

Mayor Report – By Shawn Keough
Prepared on November 7, 2018

Hello Residents and Council,

With the election season behind us and our clocks turned back, we can now look forward to focusing on the upcoming holiday season. I hope everyone finds some time to spend with family and friends as the Thanksgiving Holiday approaches. We have so many things to be thankful for here in our small part of this world. Since this will be my last report prior to the Thanksgiving Holiday, I would like to wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

As the leaves continue to fall and our Department of Public Works crews work to collect them, the forecast is calling for snow in the days ahead. The first snow fall, while fun and pretty, often adds a few challenges to our everyday travels. I would like to ask everyone to prepare properly for the winter season as it will be here soon. Find your gloves, hat and a scraper. Most importantly, please remember to drive slowly through our town, give yourself or ask your young drivers to allow some extra time. Soon, we will all need to remember how to drive in the snow again.

With the recent City Council vacancy and three weeks since our last City Council meeting, my calendar has been full of activity, so I apologize for such a long report. Here is my report of recent activities and my calendar of planned Dexter activities looking ahead:

Mayor's Thoughts

Council Vacancy – On October 8th, Councilmember Ray Tell informed Council that he will be starting a new employment opportunity and that he would have to step down (resign from Council) following the October 22nd meeting due to a conflict between the Council meetings and the shift that he would be working. Ray has been a very dedicated member of many Councils (Village and City) and we officially recognized and thanked him for his many years of service and at our City Council meeting on October 22nd.

On October 10, 2018, the City began advertising the vacancy on City Council. In accordance with the City Council rules for filling a vacancy, we provided notification to the public regarding the open position and requested letters of intent from interested eligible residents. The deadline for turning in a letter of intent was 5 pm on November 2, 2018. We received a total of 13 letters of intent. Since October 10th, I have interviewed all of the residents who submitted letters of intent (interest) to fill the vacant position on Council. Many of the meetings listed below were part of that process. Two meetings occurred prior to our October 22nd meeting. The vacant position has approximately two years remaining on the term Ray Tell was elected to serve. My recommendation to fill the Council Vacancy has been included at the front of the November 12th City Council packet.

Election Day Thank you – with the election complete, I would like to extend a public thank you to all the members of our election commission, to all the volunteers that worked at the polls, to our Clerk and supporting staff members. The turnout was high and your efforts to run a smooth election are appreciated by all of our residents. Thank you!

Recent Activities & Meetings

October 23, 2018 – Website Committee – Redevelopment kick off meeting

October 23 through 26, 2018 – 150 Jeffords Site Meeting – I had conversations and one site meeting with the property owners of Dancer's Edge related to the stop work order issued by the Washtenaw County Building Department. A concern related to digging and construction activity on the Dancer's Edge property resulted in the Stop Work Order. This situation was cleared up quickly by the 150 Jeffords project team.

October 29, 2018 – Dexter Area Fire Department (DAFD) - Joint Labor Management Team meeting – I was asked by the DAFD Board to attend a meeting to discuss the protocols and circumstances under which DAFD firefighters would be allowed to drive an ambulance (not owned by DAFD) to the hospital.

October 29, 2018 – Pre-application meeting for a potential new project at 7960 Grand Street. The new project being proposed is a 23 unit condominium building between Grand and the alley to the north.

October 29, 2018 – Joint Master Plan meeting hosted by the Planning Commission – this public meeting was attended by approximately 25 residents, including members of the planning commission and city council. Residents were able to provide input on our latest Master Plan update.

October 31, 2018 - Council Vacancy Meeting – Resident Rachel Tocco submitted a letter of intent dated October 28, 2018, so we met to discuss her interest in filling the Council vacancy that occurred following Ray Tell’s last meeting on October 22nd. Current Council member Ray Tell resigned effective October 22nd for a new employment opportunity (please see above).

October 31, 2018 – Conference call with representatives from City Engineer OHM and Dexter Community Schools representatives and consultants to discuss the School’s updated draft study of 4 crosswalks in the City. The four locations being evaluated by the Schools are Kensington/Dexter Ann Arbor Road, Baker between Creekside and Bates, and two locations on Dan Hoey.

November 1, 2018 - Council Vacancy Meeting – Resident Scott Bell submitted a letter of intent on October 30, 2018, so we met to discuss his interest in filling the Council vacancy that occurred following Ray Tell’s last meeting on October 22nd. Current Council member Ray Tell resigned effective October 22nd for a new employment opportunity (please see above).

November 1, 2018 – Conference call with Michigan Economic Development Team representatives regarding the Redevelopment Ready Communities program and the MEDC’s initial report that they are preparing.

November 2, 2018 - Council Vacancy Meeting – Resident Robert Tiplady submitted a letter of intent on October 29, 2018, so we met to discuss his interest in filling the Council vacancy that occurred following Ray Tell’s last meeting on October 22nd. Current Council member Ray Tell resigned effective October 22nd for a new employment opportunity (please see above).

November 2, 2018 – Phone conversation with Dale Fisher regarding potential opportunities for the City of Dexter to be a part of a Washtenaw County picture book (a “coffee table” type of book) that he is currently planning. Mr. Fisher indicated that Saline, Chelsea and Milan were likely participants, and that the book would be printed in August of 2019. The City needs to decide whether to participate. Mr. Fisher is seeking local business to help defray the cost of the printing in exchange for being featured in the new picture book.

November 4, 2018 – Council Vacancy Meeting - Resident Natalie Hoffman submitted a letter of intent on November 2, 2018, so we met to discuss her interest in filling the Council vacancy that occurred following Ray Tell’s last meeting on October 22nd. Current Council member Ray Tell resigned effective October 22nd for a new employment opportunity (please see above).

November 4, 2018 – Council Vacancy Meeting - Resident Michael Ehnis submitted a letter of intent on November 2, 2018, so we met to discuss his interest in filling the Council vacancy that occurred following Ray Tell’s last meeting on October 22nd. Current Council member Ray Tell resigned effective October 22nd for a new employment opportunity (please see above).

November 4, 2018 – Council Vacancy Meeting - Resident Patrick Richards submitted a letter of intent on November 2, 2018, so we met to discuss his interest in filling the Council vacancy that occurred following Ray Tell’s last meeting on October 22nd. Current Council member Ray Tell resigned effective October 22nd for a new employment opportunity (please see above).

November 4, 2018 – Council Vacancy Meeting - Resident Elizabeth Eby-Igwe submitted a letter of intent on November 2, 2018, so we met to discuss her interest in filling the Council vacancy that occurred following Ray Tell's last meeting on October 22nd. Current Council member Ray Tell resigned effective October 22nd for a new employment opportunity (please see above).

November 4, 2018 – Council Vacancy Meeting - Resident Cole Miller submitted a letter of intent on November 2, 2018, so we met to discuss his interest in filling the Council vacancy that occurred following Ray Tell's last meeting on October 22nd. Current Council member Ray Tell resigned effective October 22nd for a new employment opportunity (please see above).

November 5, 2018 – Council Vacancy Meeting - Resident Kyle Marsh submitted a letter of intent on November 2, 2018, so we met to discuss his interest in filling the Council vacancy that occurred following Ray Tell's last meeting on October 22nd. Current Council member Ray Tell resigned effective October 22nd for a new employment opportunity (please see above).

November 5, 2018 – Council Vacancy Meeting - Resident Ron Jeffries submitted a letter of intent on November 2, 2018, so we met to discuss his interest in filling the Council vacancy that occurred following Ray Tell's last meeting on October 22nd. Current Council member Ray Tell resigned effective October 22nd for a new employment opportunity (please see above).

November 6, 2018 – Council Vacancy Meeting - Resident Richard Bellas submitted a letter of intent on October 30, 2018, so we met to discuss his interest in filling the Council vacancy that occurred following Ray Tell's last meeting on October 22nd. Current Council member Ray Tell resigned effective October 22nd for a new employment opportunity (please see above).

Upcoming Activities

November 8, 2018 – Grandview Commons – meeting with AR Brouwer to review OHM invoices.

November 8, 2018 – Meeting with Sheriff Clayton at City offices

November 8, 2018 – Meeting with Scott Munzel and City staff to review recent activity related to Dexter Wellness Center

November 9, 2018 – Meeting with new DAFD Board member Jim Smith to review the DAFD Budget

November 12, 2018 – Pre-application meeting for 8180 Main Street (former Mill Creek Sports site)

November 12, 2018 – City Council meeting

November 15, 2018 – Dexter Downtown Development Authority meeting – I will be out of town and unable to attend this meeting.

November 15, 2018 – Dexter Area Fire Department meeting – the DAFD Board will be reviewing (and likely voting) on the 2019 Budget and Spending plan, as well as on a potential purchase of two new apparatus vehicles (2 new engines). City Council appointed Council member Jim Smith to replace Ray Tell on the DAFD Board.

November 26, 2018 – City Council meeting

Please note that we are hoping to have a 3045 Broad Committee meeting as soon as Norfolk Development is ready to present their preliminary project pro-forma. That meeting has not yet been scheduled.

I hope everyone is having a great week and I look forward to seeing you around our town. ☺

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