

Mayor's Corner

May 2017 Edition

I hope you all are enjoying the wonderful weather that we have been receiving over the past several weeks. We've all been enjoying the warmth of the springtime sun and rain to green things up.

I want to send out a special shout out to the senior class of 2016-2017. Graduation is just around the corner and your next stage of life will begin soon. These are very exciting times and I know that the community of Lawson and your families are all very proud of you.

The city team has been very busy for the past several months getting plans in place for several bond projects that have already begun, or will begin soon. I am personally very excited to see so much going on with existing infrastructure needs as well as numerous new home starts with plans for many more.

Bond Projects

- Culvert work on Salem road is completed. This was necessary to ensure successful roadwork this summer on Salem road.
- A Temporary fix should be in place this week for the Moss Street railroad crossing
- We are currently working on the storm water project at Cardinal Circle, Nolker, and Montgomery.

Comprehensive Report – Completed with next steps as follows

- Development of goals from the information and data within the comprehensive report
- Once the goals are set, the document becomes the Comprehensive Plan
 - Each goal will then be supported by a strategic plan
 - The strategic plan will be a document that outlines the objectives for the goal to be completed. We will begin this work in June.
- At this point, various service groups, school organizations, and local clubs may be called upon to help with a specific task

Use Tax to appear on the August 9, 2017 ballot

- This is a positive opportunity for the city of Lawson. This is a sales tax that is ALREADY in place. By passing this, Lawson would receive our share of sales tax charged on internet sales (like Amazon, Groupon, Best Buy, Apple Store, etc.) which, is currently being kept by the state.

Vacant/Blighted/Dangerous Properties – This is one area in the comprehensive report that the citizens of Lawson have spoken loud and clear.

- We need to address these vacant/blighted/dangerous properties. I would encourage you to get the word out, as this will be a priority moving into the balance of 2017 and 2018.
- The city will be working closely with a number of third party organizations and companies to help in this process, coupled with our local police department.
- Be on the lookout for more to come as we focus on cleaning up Lawson.

Grant Projects

- City Lake Project – Amino Brothers is currently working on the project. The parking lot is currently closed and will be projected to be closed from May 1st through August 28th. However, they may have the parking lot open sooner if the project is completed sooner.
- Tap Grant – Anderson Engineering is putting together designs for the sidewalk from Shephard Lane to Pennsylvania. The design will then be reviewed and approved by MODOT and the city to make sure that it all complies.

Growth

- We currently have six residential permits and one commercial permit that have been issued.

Parks/Recreation/Beautification Board

- The quote from the board about the trail around the lake, “50 yards at a time”.
- New Shelter house is completed and is available for use at the city lake.
- Farmer’s market is open for business on Thursday evenings, 3–6 pm and Saturday’s 8 am–12 pm.
- LYSA officially opened the 2017 season this past Monday. Come support our youth at the wonderful Lawson Sports Complex. They will be competing in the Northern Lights League and playing teams from Lathrop, Cameron, Plattsburg, and Gower.
- L.Y.S.A is excited to announce youth golf classes.
 - Ages 5–8 June 15th – July 6th

- Ages 9-13 June 14th – July 15th
- Check out the Parks & Recreation Facebook page for more details on what they have going on.

There is truly a significant amount of positive activity happening in Lawson and I am very proud of the work that is currently being done as well as the future planned activity. I look forward to reporting on our further progress in the coming months.

- May 22, 2017 - 6:00 pm City Council Meeting
- June 10, 2017 – 8:00 am-12:00 pm City Wide Clean-up Day
- June 12, 2017 – 6:30 pm Working Session

Your Mayor,

Greg Taylor