

**ConAgra / HJPA:** The Huron Joint Port Authority met on Thursday to discuss an LOI with Ebee Management (financial services and development) for the purpose of creating a financial management plan for the USGS project at the former ConAgra site. Total cost to the Port Authority is \$15,000. The Port Authority authorized a motion to execute the letter of intent. The LOI is attached for your review.

**Huron River Dredging:** Mr. Green and I met with officials from the US Army Corps of Engineers to discuss dredging operations in the Huron River. The Ohio EPA has banned open lake dumping starting July 2020. Dredge materials need to be disposed of in approved dump sites (confined disposal facilities) or used for alternative purposes such as creation of wetland habitat areas. USACE has asked us to execute a non-binding letter of intent to explore the feasibility of alternate use projects in Huron. The City would be responsible for 35% of any alternative use project. In addition, the City has ownership stake in the CDF once that area is full. USACE has highlighted two areas for this treatment:

- West of Lighthouse Pier / South of the CDF
  - \$27 million (\$9 million local match)
  - 3 dredging cycles to fill (6-9 years)
- West of the East Pier / South to Lime Plant
  - \$6 million (\$2 million local match)
  - .5 dredging cycle (2-4 years)

We discussed our existing capital financial position and our concern with participating in the projects discussed. Part of the feasibility discussion would include exploring funding opportunities.

**COVID-19 / Parks and Programming:** Staff has finalized the following plan for our parks and programs:

- *Fabens Park:*
  - All programs and events are cancelled through May 30<sup>th</sup>.
  - Restrooms are closed through May 30<sup>th</sup>.
  - Facility rentals are cancelled through May 30<sup>th</sup>.
  - Meeting May 18<sup>th</sup> to discuss first half of June
  - Coordinating with Huron Baseball Program to attempt salvaging the season
- *Boat Basin:*
  - All events cancelled through May 30<sup>th</sup>

- Garage Sale postponed until August/Sept and moved to Fabens to accommodate social distancing
- Restrooms access limited to customers of Basin.
- Meet May 18<sup>th</sup> to decide on events in June.
- Rotary is meeting Tuesday to make determination for their event in June
- Boat Launch: Private Fishing Tournament on May 16<sup>th</sup>/17<sup>th</sup>. We are coordinating with ODNR as the location is State property.
- Nickel Plate:
  - Still under evaluation. State has issued guidance, but we are hoping for more clarification as season gets closer.
  - Volleyball: nets are not being put up at this time since we can't ensure social distancing and enforcement.
- Lakefront: Restrooms closed through May 30<sup>th</sup>.
- Pool / Swim Lessons: Will depend on whether pools are permitted to open – likely will be cancelled.
- Sports Camps: OHSAA released guidance restricting coordinated sports activities and limiting access to school facilities – sports camps will be cancelled through June 30<sup>th</sup>.
- Safety Town: Cancelled. Considering expanding eligibility for next year to include students who missed the opportunity to participate.

**Water Plant Sludge Rake Project:** Per OEPA, the project must be completed by July 15<sup>th</sup>. Due to coronavirus, the contractor is facing a supply chain issue that will delay the project past the deadline set by OEPA. The contractor has requested relief from this end date either by capping damages in the contract or extending the date. OEPA indicated they would extend the date but felt it's too early to make it official. I'm working with Mr. Chojnacki to present Council with options.

**US 6 Phase 1:**

- Start Date: Official start date of May 26<sup>th</sup>.
- Staging Area: Smith Paving has requested the use of the ConAgra site for staging equipment during the project. I wanted feedback from Council to see whether this would be OK.

**Medical Marijuana Dispensary Construction:** Since the settlement agreement was finalized and all zoning and building permits were issued, the contractor selected for building has reached out to the City to initiate construction. They anticipate starting this spring. The project has an estimated value of \$1.3 million.

**Spoil Site Open-burn:** The Fire Department has received its permit to burn the CDF. We need two consecutive days of ideal weather (light south wind and dry) for a successful burn. We will do our best to get notice out to the community, however, it'll likely only be a day or two before due to the impact weather can have on this project.

**Code Enforcement:** Mr. Green, Mr. Zimmerman, and I will be working with Councilman Tapp to put together a plan for improving our code enforcement process and further discuss options for making improvements at Oster's Mobile Home Park.

**COVID-19 Financial Projections:**

- Department Budgets: Mr. Swaisgood and I have completed meetings with the Police Department, Fire Department and Water Department. We have meetings scheduled with the remaining departments. Once complete, we will finalize our financial projections for the remainder of the year and issue report to Council.
- Income tax: May's advance was down 13% compared to 2019 (10.5% when accounting for the decrease at IAC). This is in line with RITA's initial projections for the month, which were more optimistic than our initial worst-case scenario. I still want to urge caution as we are early on, but hopeful this trend continues.
- Utility bills: There were 75 fewer unpaid utility bills at this point in the billing cycle than in 2019. This is an encouraging sign. I'm working with Mr. Chojnacki to prepare legislation to forgive late payments during this crisis. If Council is interested in additional considerations, I would encourage further discussion at a work session.

**Mucci Property Tax:** Mr. Chojnacki and I are working with the County Auditor to further research applicability of property taxes for Mucci Farms. There is concern that property taxes have been incorrectly applied and distributed incorrectly. I will keep Council informed once I have additional information.

**COVID-19 City Operations:** Please see the attached memo sent to all City staff regarding operational procedures in light of the updated orders from the State.