



City of Loveland

City Manager's Weekly Report

December 16, 2022



City Council honored Al Kressler for his 20 years of service on the Planning and Zoning Commission.

Administration

The city awaits determination regarding the award of Abandoned Gas Station Grant program funds for the closure, demolition, and remediation of the former fuel station at 106 West Loveland Avenue. The application has been recommended by the Ohio Department of Development to the State Controlling Board for funding.

Work continues in furtherance of securing the necessary state and federal regulatory approvals to advance the Chestnut Street project remediation work. At 501 Loveland Madeira Road, the city continues to work through the funding process associated with the grant funding utilized to secure this property for access to the Chestnut Street property.

Planning continues for the [2023 Hearts Afire Weekend](#). Details are coming together to finalize the website, event brochure, and other promotional material. Thank you to the following companies who came forward this week as event sponsors: Erin Harper, Comey & Shepherd Realtors, and Washing Systems. Ice sculpture sales will continue through January 6. If your business would like to participate, please contact krose@lovelandoh.gov.

As part of the Hearts Afire fun, the city will host a Hearts Afire Valentine Pageant with the Loveland Stage Company. The fundraiser pageant is for ages 1-4 and will be judged by the Loveland Valentine Ladies. All proceeds will benefit the Loveland Stage Company's efforts to [raise money for a new HVAC system](#) – an estimated \$100k repair. Learn more and download an entry form [here](#).

LSFD Deputy Chief, Jon Frye and I met at the Cherokee Tot-Lot with representatives from Cincinnati Bell and Professional Cabling Solutions (PCS) to review locations and general logistics for the installation of public Wi-Fi at the park. The installation of free public Wi-Fi, is a component of the Loveland Heights-Tot-Lot Playset Replacement project which is a 2023 capital project. Once completed, both the Cherokee and Navaho Tot-Lots will have new playsets and free public Wi-Fi in an effort to create community gathering spaces, support educational needs and continue the city's on-going investment in the Loveland Heights.

Painting is underway in the lobby of city hall, as we continue to catch up on needed maintenance of the building. New audience chairs in the council chambers, and carpet replacement in the north side offices, are also being completed.

Building and Zoning

Inspection and construction activities continue as the buildout of Blossom Hill progresses. Elsewhere, the City continued work to correspond with representatives from Oasis Turf and Tree along Loveland Madeira Road in furtherance of their parking expansion project.

Discussions continue to advance regarding finalizing scope of work and planned improvements for Loveland Madeira Road corridor pedestrian revitalization plan referenced in the Comprehensive Master Plan, with the goal of positioning the projects for consideration for federal funding in the future. Work will continue in 2023 and beyond.

Similarly, the consultant RFQ for the West Loveland Avenue Bridge Congestion Mitigation Study has been posted to the Ohio Department of Transportation's Local Project Administration (LPA) page, with letters of interest due in early January of 2023. Once responses are received, the City will work to score and rank consultants with the goal of making a selection and negotiating scope to proceed with this important transportation planning initiative. The department continues to work on the ISO review and certification process as well.

Property maintenance and enforcement efforts continued. After the Planning and Zoning Commission's work session meeting last week, Staff finalized the draft Mobile Food Vendor regulations with the intent of forwarding the proposal back to the Commission to initiate the zoning text amendment process in January of 2023.

The Historic Preservation and Planning Commission (HPPC) held a preliminary design review of a proposed restaurant at 115 Railroad Avenue. The project would include the demolition of the existing residential structure.

Finance

The city has hired a new part-time Finance Clerk. Stephanie McGill has accepted the position formally held by Dawn Everett, and will begin her career with the city next week. We are excited to have someone with Stephanie's skills join the city, and we look forward to working with her. Stephanie will be at future council meeting to be formally sworn into office.

Assistant City Manager, Cory Wright, Director of Finance, Mark Medlar and I participated in an online demonstration of ClearGov budgeting software this week. Staff is completing an in-depth review of various municipal budgeting software applications, as we move towards a more transparent, and more efficient process for creating the city's annual operating budget and Capital Improvement Program (CIP).

Police

Thanks to Officer Michael Wright's initial report and investigation, federal agents uncovered a national theft ring, responsible for huge losses to citizens and businesses throughout the country. This article was published by Fox 19: [Feds: Cuban nationals put skimmers on busy Tri-State gas station, made prolific purchases](#).

Upcoming Meetings & Events

Christmas in Loveland is this Saturday from 4 to 8 p.m. in Downtown Loveland.

The Arts Commission will meet on Tuesday, December 20, at 6:30 p.m. at City Hall.

City offices will be closed Monday, December 26, for Christmas.

Many holiday events are approaching. For an event listing, please visit [Lovin Life Loveland](#).
