



West Branch City Council
City Administrator's Report
8/5/19

Pending Action Items:

(Wastewater Task Group)

The Baldrige Environmental Pilot Project is continuing to show positive signs. Latest reports high levels of oxygen in the lagoons and indications of debris floating to the surface of the lagoon. This is a good sign because it indicates that the sludge levels are being eaten away and releasing solids that are not digestible by the enzymes. It is still early for data analyst but Baldrige Environmental is start the report process and hopes to have a basic report next month. Again, the goal of this pilot project is to reduce our lagoon sludge and allow our lagoon wastewater process to perform with highest efficiency. Thus, making the ammonia levels more manageable and potentially at levels well within state compliance levels. Meanwhile, we hope to give V&K direction on a treatment process while we continue to move forward with the facility plan.

(College Street Bridge)



This week, the Main Roadway was poured on Second and College Streets. The pedestrian handrail has been poured on the bridge and the intersection pavement will be poured.

Although, we thank our residents and citizens in advance for the cooperation and patience during the construction process, we are well aware that issues will arise as they tend to do during typical construction projects. If you have any questions, comments, or concerns; please do not hesitate to contact the city's project engineers.

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(Cubby Park)

- I have a meeting tomorrow with Point Builders regarding Change Order number #8 (the poly carbonate panels). With regard to the counter offer of \$3,000 for Change Order #8... Is the City Council willing to accept range (not to exceed) offer?

- The Crestview and Cubby Park Fence is installed.
- Fehr Graham expects to have a pay estimate next City Council Meeting. At this time I am still unaware of an anticipated project acceptance date.

Report from the Desk of the City Administrator:

- [Kudo's to Kathy and her fellow officers of the West Branch Police Department, and thank you to Country Financial.](#)



We received \$1,500 check to support the programming of self-defense classes. A program that was able to be tested last year and was received with tremendous success and support by the community.

I am pleased to see the program continue and now with resources to keep it going.

To that I say...
Great Job, staff for being innovative and staying in-tune with the needs of the community.

- [Iowa / Cedar County Great Places](#) The group discussed several ideas last couple of weeks, to determine if it could be feasible to get the Letter of Interest submitted by the August 1st due date. It was ultimately decided that there was not enough time to bring everyone together to get the necessary County wide buy in to have a successful project. The committee promised have more communication and meetings to help facilitate the group as we get prepared for our last funding opportunity next year. A doodle pool will be sent out to determine the best availability of the group to get a meeting set up to continue discussions of a County Wide project. Among the projects discussed was community features such as a slash pads, the heartbreak theater, and a countywide kiosk system the ties community attractions / tourism updates into one system.

The idea of having a Cedar County Great Places Group Chair and Vice Chair was discussed but did not go anywhere. Rod Ness of the Cedar County Economic Development Commission Organization (CCEDCO) believes these positions are critical for keeping the momentum of the group going and will discussed at the upcoming meeting. Rod also challenged the group to consider how in addition to developing a great places project, to think of ways to support each other's community projects, especially those that will have County wide impact. He believes this is a way to help build successes throughout the County.

- I have visited with CCEDCO regarding the Kirkwood Community College Proposal, and have plans to visit with ICAD next week regarding this matter.
- Regarding the Derelict Building Grant Project we are waiting for a date when the Asbestos contractor can start. I will be working with EICA to get status of the other aspects of the grant process.

Follow up / Reminder Items:

- Nuisance Abatement Ordinance and New Hearing Committee Board follow-up.

- September 25-27 Iowa League of Cities Conference is in Dubuque. I would like to have as many as possible City Council Members attend. Because the City of Dubuque has capital improvement project that incorporates an outdoor amphitheater that also serves as a basin for rapid flowing water during flood conditions. This concept has been presented to the City Council several times including in the presentation by Impact 7G as a part of the Downtown East Redevelopment project. I have spoken with city officials in Dubuque who would be willing to give me and the city council a tour of this site. This is something that can be arranged while we are attending the Iowa League of Cities Conference.