

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

TO: Honorable Town Council Members

FROM: Karl F. Kilduff, Town Manager

DATE: August 02, 2023

Please find my report concerning various items of interest to the Town Council and community.

1. Council Business:

- STEAP Grant – I am working on a STEAP grant application for funding toward replacing the hand-held “subscriber units” used by the Fire Department. As you will recall, the current radios are no longer supported by the manufacturer. The Council will need a formal resolution in support of the grant (see the Agenda).
- Water Resources Development Act – Senators are seeking input for projects which could be included in the next federal Water Resources Development Act re-authorization. The bill is re-authorized every 2 years and includes projects that could be undertaken by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Funding is not immediately attached to a project, a local match is sometimes required and the list of projects is greater than the amount of available funding for studies and construction projects authorized in the Act. The Act is of potential interest as a way to approach funding to dredge Clinton Harbor. We are in the work program for the Army Corp this federal fiscal year to clear “hot spots” in the navigation channel. A full dredge still needs to be pursued. I am work through our Congressman to verify the status of our project and whether we need to seek inclusion in the Water Resources Development Act.

2. Miscellaneous:

- Commerce Street Historic District Update – The consultant study is designate another historic district in Clinton is on-going. The original study was to look at designating Commerce Street and Leffingwell Road. It was determined during the course of the research in to assets in the area, that Leffingwell should be removed from consideration and the focus should only be on a protection National Register designation for Commerce Street only. A draft report is currently under review by the State Historic Preservation Office. The State Review Board should consider the draft report in September.
- Older STEAP Grant Update – The STEAP grant that started the façade program is moving forward with one project completed, one it process and two more under review. We also completed our first drawdown of State funds to reimburse the first completed project.
- Union Contract Negotiations – Negotiations remain on-going with the Police Union as the last union contract to be settled as well as negotiating the terms of their pension agreement which was left unresolved for several years.

- Hiring – A number of hiring processes are in-process or soon to start. We are in-process to find a new department director for Human Services following David Melillo’s retirement. An IT position remains unfilled and we are still recruiting candidates for interviews. Two more positions will be posted soon to provide for the budgeted part-time Economic Development Coordinator to support the EDC’s focus in a support role or conducting business outreach interviews. The WPCC Clerk will also be advertised.