



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

CITY OF CLARKSBURG

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CITY MANAGER'S REPORT/UPDATE

Manager's Report

December 5, 2019

Submitted by: Annette Wright, Interim City Manager

General Updates/Information

1. Demolition -
 - a. The bid opening was held on November 20th at 2:00 p.m. consisting of six (6) contracts for asbestos abatement and/or demolition of various structures identified on the list of slum and blighted properties. Consideration of the award of said bids is on the agenda under "New Business" which I recommend approval thereof to the lowest, responsible bidder as set forth on the bid tabs prepared by Stantec Consulting Services, Inc.
 - b. If all the bids are awarded, notices will be sent to the respective contractors who will be given sufficient time to get their bonding in place (approximately 7 to 10 days) with the contract signing to be held thereafter.
2. Proposed Charter Amendment Ordinances - The Public Hearing on the proposed Charter amendments will be conducted on Thursday, February 6, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. in Council Chambers (in conjunction with the regularly-scheduled Council meeting). At this time, any qualified voter or freeholder of the City may appear and file written objections to said amendments.
3. Fiber Optics update - all construction of the fiber optics lines from City Hall to our outlying locations are complete. Meetings with CityNet, Raven Rock (our IT company) and Tate Communications have taken place to ensure a smooth transition. We anticipate starting to move data lines next week. The fiber optics will provide us more efficient and effective internet connectivity, as well as reduce overall communication expenses.
4. The Mayor's Youth Council, along with the Mayor, City Clerk and Marketing Director, visited the VA Nursing Home yesterday evening to decorate the residents' doors for the holiday season.
5. With regard to the letters sent to Senators Romano and Facemire requesting their assistance in obtaining a crosswalk and/or improving the crossing at West Main Street at the location of the WV State Office Building, we received a call from Mr. Shoukry with the State informing that the DOH will renovate the existing crossing and install additional pedestrian signs.

6. The third meeting of the Task Force on Public Safety was held on December 4th with the next meeting scheduled for December 12th.
7. Notre Dame Bridge - It will be another two to three weeks before the contractors return as work is still being done on the design for the footer. Completion date is now expected for next fall.
8. Sale of Surplus Vehicles - The Administration advertised 17 vehicles for sealed bid with bids being received for 10 of vehicles. The bids were open on December 2nd and the bid sheet is located in your packet. Consideration of the bids is on the agenda under "New Business" and it is the Administration's recommendation that Council award the bids to the highest bidder(s) for the respective vehicles. As we received additional interest in the remaining seven (7) vehicles, we will again place these remaining vehicles out for sealed bid.
9. A request has been made for the installation of two highway historical markers on the right-side lawn at City Hall in the vicinity of the Civil War Solider Statue. The markers would memorialize U.S. Senator John S. Carlile and the Clarksburg Convention. This item is on the agenda under "New Business" and it is the Administration's recommendation that Council grant the request.
10. For the holiday season and in an effort to encourage citizens to shop small businesses and to shop locally, free parking in the downtown area began on December 2nd and will run throughout the month.
11. The sign dedication ceremony adding the tagline of "Clarksburg's Little Italy" to the Glen Elk community sign will take place tomorrow (December 6th) at 1:00 p.m. at the corner of 4th Street and Clark Street. By resolution adopted on August 15, 2019, Council declared the Glen Elk Historic District as "Clarksburg's Little Italy." Information and an invitation to this dedication is on our web site and social media pages.
12. Clarksburg's "Santa Land" - Fliers have been provided to businesses, organizations and schools, as well as placed on our social media sites, announcing the Santa Land hours and activities. The first of the three Santa Land Fridays will be held tomorrow, December 6th from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. There will be cookies and hot cocoa, a keepsake picture with Santa will be available for a nominal fee of \$5.00, coloring pages will be provided for the children to color pictures and deposit in the North Pole mailbox. Those coloring pages will be placed on our social media sites and there will also be local talent/entertainment. Just as a side note, I am sincerely appreciative to the many dedicated employees who have worked and "brainstormed" to transform the old City Hall lot into a "winter wonderland" and bring citizens to our town.
13. For the first time ever, the City is spreading festive pizzazz to the EastPointe and NewPointe shopping area with 40 pole banners to be put up in celebration of the holiday season.

Police and Fire

1. Police -
 - a. The Administration received Deputy Chief Snider's retirement letter on December 3rd. Deputy Chief Snider's retirement will be effective December 17th and the Administration expresses its appreciation to him for his 25 years of service to the Department and the citizens.
 - b. Beginning January 1st, during a sixth-month trial period, Chief Kiddy will be implementing permanent shifts rather than rotation of shifts. This will not only boost morale, as many officers have requested permanent shifts, but will also enhance public relations as the officers will be able to establish a more consistent rapport with our citizens.
 - c. Five of our six new hires have been accepted into the January 2020 Police Academy.
 - d. The Police Civil Service Commission has posted Notice of the Sergeant exam which will be held on January 8, 2020 at the Senior Citizens Center.
2. Fire -
 - a. Captain Murphy conducted the "Operation Not One More" smoke detector program in November for Saint Mary's School and Emmanuel Christian School.
 - b. The West Virginia Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Conference was held at the Bridgeport Conference Center, November 19-21 which Captain Murphy attended.

Events

1. RGPAC -
 - a. The Robinson Grand Community Theatre will be presenting "ANNIE the Musical" on Friday, December 13th at 7:30 p.m., Saturday, December 14th at 2:00 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. and on Sunday, December 15th at 2:00 p.m. Beginning next week, thousands of Harrison County students will also be attending this production.
 - b. Tuesday, December 17th at 7:00 p.m. - The Polar Express
 - c. Friday, December 20th at 7:30 p.m. - Bobby Nicholas Soul Christmas
 - d. Saturday, December 21st at 7:00 p.m. - A White Christmas
 - e. Tuesday, December 31st at 8:00 p.m. - Uptown's New Year's Eve Bash with the Davisson Brothers and special guest, Chris Knight. The After-Party at Jackson Square begins at 10:00 p.m.

2. **REMINDER:** The annual Clarksburg Christmas Parade will be held tomorrow, December 6th at 6:00 p.m. (streets will close at 5:00 p.m.)

3. **REMINDER:** A Jazz Stroll is scheduled for Friday, December 13th and, in addition to visiting the various participating venues, strollers can stop by Santa Land and have their pictures taken with Santa.