

## Mayor's Corner August 2018 Edition



I hope this edition finds all of you doing well as it's that time of year where we transition back to school. It has been a very hot and dry summer bringing so many challenges to our local and area farmers. We have been in extreme to exceptional drought conditions during our summer months. We have received some much needed rain last week and again with the start of this week on Sunday. Hopefully there is more to come.

This has been a very busy summer for our town. We continue to work diligently each week to address existing infrastructure needs, support new growth opportunities via both residential and commercial, and support our existing local business owners. I am excited to announce that the city, in conjunction with CVP Productions, has completed our promotional video showcasing our wonderful town. This is a project that began back in April and many of you may have seen the development of this video via the filming crew from CVP who was here several times over a three month period. We will be posting this to the city's website this week for your viewing pleasure. I am extremely thrilled and proud of this video and we will be using this to spread the word on why Lawson is and would be a great place for families to live, raise their children, and bring new commercial opportunities to call Lawson home. On August 8<sup>th</sup> during the 5<sup>th</sup> annual legislative session sponsored by our local Chamber of Commerce we had several local dignitaries, including US Congressman Cleaver, at the community center. We were able to showcase our promotional video with the various local dignitaries who all gave it glowing positive remarks and were very complimentary on the progress in Lawson.

The city team, alderman, and economic development committee will use the promotional video as a cornerstone when developing strategic plans to attract commercial and residential developers to Lawson. This coupled with our existing growth truly is inspiring and exciting to see.

### ▪ Bond Updates –

- D Highway storm water project is completed.
- Numerous streets once again have been upgraded and completed this summer. We are actually ahead of our original projections regarding street upgrades which we laid out two years ago.
- Additional storm water projects are being reviewed and will be announced in the coming months.

You may have seen the exciting news that the city will be closing soon on the sale of our water and sewer to Missouri American Water which is slated to close on August 31<sup>st</sup>. This is a wonderful thing for the city in so many facets and will bring additional opportunities for growth for the future.

Some additional happenings around Lawson that you may have seen or will be seeing in the coming weeks include the new sidewalk that spans from Shephard to Pennsylvania and is part of a potential trail system that we continue to target grant opportunities to expand this first phase. The sidewalk is part of a TAP grant that we filed for in 2017 and is finally coming to fruition. Secondly, we hope to see activity this week at the water tower in downtown Lawson placing the first phase of high speed internet equipment through our partners at Demand Communications. Thirdly, the city's police department is getting a new structure for covered parking that will serve dual purposes. This will provide protection for our police vehicles throughout the year and secondly to support our new solar panels that we will be placing on the structure to provide solar energy for both City Hall and the police department. In the long run, this will save the city significant budget dollars annually. Fourth, if you have not been out to the city lake lately, there are multiple RV pads that have been poured as well as our new parks and recreation facility. This building will support not only the equipment for the city lake, but also other parks facilities. Finally, many of you may have seen a significant amount of work and dirt being moved to the East of 69 Hwy between the Lawson Animal Hospital and Rythers. The city has put in a road that is leading to the water tower as well as some other possible commercial and residential development opportunities.

Economic growth is on the upswing and I am very excited for our future.

This weekend kicks off the first home football game for the Lawson Cardinal football team on Friday night. Please come out and see our boys take on the Oak Grove Panthers at 7:00 PM. As well, please come out and support all fall sports and activities of our youth from grade school all the way through high school. All of these young athletes cherish the support of the community.

In closing, with school being back in session, many more folks are out on our streets. Please be alert and obey the posted speed limits throughout Lawson and help keep our kids safe.

#### Upcoming important dates

- August 27<sup>th</sup> – 6:30 PM City Council Meeting @ City Hall
- September 11<sup>th</sup> – 6:30 PM Town Hall meeting to explain new trash service @ City Hall
- October 13<sup>th</sup> – 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM Fall Clean-up Day @ City Works Facility

Your Mayor,

*Greg Taylor*