

Hello Residents and Council,

I hope everyone is having a great September and enjoying this really nice weather that we have been having.

Here is my report of recent activities and my calendar of planned Dexter activities looking ahead:

### **Mayor's Thoughts**

Facilities – our City Council continues to discuss various options for improving our facilities. This effort has mostly been focused on our City Offices and our Fire Station, but some of the discussion has been focused on adding space at our Department of Public Works site as well. I thought it might helpful to our residents to see a brief summary of the options currently being discussed and researched for functionality and potential future cost:

#### **City Hall**

- 1.) Continue to lease above PNC Bank – this is the current situation that we are trying to improve
- 2.) Add onto existing fire station at 8140 Main Street - we have various options and costs for this option (2016 estimates for renovating 8140 Main for offices/fire/sheriff ranged from \$5,139,000 to \$7,307,000)
- 3.) Convert existing fire station to City offices - would require moving the fire station first – we have an option and cost estimate for this option (2018 cost estimate - \$2,790,000)
- 4.) Purchase Copeland and renovate into offices – our architect is currently evaluating the function portion of this property. No cost estimates prepared yet.
- 5.) Build New City Hall on old DAPCO site near Forest/Broad and Mill Creek Park – we need to explore cost and space options as part of this key redevelopment initiative. The City is currently partnered with Norfolk Development on the redevelopment of this property. No costs or plan currently available.
- 6.) Purchase or lease space in Monument Park Building – we have preliminary cost options for both (purchase information from 2017 - \$175-\$200 per square foot plus \$200 per square foot for build out; current advertised lease rate \$20-\$22 per square foot)
- 7.) St. Joseph property – probably not a good location, but members of our staff and council took a tour of it

#### **Fire Station**

- 1.) Stay at 8140 Main Street – this is the current situation we are trying to improve
- 2.) Stay and renovate 8140 Main Street – we have various costs and options (ranges from a 2016 estimate of \$3,860,000 to a 2017 estimate of \$2,680,000)
- 3.) Move to City owned Dan Hoey property on south part of town – this moves the station further away from the district it is supporting – however we own the land and have cost estimates for a new station (\$6.4 million)
- 4.) Move to MAVD property on Dexter Ann Arbor Road - this moves the station further away from the district it is supporting and requires purchasing property. It would take property off the tax rolls. We currently have a cost estimate for this option (\$6.4 million plus land cost).

My goal is to continue to work through the development of all reasonable options so that we can have a thorough discussion with the public and comparison of options before and decisions are made.

### **Recent Activities & Meetings**

September 13, 2018 – Huron River Watershed Council – SUDS on the River Fundraiser – this was another great event.

September 17, 2018 – Meeting with Dr. Chris Timmis, Dexter Schools – Dr. Timmis and I met at his office for a little over 3 hours. We discussed current and future projects and a wide range of topics. We discussed the City and Schools relationship as it relates to recent activities. We talked a lot about “perspectives” and how that plays into getting things done that are good for the community. We also talked about the concept/ability to “move forward” rather than “rekindle the past”. We discussed community safety a bunch including police officers, crossing guards, cross walks, cross

walk design and the philosophy of how to teach students and the public to cross safely and respect those that are crossing the streets. We discussed the timing of many projects and the broad oversight that the Schools have in many areas of our community (in addition to the obvious role of educating our kids), such as senior citizen support and recreational opportunities. I applauded him on this strategy, because I think the community sees the schools as more than just a school district. I think this strategy has helped the Schools overall.

September 19, 2019 – WATS Policy Committee Meeting – WATS staff proposed some target percentages for planning future capital programs in the areas of Bridges (10%), Air Quality/Congestion (15%), Non-Motorized (10%), Roads (45%) and Safety (20%).

#### **Upcoming Activities**

September 20, 2018 – Dexter Downtown Development Authority meeting – canceled for the month of September

September 20, 2018 – Dexter Area Fire Department meeting

September 24, 2018 – City Council meeting

September 26, 2018 – 3045 Broad Committee meeting

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

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