

## Clerk's Report October 26<sup>th</sup>, 2020

Nothing short of a whirlwind of activities and research this past month.



I have participated in many webinars and information sessions, mostly sponsored by the League of Minnesota Cities over the past month. Though it takes time, these webinars are addressing both covid and regular financial challenges for municipalities, budget deficits, budgets, levies, the upcoming elections, and many other things that need to be kept up on, especially this year.

Of most concern for Council was the webinar on Friday, October 23<sup>rd</sup> with LMC and Governor Walz. There was discussion on the recently passed bonding bill, the challenges with federal covid money and their limitations, local government aid (LGA), the state deficit, and the feds view of municipalities.

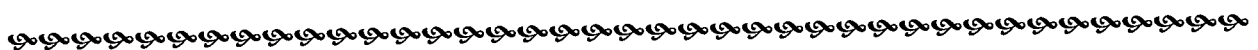
The two most important takeaways:

- 1) LGA so far is scheduled to be distributed normally as was certified for 2020. Governor Walz realizes the hardship it would create for cities were they not to receive it. HOWEVER, compromises will need to be made to balance the budget and 2021 certified LGA may be impacted.

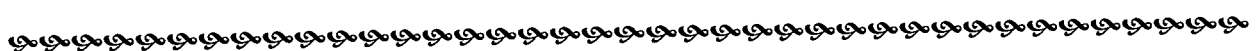
Coleraine is to receive \$445,438 in LGA for 2021. This represents over 28% of our operating budget. Not receiving it or having a major reduction in funding will significantly impact the buget.

- 2) Realizing that the covid pandemic is not going to magically end on December 31<sup>st</sup> and the strict guidelines the feds placed on any stimulus money . . . Govenor Walz and many others are trying to get the federal government to have another stimulus package similar to the CRF funding but have the caveat of 'can't be used for lost revenue' removed.

As you already know, I keep up on all of this. Should you have any questions or concerns, please reach out.



Information on political signs on public property has been included in your packets for an informed discussion. Copies of this information can be provided to the concerned citizens.



Remember that there is a CLOSED meeting this Thursday, October 29<sup>th</sup> at 3:00p.m. with Prairie River Minerals.

CRF monies – a revenue/expense report has been included in your packets. I have completed a variety of journal entries regarding wages and expenditures. All have been done to date, except for my own. I am diligently working on this.

The Gator for the public works/street department is in and is being paid for with the claims you are approving today.

The touchless faucets are in. I have not yet received a bill.

Almost all the new technology equipment is in. We are only waiting for one thing. Invoices for most of these have been included for payment with claims today. This would include a bill for deployment, data migration, and training hours (36 hours – a liberal guess) with Fusion Tech who will be doing the work. Deployment for myself and Mary will happen on a Saturday so as not to disrupt normal business. *Barring any major issues, I anticipate that the Council meeting on November 9<sup>th</sup> will be conducted with the new equipment.*

You each will be issued a Surface pro with an attachable keyboard and pen. I will try to have an appropriate 'City issued technology policy for staff and Council' ready for presentation and approval on November 23<sup>rd</sup>.

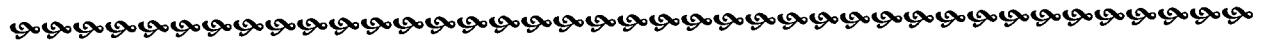
Still waiting for the electrical to be resolved for the phones.

I am still waiting for Harry to cut a hole in one of the plexiglass screens for the office. Once that is complete and Mary feels comfortable, we will open the office to the public for normal business hours.

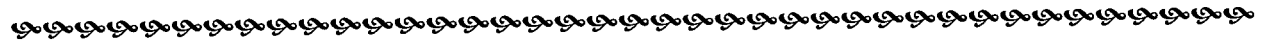
Everything is set up for election day. I have worked with Harry and Lonnie to park off part of the street with barricades in front of the Nyberg Center. Harry will put "Voter Parking only" signs on barricades and prepare weights for the tent that has been rented from R & R rentals. I have also ordered a patio-type heater. Cones will be put out under the tent signifying a 6 foot distance. Hopefully people will wait in their cars until there is room under the tent to get in line for voting.

Touchless faucets have been installed in all four bathrooms in the Nyberg Center.

The Trout Lake Fire Department has received the \$10,000 reimbursement from CARES Act/CRF funds. I won't know about the other \$3,000+ till the November 9<sup>th</sup> meeting. At that time may ask Council to approve 65% of what was not reimbursed from City CRF funds.



Lots and lots of weird things going on, but we are managing. 😊



As always, should you have any questions on anything, please let me know.

Respectfully submitted,

Briana