

MAYOR'S REPORT

March 27, 2019

➤ **Easter Egg Hunt**

The City will be hosting the 2019 Easter Egg Event on Saturday, April 13th at the Struthers High School Football Field at 11:00am. The Easter Bunny will be on hand to pass out candy – **ALL CHILDREN WILL GO HOME WITH A TREAT!**

➤ **Civics Day**

Our annual Civic Day will be held on Friday, April 26, 2019 at 8:00 a.m. at Struthers City Hall. The event is organized by Struthers High School Advisor of student Council Miss. Carly Giancola where 15 students participate in the annual event, which include: Mayor, Safety Service Director, Law Director, Judge, Auditor, Treasurer, Council President, Clerk of Council, 1st Ward councilman, 2nd Ward Councilman, 3rd Ward Councilman, 4th Ward Councilman, and (3) Council-At-Large. The event is made possible through the generous donations of local businesses. Their day will consist of a Mock Council Meeting, meeting with their Counterpart to see what they do first hand , a group picture captured by Frank Marr, Struthers City School bus to tour a location that will be announced at a later date , luncheon at a restaurant to be announced at a later date, and a guest speaker will address the students at the luncheon.

➤ **Appliance/Electronics Drive**

Recycling Coordinator, Larry Guillard has announced that the City's Annual Electronics and Appliance Drive will be held on Saturday May 4th from 8:00am until 12:00 noon at the corner of E. Spring Street and Euclid Avenue. Tires will not be accepted at this event. The County will be hosting Tire Drives at the Covelli Center on May 11th and one at the Canfield Fairgrounds on July 13th.

➤ **Struthers Clean-up Day**

The City will be conducting their Annual Struthers Clean-up Day on Saturday, May 18, 2019. All Civic Groups, Volunteers, and Residents are encouraged to attend this event for the purpose of cleaning up debris throughout the Community along with planting of flowers, applying mulch at City owned locations. The event begins at 8:00am and concludes at noon. Lunch will be provided at the conclusion of the event. For more information please contact Larry Guillard, Recycling Coordinator @ (330) 755-2181 ext. 138 Monday – Friday 8:00am till 2:00pm.

➤ **Maplewood Resurfacing**

The City of Struthers was responsible for the completion of the design to resurface Maplewood from Youngstown Poland Road to Fifth Street. The design plans are complete and Mahoning County is currently bidding this project. On March 20, 2019, Mahoning County conducted a pre-bid meeting to invite contractors to review the plans and ask questions regarding the project specifications. The City's engineer attended this meeting on behalf of the City. Mahoning County will receive the bids for this project on March 27, 2019 at 2:00 p.m. Mahoning County will then enter into a contract with the lowest and best bidder and the County will perform the construction inspection. The project is expected to be completed this spring and early summer.

➤ **Struthers Dam Removal Project**

The City is currently in contact with the City of Akron to supply a "Letter of Intent" to be the City of Struthers' sponsor for this project. This is an OEPA requirement for the City of Struthers to receive the grant funding for this project. The City of Akron will sponsor the City of Struthers using a large OEPA Water Pollution Control Loan Fund (WPCLF) Loan project that will generate interest and that interest will be used to fund the City of Struthers' dam removal project. By sponsoring the City of Struthers' dam removal project, the City of Akron will receive a discounted interest rate for their large WPCLF project. The City is expecting to receive the "Letter of Intent" from Akron within the next two weeks. Following receipt of the Letter in Intent from Akron, the City of Struthers will then contact the OEPA to obtain the release of the LTV Bankruptcy Funds so that the City can then enter into a design agreement with the design build team RiverReach/GPD to begin design of the dam removal project. This project is currently on schedule.

➤ **Year 2019 Resurfacing Project**

The City will begin design of the year 2019 resurfacing project soon. This project will be funded in part by the Ohio Public Works Commission on July 1, 2019. The City's local share will be paid from the City's Road Levy Fund. Eight streets will be resurfaced this year and include Edison Avenue (5th Street to Youngstown Poland Road), Euclid Avenue (Sexton Street to Morrison Street), Harvey Street (Garfield Street to Poland Avenue), Wilson Street (8th Street to Youngstown Poland Road), Geneva Street (8th Street to 5th Street), Hamilton Street (5th to Poland Avenue), Omar Street (Garfield Street to Argonne Street), and 8th Street (Elm Street to Maplewood Avenue). Depending on budget availability, alternate streets may be included for additional resurfacing. Total cost of this project is estimated at \$378,000.00. The OPWC grant will be \$147,000.00 and the City's share from the Road Levy fund shall be approximately \$231,000.00.

2019 Projected Budget

I have submitted a prepared 2019 Operating Budget to Members of Council for review and consideration. The 2019 budget is balanced to the extent it accurately reflects the unencumbered funds available for 2019. Auditor Bohl and I have used conservative estimates of receipts in preparing the 2019 budget with the anticipation of revenues being flat due to the closing of the General Motors facility and other companies affected by the closer. Also the full impact of the State's Income Tax Reform will be recognized this year, meaning less income taxes being received in the form of net profits from business. In summary, the 2019 budget of **\$5,171,397.00** is approximately **\$160,798.00** less than 2018 original budget.

Special thanks to Auditor Bohl and all Department Heads for providing input into the preparation of the proposed budget. I would like to thank Council for their input in completing the Budgetary Process.

Included in the 2019 Budget; recommended appropriations include funding for capital equipment purchases in the Street, Fire and Park Departments. Other appropriations include building improvements and operational needs. Also budgeted are city match requirements for 2019 Grant Projects. I am recommending wage increases to all full-time employees, and Department Heads, also increases to all Permanent Part time Employees. Special consideration has been given to the WWTP Supervisor and the WWTP Assist. Manager/Storm Water Manager in regards to the required classification licenses.

Added expenses include sealing & striping of the City's parking lot areas, as well as the installation of additional lighting and security cameras to City Building perimeters.

- 1) The Police Department Budget requests include: The Renovation of current Dispatch Room, to accommodate the new 911 System operations, up-grades to duty weapons, and repairs to other Police Depart Offices, routine computer up-grades and the acquisition of new radar units for cruisers.
- 2) The Fire Department Budgetary requests include: The purchase of 2 emergency generators for Stations #1 and #2. Purchase of SCBA's, to replace expired air bottles, fire gear, and radio equipment.
- 3) The Park Department Budget addresses the purchase of a zero turn lawn mower, picnic tables to be utilized at playground areas, striping and sealing of parking areas.
- 4) The Street Department Budget addresses the lease purchase of a new bucket truck to replace our current 1996 vehicle.
- 5) The WWTP – The proposed SDO operating budget of **\$3,007,700.00** is approximately **\$115,500.00** lower than the 2018 budget and reflects expenses to SDO operating Budget, such as, Digesters Clean Outs, rehabilitation to the State Street Pump Station and the realignment of the State and Wetmore Sanitary Lines to eliminate overflow events. Also included is the

purchase of 2 Boilers to replace current aging units which provide heating for the Anaerobic Digestion Process.

- 6) The Storm Water Budget requests include; The addition to existing Pole Barn at the Main Street Pump Station for lids & castings, Mauthe Park Pipe Culvert Renovation, and the SR 616 drainage at the Mauthe Park entrance.

The Budget, as noted, addresses the many requests received from Department Heads that will provide them with the equipment and resources they need to meet their daily work responsibilities and allow for efficient services to our residents and safe working conditions for our employees.

Sincerely,

Mayor Terry P. Stocker