

To: City Council and Mayor  
From: Matt Muckler, City Administrator  
Date: November 19, 2016 Weekly Council Update

- **Two More Weeks of Leaf Collection:** Leaf collection begins at approximately 7:30 am on the east side of town every Monday, Wednesday and Friday. While Public Works makes every attempt to reach the whole town each day, occasionally leaf collection cannot be completed in one day. During those times Public Works will do another collection the following day for residents that could not be picked up the previous day. The City asks that leaves be raked to the curb for pickup and be free of tree limbs, sticks, grass clippings and garbage. Leaves mixed with other yard waste or placed in plastic bags will not be accepted.

The City's Public Works department will continue leaf collection until December 2nd. After that time residents can haul yard waste to the City collection site located a half mile east of S Downey Street on Fawcett Drive. The City does not accept yard waste in plastic bags, any kind of construction material, garbage, dirt or rock in this area. Please direct any questions on either of these programs to the City Office at (319) 643-5888 or Public Works Director Matt Goodale at (319)325-8213.

Also as a reminder, the City's final curbside yard waste collection of 2016 will take place on Thursday, December 1st. Yard waste includes grass clippings, leaves, wastes common in gardening or landscaping, clippings from bushes or shrubs, sticks and tree limbs. All limbs too large for a container must be cut to under 4 foot lengths and be in manageable bundles at the curbside. All other yard waste must be bagged or placed in a container at the curbside. All containers must be under 50 pounds and any bag used must be a decomposable bag. Any yard waste in plastic bags will not be accepted.

- **S. Downey Road Improvements:** Crews from All American Concrete completed a large portion of the remaining work on S. Downey in front of McDonald's and Kum N Go this week. Paving on the west side of S. Downey has been completed, including the trail from I-80 to the intersection of S. Downey and Tidewater Drive. Next week, crews will backfill curbs, put down permanent striping and pull traffic control. Weather permitting, an attempt may be made to hydro-seed as well. In the event that the hydro-seeding is unsuccessful due to the weather, crews will seed these areas again in the spring.

- **Next City Council Meeting – November 28th:** As a reminder, the regular City Council Meeting scheduled for Monday, November 21<sup>st</sup> has been postponed until Monday, November 28<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. The December meeting schedule will be determined at the November 28<sup>th</sup> meeting.

- **Christmas Past:** Celebrate the holidays with an old-fashioned Christmas celebration in downtown West Branch. West Branch CDG is sponsoring Christmas Past on December 2nd and 3rd. Join them for horse-drawn rides, street fireplaces, homemade donuts on the fire, Gibson Trains at the West Branch Fire Department, Santa and Mrs. Claus, and Christmas Crafts and Treats at Town Hall on Friday evening December 2nd from 6:00-8:00 p.m. For more information, please contact CDG at (319) 643-7100.

- Fiscal Year 2017-2018 Annual Budget:** City Administrator Matt Muckler and Finance Officer Gordon Edgar attended the 2016 Budget Workshop sponsored by the Iowa League of Cities earlier this week in Cedar Rapids. Budget projections and issues were presented by Mickey Shields, Iowa League of Cities and Cindy Kendall, Iowa State University Extension - Office of State & Local Government Programs. The new multi-residential property class rollback schedule was discussed, as were rollback numbers and road use tax fund distribution for the next five fiscal years (please see below). The CPI, the FLSA Exempt Employee Rule Change, and the Employment Cost Index were also presented. The Employment Cost Index measures the change in the cost of labor for state and local government workers from September of 2015 to September of 2016. Total compensation costs rose 2.6% during this time.

The new multi-family residential property class will be implemented over an 8-year period and will not be backfilled:

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Rollback Percentage</u>
2017	86.25%
2018	82.5%
2019	78.75%
2020	75%
2021	71.25%
2022	67.5%
2023	63.75%
2024 and beyond	Equal to residential

The Iowa Department of Transportation provided five years of road use tax distribution estimates:

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Iowa DOT Per Capita Forecast</u>
2017	\$120.00
2018	\$119.50
2019	\$121.00
2020	\$121.50
2021	\$122.50

Ted Nellesen, Iowa Department of Management (DOM) provided an update on the Annual Financial Report (AFR) and Annual Urban Renewal Report (AURR) and discussed changes to Fiscal Year 2017-2018 Budget forms. Nellesen also reviewed the long term debt schedule page and the budgeting process as a whole before city staff begins preparations for the City's annual budget process in the coming weeks.

- Upcoming City Meetings & Events:** Please see the Calendar of Events on the City Website <http://westbranchiowa.org/home> for a complete list of upcoming events. There are several meetings and other community events currently scheduled in the next few weeks:

- Monday November 21<sup>st</sup> Regular City Council Meeting - CANCELLED
- Nov. 24th & Nov. 25<sup>th</sup> Thanksgiving Holiday – City Office Closed
- Monday November 28<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. Special City Council Meeting
- December 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Christmas Past

**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.**