

**Mayor's Report
Reporting to the Citizens and to Council
November 25, 2008**

LEGISLATION ON AGENDA

As I announced in October the City was awarded three grants through the District 6 Integrating Committee that I submitted for funding. Legislation on tonight's agenda is to accept funds for the following:

- **Lower Connector Bridge Project (MRCO)** - This project is a proposed two-lane bridge over the Mahoning River between the City of Struthers and the City of Campbell within the Mahoning River Corridor of Opportunity at the west end of Bob Cene Way. The bridge will be approximately 36 feet wide and 185 feet in length. This project is part of the MRCO Master Plan. The Master Plan was developed to promote economic development, transportation, connectivity, quality of life, and the establishment of public and private partnerships. The project will provide a safer and more efficient way of moving traffic through the downtown area of the City. Response times for the safety forces will be improved. The project will provide development in the MRCO to create job opportunities for City residents and strengthen the tax base of the City. The City will receive a \$360,000 grant from the Ohio Public Works Commission that completes the funding package for this project. The funding package already includes approximately \$2,600,000 from the Federal Highway Administration and congressional earmark funds. No City funds are anticipated for this project. The construction will begin sometime in 2010 and be completed by 2012.
- **Southeast Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation Project** – This project is located in the southeast section of the City to rehabilitate sanitary sewers in the Parkcliff, Haywood, Oakland, Schenley, Clingan Road and Wetmore Avenue areas. This project will reduce infiltration and inflow into the City's sanitary sewer system and reduce the amount of overflows at the Bridge Street Pump Station. This project is requested by the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (OEPA). This project will consist of pipe bursting, slip lining, and replacement of eight and twelve-inch sewers. The total cost of this project is approximately \$378,000. The City received a grant for \$261,000. The City's share of the project will be approximately \$41,000 and Mahoning County's share of the project will be approximately \$76,000. This project will be conducted in 2009.
- **Fifth Street Culvert Replacement Project** - This project is located on Fifth Street between Spring Street and Creed Street. It will consist of the removal and replacement of the existing culvert and portion of the sanitary sewer system on Fifth Street. The culvert was previously inspected and found to be rated as critical in accordance with ODOT standards. The City has restricted truck traffic over this culvert. This project will provide a safer roadway to allow truck traffic to serve the businesses along Fifth Street. The legislation is for the purpose of the City receiving a 0% loan for this project in the amount of \$112,000. This design of the replacement of the culvert is complete and the project will be constructed in 2009.

USEPA BROWNFIELD PETROLEUM CLEAN-UP GRANT

The City of Struthers has applied for a USEPA Brownfield Petroleum Clean-Up Grant to remove fuel storage tanks and remediate the adjacent soils. CASTLO must transfer the remediation area to Struthers. The approximate 2.3 acre parcel is totally within the bounds of the CASTLO lands, adjacent to no public right-of-way, and consequently landlocked. Hank Grover of Western Reserve Land Consultants visited the land parcel at CASTLO which contains the five abandoned tanks and associated contaminated soils. Mr. Grover will provide CASTLO with a proposal to undertake the survey work and will attempt to complete the survey prior to the December 4th CASTLO Board of Trustees meeting. Legislation will be submitted to Council after the Board of Trustees Meeting.

NEGOTIATIONS

The City of Struthers and surrounding areas are currently in negotiations with Aqua Ohio Water to negotiate water rates.

LIENS

Safety Director Ed Wildes met with the County Auditor's Office to put liens on properties that our City provided the service of cutting grass. The amount is astronomical and he is to be commended for this effort. Through investigations it was found that no liens were attached to property owners in the past. The liens are placed on property taxes to capture the funds that our City performed through labor.

AN EVENING WITH SANTA

"An Evening with Santa" will be held Thursday, December 11th at 6:00 PM at Mauthe Park. Santa will arrive via Fire Truck and each child will go home with a treat. The SHS Singers will be there to sing carols and Aqua Ohio Water will provide hot cider and donuts.

HAPPY THANKSGIVING

I would like to extend my wishes to the administration, council, employees, citizens and their families for a Blessed and Happy Thanksgiving.

Respectfully Submitted:

Terry P. Stocker
Mayor