

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

TO: Honorable Town Council Members

FROM: Karl F. Kilduff, Town Manager

DATE: December 7, 2022

Please find my report concerning various items of interest to the Town Council and community.

1. Council Business:

- EDC Strategy – As I noted previously, the Economic Development Commission has agreed to go through a process to set a directions and focus on consistent activity that advances economic development. We started the goal setting process for the Commission on December 5 and will continue working during their regular meetings and added special meetings.
- STEAP Grant – The grant contracting materials for our \$500,000 STEAP grant that is dedicated to the public safety radio upgrade project have been completed and were sent back to the administering state agency. We are now waiting on the execution of the formal grant agreement by the Attorney General. Once we get the grant contract back, fully signed by all State parties, can we move forward with the project.
- Start of Town Planner – Abby Piersall started on Monday, November 28 as the Town's new Planner. In addition to getting up to speed on pending projects, she is also looking at the processes used in Land Use for areas of improvement. We will be fully transitioned from the consulting Planner in the next two weeks.

2. River COG:

The Council of Governments had a special meeting on November 30, 2022. Highlights of the meeting included: ratifying the COG's legislative agenda for the next session; amending the bylaws of the COG to create a regional housing committee which would be a voluntary organization that would advisory in nature on topics related to affordable housing; and approving a regional climate resilience grant application which would be planning related and build off of the regional Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan

3. Miscellaneous:

- Clinton Harbor – Staff from the Army Corps of Engineers responded to Representative Courtney's letter seeking funding that would help keep Clinton Harbor safe by, at a minimum dredging "hot spots" where sediments have accumulated creating navigation risks. The project in Clinton will be in competition with other similar projects. The Corps will continue to move the project forward by performing the necessary environmental reviews. I have been encouraged to have the Town Council also send a letter to the Army Corp amplifying Representative Courtney's letter. I will be asking for Council direction at the meeting.

- DPW Hiring – We are back out on the street for a Truck Driver position in DPW. This vacancy is the result of a retirement in a higher position which was backfilled by promotional process. There will be more to report on this and ultimately, it will come to the Council for ratification.
- Landfill Capping Project – As of this writing, we do not have an update from DEEP on the plan submitted to cap the old landfill by importing soils. The two projects by our engineer that are ahead of ours in the queue are moving with one recently approved. Since these projects were ahead of ours by a few months, DEEP approval might be forthcoming later in the new year.