

To: City Council
From: Matt Muckler, City Administrator
Date: July 10, 2015 Weekly Council Update

River Junction Tractor Ride: The River Junction Tractor Ride is coming through West Branch on Saturday, July 11, 2015. There will be approximately 200 tractors. The tractors will be coming west from the Springdale area on Main Street and are expected to arrive in West Branch at 11:30 am. The tractor riders will be stopping for lunch at the West Branch Fire Station. The tractors will leave the West Branch Fire Department at 1:00 p.m. and will travel west on Main, north on Oliphant, west on Orange, past Crestview Nursing and Rehab Center, south on Scott and west on Main to Herbert Hoover Highway. The tractors are expected to be on the parade route for approximately one hour. Traffic along the parade route will be restricted until the tractors leave town, so citizens who may be affected by the Tractor Ride are encouraged to adjust their schedules accordingly. It is also recommended that residents avoid on-street parking and park in driveways along the parade route.

College Street Bridge: City Engineer Dave Schechinger has spoken with the City's bridge inspectors, Calhoun Burns, regarding the College Street Bridge. The repairs will be somewhat complicated due to the age of the piles and their condition. If we excavate the road adjacent to the bridge to patch the hole and place fill, the piles and planks will need to resist the horizontal forces exerted during compaction efforts. We are at risk of snapping the piles if we do this. If we snap the piles, we will need to remove the bridge deck and drive new piles. The cost starts adding up quickly if that happens. There were two options initially considered:

- 1) Drive sheet piling adjacent to the bridge to resist the horizontal forces during soil compaction. We could then backfill to the surface and patch the pavement. Iowa Bridge and Culvert provided an estimate of \$14,930 to make these repairs. An additional \$500 would be needed to replace the road surface.
- 2) Patch the hole in the bridge and excavate an opening from the road surface to the void. Place a granular material that does not require compaction equipment be used. Allow traffic on the bridge and monitor settlement. Provide additional gravel as settlement occurs. While the repair cost associated with this option may be less than the first option, the risk is that heavy vehicular traffic may cause enough force on the piles and planks to snap the piles since the granular material can transfer the weight due to lack of cohesiveness. City Engineer Dave Schechinger does not believe that this second option is viable due to the risk involved.

Cedar County E-911 Service Board: Mayor Pro Tem Colton Miller, Police Chief Mike Horihan and Fire Chief Kevin Stoolman attended the regular meeting of the E-911 Service Board on Thursday evening July 9th. The E-911 Board voted to delay the implementation of the incomplete P25 digital radio system until August of 2016. In the meantime, Chief Horihan will be researching the feasibility of installing a repeater system which may provide some benefit to West Branch officers after August of 2016.

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.