

Date: September 20, 2006

To: Mayor and Council Members

From: John Archocosky

RE: Activity Report

As summer draws to an end we are busy transitioning the city for the upcoming fall maintenance activities. The summer students have returned to school and as a result the City's DPW crew is once again cutting grass and performing all the other upkeep in the parks. The ice control sand has been hauled and mixed with last year's salt and stored for winter use. Several hundred feet of new waterline has been installed in the Mineral Hills location in anticipation of next summer's water project. Picnic tables and flower barrels are being collected, repaired and put in storage.

A good deal of the office staff's time as well as my own has been involved in research and the processing of various grants that have recently become available as the end of the State's fiscal year approaches. This past month, with the help of STS and the City/DDA's development committee, we submitted Notices of Intent (NOI's) for 4 new projects. The grants requested were for additional improvements to the interceptor line; storm drainage and parking improvements between Third and Fourth Street North of Genesee; a Façade Improvement project in the primary TIF District footprint; and a resubmit for additional funds to raze the Cloverland Hotel. A special thanks goes to Julie Melchiori who has put in endless hours working with the various business owners helping them accumulate the necessary paperwork to be able to submit for the façade program. If the City is successful and is selected, it will mean a facelift to about 20 of the downtown businesses totaling approximately \$400,000 dollars.

Although our efforts to raze the Cloverland continuously seem to run into problems, I am still very confident that the City will succeed in securing the funding necessary to make this blighted building disappear from our downtown business district. Unfortunately, it seems that each time we feel we are ready to move forward, another issue pops up that needs to be addressed before closing the deal with the State. Our Attorney has been working with Lobbyist Ron Basso in developing the necessary documents with the Landbank Authority. Once we have a firm commitment in place with the MEDC to fund the project, the Landbank will transfer the ownership to the city so the property can be used for the public good.

Our various construction projects are all moving along on schedule and should soon be winding down in time to close them for this construction season. Mattila Construction has done a very good job of working on the interceptor line without causing too much of an inconvenience to our businesses and guests in the RV Park. This project will definitely be completed on time and be finished by the end of October.