TO: Council Members
City Directors

FROM: Mayor Anthony L. Togliatti

DATE: September 13, 2019

RE: Administrative Update

SEPTEMBER COUNCIL REPORT RESULTS:

The Legislative Agenda for the September Council Meeting held this past Tuesday, September 10th, contained sixteen (16) pieces of legislation.

Three (3) Ordinances appeared on Second Reading and two (2) of those Ordinances were Enacted unanimously (7-0).

Ordinance 2019-73 *Rev. 1 creating a Residential Stormwater Remediation Fund and requiring fifty percent of all annual funds from the City of Independence’s Community Cost Share Account with the Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District be allocated to the Stormwater Remediation Fund was Removed from the Agenda.

Thirteen (13) Ordinances appeared on First Reading of which twelve (12) were Adopted (7-0).

The remaining Ordinance 2019-117 authorizing the Mayor to enter into a purchase agreement with Stamford Properties, Inc. for the purchase of real property located within the City was Adopted (5-2: Trakas, Narduzzi – No).

A special thank you to Pastor Jeremy Johnson of the NEO Church for joining us and for providing the opening prayer before our Council Meeting.
POLICE DEPARTMENT PROMOTIONS:

At the September 10<sup>th</sup> City Council meeting Detective Michael Murphy was promoted to sergeant to fill the vacancy created when Sergeant Greg Tinnirello was promoted to lieutenant. Mike has been assigned to the detective bureau for the past five years and has amassed an incredible record of success investigating and clearing felony cases.

Additionally, Mayor Togliatti made two interim promotions to sergeant in order to fill positions of two sergeants who are off on long-term medical leave. Patrolmen Jim Martin and Detective Mark Buehner were promoted to these positions. Jim has been a team leader on the SEB SWAT team and is also assigned to the U.S. Marshal’s Violent Fugitive Task Force. Detective Buehner was assigned to the DEA Task Force and as part of that team he was responsible for some of the largest heroin and fentanyl seizures in Ohio. Sergeants Murphy, Martin and Buehner will each assume command of a patrol shift.

On September 12<sup>th</sup> at the U.S. Marshal’s Annual Award Ceremony at the Pro Football Hall of Fame in Canton, Ohio, Jim Martin was recognized as the Task Force Officer of the Year for his work with the Northern Ohio Violent Fugitive Task Force. United States Marshal Pete Elliott recognized Jim’s outstanding work in locating and apprehending violent felons and singled out three particular cases that he was in charge of. These cases involved a wanted homicide suspect, an armed robber and a fugitive wanted for felonious assault and kidnapping. Jim led the team that successfully tracked down and arrested each of the dangerous felons. Mayor Togliatti also swore
Jim in as a sergeant at the awards ceremony.

*Congratulations* to our three new sergeants as they assume leadership responsibilities in the Independence Police Department!

Adding to Chief Kilbane’s comments, on behalf of the residents of Independence, I once again extend my *congratulations* to these three outstanding members of the Independence Police Department. Their promotions are well-deserved. Wishing Lieutenant Tinnirello, Sergeant Buehner, and Sergeant Martin continued success in their careers. Our department is top-notch because of people like you!  ~Anthony

**COMMUNITY SERVICES MEETING:**

A Community Services Meeting was held on Thursday, September 5th at 4:30 pm in the Council Caucus Room at City Hall.

Kathleen Kapusta chaired a very informative meeting discussing the City’s Five-Year Capital Plan as it relates to our Community Services and Recreation Departments.

My *thanks* to Community Services Director Marilyn Senick, Recreation Director Tom Walchanowicz, Procurement Coordinator Dennis Ždolshek and Finance Assistant Maggie Osysko for their presence and input at this meeting.

**SEPTEMBER PLANNING COMMISSION:**

The September Planning Commission Meeting took place on Tuesday, September 3rd at 5:30 pm in the Council Chambers at City Hall. Two items appeared on this month’s agenda:

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- Rockside Woods Blvd., Parcel 2, Saucy Brew Works, PPN 561.24.023, Hub Valley Realty, Ltd. Represented by Donald Bohning & Associates to consider the application for an accessory use to operate a brewery and the company’s corporate offices on the premises was Approved (4-1; Lytkowski-No) and recommended to be considered by City Council at the September Council Meeting.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- 5555 Brecksville Road, Former America’s Best Value Inn for a change in use from U-6 to U-6A to change zoning to permit the renovation and updating of the former hotel. A Public Hearing was set for Monday, November 11th at 5:45 pm prior to the October Planning Commission Meeting which was moved due to Election Day landing on Tuesday, November 5th.
OTHER BUSINESS:

- The Industrial Realty Group (IRG) made a presentation regarding the proposed northwest quadrant mixed-use development project.

COMMUNITY SERVICES RENOVATIONS:

Renovations are finally complete and the Oak Room Banquet Rooms were open for business today as the hosted the Senior Organization monthly luncheon. Here is a sneak peak at what they saw…

My thanks to everyone who was involved in the successful planning and orchestration of a job well-done! The Community Services wing of the Civic Center has a fresh, clean and updated look we can all enjoy for years to come!
PRIMARY SCHOOL STUDENTS AND STAFF COMMEMORATE 9/11:

Members of the City’s Safety Forces attended a special ceremony at the Independence Primary School on Wednesday morning to celebrate National Anthem Day and Patriot Day to commemorate the 18th anniversary of the September 11, 2001 attack on America.

Members of both the City of Independence Police and Fire units were invited to attend and to thank them for their service as First Responders.
NEW ELMWOOD PARK GAZEBO DONATED:

Residents in Elmwood Park may have noticed a new addition near the pond this past summer – thanks to a kind donation from Mr. Alex Kunevicius, a Brettin Drive resident since 1960 who recently celebrated his 100th birthday! Mr. Kunevicius contacted the Recreation Department last year with an idea to donate his 25-year-old gazebo to be used in Elmwood Park. Employees from the Service Department transported the gazebo from his residence to the park, where the Recreation Department gave it a fresh coat of paint and new roof, in addition to laying down stamped concrete and upgrading the north wall of the pond, creating a handicap-accessible area to fish and enjoy the scenery. We could not be more grateful to Mr. Kunevicius for his generous donation and look forward to many years of enjoyment for all at the Elmwood Pond Gazebo.

Thank you to both our great Recreation and Service Departments for helping to create another beautiful area in our park that our residents can enjoy!

VOLUNTEERS IN POLICE (VIPS):

The Independence Volunteers in Police are hosting an Open House, Meet and Greet for the Independence Police Department on Thursday, November 7th, at 7:00 pm in the White Oak Room at the Civic Center. All residents are invited and encouraged to attend for a chance to meet these outstanding individuals who protect and serve our community.

ROAD CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS:

Lafayette Subdivision Improvements:

Work completed to-date:
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• Installed all the temporary water main by-pass piping on Lafayette, Waldorf, and Latonia
  ✓ Temporary mains were pressure-tested and approved by Cleveland Water Department (CWD)
  ✓ Temporary mains were chlorinated and bacteria-tested and approved by CWD.

• Transferred all the Laurel and Aster Drive residential water services from the existing 8-inch water main to the existing (newer) 12-inch water main, including the short stretch of E. Ash, between Ashwood and Aster.
• Presently working on cutting in new hydrants on Aster, serviced off the existing 12-inch water main

Work planned for the coming week of September 16th:
• The contractor plans to begin water main replacement operations along the middle of the westbound (upstream) lane of Lafayette Boulevard.
• The contractor plans to begin at Brecksville Road, and work their way west.

E. Schaaf Road, Furhmeyer Road and Old Brecksville Road:

Work to install a conduit and fiber optic utility along E. Schaaf Road is nearing completion.

Brookside Road/Bramley Road/Dania Drive:

Water main replacement and road improvements continue on Brookside and Bramley Roads, along with the resurfacing of Dania Drive.

Brettin Drive:

Road improvements on Brettin Drive continue.

Rockside Woods Boulevard North:

Please be advised the Phase I Road Work is nearing completion and the work zone has now flipped to Phase II involving concrete replacement, which will involve lane restrictions and traffic pattern changes.

Motorists will be directed to utilize the northbound side of the Boulevard for 2-way traffic, and the contractor will focus their concrete and catch basin repair work on the southbound side of the Boulevard. The Phase II work will continue for approximately 2-3 weeks, weather permitting.
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Access to parking lots and drives will be maintained at all times, however partial drive restrictions may be required.

Any questions regarding this project should be directed to the Engineering Department at 216.524.1374.

**Brecksville Road (Northbound and Southbound Lane Closures):**

H.M. Miller Construction Company was contracted by Dominion East Ohio to conduct work on a major Gas Main Replacement Project. The work is being performed in the southbound lanes of Brecksville Road, generally from the National Tire & Battery, north to Longano Drive and remains ongoing.

**Utility Work – Rockside Road:**

Fiber optic utility work along Rockside Road (between I-77 and Brecksville Road) is nearing completion.

Two-way traffic will be maintained at all times throughout the prosecution of this work, however, lane restrictions and flagging operations may be required at times. Minor delays can be expected and motorists should travel with caution through the work zone.

As always, your cooperation and patience are very much appreciated as we proceed with all the much needed aforementioned improvements.

**UPCOMING MEETINGS/EVENTS:**

- The 10th Annual India Festival USA will also take place this Saturday, September 14th from 10:00 am to 7:00 pm at the Independence High School. Admission is free so come and enjoy all the wonderful exhibits and a variety of delicious food!
The City of Independence is sponsoring a “Community Shred Day” for any resident or City employee that may have paper/documents that they would like shredded. Residents or employees may bring their papers in bags or boxes (limit- 8 boxes/bags per household). Staples and/or small paper clips do not need to be removed. Documents are shredded “on site” and all shredding is recycled. The Absolute Shred truck will be set up in City Hall’s parking this Saturday, September 14th from 9AM to Noon, or until the limit of 12,000 pounds is met. All City Departments may take advantage of this opportunity as well. Any questions regarding this event should be directed to the Finance Department at 216.524.4131.

Hemlock Trail Ribbon Cutting:

SUNDAY  
SEPT 14, 2019  10 AM  
HEMLOCK TRAIL  
RIBBON CUTTING

Please join us for a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony on Saturday, September 14th, at 10:00 am to celebrate the opening of the new Hemlock Trail.  

Activities for children and refreshments will be available.

We look forward to seeing you there!
Cuyahoga County is sponsoring their annual Fathers Walk on September 19th this year. Fathers, stepfathers, grandfathers, brothers, uncles and father figures in Cuyahoga County are invited to walk your child to school in support of education. Sign up today by calling your child’s school.

The Annual Fall Fest and Clambake will be held on Sunday, September 29th from Noon to 4:00 pm in Elmwood Park. If you would like to order “clams” and/or the full Clambake, please place your pre-orders to 216.524.7373 or order online by Monday, September 23rd.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

Following are some highlights of recent activity, updates, events and/or statistics from various departments:

The Engineering Department Reported- (Week ending September 6)

• Water Main Breaks
  o 6484 Willow Drive water main break. Cleveland Water made the necessary repairs on their end and Service completed the repairs to the roadway.

• Permits:
  o Five Right-of-Way permits were issued.
    ▪ One to WideOpenWest Cable Company to bury cable.
    ▪ Four to Dominion to install new gas connections.

• Inspections:
  o A Sanitary and Storm Lateral Inspection was conducted at 5994 Hillside Road and was found to be compliant.
  o A Sanitary and Storm Lateral Inspection was conducted at 6954 Linden Lane, sublot 89 and was found to be compliant.
  o A Storm lateral inspection was performed at 5712 Chestnut Road and found to be compliant.

• Geotech performed work to repair the storm sewer on lower Hillside Road.

The Police Department Reported- (Week ending September 6)

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<th>Misdemeanor Arreasts</th>
<th>Felony Arreasts</th>
<th>Traffic Citations</th>
<th>OVI Arrests</th>
<th>Accident Reports</th>
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The Fire Department Reported: (Week ending September 6)

- **EMS Incidents**: 32 (1041)
- **Fire Incidents**: 19 (472)

- **Mutual Aid:**
  - Engine Responses: 0 (7)
  - Squad Responses: 0 (20)

The Clerk of Court Reported: Court States August 2018 versus August 2019

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The Recreation Department Reported- (Week ending September 6)

Saturday, August 31:
- 10 tables at the City Annex Pavilion and 10 tables at the Kiwanis Pavilion were booked for picnics.

Sunday, September 1:
- Both pavilions were booked for resident picnics.
- Outdoor pool closed early due to the weather conditions.

Monday, September 2:
- Civic Center was only open from 8:00 am to noon due to the Labor Day Holiday.

Tuesday, September 3:
- A Coaches Meeting and team selection was held for the 3rd through 6th grade flag football program. 67 children are currently enrolled with 6 teams.
- Recreation staff mapped out and striped a youth soccer field on Diamond #3 for our 3-4 year old division.
Wednesday, September 4:

- Mapped out and striped a youth soccer field on the Diamond #1 outfield.
- Prepped and painted the posts of the grill area of the Kiwanis Pavilion in preparation for the Kiwanis Chicken BBQ and Fall Fest events.

Thursday, September 5:

- Director Walchanowicz attended Community Services Meeting and provided input to the Recreation Department’s Five-Year Capital Plan.

Friday, September 6:

- Table and Chair deliveries for the weekend: 31 tables and 170 chairs going to 5 resident homes in addition to 20 tables and 180 chairs delivered to the Alumni Field for the PTO event before the football game.
- Staff set up, operated and tore down 2 of the City’s inflatables along with other items for the PTO Pre game event.
- Outdoor Pool closed today in preparation for the Dog Swim on September 7th.

General:

- Staff continued work on the maintenance of landscape beds around the park campus.
- Park maintenance garage was cleaned and organized this past week as time permitted.

The IT Department Reported- (Week ending September 6)

- The IT Department closed 21 helpdesk tickets and handled 41 calls this week.
- In addition to helpdesk, weekly project highlights included:
  - New Virtual Machine Update with Security Patches Applied and new additional programs.
  - Motorola licensing meeting to discuss cost saving measures.
  - Migrated virtual servers to update formatting to retain more useable space.
  - Ran security updates on exchange servers.
  - New monitors installed at the Fire Department.
  - Testing new backup features for Veeam to save long-term archive space.
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- Court to BMV FTP site updated.
- New website content manager training.
- Began proofreading, testing new website, added photos, and checked links.

Hope to see you on Saturday at the
Hemlock Trail Ribbon Cutting!

10:00 am

Behind the Cleveland Clinic Operations Center
6801 Brecksville Road!