

To: City Council
From: Matt Muckler, City Administrator
Date: January 16, 2015 Weekly Council Update

Casey's Plans Submitted to IDOT: Peld's Engineering, representing Casey's General Stores, submitted the plans for infrastructure improvements to the Iowa Department of Transportation earlier this week. When approved by IDOT, these plans would improve roads in the vicinity of South Downey Street between I-80 and Tidewater Drive.

MLK Event – January 19th at 6:00 p.m.: Community members will join together for a potluck and public readings of the works of Martin Luther King on Monday evening January 19th at Town Hall at 6:00 p.m. All are welcome.

Board and Commission Training: The City Council will consider a resolution on January 20th to approve expenditures related to a board and commission training tentatively scheduled for Tuesday February 24, 2015. The resolution would also declare the event as a public purpose. Jeff Schott, Director of the University of Iowa Public Policy Institute would provide a training on the basic laws and concepts that apply to local government boards and commissions including legal requirements, open meetings law, public records law, gift law, conflicts of interest, purchasing and contracts, and other important laws. In addition to detailing board duties and responsibilities, Jeff will discuss policy development, analysis, and strategies for enhancing board and commission effectiveness. The event would take place at the Brick Arch Winery. Participants would enjoy a light dinner at 6:00 p.m. followed by training from 6:30-8:00 p.m. After the completion of the training, participants would be encouraged to stay and visit with other board and commission members, elected officials and city staff.

2015 Pet Tags Now Available: All cats and dogs over four months of age residing within the city limits must be registered annually with the City of West Branch. Registrations and tags for 2015 are now available at City Offices located at 110 North Poplar Street. Current rabies vaccination papers are required at the time of registration. The fee for registering pets is \$5.00 per animal. A \$5.00 late penalty fee will be applied if an animal is registered after Jan. 31, 2015. Letters are going out today to residents to remind them of the requirement to register pets.

Upcoming City Meetings & Events: Please see the Calendar of Events on the City Website at <http://westbranchiowa.org/home> for a complete list of all upcoming events. There are several Council, Board and Commission Meetings scheduled for the rest of January:

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| ▪ Monday January 19 th – MLK Day | Holiday – City Offices Closed |
| ▪ Monday January 19 th – 6:00 p.m. | MLK Day Event at Town Hall |
| ▪ Tuesday January 20 th at 7:00 p.m. | City Council Meeting |
| ▪ Tuesday January 20 th (after Council Mtg.) | City Council Work Session |
| ▪ Tuesday January 27 th at 6:30 p.m. | Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting |
| ▪ Thursday January 29 th at 6:30 p.m. | Preservation Commission Meeting |

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.