

**City Administrator's Report
March 6, 2026**

Water & Sewer

David Redler has successfully passed his Water Certification in February. Corey Zoubek will be seeking his Waste Water Certification in March. The Mayor's comments had information on both water and sewer, so not to be redundant here, these comments are brief.

Park

Fundraising for the Clark Street Park and Trail Expansion is going very well. We received a \$40,000 commitment for a Young Engagement Grant from NCF, BCFF, AEDC, and the Marguarite Rose Foundation.

Also – we have a \$20,000 pending commitment from Valero. The Grant application has been submitted and we are very hopeful that we will have a positive response by the end of March. We're extremely excited to be at a point where we can add the basketball court, perimeter trail, and pedal park to the project! *A change order is on this agenda for consideration.

It must be noted that JEO and Gehring Construction have been EXTREMELY accommodating in regards to working through additions to the project as our fundraising progresses. *Also – they are receptive to a change order to the contract to add the Generations Trail Link for Boone Beginnings, Good Sam, and Assisted Living; however, the Friends of the Trail Committee doesn't quite have enough money raised for the full build just yet. They have some time though – this segment would not be required to be done by September as it's not part of the RCRP grant application that we submitted. We just want to take the opportunity to utilize the contractors while they are mobilized as the concrete unit costs on the contract were pretty good. So expect to see a proposed change order for this in the next 30-60 days.

The portions of the project already awarded continues to move forward pretty quickly. The steel building portion of the project will likely be erected by the end of March; and, the trail construction will start between the Sports Complex and Clark Park within the next week.

Maggie Smith and Shelby Kelley met with a group of young people and discussed many ideas for the current project activities as well as potential future amenities and activities that could be hosted at the park. This group had many great and thoughtful ideas and are VERY interested in taking a vested interest in this park by creating a formal group to shepherd it's development and use. The are very interested in giving this park a specific name and may be submitting ideas to the City Council in the future.

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Phase II of the Cardinal Cage Building is complete. The interior work will be progressing with a target use date of March 1st.

Darren and I met with Ed Knott to discuss the lease/operation agreement with the Baseball/Softball group for the new facility. Darren is working on developing a draft agreement that will likely be presented to the Mayor and Council at a future meeting for consideration of approval.

I will be meeting with Legion leadership to discuss formalizing an agreement with the city regarding the "Leon Nelson Memorial/Legion Field" facilities and maintenance. Any formal agreement will be provided to the Mayor and Council for formal approval.

Street

Our winter has been mild thus far. The guys and equipment are ready if/when needed. De-icing has been deployed and is ready to go as well.

Ron is prioritizing patching and potholes.

Ron also ordered a significant repair project near Dollar General.

Police Department

Nothing new to report.

General Administration / Other:

I attended the League Mid-Winter Conference February 23-24. There was some repetitive content, but also some good reminders on best practices. I fulfilled my State required 8 hours of City Treasurer continuing education.

Planning Commission

The Planning Commission has formally recommend the annexation of Marilee's 1st Addition to the City of Albion; and,
Recommended approval of the Blessings Subdivision formal plat.

There is still one (1) vacancy on the planning commission.

***Please direct any interested parties to City Hall or to the Mayor.**

Attached is the previous month Sales Tax Report – showing the monthly trend of sales tax receipts.
Also attached is an unaudited Treasurer's Report/Budget Performance Report and an unaudited Balance Sheet Comparison Report.