

I would like to start out this month's message by saying thank you to Ward III Alderman Ron Walters. Alderman Walters recently changed jobs and his new job is keeping him from attending Board of Alderman meetings as well as other functions the job requires. Alderman Walters was diligent and forthright in his representation of the citizens of Ward III as he sponsored several ordinances designed to protect the citizens of Troy. We wish Ron good luck with his new job and look forward to seeing him from time to time around town. God Bless you.

At the BOA meeting on August 17<sup>th</sup> the board was asked by Pastor Wes Denham of Calvary Chapel if they could have an event in the park on September 13<sup>th</sup>. Calvary, Journey Church and Pleasantville Valley Church would be teaming up to hold a Prayer and Praise event from 4-6:30p.m. on that date. The general public is invited. The board approved the request.

Also there was a request from a Girl Scout named Josy Teson to donate equipment/expression swing to put in Avery Park. It is a special swing designed to keep children from tipping out of the swing. The board approved her request.

The Police Department has started the process of applying for a grant for body cameras for all of its officers. In addition to that the department will be starting the process of being a State Certified Agency.

In the Public Works Dept. they used 22 tons of asphalt and 100 cubic yards of concrete filling potholes and doing other street repairs. They had a water main break on E. Cherry St. that has been repaired. The break had washed out the dirt under the street to the point where the asphalt was ready to collapse. All repairs were made and the street reopened in a matter of hours in order to reduce the inconvenience to the public. There were a total of five dogs that were running at large and were picked up. Three have been returned to their owners, one was rescued by an adoption agencies and one is still in the pound. I am sure that the three that were returned had their city dog tags (\$2.00) so that we could contact the owners and return their family pets. Last month I told you about a tornado siren in the Crooked Creek subdivision that when tested did not rotate. Well that siren has been repaired. In the water department the city pumped 36,530,000 gallons of water during the month of July. That is an average of 1,178,000 gallons per day with the highest volume day being 1,344,000 gallons on July 7<sup>th</sup>. One good thing that came out of all of the rain we had, we pumped less water than usual, approximately 1,200,000 gallons less.

In the Building Department they issued seven permits for new housing starts with a construction value of \$840,000.00. that is compared to three permits during the same period last year. According to some local contractors the housing market is going gang busters and could eventually be better than any year prior to 2007.

Sales tax deposits for August 1, 2015 were 10.99% more than deposits for August of 2014. The 1% local sales tax was 10.89% higher, the 1/2% transportation tax was 10.93% higher and the ½% Capital Improvement Tax was 11.24% higher. Our sales tax deposits are up by 2.83% for the 2016 fiscal year.

Representatives from the accounting firm of Croghan and Croghan P.C. were in our offices on Thursday, July 30 to begin the process for the audit and preparation of financial statements for the 2014-2015 fiscal year. Upon receipt of all confirmations, we will have them back in our offices to complete the audit. This will most likely occur in late September/October.

The City of Troy has contracted with the Lincoln County Health Department and agrees to provide mosquito control services, on an emergency basis, within designated municipalities of Lincoln County as well as unincorporated county locations. Areas for application will be identified by the LCHD and service agreements for the application of mosquito control agents will be entered into by LCHD and the respective representative of each municipality and Lincoln County. All of this was precipitated by the flooding. There are areas of stagnant water that are breeding grounds for mosquitoes and the mosquitoes carry diseases.

Mrs. Patsy Creech has resigned from the City's Planning and Zoning commission. The City would like to thank Mrs. Creech for her voluntary service over many years, it was invaluable and we wish her well. Following that up, Mr. George Clay is moving from the Park Board to the P & Z Commission to fill Mrs. Creech's position.

Now to update you on some of the projects I discuss last month. The reconstruction of Cherry Blossom Way continues, we now have an estimated date for completion of October 30, 2015. This date is later than originally planned but due to weather and some work that was added to the project it should be completed by then. We continue to monitor the work through inspections by city inspectors and inspectors from the engineering company that designed the project. There have been a couple of things that we made the general contractor, Cannon Companies, tear out and do again because they weren't done right the first time. I want this street built correctly so that it lasts as long as it is designed to last, approximately 25-30 years.

The contractor for rebuilding the parking lot, Monroe St. and Mallard Dr. in Fairgrounds Park is also behind but should be starting that project in the next week to ten days.

The drainage project in Weinand Park has been completed by Mick Mehler and Sons. That should make the park much more user friendly.

The rebuilding of Robin Hood Dr. has started and been completed and I think that Sweetens Concrete Services did an excellent job.

The sidewalk along the west side of Main St. is being designed and will probably be put out for bid next February so construction can start once the weather begins to warm up. The sidewalk is scheduled to be complete by the start of the next school year. By completing this project the final repair to the end of Trail Ave. will also be complete. We put a temporary fix on the end of Trail rather than do the finish and then have to tear it back up when the sidewalk work began. We are sorry for the inconvenience.

We are reviewing qualifications of seven engineering firms and will be picking one that will design the replacement of Cherry St. from Main St. to S. Lincoln Dr. This is quite an undertaking and we anticipate that the work will be done in three phases, Main to Wood St., Wood St. to Front St. and Front St. to S. Lincoln Dr. Each phase will be completed in a fiscal year's budget. So that means it will take three years to complete the project but when it is done there will be a brand new street built from the ground up, with sidewalk on both sides of the street. We will redo the storm water system so that the water drains away properly and relocate the water line under the street so that if we have a problem with the line we won't have to tear up the street to work on it.

Finally, last month I mentioned the City hiring a firm to do a Retail Market Analysis so that we can use the information to attract new businesses. Well we picked the firm but the BOA has decided not to fund the project at this time. We are hoping to find some funding from another source to do a cost sharing with the city. I will keep you posted on the outcome.

I think that is all for this month. Be kind to one another and God bless you all.