TO: Council Members
City Directors
FROM: Mayor Anthony L. Togliatti
DATE: September 14, 2018
RE: Administrative Update

BANK ROBBERY:

The week of September 10th began with a little “unwanted” excitement with an armed robbery taking place at the Chase Bank on Brecksville Road. The suspect fled on foot into the wooded area between Lafayette and Chestnut and Independence officers, along with officers from several surrounding cities, quickly set up a perimeter and conducted a search. The suspect was eventually located and arrested without incident. The stolen money and a loaded handgun were recovered from the suspect.

Every Independence officer on duty that day sped to the scene, placing themselves between an armed suspect and our citizens.

The officers who were instrumental in containing and capturing this suspect were: Lieutenant Charles Wilson, Lieutenant Lenny Mazzola, Sergeant Brad Borowy, Sergeant J.T. Kurtz, Sergeant Greg Tinnirello, Detective Rich Paine, Detective Mike Murphy, Patrolman Charlie Kingzett, Patrolman Greg Smagola, Patrolman Cris Collise, Patrolman Kevin Repicky and Patrolman Jim Martin. Head Dispatcher Mark Kwiatkowski and Dispatcher Ken Kaye did an outstanding job coordinating the responding units and relaying crucial information to the officers in the field. Violent crime is a rarity in Independence, but Monday’s incident was a great example of our team working together to take a dangerous criminal off of the street.

I cannot thank the extremely professional and competent men and women of the Independence Police Department for their quick response and excellent coordination of efforts to apprehend the suspect without incident. Congratulations to all involved!
HEMLOCK BRIDGE PLACEMENT:

It was an ominous sight late Monday, morning September 10th, seeing the Hemlock Trail Bridge being set into place over the Cuyahoga River. The Bridge, identified as Bridge No. 5, is 200 feet long and 12-feet across inside the railings, and is the longest bridge on the trail.

Made in Greeley, Colorado, this extremely large structure had to be transported in large pieces by trucks. The large pieces were then assembled into “halves” on opposite sides of the river and set into place by two large cranes.

Derek Shaffer of West Creek Preservation, City Engineer Ramm, members of our Engineering Department were there to witness this awesome process in addition to IT Director Kyle Collins who memorialized this occasion by photographing the event. A big thank you to all of you!
RESULTS OF SEPTEMBER COUNCIL MEETING:

The Legislative Agenda for the September 11, 2018 Council Meeting held this past Tuesday contained 18 pieces of legislation.

Three (3) Ordinances appeared on Second Reading, and all three of those Ordinances were Enacted unanimously (7-0). However, Ordinance 2018-140 creating informal procedures required by the City for entering into contacts or the procurement of goods and services not in excess of the amount requiring public bidding found in Article IV, Section 2(C)(5) was Adopted as Amended.

Thirteen (13) Ordinances and two (2) Resolutions were introduced on First Reading. Eleven (11) of the Ordinances were Enacted unanimously (7-0). Action on the remaining two Ordinances was as follows:

Ordinance 2018-157 accepting the Bids for snow plowing services for municipal lots and senior citizens/disabled persons/active military residents for the 2018-2019 snow season was left on First Reading.

Ordinance 2018-158 authorizing Change Order No. 2 to the agreement with E. L. Robinson Engineering for professional engineering design services in connection with Brecksville Road Improvements (Rockside Road to S.R. 17 Cloverleaf) was Adopted (6-1; Trakas-No).

Action on the two (2) Resolutions was as follows:

- Resolution 2018-14 was Adopted (7-0).
- Resolution 2018-15 in support of Prostate Cancer Awareness Month was Adopted (7-0) as Amended.

A special thank you to Catherine Monnin of Rockside Church for joining us and for providing the opening prayer before our Council Meeting.

COMMUNITY SERVICES MEETING:

A Community Services Meeting was held on Wednesday, September 12th at 4:30 pm in the Council Caucus Room. Directors and members of the management staff of the Recreation and Community Services Departments were in attendance, along with Clerk of Court Angie Zidanic.

Various Drug Prevention initiatives were presented by Angie and included updates on the High School’s Drug Free Clubs of America, the McKeon Education Group’s Prevention Specialist, and the Peer to Peer Opioid Education Program, Generation Rx.

In addition to a conversation of both the Recreation and Community Services Departments
Capital Budget/Five-Year Capital Plans, a recap of this past summer’s programming and associated fees were discussed.

*Thank you* to Community Services Committee Chair Councilperson Kathleen Kapusta for organizing this informative meeting.

**EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM:**

Dr. Martina Moore, of Moore Counseling and Mediation Services (MCMS), conducted training this week with Directors and some of their management staff regarding services MCMS provides to support the City’s Drug Free Workplace, performance management and progressive discipline policies. MCMS also assisted with providing reasonable suspicion and performance management training for key leaders and administrators. *Thank you* to HR Director Letitia Linker for organizing this very important training.

**UPCOMING MEETINGS/EVENTS:**

- The 9th Annual India Festival USA is scheduled for tomorrow, **September 15**th from 11:00 am to 7:00 pm at the Independence Middle School. *Free* Admission.

- Residents wishing to obtain more information regarding the three proposed Charter Amendments which will appear on the Ballot at the upcoming General Election on Tuesday, November 6th, are welcome to attend a **Public Information Meeting on Wednesday, September 19**th at 7:00 pm in the White Oak Room at the Civic Center.

- Mark your calendars for the Community Services Annual Fall Fest and Clambake on **Sunday, September 23**rd from 1:00 to 5:00 pm in Elmwood Park by the Kiwanis Pavilion.

- The Finance Committee has scheduled their next meeting for **Tuesday, September 25**th at 4:30 pm, in the Council Caucus Room at City Hall.

**COMMUNITY SHRED:**

The City of Independence is hosting another “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
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September 14, 2018

site” and all shredding is recycled. The Absolute Shredding Truck will be in City Hall’s parking lot on Saturday, September 29th from 9:00 am to Noon, or until the limit of 12,000 pounds is met. All City departments may take advantage of this as well.

STATE OF THE CITY ADDRESS & LUNCHEON:

Anyone interested in attending my Annual State of the City Address and Luncheon on Friday, October 5th, please call the Community Services Department (216.524.7373) by Friday, September 28th. This event is free to all residents. Doors open at 11:30 am.

FARMERS MARKET:

Stop by the Independence Farmers Market this Sunday, September 16th and/or Wednesday, September 19th for your last two chances to pick up fresh farm produce in addition to many other delicious items from participating vendors. Credit cards are accepted.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

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

The Engineering Department Reported- (Week ending September 7th)

- Five (5) permits were issued: Four (4) Right of Way for gas connections, and One (1) Miscellaneous Permit to replace a driveway apron.
- West Creek Road (and Jefferson Drive) pavement repairs continued.
- Traffic Signal and Street Light Improvement Projects for various locations were put out to bid. There were 4 bids received that were opened on Friday, September 7, 2018. The three projects that are included are the E. Pleasant Valley/Midland Road Signal Upgrade,
CUY – Rockside Road Signal at Oak Tree Boulevard Modification and the Oak Tree Streetscape.

- Engineering reviewed and organized open new dwelling permits and inspections. Currently under review in-house are 10 final grades at Hawthorn Trace. Two final grade deficiency letters were sent to Pulte Homes.

The Police Department Reported- (Week ending September 7th)

<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>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>123</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>405</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Fire Department Reported: (Week ending September 7th)

- EMS Incidents: 35 Week, 973 YTD
- Fire Incidents: 17 Week, 379 YTD
- Mutual Aid:
  - Engine Responses: 0 Week, 28 YTD
  - Squad Responses: 0 Week, 20 YTD

The Clerk of Courts Reported- (Week ending September 7th)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Aug., 2017</th>
<th>Aug., 2018</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tickets Written</td>
<td>354</td>
<td>430</td>
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<tr>
<td>Traffic Cases</td>
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<td>307</td>
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<td>Criminal Cases</td>
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<td>19</td>
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<tr>
<td>OVI Cases</td>
<td>4</td>
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<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fine &amp; Costs Collected</td>
<td>$53,847.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Check to City</td>
<td>$40,378.00</td>
<td>$27,506.00</td>
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</table>

The Recreation Department Reported- (Week ending September 7th)

- Saturday September 1st:
  - Staff in working on High School parking areas assisted by a Service Department employee.
  - All tables reserved at both pavilions for picnics.
- Sunday, September 2nd:
  - All tables were booked for picnics at both pavilions.
  - Outdoor pool very busy. Attendance for the day is over 226 swimmers.
- Monday, September 3rd:
o Outdoor pool busy again today with an attendance over 275 swimmers.

- Tuesday, September 4th:
  o Dmitri took inventory of all football program supplies and is pricing items that are needed.
  o With the extreme temperatures, the outdoor pool is busy again today and due to the school being closed as a result of the heat predicted for Wednesday, we made arrangements to open the pool on Wednesday until noon.

- Wednesday, September 5th:
  o A 3rd through 6th grade flag football team meeting and team selection were held this evening. Over 60 children are enrolled to create 5 teams.
  o Staff re-striped all soccer and flag football fields. We now have a total of 6 fields.
  o The Independence Primary School utilized the River Room at the Fieldhouse from 6:00 to 8:00 pm to hold a meeting.
  o Once again due to extreme heat the outdoor pool was opened at noon today. Many positive comments were received from residents on Facebook as a result.

- Thursday, September 6th:
  o Recreation staff began performing a “heavy” floor cleaning of the Fieldhouse courts. This will be an ongoing project over the coming months.
  o ICAN began its “Glee Club” program in the Elmwood Recreation Building.
  o Team selection and meeting for the 3 and 4 year old soccer program took place today. We have 6 teams this year.
  o Team selection and meeting for the 5-year olds soccer program was also held this evening. There will be 3 teams this year.
  o April and Dmitri scheduling staff for the Press Box Concession Stand for upcoming fall soccer and football games.
  o Director Walchanowicz met with contractor that will be doing the tennis court resurfacing project.
  o Recreation staff formed up and poured 5 yards of cement at the High School Project.

- Friday, September 7th:
  o Table and Chair deliveries: 56 tables and 92 chairs to 9 resident homes for weekend parties.
  o Staff poured 5 yards of cement curbing at the High School project.
  o Recreation staff worked with Technical Services employees to install hand rails and handicap items in the Civic Center shower areas.
  o Began filling the indoor pools in preparation for opening them on Sunday.
  o Getting the Fieldhouse ready for the Tucker Neale Basketball rental this upcoming Sunday.

The Service Department Reported – (Week ending September 7th)

- This week marked the completion of compost processing for 2018. All of the processed material will be delivered this spring to the residents.
Employees are hauling the finished compost to the service garage, north lot for storage.

- Four (4) tents installed this week: 1 – 20 X 40 foot and 2-20 X 20 foot
- One (1) tent removed (20 X 20 foot)
- There were two (2) full burials this week at Maple Shade Cemetery.
- Cemetery crew cut and weed wacked the cemetery grounds.
- Additional tasks completed this week:
  - Friday Special Pick-ups: 48
    - Metals: 19
    - HHW: 29
  - 2 Toter loaner cans picked up
  - 1 Toter can repaired
  - 2 New Toter cans delivered
  - 2 yard waste Toters sold this week
  - 1 Temporary mailbox installed
  - Crack sealing crew out 3 days this week
  - Chipper out 2 days this week
  - Sweeper out 4 days this week
  - Watering Truck out 2 days this week
  - Litter patrol 1 day this week
  - Weed control out 1 day this week
  - Asphalt Patch Crew out 1 day

- Truck #1227 (F-550) which has been down for 3 weeks is back on the road after an extensive engine repair.
- Leaf season is around the corner and preventative maintenance on the Leaf Vacs has been a priority.

The Information Technology Department Reported-

- The IT Department closed 18 Helpdesk tickets this week.
- IT handled 46 calls this week including 1 after-hours call.
- In addition to Helpdesk, weekly project highlights included:
  - New thin client image including security and program updates.
  - New version of Shoretel Phone Software
  - Call report was run for Community Services Department.
  - Attended a meeting to discuss moving forward with E-Ticket import into court software.
  - Set-up for use of credit cards at the Press Box concession Stand.
  - New employee set-up.

Enjoy your weekend!