

City of West  
Branch  
Office of the  
City  
Administrator

To: City Council

From: Matt Muckler, City Administrator

Date: August 16, 2013

Weekly Council Update

- **City Council, Mayor Nomination Papers Available:** The City of West Branch has four positions on the upcoming Nov. 5, 2013 election. There are two four-year term council positions, one two-year term council position, and a four-year term mayor position. To hold an office in the City, a candidate must be an eligible elector, meeting the same qualifications required to vote, and be a resident of the City.

Nomination papers are available now at the City Office, at the Cedar County Auditor's Office, or from the Iowa Secretary of State's Web site at: [www.sos.state.ia.us](http://www.sos.state.ia.us). Nominees must obtain ten eligible signatures. Candidate filing begins Monday, Aug. 26 and ends with nomination papers due to the City Clerk at the City Office by 5 p.m., Thursday, Sept. 19, 2013.

Council meetings are held on the first and third Mondays of each month in the City Council Chambers. Additional work sessions and special meetings are held when necessary. City government and local leadership provide a unique opportunity to resolve issues, accomplish goals, and affect the future of your community.

- **Sunday Hours at the Library:** West Branch Public Library is gearing up for the addition of Sunday hours to the Library's regular service times. Beginning September 1st, the Library will begin operating on Sundays from noon to 4 p.m. This change in service has been one of the more requested times and the Library is hoping that the additional hours will provide greater access for those who work during weekday hours, families who deal with school schedules, those who need to complete homework or job-related tasks before Monday, and, of course, those who just want something new to read or watch. The Library will be providing a full range of advertising for the expanded service to help inform the community and make the new service hours as successful as possible.
- **6th & Main Street Project Update:** Public Works has contacted Aero Saw to cut the area around the manhole at 6<sup>th</sup> & Main. We expect them to be able to complete that work early next week. At that time, Public Works will reset the manhole.

- **Sewer Maintenance Update:** Municipal Pipe Tool completed their work for the week yesterday. A crew will return Wednesday and Thursday, August 21st and August 22<sup>nd</sup>, to complete the cleaning and televising work in Phase 2 of the Inflow and Infiltration (I&I) study area. There is a potential for water to discharge from toilets and drains during this process, as well as the potential for a sewer smell to develop. More information is available on the city website at <http://westbranchiowa.org/news/aug-2013/sewer-main-maintenance>.

Municipal Pipe Tool is in West Branch to televise and clean sewer main in Phase 2; the area is primarily east of the abandoned railroad right-of-way and north of Main Street. (The project was originally expected to begin on August 7<sup>th</sup> and finish on August 16<sup>th</sup>.) If an issue develops, residents may contact the Cleaning Crew Leader for Municipal Pipe Tool, Harlan Weltzin, on his cell phone at (319) 404-7503, Public Works Director Matt Goodale at (319) 325-8213, or the City Office at (319) 643-5888.

- **1<sup>st</sup> & Cedar Street Project Update:** Lynch's Excavating has now completed replacement of a sewer manhole and water main at 1<sup>st</sup> & Cedar Street. The intersection was originally scheduled to reopen on Friday August 16<sup>th</sup>. Public Works staff is currently working to re-pour concrete in the intersection. It is now expected that the intersection will be reopened on Friday August 23<sup>rd</sup>.

- **N. Maple/Middle School Access Road:** Work was expected to take place in early August, just south of the water plant on Maple Street by the Middle School. Public Works Staff had planned to replace storm water intakes and repair concrete. The project has been rescheduled for June of 2014 so that it can take place concurrently with the Maple Street Sidewalk Project.

- **August 21<sup>st</sup> Park & Rec Commission Meeting:** The Park & Rec Commission will meet on Wed., Aug. 21<sup>st</sup> at 7:00 p.m. to discuss the request for qualification process from interested architecture and/or engineering firms for the design of a strategic plan for capital improvements in six city parks including Beranek Park, Wapsi Park, Lions Field, Pedersen Valley Recreation Complex, Meadows Park, and the West Branch Dog Park.

- **Park & Rec News:** The Park and Recreation Department has had a busy week of summer camp. Forty-eight children participated this year. Some of the activities have included swimming, roller skating, movies, hiking, and trips to Kent Park and Fun City. Last weekend was the Harvey Peden All Night Sand Volleyball Tournament. Thirteen teams participated, including about 140 people. Fall registrations for youth volleyball and flag football as well as adult fitness classes can be found on the Park and Rec webpage.

**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.**