

MAYOR'S REPORT

January 2018

As we begin our new year, we are prepared to once again assist our residents with the federal and state income tax with the help of the AARP. The AARP volunteers will be on hand at the Community Center every Friday until Friday, April 13, 2018. Please call my office to make an appointment for this fine service.

I have asked our Service Department to temporarily remove the flags from City property that they see have been tattered or torn. The recent winds have turned many nearly new flags into shredded fabric and I think it is best to take them down until the inclement weather subsides. They will be back up as soon as possible.

The “bumps” on Chardon Road continue to be a problem for motorists travelling in that area and ODOT (Ohio Department of Transportation) is assessing them at this time. The weather has caused the asphalt to swell, causing the bumps, which should subside as the weather changes. I will keep you advised as things progress in this area.

The City has been awarded a grant in the amount of \$36,754 from NOPEC as part of the NOPEC Energized Community Grant Program. We are looking into using these funds for Fire Department window replacement, Fire Department door replacement and partial City Hall window replacement. It will nice to get these energy conservation projects done with this grant allocation.

I have presented Council with an 88-page credentialing package for confirmation for Tom Talcott as our Fire Chief. As our Charter requires, I can make a recommendation for a Department Head, but Council has the responsibility of confirming my appointment. Acting Fire Chief Tom Talcott is a great choice for our permanent chief given the leadership he has shown over the past forty years on the department. I look forward to his appointment.

I have also presented Council with a 53-page credential package for confirmation for Michael Germano as our Law Director. Mike has been in the capacity of City Prosecutor and has recently accepted the additional duties of “Acting Law Director” at no charge to the City. Again, Council must confirm my appointment in order for this action to become law. I look forward to his appointment.

Thanks to our Civil Service Commission for working diligently on the credential packages for new candidates. It is a big job and they work well with Dawn Snyder in our Finance Department to complete the task.

Thanks, too, to our fine Service Department who has certainly been challenged with keeping our streets snow-free this winter. They, like me, look forward to nice weather again in Willoughby Hills!