



Good Afternoon Everyone.

This is the City Manager's week in review for the week of November 9, 2020.

COVID – New guidance is being provided by the Allegan County Health Department to assist with COVID Case investigations and to provide improved information to the Michigan Disease Surveillance System. The self-reporting forms are an alternative to gathering the information by phone and will assist with contact tracing and notification efforts. Visit <http://cms.allegancounty.org/sites/Office/Health/SitePages/Home.aspx> to read the notice issued on November 11, 2020. Also the County Health Department provided workplace guidance on the COVID-19 Workplace Safety tab at www.michigan.gov/leo. Key elements of the guidance include:

- Do not work while ill
- Talk to your employer to consider remote work
- Isolate for a full ten days if you think or know you have COVID
- Quarantine to the best of your ability for 14 days if you have been exposed
- Avoid crowds
- Wear a mask around people outside the household
- Avoid indoor dining outside of your home
- Schedule virtual meetings for social and work-related activities

Leaf Pickup – DPW is working on the annual leaf clean-up program. There was a bit of confusion this week about the pickup dates. We plan the leaf and brush pickup schedule every spring and project a tentative last date of pick up in mid-November; however, we have noted at the bottom of the schedule that the dates are flexible due to weather and leaf drop times and additional days may be scheduled. DPW continues to pick up leaves with the assistance of a vendor to speed up the process.

Water Main Project – I toured the water main projects this week. Pavement has been installed on McVea and Whittier and First. Crews are focusing their attention on the Fremont / Ellis neighborhood this week. Service connections will continue be tied over to the new water main on Fremont / Ellis next week with paving in the next two weeks. There was a boil water notice issued for residents of the Fremont / Ellis neighborhood this week due to construction activity.

New Council Orientation – I gave new Councilman VanLoon a tour of ongoing city projects and an overview of his City Council orientation book.

Brownfield Redevelopment Authority – Following the Brownfield meeting this week, I provided a tour of 200 Blue Star Highway to available members of the Authority. The tour provides information about the facility, discussion about its construction and potential demolition and remediation of known contaminants in the facility.

Internship – I had a brief meeting with Grand Valley State University about the potential for an internship program with students from the Public Administration curriculum. If we proceed, interns will be assigned three topics to work on during their 10-20-week internship and will be introduced to a variety of concepts in municipal government. The student would earn a stipend for their internship.

Downtown – The Downtown is beginning to look very festive. Christmas trees were installed this week and Councilman Seabert is installing lights. Wreaths have been taken out of storage and freshened up and are ready to be installed.

That is all I have for now. Have a great weekend.

Rich LaBombard
City Manager