

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT
March 11, 2024 Council Meeting

1. W. Main Street Infrastructure Improvement Project: FYI- While the project isn't expected to start until approximately April 9th, the contractor will be out along W. Main St. taking soil and ground water samples starting this week. So, it's possible we'll start seeing orange cones popping up over the next few weeks along the construction route.
2. Solid Waste Management Plan Ratification: The Ashtabula County Solid Waste Policy Committee is in the final stages of updating its Solid Waste Management Plan as mandated by the State of Ohio (ORC 3734.56). The Solid Waste Management District began evaluating their plan and all their programs back in September, 2022 and are now at the stage of seeking ratification of the updated plan from their countywide political subdivisions. We've been reviewing the full plan internally and I've included in the Council packet the 2024 Plan Summary for your review. The ratification period ends May 15, 2024. The district is asking each subdivision to review the plan, pass a Resolution granting Approval for the plan and forward a copy back to the district. Without objection, I will include the Resolution of Approval on the next Council Agenda.
3. Community Center Event Planner update: FYI- We're close to having an event planner for the Community Center onboarded. We should have a signed contract this week. Both sides are eager to get started with the ultimate goal of increasing event bookings at the Community Center.
4. City's Water Distribution System Financial Obligation: Mr. Pasqualone and I met recently with the county over the city's financial obligation towards new and ongoing capital infrastructure projects and maintenance projects within the city's water distribution system (WDS). The meeting went well and we're now waiting for the county's response to the financial and operational items discussed at that meeting.

Additionally, we just learned that federal money through the Consolidated Appropriations Act (signed by the President on Saturday) appears to be earmarked for construction of a water tower in Harpersfield. This project does impact the city's WDS and our financial obligation for this project is being determined through our ongoing negotiations.

5. Stormwater Master Plan Update: As a follow-up to our discussion at the last council meeting, we conducted a very productive work session with our consultant last week where we began mapping known troubled areas throughout the city. The consultants will utilize this information as they continue the preparation of their condition assessment. At present, the plan is to have our consultant present a status update to council at the March 25 council meeting.
6. Fiscal Year End 2023 Financial Audit: FYI- While Traci Welch, Finance Director, continues to work with LGS on the GAAP conversion, we met this past week with the State Auditors about our 2023 Financial Audit. After being with the independent public auditing firm Ciuni & Panici for the past 10 years, the state auditor's office will be conducting our 2023 financial Audit. We learned this past week that they plan on starting this year's audit in mid-March.

Today, we received our engagement agreement from the state, which outlines our scope of services and management responsibilities. It also outlines their charges for audit services, which will not exceed \$34,030 (which is substantially less than recent audits). I anticipate having an Ordinance prepared for the next council meeting authorizing me to enter into the agreement with the state, which will need to be passed by emergency (due to the state wanting to start soon).

7. Ashtabula County Combined Health District Advisory Council Annual Meeting: FYI- The ACCHD is holding their annual meeting on Thursday, March 28, 2024 at 7 PM at the ACHD office in Jefferson. I will be attending this annual meeting. The meeting generally highlights and recaps departmental activities of the previous year.
8. Geneva Sustainability Commission Appointment: With the City Manager Appointment on the Commission currently open, I will be appointing Myke Dowd to fill this open seat. Her term will be for a period of 2-years, expiring in March, 2026.
9. Ashtabula County Eclipse Report from March 5, 2024 Meeting: (report enclosed)