

City of West  
Branch  
Office of the  
City Administrator

To: City Council  
From: Matt Muckler, City Administrator  
Date: March 20, 2015  
Weekly Council Update

**Altorfer Event:** There was a packed house at Altorfer on Thursday afternoon for their open house event. Pat Puntoni, Altorfer VP for the Agricultural Division, served as the MC for a program that was held at 12:30 p.m. Mayor Worrell addressed those gathered thanking Altorfer for locating their business in West Branch. Mayor Pro Tem Colton Miller, City Administrator Matt Muckler, Deputy City Clerk Leslie Brick, Main Street West Branch Executive Director Mackenzie Krob, Main Street West Branch employee and volunteer Mary Lee Porto, and Cedar County Economic Development Corporation (CCEDCO) Executive Director Rod Ness were also in attendance.

**RUT Update:** Revised Road Use Tax estimates show that these funds are expected to be \$50,000 higher than initially reported. Our revenue estimates for the FY16 annual budget called for \$230,000 in revenue from Road Use Tax. A report released by the Iowa League of Cities and Towns now puts that number at \$280,000.

**Street Maintenance:** Public Works Staff was working hard to fill potholes this week. One notable stretch of road that did not make it through the winter in very good condition is 4<sup>th</sup> Street between the West Branch Animal Clinic and 280<sup>th</sup> Street. In fact, this stretch of road is in major disrepair. I would encourage elected officials to drive this stretch to see for yourself the condition of the road. Public Works Staff worked today in an effort to grade the street. LL Pelling was also out on this stretch of road to prepare an estimate for seal coating 4<sup>th</sup> Street. In the coming fiscal year, 4<sup>th</sup> Street will be reconstructed and a sidewalk will be installed on the west side of the street as part of the implementation of the West Branch Capital Improvement Plan. Given the condition of the road and the results of the work completed by LL Pelling, the City Council may want to consider expediting additional repairs on 4<sup>th</sup> Street between Reagan Blvd and 280<sup>th</sup> Street with either future road use tax funds, general funds or tax increment financing. In other street news, the street sweeper will be out on Monday morning and we expect that we will be cleaning streets for the next couple of weeks.

**ECIA Council Meeting:** City Administrator Matt Muckler attended a Council Meeting (by telephone) of the East Central Intergovernmental Association (ECIA) on Wednesday March 18<sup>th</sup>. The organization's preliminary FY16 budget assumptions were approved. Supervisor Jeff Kaufmann is now serving as an alternate in the place of Supervisor Wayne Deerberg. There are currently two Cedar County Private Sector vacancies on the ECIA Council.

**Upcoming City Meetings & Events:** Please see the Calendar of Events on the City Website for a complete list of all upcoming events. A few highlights for March are listed below:

- Monday March 23rd at 7:00 p.m. City Council Meeting
- Tuesday March 24th at 6:30 p.m. Planning & Zoning Commission Mtg.
- Tuesday March 31st 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.**