

And just like that, its Fall.

I hope you were able to get out and enjoy Fall Fest this past weekend. I was impressed by the size of the crowds and the inner child in me especially enjoyed the monster truck at the car show this year! Now lets get you caught up on the month.

First, over the two meetings this month the 1st and 2nd readings took place to amend compensation for elected officials. Both readings passed and the third and final reading will take place at the next meeting in October. The amendments increase the pay for elected officials, the first increase in 15+ years, and added attendance requirements for elected officials in order to receive compensation.

Next, bids were awarded on a couple projects. First, the State Street Shoulder project will begin approximately October 6th with LL Pelling winning the bid. This project should take approximately one week to complete and LL Pelling will be in charge of traffic control on State Street during the project (Merryhill Ln to the north end of Ely). Second, Midwest Concrete was awarded the City Hall Parking Lot Project. This approximately 50-space parking lot project will take place this Fall as well. Start dates will be released soon.

Third, Council approved the purchase of an electric vehicle charging pedestal. This project was largely funded by a grant. It will take a few months to secure the equipment and the charging pedestal will be installed downtown in front of the library next Spring.

Fourth, Council approved purchasing and repairs of snow removal equipment to ensure the city is prepared for winter. Equipment purchase included a push box attachment for the skid loader to aid in downtown snow removal and improvements to the F-550 Snow Plow Truck replacing the plow and making improvements to the sander control and hydraulics on the bed.

Fifth, Council approved funding for Site Planning and Conceptual Drawings for a Municipal Complex at the City Hall site and to evaluate City Park as a secondary site. This was brought upon after the Krob's property was removed from consideration due to Krob's plan to develop the land themselves. The alternative plans will be presented to council and the public when complete.

Sixth, Council approved using a portion of the funds received from the American Rescue Plan Act to repair and replace a variety of fire hydrants around town. The value of this project is \$47,000. The intention of the funds were to be used towards Water and Sewer-

related systems.

Lastly, Council reviewed a rough draft golf cart ordinance. Discussion included reducing the age from 18 to 16 with a valid drivers license, where carts can be driven, allowing nighttime driving with properly-equipped golf carts, parental responsibility, seating requirements, and permitting process including numbered flags for easier identification. Staff will work with the City Attorney to prepare a final draft ordinance to present to council at a future meeting.

In closing I wanted to invite everyone to attend a Candidate Meet & Greet hosted by the Ely Post of the American Legion. The event will take place Wednesday, October 20th, at 7:00pm at the Legion Hall. This event will give residents an opportunity to meet the six candidates running for two open council spots this November and ask questions.

Until next time!

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