



WARD 2 NEWSLETTER
Fall, 2017
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ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

New Jobs and Businesses

Since my last newsletter, City Council has approved several new agreements with businesses. MRI Software, LLC is expanding and investing \$5,550,000 in new equipment and building modifications. The company intends to hire 75 new employees in 2017-2018, 40 in 2019 and 18 in 2020. This company currently has 405 employees working in Solon. The increase in new employees will result in a payroll increase of \$7,649,442 upon completion of this agreement in addition to the existing payroll for this company.

Woodcraft, Inc. is locating in a 100,000 square foot building on Cochran Road. The company will initially open with fifty employees and \$5,511,000 in new investment to their facility. Under the agreement approved by City Council, the company will continue to add jobs until the year 2023.

There are several other companies that have or are in the process of negotiating agreements with the City. I will keep you advised on any new developments.

Proposed Rezoning

OMNI Senior Living is currently before the Planning Commission regarding a proposed rezoning of several parcels located at the

intersection of Kruse Drive/Bainbridge Road. The developer is seeking City input on the rezoning of land for a senior community that offers independent living, assisted living and a memory care facility. The project is 5.38 acres and will be carefully reviewed by the Planning Commission, who will hold public hearings and make a recommendation to City Council. I will keep you notified as architectural renderings are presented, and will make sure copies are available for your review and comment. After everything is reviewed by the appropriate committees, the issue may be placed on the ballot next May.

City Wide Traffic Signal Improvement Project

The City has a new traffic control system that is now fully operational. The initial system was not performing as designed, therefore, the manufacturer installed 74 new cameras under warranty, at no expense to the taxpayers. The cameras are only used to monitor traffic flow so the computer system can time the lights according to traffic volume. The costs for this project were divided between various governmental agencies, with the City paying only a percentage of the total cost. There are 142 sensors throughout the city that are monitoring traffic flow, and after the SOM Center Road/Aurora Road project is completed, the traffic should flow much smoother during peak hours.

2018 Proposed Infrastructure Budget

The Public Works Committee is currently considering the 2018 budget. We are installing sidewalks along Solon Road in the Industrial District and will be continuing with the Annual Concrete and Asphalt Repair programs. Although the neighborhoods in our Ward received many new sidewalks this summer, there are many areas that still need to be repaired via either new sidewalks or leveling old existing concrete, I have heard from several residents regarding specific sections still in need of repair and have compiled a list for spring.

Public Works Projects

The Public Works Committee has divided 2018 City projects into three priorities for budgetary purposes. Next year, the projects will include several storm sewer replacements, culvert replacements, and the SOM Center Road/Aurora Road Intersection Project. The city will also be performing the annual projects including concrete repair, asphalt repair, street striping and preventive maintenance programs.

City contractors are currently working in our ward on the sewer grouting and crack sealing programs. We intend to have \$12,261,919.00 in revenue to cover the expense of these projects. This summer the City removed old concrete and installed 24,016.75 square feet of sidewalks. Many of the sidewalks in our ward were repaired. Several sections of sidewalk that were reported to me over the summer were not addressed, however, I will have these sidewalks placed on the list for next year.

The City will also continue to paint and install new fire hydrants throughout our ward. Additional projects include addressing sinkhole issues, dye testing of sewer lines and cleaning storm and detention basins owned by the city.

SOM Center and Aurora Roads Widening

The City has been working to improve traffic flow in the city and repairing SOM Center Road. The utility companies are currently moving the electric, gas and telephone lines to enable the widening of the road to finally begin. As SOM Center Road is a state route, the Ohio Department of Transportation is directly involved in the construction process. As lanes are closed and traffic is impacted, I will keep residents notified as to closures on Nextdoor.com, Facebook and Twitter. If you would like to be emailed these updates instead, please let me know and I will send an email on construction updates and lane closures.

Solid Waste and Recycling Update

I continue to receive questions regarding the procedures for solid waste and recycling pickup. Carts must be on the curb before 7:30 AM on the day of pickup. Please do not place your cart on the curb before 7:00 PM the night before pickup. Please have your cart at a minimum of three feet from your mailbox or any utility pole, as the truck has difficulty picking up the cart if it is too close to an obstruction. After trash has been picked up, please return your cart to your garage by 7:00 PM on the day of collection. The Service Department also asks that yard waste bags be placed on the curb pursuant to the same time requirements as the solid waste and recycling carts. Also, please note, if you have a contractor performing work at your home, the contractor is responsible for removing any debris from your property. Also, landscapers are required to remove any and all yard waste.

The Public Works Committee is currently considering moving the pickup time for trash and recycling to 7:00 AM, and I am seeking input from residents. The reason for the requested change is to allow the employees

to all be on the same schedule year round so there is more time in the afternoon to address other service issues in the city.

Curbside Leaf Collection

The Service Department began curbside leaf collection on October 9th and the program will run through December 22, 2017, weather permitting. Please place your leaves three feet from the curb. Due to the large volume of leaves that come down in a short period of time, no daily schedule can be followed. Crews will work their way around the City several times throughout the collection season. Further information, including a collection map, can be found on the city website at www.solonohio.org.

Contractors and Snow Plow Companies

Every year, I receive calls regarding issues that residents have with contractors and snow plow companies. The City requires permits for many types of construction.

Please call the City if you think you need a permit, and someone will advise you of the process. The City also maintains a list of licensed and bonded contractors who are registered in the city. This list is provided as a service but please make sure the contractor you hire registers with the City and obtains a permit for their work. This procedure protects your safety as well as ensures that the contractor is properly licensed and insured to perform work at your home. With so many stories of people paying for services they never receive, it makes sense to either use this list or ask for several references from friends or neighbors.

Recreation Department

The Citywide Activity Guide for Fall, 2017 has been mailed. It includes autumn sports, leisure time activities, programs and classes for all ages and ability levels offered at the Community Center, Grantwood, the Arts

Center and Community Park. Information is also posted on the city website at www.solonohio.org.

Senior Transportation

Just a reminder, the City of Solon Department of Senior Services provides van transportation within the City of Solon Monday through Friday 9:00 AM to 3:40 PM. The transportation is available to all Solon Seniors and any disabled resident 21 years or older. All transportation is wheelchair accessible. You can contact the Senior Center at 440-349-6363 for information and scheduling.

CONTACTING YOUR COUNCILMAN

I thank you for your telephone calls and emails offering input on all types of city issues. If you have any questions or concerns regarding any part of our city government, please feel free to contact me at (440) 519-1717 or via email at pelunis@hotmail.com. I am available to meet with residents individually or in groups to discuss any issue. I can also be reached via Facebook, Nextdoor.com and Twitter.

