

**TO:** Mayor and Council

**FROM:** David Kennedy, City Manager

**RE:** Weekly Update

**DATE:** July 1, 2022

### **Finance**

Tuesday, City Council recognized Finance Clerk, Dawn Everett, who has retired from the city after 12 years of dedicated service to the residents of Loveland. Dawn was a friend to all that had the privilege to work with her. Her appreciation of customer service, and the kindness and respectful manner which she showed to our residents, has been a model for all city employees.



This week, the city was notified by the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) that it has been awarded its Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for fiscal year 2022. The award is considered a significant achievement amongst government entities, reflecting the commitment of city staff to meet the highest principles of governmental budgeting.

Today is Assistant Finance Director Angie Wall's last day with the city. We would like to thank Angie for her service and positive attitude during her time with the city. As mentioned previously, Angie will be coming in afterhours later in July to help with the completion of a future payroll, and we are very thankful for her agreeing to do so.

As the Finance Department goes through a transition period, we are happy to welcome LaWanda Willis as a Temporary Accounts Payable Clerk to help us ensure that we continue to pay our vendors in a timely manner. I would also like to express my appreciation to Utility Billing Clerk, Lisa Craig, Customer Service Specialist, Mandy Lucas, and Finance Clerk, Ann Gott for their hard work to make sure nothing falls through the cracks during this transition.

# Administration

Wednesday, I met with Eagle Scout, John Eha, his father Jeff, Chuck Gibson, and Jan Beller at the Greater Loveland Museum. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss a potential mechanism for the perpetual maintenance of the Wagoner-Hill Cemetery, which John cleaned up as part of his Eagle Scout project. While there is no clearly defined owner of the cemetery, all of us have the simple goal that following John's efforts, it does not simply return back into a state of disrepair. We will continue meeting, and I will continue to update City Council.

# **Public Works**

Also at Tuesdays Council Meeting, Mayor Bailey administered the oath of office to our new Public Works employee, Jake Stolz. Jake comes to the city via Union Township and is looking forward to serving our residents.



The new public works building continues to take shape, as window installations began this week, along with electrical wiring and floor drains in the garage portion of the building.



This week, temporary repairs were made to the sidewalks along the north side of the West Loveland Avenue bridge. These repairs, which were funded jointly by, Hamilton County, Clermont County, and the city, make the bridge safe for pedestrian traffic until permanent repairs are completed, likely this fall. The alternative, shutting down the sidewalks, was not a safe alternative and resulted in these repairs being proposed by the city. Special thanks to Assistant City Manager, Cory Wright, for working to have the repairs completed in advance of the city's Independence Day Celebration.



A new Automated External Defibrillator (AED) was installed at McCoy Park. The AED was funded through a grant received by the city from the Clermont County Park District. This is the 2<sup>nd</sup> AED installed in a city park this year, with Phillips Park being completed earlier. LSFD Deputy Chief, Jon Frye, continues to assist the city with the installation process of these important life saving devices.



The city continues to make a wide variety of improvements to its park system. This week, various park items were blasted and repainted within Anniversary Park by Ellis Maintenance and Blasting. This project was included in the park evaluations completed by the city's Parks and Recreation Committee earlier this year.







### **Public Relations**

Several updates were issued this week: <u>LAB Homecoming Parade</u>, <u>City Repairing W. Loveland Ave. Bridge Sidewalk</u>, <u>LSFD Fire Chief Appointed Commissioner to International Fire Board</u>, <u>City Earns Budget Award</u>, <u>Chief of Police Hired</u>, and <u>Dawn Everett Retirement/Jake Stolz Hire</u>.

It has been a busy week finalizing plans for the Independence Day Celebration. A final press release was sent to Tri-State media regarding the Independence Day Celebration, and Marketing and Communications Coordinator Krista Rose participated in an on-air interview with WCPO's *Cincy Lifestyle* TV show on Monday, June 27. Thank you to Channel 9 for the event coverage.

The city would like to extend its sincere thanks to all sponsors who came forward to help with the celebration. Thank you for your support, and we look forward to celebrating with the community on Monday, July 4! I would be remiss if I didn't thank the Event Planning Committee who have been hard at work for the past four months planning this event: Nancy Duff, Adam and Christina Jeranek, Patti Pedicini, Nicole and Ben Capodagli, Sherri Sperelakis-Fening, Permit Specialist Becky Noel, Marketing and Communications Coordinator Krista Rose, and Assistant to the City Manager Misty Brents.

## **Building and Zoning**

Tuesday, Assistant City Manager, Cory Wright, and I met with resident Cindy Kessler to discuss outdoor lighting regulations in an effort to reduce light pollution.

Permit review activities continued with respect to the St. Columban Activity Center planned on the parish campus. Permits have also been issued for alterations to the existing modular units on site at St. Columban. Staff continues to work with software providers Avocette and Accela to fine tune the online permitting functions that are now available on our City website.

Here are some additional highlights from the Building and Zoning Department's activities during the past week:

Work continues at the Public Works Building.

- Framing work was completed on the first floor of the Blossom Hill Building #1, and the permits are now ready to be issued for Building #2.
- Staff began a review of the Planning and Zoning Code relative to the issue of regulating Mobile Food Vendors. The Planning and Zoning Commission will consider this issue and engage in discussion at the upcoming July 5, 2022, meeting.
- Progress continues at Chimney Ridge.
- Revised drawings came in for the alterations at 1303 Matter Drive, for the Premier Pain medical services expansion.
- Enforcement activities continue due to seasonal demand for these services.
- The volume of residential project permit submittals continues to increase commensurate with seasonal demand.

## **LSFD**

This week, Fire Chief, Otto Huber, Deputy Fire Chief, Bruce Hawk, Assistant City Manager, Cory Wright, and I, reviewed the submitted Request For Qualifications (RFQ) for the design, engineering, and construction supervision of the new Fire Station 63, to be constructed on East Loveland Avenue. From the review of the RFQ, 3 firms will receive a Request For Proposals (RFP), being prepared by Cory Wright. Once the RFP are received and reviewed, staff will make a recommendation to city council for the preferred firm.

### **Police**

Monday, Michael Gabrielson, officially accepted the city's offer to serve as our next Police Chief. Michael, who is currently an Assistant Chief for City of Kettering, was selected among a list of 32 candidates for the position, which included many extremely qualified applicants. Michael will begin serving as the Loveland Police Chief on August 1, and will be officially sworn in at the August 9, council meeting. Special thanks to all who participated in the selection, including Safety Director, Sue Madsen



# **Upcoming Meetings & Events**

The city's annual Independence Day Celebration will be held on Monday, July 4. Activities will begin at 4:00 p.m. with a Kid Zone in Nisbet Park and family lawn games at the Fountain Green. The parade will begin at 7:00 p.m. Color Blind will take the stage at 8:00 p.m. and fireworks will light up the sky at 10:00 p.m. Event details, an event poster, and an activity map can be found here.

City offices will be closed on Monday, July 4.

The Planning and Zoning Commission will meet on Tuesday, July 5, at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall.