

CITY MANAGER REPORT

TO: Mayor Pat Humphrey & Clare City Commission
FROM: Jeremy Howard, City Manager
DATE: November 2, 2023
RE: City Manager's Report

For the Agenda of November 6, 2023

Lake Shamrock Dredging and Dam Project. Mechanical dredging by the City is continuing in front of Shamrock Park. We will continue with our barge and excavator for as long as the weather/ice will allow into late Fall and Winter. For the hydraulic dredging project, Savin Lake Services is still waiting on EGLE for the official permit so that they can put the hydraulic dredges in the water. We did receive a version of the permit, but it was not for the right area/quantities so Savin is working with EGLE to correct that issue currently. Prep work on the holding cell at the airport has been more or less completed and crews are working on laying out pipe and installing pipes on the road crossing on Eberhart and the crossing on Washington. The Dam feasibility study work is continuing and is on track to give options/prices in November.

MML Conference. Mayor Humphrey, Mayor ProTem Bonham, and I all recently attended the Michigan Municipal League Convention October 18-20 in Traverse City, MI at the Grand Traverse Resort. It was great to see and learn about all the interesting projects going on in and around Traverse City. The Community Excellence Awards were a great part of the event and the winner, the City of Bridgman presented a great project that showcased turning a vacant lot into an active outdoor community gathering space. The sessions were informational and included information on legislative items being discussed, current topics, and tours of facilities and public spaces.

Finance Director/Treasurer. As you know, Shannon Sirpilla's last official day with the City of Clare was November 2nd as she took the position of City Manager for the City of Beaverton. We are sad to see Shannon leave the City of Clare, but we wish her all the best in the next phase of her career just up the road. The posting for the new Finance Director/Treasurer has been out for a couple of weeks now and luckily, we have received several applications that will be worth interviewing for the position. Similar to when we hired Shannon, I have been coordinating with the Mayor and Mayor Pro Tem to find times that we can interview the candidates with them and a couple of members of staff including myself. Hopefully, we can have a qualified candidate in place quickly.

Clare Public Schools Bond Proposal. As a reminder, the CPS bond proposal is on the November 7 election ballot. Polls will be open from 7 am – 8 pm on November 7.

City Department Tours. Tonight, we will continue with our informal city department tours at the Police Department. After the meeting is adjourned, we will head over to the PD for a guided informational tour by department staff. You will be able to tour the facility, see the equipment, and learn more about Police operations.

Attachments: None.