Spotlight on Local Government February/March 2024

Isabella County Commission

 Is in the process of determining budget cuts as voters rejected the February 2024 millage request.

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

- Approved an external hiring freeze for all General Fund funded positions unless the requirements of the position will not allow for it.
- Approved 2024 agreements for Sherriff's Department services at Lake Isabella and the Isabella County Youth and Farm Fair. These agreements become null and void if the Sherriff's road patrol deputies are not employed by Isabella County due to budget constraints.
- Approved a grant between the State of Michigan and Isabella County from January 1 to September 15, 2024, for \$6,626 for Michigan Medical Marihuana Act education and outreach, including free medication lockboxes. Funds will be received on a reimbursement basis and have no impact on the County budget.
- Approved an agreement for new equipment to enhance public safety communications among police, fire, EMS, and medical facilities. The project will be funded by a \$4.8 million dollar grant from the State of Michigan.
- Approved annual expenditures of over \$10,000 each for Weidman Mill Pond and Stevenson Lake for the purpose of activities to maintain normal lake levels, including the maintenance and repair of lake level infrastructure.
- Entered into a mutual aid agreement with Gratiot County for emergencies involving livestock. Gratiot County will provide trained personnel, supplies, and equipment for corralling at large livestock.
- Added a full-time Education/Grant Writing & Reporting Coordinator at the Material Recovery Facility, partially funded by eliminating the part-time Curbside Roll-off Driver position.

Mt. Pleasant City Commission

- Approved contracts for rehabilitation of Taxiway A at the Mt. Pleasant Municipal Airport. The total cost of the project is \$2,989,669, ninety-five percent of which will be funded by federal and state grants. Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe 2% funding will cover the City's cost of \$149,484.
- Approved a resolution in support of a ceasefire in Gaza and Israel. The resolution was sent to President Biden, Governor Whitmer, U.S. Senate, and U.S. Congress.
- Approved a contract for 2024 design and engineering services for the MidMichigan/GKB Pathway North Connection Project. This section of pathway will connect Nelson Park to Mission Creek Park. Construction is scheduled for 2025.

Mt. Pleasant Planning Commission

- Met with the Downtown Development Authority and the Michigan Department of Transportation to discuss redevelopment of the Mission Street Corridor. Goals for redevelopment include improved pedestrian safety and traffic flow and businesses growth. The city has hired a consultant and is forming a steering committee to advise and make recommendations. Within 10 years, it will be necessary to rebuild Mission Street.
- Planning staff approved the site plan for a communication tower on Preston for the Sherriff's Office.

Mt. Pleasant Public Schools Board of Education

- Proposed bylaws changes for the Sex Education Advisory Board that align with the Michigan Department of Education framework.
- Renewed for one year a contract with ESS, the company that provides substitute teachers.
- Authorized the issuance and sale of bonds.

For More Information

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