

## CITY MANAGER REPORT

TO: Mayor Pat Humphrey & Clare City Commission  
FROM: Jeremy Howard, City Manager  
DATE: November 3, 2022  
RE: City Manager's Report

For the Agenda of November 7, 2022

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MDOT 5th Street (M-115) Project. MDOT is hopefully wrapping up the project soon. The manholes have been lifted and the additional storm water structure is being finalized at the corner by the Doherty. 90% of the barricades have been picked up and after that the project can be complete.

4th Street Project. The project is under way on the complete reconstruct which includes curb and gutter and sidewalk as well as road surface and water service connections. The contractor got a late start on the project due to some delays in another municipality but they have committed to completing the project still this fall.

Halloween Events. Hopefully you were able to get out around town to see all the great events that were being hosted by local restaurants and businesses throughout the city. There was no shortage of things to do for both kids and adults. The weather cooperated beautifully and kids and parents were out in large numbers trick or treating Halloween night.

MML Conference. Mayor Humphrey, Mayor ProTem Bonham, DPW Director Luke Potter, and I all attended the Michigan Municipal League Convention October 19-21 in Muskegon, MI at the new Delta Hotels Muskegon Convention Center. This new venue was a great addition to the rotation of facilities that are large enough to host the convention. It was great to see and learn about all of the revitalization going on in and around Muskegon. The Community Excellence awards were a great part of the event and the winner, Village of Cassopolis, presented truly a transformational project that show that you do not have to be a large community to be able to do to large projects that are great additions to a community. The sessions were informational and timely as always and included information on legislative items being discussed, tours of businesses that are taking advantage of opportunities and entrepreneurial spirit, Public Safety issues and ideas, and shared the Leagues new "Pattern Book Homes" project which aims at making housing exciting and more available.

Watermain Breaks. As I mentioned to you in an email, the City has recently had a few watermain leaks/breaks. I want to congratulate the Water Department and the Department of Public Works for their noticing issues at the plant and then DPW working late hours and even through the night to fix the issues. Breaks are an inevitable part of water infrastructure, but we have great employees and crews that are capable of diagnosing and fixing the issues quickly and efficiently.

Verizon Cell Tower. I want to give you a quick update on the progress of the tower. As you can see in the parking lot, more progress has been made on the site. The concrete anchor for the tower itself (6 feet in diameter and 32 feet deep) is quite impressive and the process to dig the hole and pour the concrete was interesting to see. I am now working with Southern Tower, the owner and company leasing the site from the City, to finalize documents and work with Consumers Energy to get the power installed. Hopefully this will happen in the next week or so and then the tower itself can be installed after that is in place. I know everyone in the city is anxiously awaiting Verizon to turn on the tower and help the signal here in Clare. I have attached a few pictures of the construction recently completed.

Election. Friendly reminder to everyone to get out on Tuesday, November 8<sup>th</sup> from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. in the polls and vote or return your absentee ballot back to the Clerk's office by 8 p.m. election day. Clerk staff have been very busy preparing for and working with citizens for the upcoming November 8<sup>th</sup> election. As of the week before the election, the clerk's office has issued over 425 absentee ballots. Approximately 70% of the ballots issued have been returned at this point. We expect election day to be busy as usual and are hopeful that citizens are calm, considerate, and respectful of one another so that there are no issues on election day. Thank you to the staff, volunteers, and workers for all of your hard work on the election process.

Attachments:

1. Verizon Tower Construction Pictures.















