

**City of West
Branch
Office of the
City
Administrator**

To: Mayor and Council

From: Matt Muckler, City Administrator

Date: July 15, 2011 Weekly Council Update

- **Police Chief Finalists:** The five finalists for the Police Chief position are:

Daniel S. Cummings, Clarksville, IA – Thirteen years law enforcement experience: eight years as police chief in Clarksville, IA, two years as police chief in Dows, IA, and three years as patrolman in Polk City, IA. Four years in U.S. Army as administrative specialist. Graduate of Iowa Law Enforcement Academy. Obtained Associates Degree in Criminal Justice from Northland Community College in Fergus Fall, MN.

Michael D. Horihan, Manning, IA – Thirty-four years law enforcement experience as trooper, firearms instructor, crisis negotiator, and safety education officer with the Iowa State Patrol. Three years in U.S. Army as military police officer. Graduate of Iowa Law Enforcement Academy.

Francis J. Kenney, St. James, MO – Twenty years law enforcement experience as police officer, criminal investigator, lieutenant, and assistant chief of police (captain) with the Ellisville, MO Police Department. Graduate of St. Louis County and Municipal Police Academy. Obtained Bachelors Degree in Criminology and Criminal Justice from University of Missouri at St. Louis and a Diploma from the F.B.I. National Academy in Quantico, VA.

Heath L. Lowry, Sr., Riverton, UT – Sixteen years law enforcement experience: two years as police supervisor in Cottonwood, UT and fourteen years as patrol deputy, member of Special Operations Division, investigator, motor officer and special project manager with the Salt Lake County, UT Sheriff's Office. Nine years in U.S. Army as a bomb technician. Graduate of Police Academy Utah POST.

Michael R. Ludwigs, Ireton, IA – Twenty-eight years law enforcement experience: two years as part-time police officer in Okoboji, IA, two years as chief of police in the City of Lake Park, IA, six years as police officer in Waukee, IA and eighteen years as correctional officer and deputy sheriff with the Sioux County Sheriff's Office. Graduate of Iowa Law Enforcement Academy. Obtained Associate's Degree in Police Science Technology from Western Iowa Tech Community College in Sioux City, IA and currently pursuing Bachelors Degree in business management at the University of Sioux Falls in Sioux Falls, IA (anticipated graduation – August 2011).

- **Comprehensive Plan Update Kick-Off Meeting:** As a reminder, the joint meeting of the West Branch Planning and Zoning Commission and City Council to discuss the Comp Plan Update will take place on Monday July 18, 2011 at 6:00 p.m. at the West Branch Council Chamber, located at 110 N. Poplar Street.

- **Water System Shut Down:** On Monday, July 11, 2011, Public Works staff had scheduled a water system shut down from 5:00 a.m. to 7:00 a.m. to effect the 100 block of East Main Street and half of the 100 block of North 1st Street. The purpose of this shut down was to repair a water leak inside the food pantry/old jail building just north of the Town Hall at 103 North 1st Street. When the leak was unable to be stopped by 7:00 a.m., it was determined the only way to stop the leak was to sever the connection with the water main. The building does not have a curb stop because the city's first municipal well is located in this building. Water was pumped into the system from here for many years before the well was disconnected to be used as bulk water sales. The direction of flow was reversed.

A valve at the Main Street and Downey Street intersection was not holding the water back so a larger was shut down was involved. The 100 and 200 blocks of East Main Street, the entire 100 block of North 1st Street, the Downey Street trace through the Herbert Hoover Nat'l Historic Site up to BP/Quiznos were all eventually affected by this shut down.

Meanwhile, to sever the connection involved digging up a portion of North 1st Street, cutting the line to the food pantry/old jail. Because the connection was bell and solder the best way to fix the issue was to remove the tee connection and replace 51 inches of pipe. During the excavation we found an old abandoned water valve, which we removed (it wouldn't have shut the building off anyway), we also found two water services. One was determined to be abandoned, the other which belonged to Dewey's Jack and Jill, was found when the excavator broke the service while digging. The service was later reconnected.

By 5:00pm water service was restored to all customers, however precautionary bacterial samples could not be taken and delivered to the Hygienic Lab by 5:00pm. Samples were taken on Tuesday, July 12, 2011 and Wednesday, July 13, 2011. The Hygienic Lab reported that the water was safe to drink on Thursday and customers affected were notified by Public Works on Thursday afternoon.

Water was observed late on Friday July 15th pouring out of a manhole at the intersection of Main Street and Downey. Public Works staff responded and has scheduled a repair for the morning of Sat. July 16th. The repair will involve digging up the intersection, replacing valves and repairing any damaged water lines.

The information provided is one-way communication and should not be discussed among you as this would be a violation of the open meeting law.