



**CITY MANAGER'S REPORT
AUGUST 23, 2021**

LINDEN/CLARK STREET IMPROVEMENT PROJECT:

I reported last month that the City was picked to receive a Water-Related Infrastructure Grant from Michigan Economic Development Corporation contingent on meeting certain grant requirements. We have started working on those requirements and some would take some time before the requirements are met. A part of these requirements is requesting the City to engage the services of a Grant Administrator through an RFP/RFQ process, completion of certain environmental review requirement and adoption of Procurement Policy which is in your packet for approval tonight.

STATE REVOLVING LOAN FUND PROJECT:

The process for this project is slowly moving along. There are just too many parts to comply with. Since our last meeting, we found out that we are going to need the services of a Bond Counselor and a Financial Advisor. I have contacted the Dickinson Wright out of Grand Rapids to consider being our Bond Counselor and Andy Campbell of Baker Tilly as our Financial Advisor. They were both responsible for working on our last bond issue on the Sewer Plant Project. A copy of the project schedule is attached for your review.

5 WEST MAIN STREET UPDATE:

The County Treasurer reported that the Structurer Engineer recommended that the Van Buren County Land Bank should move forward on the repair indicated in the report. Unfortunately, the County Land Bank did not have a quorum for their August 11, 2021 meeting, therefore, they did not have a meeting. In the meantime, the County Treasurer referred me to the State for a Redevelopment Program, utilizing tax increment financing. I have set up a meeting with the MEDC to discuss funding opportunity on August 31, 2021. In the meantime, the County is putting together an RFQ for contractors who might be interested in the project.

PROSPECT & WENDELL STREETS UPDATE:

These two streets have now been completed despite the interruptions we had during the construction. I want to thank the residents for their patience and understanding during the construction season. I hope improvements proves to be more valuable than the inconvenience created during the construction.