



CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

NOVEMBER 23, 2020

PAYMENT IN LIEU OF HEALTH INSURANCE BENEFIT:

There is a need to update the City's Health Insurance Benefit. The City has always covered the dependents of the employee under the benefit coverage. Now we do have an employee covered under the spouse's employer coverage. This employee is still entitled to the Health Insurance Benefit; therefore, I am proposing a Payment in Lieu Health Insurance Coverage in the amount of \$300.00 a month to the employee and also this payment should be incorporated into the City's Benefit Policy. The proposed payment still saves the City some money when compared to offering the employee the full medical Health Insurance Benefit that offered to everyone.

5 WEST MAIN STREET, UPDATE:

As previously discussed, the Van Buren County Land Bank has decided to take the ownership of 5 West Main Street for Redevelopment purposes. Once the title is formally transferred, the County Land Bank would contact the State Land Bank for assistance in developing a Request for Qualification from developers towards the redevelopment of this property. The Brownfield Redevelopment Authority would utilize all available development incentives to attract capable developers for the potential project. In the meantime, I have informed the County Treasurer of the necessary work to be done to preserve the building and its current delicate nature and the immediate attention that would be required to save it.

RED ARROW HIGHWAY WATER EXTENSION PROJECT

The Water Line extension project along Red Arrow Highway and Heywood Street is now completed. The owners' wells have also been plugged to prevent cross contamination. The City is now looking at applying for water extension grant opportunity to assist Hartford Township residents that have been impacted by PFAS contamination. The Department of Energy, Great Lakes and Environment is offering a Consolidation, Contamination Risk Reduction (C2R2) Grant program to communities impacted by PFAS contamination. This grant is one hundred percent with no match requirement. The maximum grant amount is \$5million dollars. The Township has expressed interest with an adopted resolution of support for the project to the City. A copy of the resolution is attached for your record.

POLICE UNION CONTACT

We finally reached agreement on the Police Contract for your final approval. This is a five (5) year contract that also recognizes the seniority of the officers. The officers can now claim twelve hours for the holidays since they are on a twelve-hour shift rotation. They are also allowed a two (2%) percent increase annually over the life of the contract. Life Insurance coverage was increased from \$15,000.00 to \$30,000.00.

NEW LIEUTENANT:

Officer Mike Prince has been appointed the new Lieutenant to fill the vacancy in the department since the appointment of Chief Beltran. Mike brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to the position. His appointment is effective January 1, 2021.