

**City of West
Branch
Office of the
City
Administrator**

To: Mayor and Council
From: Matt Muckler, City Administrator
Date: September 2, 2011
Weekly Council Update

- **Electronic Readers:** The West Branch Public Library will be putting into circulation four electronic reading devices for the community to use. The devices- Two Barnes & Noble Nooks, an Amazon Kindle, and a Sony Reader - will circulate for the same time frame as a regular book and will allow library users to test out each device for how someone likes reading from the screen, how the devices feel to hold for extended periods, and if there is a specific brand preference. The two Nooks will be available for use by the time this update is presented with the Kindle and Reader to follow as soon as protective cases are received. The devices are being provided to the library with funding from an Alliant Energy Community Foundation grant, received by the Friends of the Library earlier this year.
- **Comp Plan Public Input Meeting:** A Public Input Meeting for the Comprehensive Plan Update will be held at 6:30 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. on Wednesday October 12th in the City Council Chambers, located at 110 N. Poplar Street. The purpose of the meeting is to receive public input on long and short-term goals and objective for West Branch. This input will be incorporated into the Comprehensive Plan Update, which is an important tool that also lays out a vision for the future of our City. The meeting format will be an open house where residents are welcome to come and go as they please.
- **College Street Project:** Public Works Staff continues to make progress on the College Street Project, which includes widening the street and installing storm sewers and catch basins. At this point, the storm sewer pipe has been installed, the street has been widened and the majority of the grading has been completed. Staff continues to work on the installation of catch basins. Once the catch basins have been installed, Public Works Staff will reinstall three driveway approaches and L.L Pelling will seal coat the street.

- **Park & Recreation Fall Programs:** Fall program registration wraps up this week for Parks and Recreation. This year, there has been a rise in volleyball registrations, while flag football registrations remained consistent from last year. Currently there are sixty-nine girls registered for fall volleyball and one hundred children registered for flag football. This year, Parks & Rec will also add a Punt Pass Kick competition on September 18th at Lions Field. This will be open and free of charge for all children ages 6-15. Parents can register their children online at <http://www.nflppk.com/>. Session 1 of fitness classes has begun with Zumba and 3-2-1. Registration forms are available on the City Website.
- **Well #5:** Public Works Staff is recommending repairs to Well #5. The repairs include replacement of the pump along with some of the fittings. The total cost is estimated at \$8175, which includes a new check valve in the meter pit.
- **City Election Candidate Filing:** An election will be held on Tuesday November 8th for three City Council seats. The time period for city election candidate filing has begun. Interested candidates can pick up nomination packets from Deputy City Clerk Dawn Brandt during regular office hours. The deadline to file nomination papers at the City Office is 5:00 p.m. on Thursday September 22, 2011.

The Iowa League of Cities produces an annual candidate information guide for prospective candidates. The guide includes information that may assist candidates in answering questions concerning a variety of issues. The guide, which is available on the City Website, also contains contact information for the Iowa League of Cities and other organizations.

- **Upcoming Events:**
 - **Regular Council Meeting:** The first regular Council Meeting in September will take place on Tuesday September 6th at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers.
 - **Council Goal Setting:** The Council Goal Setting Session has been scheduled for a Council Work Session on September 19th at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers.
 - **Regular Council Meeting:** The second regular Council Meeting in September will take place on September 19th at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers.
 - **Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting:** Tuesday September 27, 2011 at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers.
 - **Comp Plan Public Input Meeting:** Wednesday October 12, 2011 from 6:30 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

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.