

To: City Council

From: Matt Muckler, City Administrator

Date: October 31, 2015

Weekly Council Update

- **Tuesday November 3rd Ballot Information:** Please [CLICK HERE](#) for information on the Nov. 3rd park vote. City voters will decide on Nov. 3 a public measure that would allow the City of West Branch to issue bonds for the purpose of improving parks and trails throughout the community.
- **Halloween Soup Supper & Costume Contest:** Trick or Treat and the Halloween Soup Supper will take place this evening from 5:00-8:00 p.m. [Click here](#) to view the Halloween Soup Supper and Costume Contest hosted by the City of West Branch Parks & Recreation Department in cooperation with the Animal Control Commission and the West Branch Police and Fire Departments. Food will be served from 5:00-8:00 p.m. at the Fire Station located at 105 South Second Street. The costume contest starts promptly at 8:00 p.m. Prizes will be awarded for best costume in various age categories, as well as Best Family Costume, Best Pet Costume, Best Pet and Owner Costume, and Scariest Overall Costume.
- **Well #4 Back Online:** Lead Water Operator Tim Moss received notice yesterday morning from the U of I Hygienic Lab that the second of two samples taken from well #4 this week was shown to be bacteria free. The well began having mechanical issues in late June and was shut down at that time. After some electrical troubleshooting and repairs it was found that the submerged pump was also in need of repairs, it was pulled August 27th by Northway Well and Pump. After repairs were made, the pump was reinstalled on October 2nd. As a precaution, disinfection, flushing and bacterial samples are taken any time a city well is shut down for repairs. Upon notification of two bacteria free samples taken on consecutive days, the well is put back on line. In this case the well did not pass initial testing and required disinfection and flushing several times in order to remove all bacteria. At this time all four of the city wells are up and running.
- **Water Infrastructure Improvements:** Public Works staff, working in conjunction with Lynch's Excavating, began the installation of a new water main on Water Street this week. This addition will connect the dead end main on Water Street to the 12" main in the railroad right of way that runs from the south water tower to the north end of town. This will help with circulation of water in the area as well as provide another route to get water to residents on the east end of town in the event of a main break. The new main has been tied into the 12" and will be pressure tested, disinfected and bacterial testing completed next week. At that time there will be a temporary shut down and a boil order to follow. Public Works will hand deliver notices to all affected residents prior to the shutdown which is scheduled for Tuesday November 2nd.
- **Hoover Dam Inspection:** Public Works Director Matt Goodale was contacted yesterday by the Iowa Department of Natural Resources informing him that the Hoover Dam will undergo its bi-annual inspection on Tuesday November 2nd. Matt contacted the property owner to provide them with notice of the inspection.

- **Public Works Update:** Below is a list of tasks that Public Works staff worked on this week:

1. Chipped a large portion of the trees on N 4th Street, finish next week
2. Picked up matting for the North Downey project and the sidewalk work on Green Street. Also got extra so we have some in stock at the shop
3. Seeded and matted both of those projects
4. Took apart shelves at the shop, took shelving materials to the West Branch Public Library for some reorganizing that they are doing.
5. Delivered notices on Water Street water infrastructure project and began project.
6. Picked up leaves on four days this week
7. Finished Trees Forever grant application and submitted the application.
8. Ordered salt and beet juice.
9. Graded out and set up for brine/beet juice storage near our salt shed.
10. Replaced air filters and turned on/off vents in City Office.
11. Contacted Jipp's Roofing to repair leak in City Office roof.
12. Paul Stagg attended stormwater training three days last week.
13. Set up project with Jones Trucking for next week to deliver cold patch to 4th Street for repairs located between Reagan Boulevard and 280th Street.
14. Spoke to Brian Miller for the provision of water needed on the Casey's project next week.
15. Finished up mowing for the season.
16. Had tree stump ground on College Street, spoke to neighbor at length on tree trimming in that neighborhood.
17. Dug cremation for Saturday funeral and laid out lot for Monday funeral. Contacted Beans to dig.
18. Set up mower for winter weather work.
19. Picked up snow plow truck that was being repaired prior to winter.
20. Changed oil in Osh Kosh and greased, got ready for winter.
21. Met with IAMU on a safety audit for OSHA compliance.
22. Met with Todd from Alliant on setting pole north of the library for the street light.
23. Footing inspection 205 Ridgeview.
24. Locates completed.
25. Cleaned out catch basins.
26. Flushing and sampling of Well #4.
27. Completed water meter repairs.

That list doesn't include smaller tasks that Public Works received requests or phone calls on last week. Next week, the main project for Public Works will be to fix a concrete patch on 4th Street from the recent water main break in that area, finish chipping trees on 4th Street, complete the water main project on Water Street, complete cold patch work while it is still warm enough to do so, set up tanks for the brine/beet juice, haul scrap metal off, install a list of priority new stop signs including the school pull out signs, pick up leaves (likely on 4-5 days), meet the Iowa DNR at the Friis farm to inspect the Hoover Dam, meter water that will be sold to the construction crew at the new Casey's construction site, prepare for a funeral on Monday, attend the College Street Bridge consultant selection committee meeting, set-up voting booths at Town Hall for the election, plant trees on E. Main Street, chop leaves at the cemetery, and remove trees on Main Street and North 4th Street.

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.