

Infrastructure/Streets

US 6:

- Paving: Paving is anticipated to be substantially complete by the end of the day on November 6th.
- Center Island at Berlin Road: Prior to pouring, crews will be painting the proposed location of the center island. Once painted, the Fire Department will be testing making turns around the island to ensure ladder trucks and other safety vehicles can easily and adequately maneuver around the island prior to pouring the concrete.
- Crosswalks: Crosswalks continue to be poured/stamped along US 6. This will continue through approximately November 17th. Attached to this report is the most up to date crosswalk/stamping schedule.

Leaf Pickup: Leaf pickup began on October 26th. As a reminder, crews will be starting on the east side of town and heading westward. Once a full sweep of the City is completed, crews will start over on the east side. Currently, crews are finishing up their 2nd trip through town.

Economic Development

USGS/Harbor North: At the end of October, the Harbor North Marina was sold. The City has held several discussions with the new owners and their contractors – as the new ownership group is looking to make significant investments into the property. Conversations centered around the plan review and building permit process. It is also anticipated that the USGS facility will also be located at Harbor North with construction hopefully commencing soon on this facility as well.

IAC: Staff has taken part in multiple conversations with the potential buyer of the IAC facility and their real estate broker in past weeks. The potential buyer, the name of which is still not public, is considering locations in either Ohio or Indiana – with the Huron facility high on their list. The company has inquired about potential incentives to aid in their reinvestment into the facility and are in ongoing conversations with Jobs Ohio about additional state incentives. The potential company has also been a strong supporter of the City's efforts to reconstruct Sawmill Parkway and has provided a letter of support on behalf of the City to USEDA for grant assistance. Staff will continue to keep Council updated on this exciting opportunity.

MOCO Boutique: Staff held introductory calls with the owners of MOCO Boutique – currently located in Commerce Park Plaza. The company is looking to construct a new facility within

Huron and are currently exploring several sites as possibilities. The company is growing significantly and has outgrown its current space. The owners have also spoken to the City about possible incentives to aid in the construction of a new facility including tax abatement.

Housing/Real Estate Development

Two Rivers: The City had several conversations with a revamped development team who are exploring developing the remainder of the Two Rivers Planned Unit Development (PUD). The previous PUD has since expired. The development team will be working to partially redesign the development and related infrastructure and will hopefully be submitting a new PUD application to the City for review in the upcoming weeks/months.

Zoning/Code

Transient Rental: Staff and members of Council (along with great input and recommendations from the public and transient rental operators) continue to explore modifications to the existing transient rental program. In addition to modifications to the existing program, staff and Council are also exploring the creation of transient rental overlay districts that will allow customizable differences between neighborhoods based on their unique characteristics. Future work sessions will be held soon to review the most updated draft modifications and to review preliminary overlay district legislation.

Parks and Recreation

Winter Day on Main: Staff are continuing to work with the Erie County Health Department to determine the ability to hold the Winter Day on Main event this year (formerly Winterfest). Although subject to change, the current event calls for, among other things, a parade featuring Santa and Mrs. Claus traveling throughout town waving and interacting with families and children in a socially distanced manner. A map and parade route will be provided at a later date. Additionally, a community fireworks show is still planned that will be held at the northern end of the ConAgra property. Spectators will be encouraged to watch the show from their vehicles at several designated parking lots and along N. Main Street.

Fish Huron Ohio: The final Fish Huron Ohio video is now complete. The link to the video is: <https://vimeo.com/newdeparturefilms/download/471752064/7ba763b0c6>. The video does a tremendous job of showcasing Huron, its beautiful waterfront and the economic impact that comes to the City and the region via sport fishing. We want to thank New Departure Films who produced the video and Lake Erie Shores and Islands who provided grant funding to make the production possible.

Utilities

Sale of Transmission Assets: The City continues to put the finishing touches on the Purchase Agreement with AMP-T. Staff is hopeful we can bring this legislation to Council in November/December of 2020 for finalization.

Finance/Budget

2021 Budget Process: Staff continues to present the 2021 proposed budget to the Finance Committee. To date, 4 out of 5 meetings are complete. The final presentation on Safety Services will take place at the 11/16 Finance Committee at 4 pm. If approved by the Finance Committee, the budget will be submitted to Council for discussion and approval by the end of the year. According to the City Code, Council must receive a recommended budget for the following year by December 1 and subsequently approve a budget by December 31.

2020 BWC Dividends: In response to the pandemic, the Ohio Bureau of Workers Compensation has approved multiple dividends to Ohio employers, including municipalities. The dividends directly impact the City's General Fund and have been used to stabilize the General Fund's fund balance and allow for the City to support essential services through this pandemic. The initial 2020 Budget expected a \$30,000 dividend. As of October, the City has received 3 dividends totaling \$107,083. Ohio BWC recently approved another dividend distribution (largest in BWC history) that will result in the City receiving approximately \$161,000 by the end of the year – 2020 total to approximately \$268,083.

COVID-19 Financial Picture: The City's overall financial picture through October 2020 is better than initially expected. Over \$450,000 in CARES Act Funds, BWC Dividends, extra spending awareness from each department, and promising income tax collections has put the City in a good financial position for 2021 and forward. As of October, the City's income tax collections are netting a 2% increase from 2019. However, Staff remains cautious on discretionary spending due to recent spikes in cases and uncertainty of future economic impacts.