

City of the Village of Clarkston
City Managers Report
September 28, 2015

Building Department matters

The City Building department has discovered that extensive work, over the last three years, has been going on in the Clarkston Mills Building without permits. The Movement, the largest tenant in the building did an expansive remodel, including installing a kitchen, moving walls and extensive electrical work. All the work was documented with pictures on Social Media and on the Company's website. The City has required a \$5,000 deposit to begin covering the costs of building permits (fee's will be doubled) inspection fees and fines. Drawings must be submitted along with a list of contractors who all worked without pulling the appropriate permits.

The Real Estate Company, Berkshire Hathaway, also remodeled their office space with no permits. The Building Department will work through the same process with them as with the movement.

Penalties will also be assessed to Bob Roth and Ed Adler for allowing work to be done in their building without permits.

The City Building Department sent a Cease and Desist order to Bob Roth and Ed Adler for illegal use of a residential property on 42 West Washington. The property has been used by Chamberlin Auction Gallery for a public auction on two occasions. Both times they are placed signs without obtaining a sign permit. They were charged twice the cost of the permit for the second offense, the fine for failure to pull a permit before working.

Clarkston News Building

The City has been communicating with Jim Sherman, since July, regarding structural problems on the North Side of the building. The stucco that covers the brick has lifted from the wall, due to a water problem. The building has been hit by cars, exposing the loose stucco. He has until October 15th to remedy the problem. If he chooses not to respond the City will close the parking lot adjacent to the building because of safety concerns. The week of September 14th, the City flagged the back of the building as dangerous, due to crumbling stucco, and falling bricks. The Building department placed barricades to be placed four feet from the building to protect the public from falling bricks. Bricks have already fallen from that area. The South side of the building needs serious attention as well. At this writing (9/22) Mr. Sherman has indicated they will have the back of the building repaired by the end of October. The Historic District Commission has been notified; the crumbling condition of the building could reach the point where it would be considered demolition by neglect. They will be going to the HDC Commission first before obtaining building permits.

County Server

I have started working with Oakland County to schedule the Oakland County Server move, from 3 East to City Hall. I met with Jerry Cadreau and John from Oakland County IT, on September 23rd, to begin the scheduling the move. The server will be placed in the file/storage room. The City has to pay for the cost of the move. To date I do not have an estimate from them.

Michigan Municipal League Liability Audit

The MML Auditor conducted an Audit in the City regarding past years liability position on September 23rd.

One again the City has received a 0 liability rating, which impacts the premium. Our premium has been reduced from \$14,000 to \$11,000 over the last three years. There are no recommendations for change this year.

Commercial District Parking Meeting

I scheduled October 7th, at 6:00 for a meeting with the Commercial District regarding parking. However, at the joint meeting between the Council and Planning commission the council requested the meeting be moved to the Fire Departments Community room. The room is on available on the 7th, but is on the 8th. I did call the library and that room was booked as well. I am waiting for authorization from Joe to move the meeting to the 8th. At this writing, only David Marsh has responded that he will be out of town.

Business owners are being asked for input so we can give TIA as much information as possible as they begin their parking study. Council people. If you are planning on attending please let me know because if there is a quorum, the office must do the appropriate notices.

Agenda Items:

- Business assessment regarding a parking problem
- Suggestions for improvement or alternate solutions
- Willingness to pay a special assessment

Alternative meeting space for Council and Commissions

Jason has set a goal of moving three East to City Hall of November 1st. As the office fills up with filing cabinets and equipment the council needs to consider alternative meeting spaces not only for the City Council, but the Planning Commission and HDC as well. This may require a change in meeting nights based on availability of other locations. The library is not available on Monday nights. I have put this on the agenda for discussion.