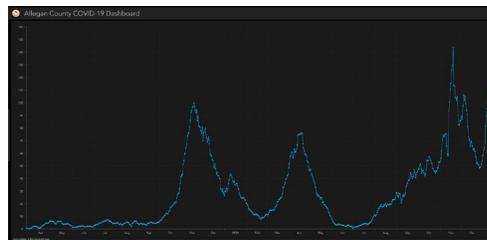


Good Afternoon,

This is the City Manager's week in review for the week of January 3, 2022. Happy New Year!

COVID 19 – The Allegan County COVID Dashboard shows the 7-day moving average of new cases is up to 107 cases, which is more than double from two weeks ago. The data was last reported on January 7, 2022. City Hall remains open to the public, but masks are required for entry. Most City employees are working remotely, but can be reached via phone, email, or by scheduling a meeting.



Weather – Winter storms moved into the area on Wednesday around noon and eased up Friday afternoon, dumping a significant amount of snow. Driving was difficult with slippery roads and whiteout conditions, but the Department of Public Works managed to maintain the streets throughout the event with many public works staff reporting for duty at 2:30 in the morning. Thank you, Department of Public Works.

City Council Meeting – The regular meeting of the City Council was on Monday, and they covered the following items:

- City Council interviewed three candidates who applied for City Council and selected Phil Toepper to fill the vacant Council seat. Councilman Toepper will serve until November 2022 when the seat is up for election.
- Approved a lease / purchase agreement with Ox-Bow School of Art for the former library building at 137 Center.
- Reviewed draft City Council election bylaws and provided comment to the City Manager

200 Blue Star Highway – Demolition work continues at 200 Blue Star with more than 95 percent of the structure demolished. I've visited the site several times this week to monitor progress and photograph the process. Overall, the work is progressing as anticipated.

Wades Bayou Request for Proposals – The City received two responses to the request for proposals to operate a recreation-based establishment at Wades Bayou Park. The proposals will be scored by a team of reviewers and the highest scored proposal will be sent to City Council for approval.

Campbell Road – Tuesday I attended a progress meeting with the contractor and engineer. Work is progressing at a slower pace due to weather and temperatures, but new main has been installed up to the crest of the hill. The downslope work will require the contractor to shut down thru traffic temporarily.

Strategic Planning – A planned strategic planning session for City Council that was scheduled for Saturday, January 8, was cancelled and will be rescheduled for a later date.

That is all I have for now.

Rich LaBombard
City Manager