



City of Loveland

## City Manager's Weekly Report

February 16, 2024



Hearts Afire Was A Blast!

### Administration

The Downtown Parking Lot project commenced on Monday with tree removal. With the trees removed, excavation of the site began on Thursday, which is anticipated to take approximately 15 days to complete.



The annual Hearts Afire event was held last weekend and it was a big hit. Seemed like there was always something going on, and those in attendance had a great time.

To make Hearts Afire possible, a lot goes on behind the scenes. City staff members, Misty Clark, Krista Rose and Becky Noel were supported by volunteers all who have been working on this event for months.



Thanks to Nancy Duff, Sherri Sperelakis-Fening, Patti Pedicini, Brian Maxon, Amanda Jamison, Christina Jeranek, Ian Roewer, Vickie Larcomb, and Erin Harper for helping to plan the event. Brad Sigler, Chris Rose, and James Sowders from Public Works spent the week leading up to the event decorating the downtown. On the day of the event, 10 Loveland U graduates volunteered to help with the pageant and several volunteers from the Loveland Citizens Police Academy Alumni Association directed traffic at the bike trail. City staff who worked the event included: Ryan Singleton and Shaun Tringelof from Public Works, and Officers Vickie Johnson, Jacob Steinkoenig, Brandon Ashbury, and Jenna Fisher. Twenty-nine businesses bought ice sculptures and several businesses hosted activities. Our event sponsors included WSI, Edward Jones, RP Diamond, BF Realty, Ramsey's, and Paxton's Grill. And I would be remiss if I didn't mention that Elvis was in the building and performed a group wedding vow renewal and hosted an Elvis costume contest. Thank you Mayor Bailey. Everyone did a great job showcasing the city and we been receiving nothing but positive comments about the event.



Last week, Mayor Bailey and I attended the Little Miami River Chamber Alliance's annual Valentines Breakfast held at the Oasis Conference Center. The breakfast was highlighted by a welcoming of the 2024 Valentines Lady, Becky Giver.



## Building and Zoning

The Board of Zoning Appeals met Thursday evening to continue its review of a proposed multi-family development in the Loveland Heights on Highland Avenue. Following a reduction in the project's number of units from 62 to 50, and a corresponding increase in parking spaces, the BZA granted the requested variances.



Other Building and Zoning updates:

- The retaining wall at 912 Loveland Madeira is nearing completion.
- The addition at the Children's Academy of Loveland is in the framing stages.
- The interior alterations at the Habitat Re-Store are nearing completion.
- CO was issued for 126 Blossom View.
- The 3 homes under construction in Chimney Ridge are progressing.
- Plans came in to move the existing awning at Trailside Provisions to in front of Better Blend and then a smaller awning will replace Trailside's. Plans are in review and the awnings will be going to HPPC the end of this month.

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## Finance

The Finance Department is starting to see an uptick in walk-in traffic for assistance with income taxes. Although City Hall is open until 4:30 PM, we ask tax costumers if they do plan to come to City Hall that they arrive before 4:00 PM to allow our staff plenty of time to serve them. Self service via the RITA website ([ritaohio.com](http://ritaohio.com)) is available 24/7.

On Monday and Tuesday afternoon next week, Finance Staff will be taking part in training for the new upgrade in utility billing software. The Finance window will still be open, but we ask for patience as there may be a wait as we train to serve you better.

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## Public Works

New signs were installed at both the Wall Street and Phillips Park entrances into the Simpson Nature Preserve last week.



The East Loveland Avenue Bridge Replacement project is fully underway. This multi-jurisdictional project which in addition to replacing an aged bridge, will also replace sanitary sewer and water mains along with adding new sidewalks and correcting storm drainage issues. We greatly appreciate the patience of the area neighbors and we will continue to communicate with the contractor any needed adjustment to reduce the inconvenience the project is causing.



Other important project updates:

- Plans for the second phase of the Loveland Miamiville Sidewalk project are completed and will be going out to bid on February 29. Getting an early jump on the design and bidding of this project will allow for construction to begin this spring. This is another step towards the city's goal of creating connectivity among its neighborhoods
- ODNR has notified the city that the mid and north sections of the new O'Bannon Creek bike trail bridge will be delivered on February 29.



Public Relations

The city has unveiled its upgraded website this week [Love-landOH.gov](#). Special thanks to Marketing and Communications Coordinator, Krista Rose for her hard work on this project. Some of the highlights of the redesigned webpage include:

- Quick links to popular resources, which will be updated monthly
- A roundup of the latest city news and construction projects
- Event calendar highlighting meetings, special events, and city services
- Easy access to [LovinLifeLoveland.com](#), a sister site operated by the city, that highlights places and activities happening around town
- Navigation to stay connected with the City of Loveland on social media



Upcoming Meetings & Events

Veterans Memorial Committee Meeting, is meeting Tuesday February 20, 6:30 p.m. at City Hall