

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT
November 27, 2023 Council Meeting

1. Street Department:
 - a. Leaf Pickup: We continue to work all areas of the city picking up leaves. This will continue through at-least the end of the month, unless it becomes hindered by snowfall.
 - b. Snow Readiness: We are prepared to shift into snow-mode (plowing) when necessary. Our equipment and personnel are ready to go when needed.
 - c. Snow Ban Reminder: When snow accumulation exceeds 2", street parking is prohibited.
2. Water / Wastewater Grant Opportunity: FYI- We are preparing an application to be submitted through the D.O.D. for an additional \$1.5M in funding for Phase I of our West Main Street Infrastructure project. The requested funding is for gap coverage, which exists due to the significant rise in cost of the project that greatly occurred between our engineer's March, 2023 estimate of probable cost and October's accepted contractor bid. If awarded, this will go towards significantly reducing our long-term debt financing.
3. State Capital Budget Funding Opportunity: FYI- We are currently looking at potential projects to submit for funding under the State Capital Budget Bill. Projects seeking appropriations from the state's One Time Strategic Community Investment Fund are intended to be one-time strategic investments that are intended to have a significant impact on communities. We are working with State Rep. Fowler-Arthur and her staff to assure our project and application gets strong consideration for funding. The submission deadline is December 18, 2023.
4. Appalachian Community Grant Opportunity update: We continue to work diligently with the planners procured through Eastgate working on this major downtown placemaking (streetscape, etc.) and storefront façade upgrade grant opportunity. With the December 8 deadline looming, we're hearing that our application is looking very positive and that we should know more within the next few days as to how we stack up with the several other applicants. If we're chosen for funding, we'll most likely be looking to enter into a partnership agreement with the Ashtabula County Landbank. That, however, is all yet to be determined if we're chosen. More to come soon.
5. Stormwater Master Plan update: FYI- Discussions with an engineer for the possible underwriting of the city's Stormwater Master Plan will begin in early December. I will keep council apprised of our progress on this project as we proceed.
6. 2024 Property & Casualty Insurance (P&C) Renewal: FYI- We've received our P&C premium renewal from our carrier, the Public Entities Pool (PEP) for 2023-24, which is \$84,482. This is an increase of 7.8% over 2022-23, which was \$78,398. One of the reasons for the increase was due to certain assets not being listed on the equipment schedule. And just for the sake of comparison, our 2022-23 renewal under our old plan (which we moved away from last year) was \$130,700.
7. Geneva Area Chamber of Commerce Annual Dinner: FYI- This year's dinner will be held on Wednesday, December 6, 2023 at the Lodge and Conference Center starting at 6:15 PM. The city is sponsoring a table and we will be presenting our annual Economic Development Recognition and Leadership Awards.