

Tis the Holiday Season!

With Thanksgiving in the rear-view mirror and Christmas & New Years on the horizon we find ourselves in a busy time as we wrap up the year, look forward to time with family and hopefully take some time to reflect on the positives of the past year. If you enjoy getting in the holiday spirit, make sure you attend Winterfest in Ely on Saturday, December 10th. For more info click [HERE](#). Now let's get you caught up on the month.

First off, council approved an agreement with Bolton & Menk to provide preliminary project design and phase I final design for Banner Valley Road and Sidewalk Project. Construction on this project would not begin until July 1st, 2023, at the earliest. The initial plan is to install a sidewalk along Banner Valley in phases with the last step being an asphalt overlay on road. Council will review the plans and costs when the preliminary design is completed, and next steps will be discussed at that time.

Second, council discussed the City of Ely receiving a \$1,000,000 ARPA grant from Linn County. Maggie Burger with Spear Financial attended a meeting to present funding details on how this grant would impact projects. Council will discuss more in depth at future meetings. This is the largest grant ever awarded to the City of Ely!

Third, council approved a contract with Bolton & Menk for engineering services for a Drinking Water Treatment Facility. This is the first step to understanding the full scope of the project and estimated cost. Once this report is complete council will review and information will be presented to the public for input, The goal of this project is to help remove iron and soften the hard water in Ely (eliminate yellow water). Public input will be crucial once all the information is available for review to help council decide if the project will move forward.

Lastly, with Luanne Miller stepping down from her position as City Clerk council interviewed current Deputy Clerk, Tara Miller, for the position and then approved unanimously to hire Tara as the new City Clerk effected December 1st. Luanne will remain with the city through the first part of 2023 to help with the transition. We greatly appreciate Luanne's time with the city!

As a reminder the city sent out a survey in the mail last week looking for your input on a potential Multi-Use Complex in Ely including a new library, recreational component, community space and city services. Please fill out the survey and return it or fill it out online before December 9th. Your input is needed and appreciated! Click [HERE](#) for more information.

As always, feel free to reach out with any questions or comments.

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