

Date: October 21, 2009

To: Mayor and Council Members

From: John Archocosky, Manager

RE: Monthly Activity Report

During the past weeks we have been busy with several unfinished issues including the Rural Development grant/loan application for a new plow truck and some added security equipment. We have received preliminary approval for \$50,000 in grant and \$90,000 of loan funds to cover these costs. We are preparing specifications for the new truck and equipment anticipating that the final approval will happen quickly. If at all possible, we would like to get the truck in time to be utilized for the upcoming plowing season. There is no real rush for the security cameras and supporting equipment. However, I would like to have that purchase complete prior to the opening of our parks next spring.

Our committee recently met with the County of Iron to further discuss the City's DDA-TIF District most recent expansion. As you will recall, the County has asked that several items be addressed in the Plan prior to issuing the taxes they have been withholding from the City. The meeting was productive, but there remain one or two unresolved items that must be addressed. I believe we will reach an agreement very soon. If the DDA agrees to forfeit its ability to capture certain bond proceeds, both current and future, and further reaches an acceptable termination date for the District, we should be able to resolve all other issues.

Since the last report, we have had the Hunter Road water tank cleaned and inspected. It appears as though the tank is in very good condition, but will require painting and the installation of rust preventing equipment in the near future. These activities will now be incorporated into work being funded by the MEDC grant. This project should be able to begin early next spring. The consultant that performed the tank inspection could not find any conditions that would have contributed to the ice build-up that occurred in the tank last winter. We will now be routinely checking the interior of the tank to be sure that the icing problem does not re-occur this winter. It was an expensive process to de-ice the tank last spring, but it could have resulted in substantial structural damage if our crew had not discovered the problem.

I attended the Upper Peninsula Manager's meeting this past week which was held in part at the former K.I. Sawyer Air Base and the City of Marquette. An in depth presentation was given demonstrating the changes that have occurred since the closure of the former base. Also, it documented the significant impact that an airport facility provides to businesses considering new or expanding facilities in a region. A presentation was also given on the proposed mining operations in Marquette County and the positive impact it will have on their economy. A presentation was also given on the 911 regionalization plans for the U.P. Senator Prusi along with Representatives Lahti and Lindberg, provided information on the anticipated loss of Revenue Sharing that appears to be forthcoming. Representatives from the Governor's Office, Congressman Stupak's Office, Senator Levin and Senator Stabenow Offices were also in attendance. The meeting was very informative and well attended.