

CITY MANAGER

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2022-23

December 26, 2023

This report will hit the highlights, but is not by any means everything we’ve have achieved since my last report.

1. INFRASTRUCTURE

The #farmercityforward initiative has continued to succeed this year. We have invested more than **$1.1 million** in all areas this past year. Just a reminder – this is for expenditures up through December 2023.

They include:

* Streets
  + Replaced Salt Dome roof ($9,300)
  + Removed 4 dead or dangerous trees
  + Street garage item replacement and construction
  + Restriped downtown Main St.
  + Repaving – Portion of N. Main and E Water. ($71,600 in 2022); to complete a portion of E Dodge St, Ogle Dr, and Crabtree Ct in spring 2024
  + Sidewalk replacement – E Green, E Allen, minor replacements
  + Completed sidewalk master plan ($51,340)
  + Applied for another Safe Routes to School sidewalk grant for John/Allen St area ($250,000 grant)
  + Replaced multiple street sign blades
  + Multiple pavement patch repairs
  + Repaired numerous trip hazards on downtown sidewalks

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* Water
  + Installed 60 new ultrasonic meters
  + Installed new pump and pipe in Well #9 ($51,700); nearly tripled its output; installed new pump and pipe in McConkey Well ($52,800)
  + Installed new chlorine pump at treatment plant ($4,400)
  + Installed new pressure filter at treatment plant ($76,000)
  + Replaced 7 lead service lines as part of the state mandate
* Wastewater
  + Completed Tertiary filter rehab ($226,000 ARPA grant)
  + Lined a portion of John St. sewer ($94,000)
  + Lined a portion of Elm St. sewer ($15,000)
  + Purchased new lab equipment to save processing costs ($8,400)
  + Miscellaneous minor repairs at treatment plant ($20,000)
* Electric
  + Connected Feeder 3 and 5 at Lincoln & Dodge
  + Replaced breaker at plant ($54,000)
  + Replaced 2 poles downtown on Main St, 1 pole at BMX track
  + Trimmed innumerable trees and bushes
  + Moved lines underground across Rt. 54
  + Successful URGE test
  + Provided energy efficiency grant to BMX Track ($2,765); used energy efficiency grant money to switch to LED at power plant, city hall ($9,245)
  + Upgraded multiple transformers, lines and appurtenances ($20,000)
* Police
  + Negotiated & Renewed FOP contract for 3 more years with 3% COLA
  + Replaced SUV ($55,000)
  + Issued more than 50 code enforcement letters
  + Received Camera grant $7,500
  + Installed Cameras at pool/city hall
* Parks
  + Replaced concrete and installed drainage in center of square ($5,860)
  + Installed pollinator garden & umbrellas in square
  + Made improvements to downtown alley
  + Sealcoated South Park drive ($41,000)
  + Installed new concession stand ($5,400), handicapped railing at bathrooms in South Park
  + Completed Prairie Ridge playground including repaving of medical clinic ($199,381)
  + Repaved tennis court/basketball court and added pickleball net and lines at Weedman Park ($5,500)
  + Entered into a contract for pool management with the Clinton YMCA
  + Updated/repainted playground equipment in South Park
  + Purchased replacement mower
* Miscellaneous
  + Cleared drainage ditch the entire length through town ($21,232)
  + CCG provided broadband citywide
  + Assisted events throughout town such as Heritage Days and the Santa House ($14,000)

1. FINANCE/ADMINISTRATION

We continue to make improvements and efficiencies in Administration and Finance this year including the following:

* Negotiated LOI with Tabeling Development Company to develop the 20 acres at I-74 and Rt. 54
* Hired new auditor
* Successfully applied for FEMA assistance for storm damage (up to $54,000)
* Updated Personnel Code
* Purchased 109 S Main St; planning for future

1. TRANSPARENCY/COMMUNITY RELATIONS

* Cooperated with FFA to increase sunflowers downtown
* CM participated in Central Illinois CEO program
* CM participated in monthly radio show to promote Farmer City
* Cooperated with Farmer City Forward group and grocery co-op

We have been able to accomplish these things without the need for higher property taxes or new taxes. We have also been able to succeed using minimal, necessary strategic drawdowns of fund balance. This has allowed us to maintain higher than expected percentages of fund balance in our accounts, which equates to a strong financial stability.

I believe this next year will still be exciting as we work to achieve the following:

* New water main, repaving on W. Market St.
* Repaving of Ogle Dr, Crabtree Ct.
* Install new sidewalks on E Green
* Complete South Park bathroom rehab
* Install new dog park at South Park
* Begin reconstruction of Plum/Rt. 150
* Begin utility extension construction for Tabeling Development on I-74 property

Thank you!

Sue McLaughlin, ICMA-CM

City Manager