

To: City Council
From: Matt Muckler, City Administrator
Date: January 24, 2016
Weekly Council Update

Iowa League Legislative Day: The Iowa League of Cities is now accepting registration for their annual Legislative Day in the State Capitol on Tuesday, March 1st. As a city official, the League Legislative Day gives you a wonderful opportunity to learn more about what is taking place at the Capitol and how it affects West Branch. In addition, the day provides you with an opportunity to share ideas with each other and legislators.

Day at the Capitol | 1 – 4:30 p.m.

Legislators will speak on issues of particular importance to cities during the 2016 Legislative Session. You are also welcome to watch floor debate, attend any committee meetings that may be going on during that time, set up a private meeting with your legislators, or ask League staff to help you arrange a meeting while you are here.

Legislative Reception | 5 – 7 p.m.

Join the League's annual Cities Legislative Reception in the beautiful Des Moines City Hall Great Room on Level 2. All city officials and legislators are invited to attend. The reception will feature hors d'oeuvres from locally owned restaurant, Noodle Zoo. A cash bar serving wine and beer will be available

This event is always a lot of fun so consider inviting another city official to come with you! If multiple elected officials express interest, we could also arrange for a carpool. Please contact Deputy City Clerk Leslie Brick to register for this event.

2016 Pet Tags Now Available: All cats and dogs over four months of age residing within the city limits must be registered annually with the City of West Branch. Tags for 2016 are now available at City Office located at 110 North Poplar Street. Current rabies vaccination papers are required at the time of registration. The fee for registering pets is \$5.00 per animal. A \$5.00 late penalty fee will be applied if an animal is registered after Jan. 31, 2016. Reminder post cards were mailed to all current pet owners last week. Additional reminders have been placed on the January utility bills and West Branch Times. The [Annual Pet Registration Form](#) is also available on the City website.

Meeting with Speer Financial: City Administrator Matt Muckler and Finance Officer Gordon Edgar met with Maggie Burger, Vice President, Speer Financial, Inc. last week. Maggie presented the TIF report. A few updates were noted for the report. Debt schedules for the City's debt were discussed, as well as plans for structuring the City's future borrowings for CIP projects expected to occur in the next four fiscal years.

Wellmark Blue Cross Blue Shield: Wellmark Senior Account Manager Jennifer Rice will meet with City Administrator Matt Muckler and Finance Officer Gordon Edgar on Wednesday afternoon to discuss the City's renewal. As mentioned at the last City Council Work Session, the good news is that the City's health insurance rates are only increasing by 3.15 % in the coming year.

Upcoming City Meetings & Events: Please see the Calendar of Events on the City Website at <http://westbranchiowa.org/home> for a complete list of all upcoming events. There are several Council, Board and Commission Meetings and other events currently scheduled:

- Tuesday, January 26th at 7:00 p.m. Planning and Zoning Commission Meeting
- Tuesday, January 26th at 7:00 p.m. Pajama Storytime at the Library
- Wednesday, January 27th, 2:00 p.m. Afterschool Program at the Library
- Thursday, January 28th at 7:00 p.m. Preservation Commission Meeting
- Friday, January 29th at 10:00 a.m. Preschool Storytime at the Library
- Tuesday, February 2nd at 7:00 p.m. Pajama Storytime at the Library
- **Tuesday, February 2nd at 7:00 p.m. City Council Meeting**
- **Tuesday, February 2nd, after reg. mtg. City Council Work Session**
- Wednesday, February 3rd, 2:00 p.m. Afterschool Program at the Library
- Friday, February 5th at 10:00 a.m. Preschool Storytime at the Library
- Tuesday, February 9th at 6:30 p.m. Animal Control Commission Meeting
- Tuesday, February 9th at 7:00 p.m. Pajama Storytime at the Library
- Wednesday, February 10th, 2:00 p.m. Afterschool Program at the Library
- Thursday, February 11th, 6:30 p.m. Library Board of Trustees Meeting
- Friday, February 12th at 10:00 a.m. Preschool Storytime at the Library
- Monday, February 15th Presidents Day Holiday
- Tuesday, February 16th at 7:00 p.m. Pajama Storytime at the Library
- **Tuesday, February 16th at 7:00 p.m. City Council Meeting**
- Wednesday, February 17th, 2:00 p.m. Afterschool Program at the Library
- Thursday, February 18th, 6:30 p.m. Park & Recreation Commission Meeting
- Friday, February 19th at 10:00 a.m. Preschool Storytime at the Library
- Tuesday, February 23rd at 7:00 p.m. Pajama Storytime at the Library
- Wednesday, February 24th, 2:00 p.m. Afterschool Program at the Library
- **Thursday, February 25th, 6:00 p.m. Joint City Council Work Session w/School Board**
- **Thursday, February 25th, 7:00 p.m. City Council Work Session**
- Friday, February 26th at 10:00 a.m. Preschool Storytime at the Library

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.