

To: City Council
From: Matt Muckler, City Administrator
Date: May 16, 2014 Weekly Council Update

- **May 21st Park & Rec Steering Committee Meeting:** The next Park & Rec Steering Committee meeting will be Wednesday May 21st at 7:00 p.m. in the West Branch City Council Chambers. Brian Boelk, with HBK Engineering, will present cost estimates for the various amenities and steering committee members will make suggestions on phasing priorities. The public is encouraged to attend.
- **Historic Preservation Meeting:** The West Branch Preservation Commission met yesterday evening. The focus of their meeting was to discuss improvements to the Heritage Square area and an improvement plan for the Enlow Parking Lot and the section of Poplar Street that runs in between the Brick Arch Winery and the Enlow Building. Commission discussion included optimal traffic circulation in this area, creating a welcoming environment in Heritage Square that draws National Historic Site visitors into our downtown and a possible redesign of the Enlow Lot and Poplar Street that enhances the use and attractiveness of that area. Some possible ideas for Heritage Square included the installation of a pergola, benches and trees. Two-way traffic with parking on each side was one idea shared for the Enlow Lot/Poplar Street area. A designer from Main Street Iowa will update renderings to provide a basis of discussion at the next West Branch Preservation Commission Meeting scheduled for Wednesday June 18th at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chamber.
- **Public Works Projects:** (1) LL Pelling has completed their portion of the Middle School Project. Maple Street will remain closed next week while Public Works Staff completes the sidewalk portion of the project. Half of the sidewalk has already been poured. As soon as the rest of the sidewalk is poured, staff will backfill and seed the area. This project is scheduled to be completed by the end of next week, as long as the weather cooperates. (2) Green Street will be opened at the beginning of next week. Public Works will backfill the curbs along Green Street and clean up the area at the entrance to the alley that runs south from Green Street between 4th Street and 5th Street. (3) All signage for the flashing light project was received this week. Public Works will take down the lights, place the signage on each pole, reposition the flashing lights, and reinstall the poles next week.
- **League Conference – Save the Date:** The Iowa League of Cities 2014 Annual Conference & Exhibit is scheduled for September 24th-26th at Council Bluffs' Mid-America Center. The annual conference is the largest training in the state designed specifically for Iowa's elected and appointed city officials. The conference also includes ample opportunity to network with peers and learn from one another. We hope to have as many elected official attend this training as possible.
- **Summer League:** In spite of the rainy weather, summer league games started this week for children in 3rd-6th grade. Next week K-2nd graders will start their games. New this year is a recreational travel league for 1st and 2nd grade boys and girls. On Sunday afternoons in June, the children will have the opportunity to play on the ball diamonds against children from other towns.

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.