

Hello Residents and Council,

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

### **Mayor's Thoughts on Pedestrian Safety**

Our next meeting with representatives of the Dexter Community Schools is tentatively set for February 12, 2019. Comments on the School's latest crosswalk report were submitted to the Schools on January 18, 2019 and their consultant will be reviewing them and preparing changes accordingly. The City met with DTE (also on January 18<sup>th</sup>) and requested some lighting upgrades on Baker at the Baker Crosswalk between Bates and Creekside. DTE has scheduled upgrades from the existing high-pressure sodium to newer brighter LED lighting. The City also requested preliminary quotes for lighting enhancements at the two Dan Hoey crosswalks. There is more work and cooperation to come on this.

### **Goal Setting Sessions**

As in year's past, Council typically conducts a couple of goal setting sessions prior to the budget preparation process. Typically, we have one goal setting session in February and one in March, but as long as we try to fit a couple in, there is no required month that these are held. I would like to start the discussion to get these scheduled and on our calendars. I would like to suggest February 16<sup>th</sup> and either March 9<sup>th</sup> or March 23<sup>rd</sup> as possible dates. Council and staff are asked to check their calendars and provide input on available dates.

### **Mayor's Thoughts on the Need for upgrading our current City Offices**

As City residents are aware, our current City offices are too small and inadequate in many ways. Our staff are operating in cramped conditions, and we need to find new space to rent or build new space. Our employees deserve better conditions and more modern facilities in order to serve our residents and businesses. We also lack adequate meeting space that is our own. I believe that the cramped appearance of our current office space and conference room (while clean and as organized as possible) presents an image that is not reflective of the very professional and positive attitude that our staff project daily. Whenever we bring visitors, guests, residents, etc. into our current space, people are amazed at how our staff do so much with so little functional space. My reason for writing this article today is to increase public awareness of this problem, to seek input from residents on this topic and to notify you that we have two upcoming public information meetings to discuss this very important facility topic, as well as options for improving our fire station, which is also in need of some upgrades. We tentatively have two public meetings planned; one for February 23<sup>rd</sup> (Saturday morning) and the other on February 28<sup>th</sup> (Thursday evening) – both meetings will be at the Senior Center. Please stay tuned for more announcements on the start time.

As part of sharing my thoughts, I would like to also encourage feedback. I would like to know how other residents feel about this situation. Do residents know we operate in a cramped space? Do residents feel we need a larger space? Do residents feel that the condition of our City offices is an important reflection of who we are as a community? As a Council, I believe that we are supposed to be making decisions that are reflective of our residents' thoughts and that improve the quality of life and image of the City. We also have a responsibility to spend within our means as we solve these types of problems. I believe that finding a better place for our City Office should be a top priority. City Council has been working for the past couple of years to develop a list of options and we are getting close to presenting that information, however we have many priorities competing for our General Fund dollars. I am interested to hear what other City residents think and welcome your input and participation. Please look for the upcoming meeting notices and feel free to contact

me at the number or email below with any thoughts and questions. Thank you in advance for your input on this process.

### **Recent Activities & Meetings**

January 15, 2019 – Website Committee meeting – work continues to update and improve the functionality of our website.

January 16, 2019 – WATS Policy Committee meeting

January 16, 2019 – Southeast Michigan Asset Management Work Team

January 17, 2019 – Downtown Development Authority meeting

January 17, 2019 – Dexter Area Fire Board meeting – the Fire Board approved the final run totals for 2018 which determines the distribution of cost for DAFD’s fiscal year 2019 (January thru December). Fire and emergency runs within the City were down significantly (19.4%) in 2018, which is a great thing by itself. The runs in Dexter Township were almost the same, while Webster Township saw a 6% increase. The net result for 2019 is that the City’s share of the cost will be approximately \$140,000 less for the calendar year 2019 than it was in 2018. A summary of the fire runs for 2018 and the approved costs for each community for 2019 from the January DAFD Board packet is included with my report.

January 18, 2019 – Meeting with DTE to discuss crosswalk lighting improvements

### **Upcoming Activities**

January 24, 2019 – Meeting with the Washtenaw County Road Commission on DTE lighting at the Roundabouts

January 28, 2019 – City Council meeting

February 4, 2019 – Pre-application meeting for outdoor seating at Northern United Brewing Company.

February 12, 2019 - Meeting with Dexter Community Schools regarding Crosswalk Safety within the Community

I look forward to seeing you around our town. 😊

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### Dexter Area Fire Department Revenue Allocation Calculations by Municipality

	Runs		%		
	Thru 12/31/2018	FY 2017	Thru 12/31/2018	FY 2017	
City of Dexter	299	370	29.75%	34.91%	\$643,495
Dexter Township	364	367	36.22%	34.62%	\$783,385
Webster Township	342	323	34.03%	30.47%	\$736,038
Shared Events	235	259			
<b>TOTAL RUNS</b>	1240	1319			
Minus Shared Events	1005	1060			
<b>Budget</b>	\$2,168,078				
Minus Other Revenue	\$5,160				
<b>Revenue for Distribution</b>	\$2,162,918				\$2,162,918

Municipality	Quarterly	Monthly
City of Dexter	\$160,873.79	\$53,624.60
Dexter Township	\$195,846.35	\$65,282.12
Webster Township	\$184,009.48	\$61,336.49
<b>Total</b>	\$2,162,918.46	\$2,162,918.46