MEMORANDUM

To:       Council Members and
           Department Directors

From:    Mayor Anthony L. Togliatti

Date: March 16, 2018

Re:       Administrative Update

MARCH COUNCIL MEETING:

The Legislative Agenda for the March 2018 Council Meeting held this past Tuesday contained 18 pieces of legislation.

Four (4) Ordinances appeared on Second Reading, and two (2) of those Ordinances were Adopted (7-0). Ordinance 2018-34 Accepting the proposal of Greenman-Pederson Inc. for the Hemlock All-Purpose Trail Project (Rev. 1) was Adopted (6-1; Narduzzi-No) and Ordinance 2018-43 authorizing the hiring of American Fireworks Company for professional services for the July 3, 2018 Fireworks Display was Adopted (6-1; Asseff-No).

Fourteen (14) Ordinances were introduced on First Reading, of which eight (8) Ordinances were enacted (7-0).

Action on the remaining Ordinances and one (1) Resolution was as follows:

➢ Ordinance 2018-53 accepting the Bid of J.D. Williamson Construction Company, Inc. for the Hemlock All-Purpose Trail Project (P.I.D. No. 80960) Construction Contract (Rev. 1) was Adopted (6-1; Narduzzi-No).
➢ Ordinance 2018-54 accepting the Bid of Dura Mark, Inc. for the 2018-2019 Street Striping Program (Rev. 1) was left on First Reading.
➢ Ordinance 2018-55 accepting the Bid Specialized Construction, Inc. for the City’s 2018 Crack Seal Program Contract was left on First Reading.
➢ Ordinance 2018-56 accepting the proposal of Gardiner, an authorized franchise of Trane, for the purchase and installation of two new Trane Model Intellipak RTU Compressors for the Fieldhouse was Adopted as Amended (6-1; Veverka-No).
➢ **Ordinance 2018-58** amending Chapter 1383 of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Independence relating to protected Hillside Zone Regulations will remain on **First Reading and referred to a Workshop**.

➢ **Ordinance 2018-59** accepting the Bid of Petty Group, LLC to replace approximately 940 feet of six-foot chain-link fencing along the east boundary of Elmwood Park was left on **First Reading**.

A special *thank you* to **Monsignor Peter Karam of St. Maron’s Church** for joining us and for providing the opening prayer before our Council Meeting.

**PUBLIC LANDS AND BUILDINGS COMMITTEE MEETING:**

The Public Lands and Buildings Committee met on Thursday evening, March 15th at 4:30 pm in the Council Caucus Room at City Hall led by Chairperson Tom Narduzzi. Maple Shade Cemetery was the main topic of discussion. Technical Services Director Snyderburn was also present and as a result of the discussion, was instructed to obtain pricing for wrought iron fencing for the areas of the Cemetery that front Brecksville and Rockside Roads.

In addition, the issue of obtaining fire alarms for the Service Department Building was discussed.

*Thank you* to Chairperson Narduzzi for organizing this very informative meeting.

**EDUCATOR OF EXCELLENCE AWARD:**

The I.H.S. Alumni Association held their annual award ceremony and luncheon to present this year’s Educator of the Year Award on Monday, March 12th at the high school. It was an honor to be invited and to present a Proclamation to this year’s recipient of the award, Biology and Environmental Science Teacher Scott Maretka.

In addition to his teaching, Mr. Maretka is the Advisor of the Biology Society and is responsible for the District’s Land Lab outdoor classroom which consists of 50-acres of property. His students love his approach to teaching them about science, and if you are a member of the Biology Society, you have the opportunity to attend field trips, weekend
hikes, visiting nature centers and enjoy helping to plan the annual fall Land Lab Open House for residents.

A number of colleagues and current and former students who have been impacted by Scott attended the luncheon, along with several of our Council Members, School Board Members and Administrators, all wanting to congratulate Scott on his well-deserved award.

On behalf of the City of Independence we are excited and very proud of you for earning such a special honor and for being an outstanding role model for our youth!

Thank you Rhonee lula, President of the I.H.S. Alumni Association and to all the members for putting together such a nice event to honor a great educator.

MARCH FOR OUR LIVES RALLY:
These pictures speak volumes about the impact that the recent shooting in Parkland, Florida had on the students of Independence High School, as many of our students peacefully and respectfully joined in on the “March for Our Lives” this past Wednesday. I was happy to participate in this solemn event to reassure our students that the City, Schools and Community are working together and will do everything in our power to prevent the type of tragedy and loss of life that has taken place in a number of schools across the country.

I would like to share the following paragraph that was written by Independence High School Senior Aliya McDonald to describe the event:

On March 14th, Independence High School participated in the March for Our Lives Cleveland Rally. At 10:00 am, seniors Maggie George and Sophia Trombetta led over 120 students and faculty, signs, and posters in hand, outside where they held a moment of silence for the 17 victims of the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School shooting. Ending the “March” inside, Superintendent Ben Hegedish, Mayor Anthony Togliatti, Officer Jim Green, Assistant Principal and Athletic Director Annie McGhee, history teacher Joshua Piscara and Technology and Curriculum Director, Mike Pennington all shared thoughts and words of inspiration with the students and faculty about keeping the Independence Local Schools safe and how the students have the power to make change happen. Independence was one of the thousands of schools that participated in this event nationwide.

CAR/ DEER ACCIDENTS:

On Sunday March 10, the Cleveland Plain Dealer and Cleveland.com published an article about the high rates of deer/vehicle collisions in Cuyahoga County. The reporter, James McCarty, spoke with Independence Police Chief Mike Kilbane to ask why Independence’s car/deer accident rates were so much lower than most of the other municipalities. In 2009 there were 118 car/deer accidents reported to the police department. That year we started our archery hunting program as an effort to control the deer population. Last year, after nine years of hunting, there were only 2 reported accidents. The article recognized Independence for their successful efforts in urban deer management.

Our hunting program makes safety the highest priority. Only archery hunting is permitted and all hunting must be done from a permanently fixed, elevated stand. Each site is inspected by the police to ensure that there are no potential hazards to our residents. Every hunter must show proof of having completed the Ohio Hunter Safety Program and must have a current hunting license from the state. Each hunter is also issued permit placards with their identifying number, and that placard must be worn visibly at all times while they are hunting. Hunters must also comply with all hunting laws and regulations issued by the Ohio Division of Wildlife.

If you have any questions or concerns about the Independence deer hunting program, please call Chief Kilbane at 216-524-1234.
UPCOMING MEETINGS/EVENTS:

- The theater students of Independence High School will present their production of “Anything Goes” on **Friday, March 23 and Saturday, March 24** at 7:00 pm in the High School Auditorium. Tickets for this performance will be $10 for Adults and $7 for Students and Seniors.

- A special performance for senior citizens is being offered on **Wednesday, March 21st at 10:00 am in the High School Auditorium** and this showing is “Free” to our Seniors!

- The **Chamber of Commerce** is joining forces with a regional Chamber of Commerce called “Power of More”. A networking event with 14 Chambers is planned for **Thursday, March 22nd, 2018 from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm** at the **Independence Holiday Inn**. There is no cost to attend and no RSVP required. Complimentary Appetizers, Cash Bar, Fabulous Prizes, Great Music, Raffles and More!

- A **Council Workshop** to continue the discussion of the Downtown Greenspace and Streetscape Projects is scheduled for **Tuesday, March 27th at 4:00 pm in the Council Caucus Room**.

- **PLEASE NOTE MEETING CHANGE**: The **Board of Zoning Meeting** scheduled for Thursday, March 15th has been **rescheduled** for Thursday, April 5th.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

Following are some highlights of recent activity, updates, events and/or statistics from various departments for the week ending March 9, 2018.

The Building Department Reported-

- 3 sets of plans were sent to the Plans Examiner
- 13 Commercial Permits were issued
- 7 Commercial Inspections were performed
- 9 Residential Permits were issued
- 10 Residential Inspections were performed
- 10 contractors were registered for 2018, 358 registrations year-to-date
- Plans were approved for the following:
  - 6480 Rockside Woods Blvd., Ross Brittain & Schonberg Co. for a 8,284 sq. ft. alterations to existing tenant space.
• Building Official Gero attended NEOFPA continuing education class "ANSI/KECA C10 Standard and the 2017 Ohio Fire Code".

The Engineering Department Reported:

• Permits were issued for the following:
  o Final review and comments were performed for the City of Cleveland Division of Water Automatic Flushing Unit for lower Brookside Road.
  o A Dominion Energy work task to be performed on Stone Road in conjunction with the Cuyahoga County’s Stone Road over Hemlock Creek Bridge Replacement Project was reviewed, revised and approved.
    • All Dominion Energy work will be done in a period of one week and completed by the end of May.
  o The Flood Hazard Area Development Permit application draft for the Cuyahoga County’s Stone Road over Hemlock Creek Bridge Replacement Project was reviewed and the part to be completed by the local floodplain administrator was performed and it was returned to the County for finalization and resubmittal for approval.

• The City Engineer attended a Municipal/Engineers Association of Northeast Ohio (MEANEO) meeting on Wednesday, March 7, for a discussion of Pavement Preservation Techniques and Treatments.

• Chestnut Woods Phase 5 tree removal site plan was reviewed and approved.

• Fire line plans were reviewed and approved for SpinsBowl.

• Catts Construction was scheduled to begin concrete curb and gutter repairs on Montello Road the week of March 12th.

• City Engineer Ramm and Clark Merdes attended a meeting was held with ODOT District 12 representatives for a Pre-Award Meeting for the Hemlock Trail.

• A proposal from GPI for construction of the Hemlock Trail was received, reviewed, revised and resubmitted. Legislation was placed on the March Council Agenda and was approved by Council.

• The topo for Sublot 127, 7166 Hawthorn Trace, was submitted and is under review.

• The topo for Sublot 160, 6937 Hawthorn Trace was also submitted and is under review.

• Engineering contacted the County to verify the parcel numbers for the City property in the Northwest Quad on Rockside Road.
The Fire Department Reported:

- EMS Incidents: Week 30, YTD 298
- Fire Incidents: Week 7, YTD 96
- Mutual Aid:
  - Engine Responses: Week 0, YTD 2
  - Squad Responses: Week 0, YTD 3

The Police Department Reported:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Misdemeanor Arrests</th>
<th>Felony Arrests</th>
<th>Traffic Citations</th>
<th>OVI Arrests</th>
<th>Accident Reports</th>
<th>Calls for Service</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>440</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Community Services Department Reported:

- There were 74 students who participated in the After School Program this week.
- Interviews are being conducted with returning Counselors for Summer Camp.
- Trips and presenters have been booked for the Jr./Sr. Summer Camp.
- Campus Connection had 13 participants this week.
- Youth 2 years to 8 years enjoyed Musical Rainbow trip to Severance Hall – Brilliant Brass on Saturday, March 10th.
- The Community Resource Coordinator assisted residents with issues involving Medicare, utilities, Snow Removal, Food Stamps, Transportation and Meals on Wheels.
- CSSP Grant: Residents were entered into County Computer System for upcoming free lunches.
- Two staff members attended a U.S. Food Showcase in Akron and brought back new ideas for lunches, and snacks for children.
- Director Senick is working with Purchasing Coordinator Katsas to order new vehicle for transports.
- Received great feedback from residents regarding Irish Fest!
The Recreation Department Reported:

- The Train and Toy Show was held at the Fieldhouse on Saturday, March 3rd from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm. Over 200 tables of vendors were on-hand for the event which brought in $1240 in rental income and $130 from Admission Tax.
- The first day of children’s golf lessons took place at the Civic Center on Saturday, March 3rd with 9 children enrolled.
- Recreation assisted with the inflatables that were available for use at the Irish Fest on Sunday, March 4th.
- Recreation staff staked out areas around Zuber Field and the U-10 Soccer Field in preparation for a drilling/soil testing company to take test bores.
- New weight room equipment and miscellaneous exercise equipment was obtained to use in fitness classes.
- The Recreation Director met with the Assistant School Superintendent to discuss parking lot issues at the High School and Fieldhouse and came up with some possible expansions/traffic flow improvements that could help eliminate some of the problems.
- Representatives from U.S. Cheer and the Cleveland Cavs Organization made a site visit to the Fieldhouse to discuss a layout for the upcoming Cheer Competition and Showcase which is planned for March 25th.
- Staff have been cleaning and re-organizing the Fieldhouse storage/equipment rooms.
- The following is a summary of the work that has been completed at the Elmwood Recreation Building:
  - New doors and door jambs were painted.
  - New block was painted with block filler.
  - Rough plumbing was completed by an outside contractor.
  - Cement was poured where the floor area was opened up to complete the plumbing job.

Happy St. Patrick’s Day