



TO: Village Council *Debbie*
FROM: Debbie Powell, Village Manager
DATE: December 17, 2018
RE: Manager's Report December 2018

December has been a month of many meetings. There have been several meetings with the newly elected officials, the Village committees, our regular monthly meetings, and many more. To update you, I have met with the following people or groups recently.

I was asked to be a judge for the Tuscola County EDC Business Entrepreneur Contest. There were five applications and three made it to the competition on December 6. They were competing for a \$2,000 grant to grow their business and the chance to go on to regionals and compete for a \$5,000 award. The winner was Bee Lovely Botanicals, an all-natural skin care product line made from honey.

On December 7th I toured the Main Street Armstead properties. I received a price list and was told that many of the properties in the Armstead estate in the Village, and in other cities, would be listed with Kelly & Company soon. On-going maintenance is being done on the blighted downtown properties in preparation of marketing them.

Also on December 7th I attended the quarterly Thumb Manager's Meeting that was held in Frankenmuth. A current topic that generated much conversation was the recreational marijuana law. This will be a featured topic at the Michigan Municipal Executive's Conference in Kalamazoo next February also. I plan to attend this conference.

The Zoning Board of Appeals met on December 12th at 7:00 pm. The Zoning Board of Appeals met to review a request for setback waiver from Dave and Jami Grifka, 6301 Beechwood Drive. The waiver concerned a 3 foot extension for a fireplace which is part of their home remodeling project. The three foot extension encroached on the required 10 foot setback to the property line. A public hearing

was held and there was no one who appeared to contest the waiver, and no other communication received opposed to the waiver either. The Zoning Board of Appeals approved the waiver for 6301 Beechwood Drive.

On December 13th I attended the Tuscola County Community Foundation grant award ceremony. I accepted a grant from the William and Ruth Janks Fund for the Helen Stevens Memorial Pool renovation project. Specifically, \$5,000 was given to us as a "Challenge" grant. We must accept the challenge and match the \$5,000 in order to qualify. Our Fundraising Committee is actively seeking additional funds and we hope to meet the Challenge soon and receive the grant award. Also, I was very pleased to accept a check for \$5,000 from The Future Youth Involvement Committee for the replacement of lifeguard equipment. I would like to thank the Tuscola County Community Foundation for the grants, the Pool Fundraiser Committee, our Parks and Rec Committee, village staff, and our volunteer grant writer (Joanne Hopper), for all their assistance with these grants and others.

The Tuscola Area Airport Authority (TAAA) met on Thursday, December 13th. Anderson, Tuckey, Bernhardt & Doran, PC, Certified Public Accountants, presented the Tuscola Area Airport Authority for the year ended June 30, 2018. TAAA received a good audit, with no significant findings. I have a copy available if you would like to review it. However, the December 13th meeting was not uneventful. Carl Palmateer and Nancy Barrios, TAAA Board Members who represent Cass City, both submitted their letters of resignation effective December 14, 2018 at the meeting. In addition, Lynn Hayward, Airport Manager, also submitted her letter of resignation. The TAAA Board made a motion to receive with regret the letters of resignation. I was asked to request that Cass City appoint at least one new member to the Tuscola Area Airport Authority so that they may have a quorum at their meetings in order to conduct business. The letters and the appointment have been added to the Agenda for the Village Council meeting on December 17, 2018.

On December 14, I met with Brad Merrill, Director of Eastern Region, for Mid Michigan College. Mid Michigan College is seriously considering a satellite campus in Cass City as it is centrally located in the Thumb. Mid Michigan College would be able to offer general education credits for dual enrolled students, medical programs such as Phlebotomy, Skilled Trades, and potentially a RN Nursing Program. As more information becomes available concerning their plans, I will share it with you.

As the year comes to a close, I would like to say I have truly enjoyed being a part of the Cass City Community and working with all of you this past year. I wish you and your families a Merry Christmas and a blessed New Year!