

Friday February 20, 2015

Good Friday afternoon everyone. Once again it has been a very busy week for folks around City Hall. We are continuing to work on budget development in an effort to allocate appropriate resources to provide operational services to the community and maintain and upgrade our infrastructure. This process requires each of our department leaders to work together to insure that we are efficiently utilizing our resources and providing that balance of services our community needs and expects. I appreciate their respect for all of the work that is done and their support in putting next year's proposed budget together. Once again, we anticipate approximately \$20 million in General Fund revenues and an overall City wide budget (including Urban Renewal) of around \$60 million. This is a very important time of year as we lay out the roadmap for the next fiscal year and the next few construction seasons. Budget Committee orientation will be held on April 20<sup>th</sup> and our first regular Budget Committee meeting will be held April 28<sup>th</sup>.

The Historic Resources Review Commission toured the historic "Hamilton House" which was built in 1895 by Judge Hamilton and was occupied by the Judge and his family until the early 2000s. The current owners, Gary and Stacey Crowe have owned the home since 2003 and are restoring the home in accordance with the covenants established by the National Trust for Historic Preservation who sold the home to the Crowes. The HRRC members really enjoyed the tour. The group has now toured a number of downtown historic properties including the Parrott House and the Hamilton House. Community Development staff will continue to identify historic properties for future tours. As you are probably aware, the City has three official "historic districts" within the City limits. The HRRC and staff have developed walking tour brochures for the Mill/Pine and Laurelwood neighborhoods.



The Airport Commission met on Thursday. The agenda consisted primarily of updates from Airport Manager Patricia Loegering regarding operational issues and some upcoming events. A regional model airplane group will be holding a multi-day event later in the spring and the "Wings and Wheels" group is working diligently on their annual event which will be in mid-July. Both events will be open to the public and will provide opportunities for folks to learn more about the airport and enjoy vintage model airplanes at the first event and vintage cars and airplanes at the second. Both of these events are organized by non-profit organizations with primary support from local volunteers and aviation enthusiasts.

Please don't forget that in addition to our regular City Council meeting Monday evening, we will be meeting at 6:00 p.m. immediately prior to participate in an ethics and risk

management discussion with our insurance agency representative Tammy Fitch. This one hour presentation will be a refresher for many of you, but for those new Council members, it may provide some new information. All City staff will be attending ethics training on Monday as well. HR Director John VanWinkle has been working with our insurance carrier for the last year to evaluate the training opportunities they can provide for staff and elected officials that will provide cost incentives as well as essential information for both groups. So, in addition to providing us with valuable information, completion of these trainings will also provide us with small “incentive” credit against the cost of our insurance.



Brian Davis and I will attend a “Med Ed” steering committee meeting on Monday for an update on our progress to date and to identify our next steps in the process. This continues to be a very exciting possibility for our community and while it is not progressing quickly, it is still progressing. Our next step will involve identifying funding mechanisms to allow for the next crucial step in the evaluation process that includes finalizing a governance structure and developing the formal planning for accreditation prior to going out for the final funding “ask”. I will keep you updated as to our progress.

Have a great weekend everyone and we will see you at 6:00 p.m. on Monday.