. CUD continuing to evaluate possible operation of a dark fiber system.
<b>Ogren Dump Solar Project</b>	Right-of-way issue on Ogren Rd for Versant resolved. Final lease agreements out for signatures.
<b>2021 CDBG Applications</b>	Waiting for funding decision from the State.
<b>Events and Marketing</b>	Ribbon cuttings scheduled: Luke's Small Engine on Saturday June 12 @ 9 (grand opening starts at 8am and free barbeque starting at 10am); Hilltop Heights ribbon cutting on Tuesday June 22 @ 3:30 (see separate item on Manager's report for more details). Next Thursdays on Sweden Street is June 17, 6pm - 9pm. Please check website for additional events and updates.
<b>Landbank</b>	On current agenda as part of the tax acquired property disposal policy for final approval.
<b>Title 13 Rewrite</b>	Major administrative changes on agenda for public hearing and possible action. Planning Board now working on Home Occupations and process revisions.
<b>Federal American Rescue Plan Act</b>	Still waiting for final amounts and restrictions. Must be spent by December 2024 or returned to treasury. Meeting scheduled for next week with the County and neighboring municipalities to discuss cost sharing opportunities.
<b>Blight Cleanup</b>	Asbestos abatement ongoing at 864 Main, demolition contract has been signed with a start date on or about June 18 with completion on or about July 18. Sent eviction notices to occupants of tax acquired properties on Hillcrest and North Street. Police department hand delivered notices that were returned. Chief Gahagan provided CEO Murchison with a phone number to a local contact for 37 Home Farm Road. 5 Notice of Violations sent over past two weeks.
<b>Birdseye Cleanup</b>	DEP has given final approval for soils cleanup. Haley Ward to submit additional concrete sampling.
<b>60 Access Highway</b>	Building officials have met with developers. Still waiting for completed plans on building reuse.
<b>River Front - Master Plan</b>	Stake holder group conducting surveys of public. Next meeting: June 16 to discuss survey results, conceptual Riverfront Development District and begin a Master Plan effort.
<b>Façade Improvement Program</b>	Modified program details for next spring to include expiration period. 2021 grantees moving forward with their projects.
<b>Hilltop Senior Living</b>	Please attend the ribbon cutting and open house 3:30 - 4:00 Tuesday June 22. Building tours begin at 2pm.
<b>Sitel Building</b>	Mr. Cassidy submitted permit application and documentation to receive his façade improvement grant funds for signage.
<b>Aldrich ATV/Snowmobile Storage</b>	Property purchased from CEGC. Owner waiting to see how Jarosz Storage on Limestone works before moving ahead.
<b>Jarosz Storage - Limestone St</b>	Construction ongoing at the 50 X 100 building.

## Other Administrative Projects

<b>New City Manager Recruitment</b>	First round interviews are complete. Council will select top two candidates for second round of interviews and city tour.
<b>Union Negotiations.</b>	On the agenda for this meeting.
<b>Tax Acquired Property Policy</b>	Ordinance No. 4 on agenda for public hearing and adoption.
<b>Fire Structural Work</b>	Painters are finishing interior painting.
<b>Teague Park</b>	Splash pad work is moving forward. Concrete poured June 10.
<b>Public Safety Building</b>	Council Public Safety Committee will meet with architect consultants on Tuesday June 15 at 4:00 in the Council Chambers to discuss site options and public outreach efforts.
<b>Fire Station Renovations</b>	Waiting for sprinkler system bids before determining next steps on this project.
<b>Investment Policy</b>	Need to schedule next meeting.
<b>Trailer Park Closure</b>	Need to schedule next meeting of committee. Demolition contract has been signed for Lot # 75 (dangerous building) with a start date on or about June 18 with completion on or about July 18.
<b>Fish Hatchery Bridge</b>	Waiting for notice from MeDOT about additional meetings.
<b>Cable Franchise Renewal</b>	State legislation being considered to have all franchises regulated by state.
<b>Airport</b>	Fencing materials are backlogged 10 - 12 weeks.
<b>City Hall Boiler Systems</b>	Pre-meeting held on thermostats and valves. One company attended. Bids due Monday June 14.
<b>Chambers AV System</b>	Continuing to investigate sound issues, including possible interference from electronic devices.
<b>River Road</b>	Survey of Chomka property is complete. Requires discussion in executive session.
<b>New LED Street lights</b>	10 lights repaired. Work order submitted to replace mast arm and light on Bennet Drive by Walgreens.
<b>General Plan Update</b>	Still working on the current land use survey, which is needed for future land use discussions.
<b>Wage Policy</b>	No further action at this time.
<b>COVID-19 Status</b>	Caribou is open for business!
<b>Personnel Policy</b>	No further action at this time.
<b>Parking Lot Paving</b>	Fire station rear lot and library are slated for this year. Finalizing plans for station retaining wall repairs.
<b>Procurement Policy</b>	Felch & Company has provided feedback on the policy and made some recommendations. Will revise for Council.
<b>Personnel Changes</b>	Assistant City Clerk position is open. Public Works has openings. Library Director position will be added soon. Please check the website for additional details on career opportunities.