

City of West  
Branch  
Office of the  
City  
Administrator

To: Mayor and City Council  
From: Matt Muckler, City Administrator  
Date: August 19, 2016  
Weekly Council Update

**WBPL News:** The West Branch Public Library (WBPL) Board of Trustees made changes to the library's borrowing policy in two notable ways this past Thursday. First, the library has been looking at ways to prevent large fine accruals and a large contributing source of this has been a \$1 per day late fees on DVDs, music, and video games. These fines are often not paid and serve only to prevent people from using the library. These fines were reduced to ten cents per day as are the other items in the library. Through this, the library hopes to make fine payments easier on members of the community. Second, provisions were added for the circulation of Chromebooks for use outside of the library itself. The two Chromebooks that the library will have will act as inexpensive laptops that members of the community may use if needed. The intention is that they will help people who do not have a computer in their home, people who have a computer that is currently not functioning properly, and students who need one during the summer.

**4<sup>th</sup> Street Road Construction Update:** Beginning on Monday, August 22<sup>nd</sup>, Reagan Boulevard, Phase 1 of the project, will be accessible from the north. During the week of August 22<sup>nd</sup>, paving will occur on Phase 2 and 3 including the southern half of Reagan Boulevard and 4<sup>th</sup> Street from Reagan Boulevard to the Cargill entrance. Residents traveling in this area are encouraged follow instructions on the traffic control signs and reminded not to attempt driving around the barricades.

**Gender Balance:** City Administrator Matt Muckler was interviewed this week by Kimberly Lanegan, faculty member of Coe College on the strategies that West Branch has used to achieve excellent results in meeting the gender balance requirement for appointed boards and commissions. All of the City's boards and commissions now meet Iowa's gender balance requirements under Iowa Code, Chapter 69.16A(2). Elected officials are encouraged to continue the consideration of gender balance requirements when making appointments to boards and commissions.

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