



## May 2021 President's Newsletter

Memorial Day is fast approaching and will provide us with an opportunity to remember those who have given the ultimate sacrifice for the freedoms we enjoy today. Please take a moment (or two) on Monday, May 31<sup>st</sup> to pause, remember and give thanks for those individuals who gave their lives for the freedoms we as Americans hold so dear.

The Village continues to move forward with the sale of a 1.66-acre parcel containing the old St. Mary's Church to Agape Community Church. All of the necessary approvals on behalf of the Village as well as Agape have been met and the next step is the scheduling of the closing on the sale. The latest we anticipate the closing occurring is June 30<sup>th</sup>; however, we are working with the title company to try and move that date up at the request of Agape.

The Village is also continuing to work with Cornerstone Development on their plans for a 46-lot subdivision on the balance of the land purchased (approximately 14 acres). Discussions are taking place with Cornerstone Development regarding a development agreement as well as their due diligence on their infrastructure and development plans.

Another development area that the Village is working with a property owner on is the 321 Riverside Drive property where the Plan Commission, at its May 13<sup>th</sup> meeting, reviewed a proposed 36-lot single family subdivision plat. The proposed plat will be moving forward to the Village Board and discussions will continue related to a development agreement as well as development plans.

A contract for the Village's 2021 road program has been awarded with the main project this summer being a mill and re-pave for Willow Grove Drive and Mead Creek Drive between Forest Grove Drive and Sunnyridge Road. The streets were constructed between 1978 and 1982. Also included in the project is the removal and replacement of over 20 sidewalk pedestrian ramps to meet Federal accessibility requirements. Removal and replacement of sidewalk ramps is expected to begin the week of May 24<sup>th</sup>, with pavement milling and repaving starting approximately June 17<sup>th</sup>, and all work concluding by the end of June.

The Village Board has undertaken a study regarding the Village's main Department of Public Works Facility located at 1000 Hickory. The 8,530 square foot building was originally constructed in 1973 when the Village had approximately 3,271 residents. The Village now has a population of approximately 8,177 residents (pending 2020 census data). A space needs assessment and master planning study was completed by Kueny Architects in 2020 which concluded that the building does not comply with ADA requirements; a complete replacement of the HVAC mechanical equipment is necessary; the electrical and plumbing system is in need of replacement; the roof needs to be repaired/replaced soon. Due to the upgrades needed to bring the building up to current standards, the architect has recommended not spending additional funds on buildings that have outlived their expected life cycles. The space need study concluded that a new building should contain 36,529 square feet to provide long-term space for vehicle maintenance, vehicle storage, administration, workshops, and wash bay space. The estimated



life of a new building constructed with pre-cast concrete panels is 75 years. The space needs study as well as follow-up design for a building has been reviewed by Village Board at meetings since January of this year with direction to proceed to the Plan Commission at is June meeting for review and possible approval of the design and site plan for the project. Please note that the Village Board has not authorized the construction of the project at this time.

I am pleased to say that so far all of the past events (except the triathlon and boat show) will be held this year. As we move forward from the adversity and darkness which is COVID-19 and into the light of a new beginning, let's remember that which we have seen and learned and never forget it. It is forgetting the past that causes us to repeat it.

Thank You,

Jeff Knutson  
Village President