

## **SECOND QUARTER UPDATE FOR 2022**

Summer has officially arrived and the cold weather we were complaining about in the spring is thankfully in the past. We are now setting record highs and of course complaining about the heat. I also can't believe half of 2022 is gone as well!

### **April Highlights:**

The storm water work in Vista Meadows was completed and just in time before the rains began. The area is no longer flooding. Great news for this area of the Village!

The Village continued to work with many residents to remove inoperable vehicles on their property. This has been an ongoing issue and certainly needed to be addressed. Please continue to keep your property clean!

The Village hired Householder Brothers to paint the pool house and it certainly does look much better.

The Village contracted with the City of Findlay to sweep the curbed streets within the Village. Findlay also does other neighboring Villages including Arlington and Vanlue. They will be back in town to sweep before the Cookie Festival parade and once again in late October.

Council agreed again to purchase the downtown flowers and other areas within the Village from Primrose. Ed Aller waters them during the summer months. A special thanks to the McComb Rotary Club for planting the flowers. Ed has informed us this will be his last year for taking care of the planters. If you know of someone who would like to take this over, please let us know.

We now have all Village Ordinances from 1985-2021 on our web page. Hopefully, this will be a much easier way to look items up. Ordinances are under the Government tab.

I'm sure you have heard by now that Northwest Water and Sewer District plans to bring our drinking water to McComb from North Baltimore. NWWSD will no longer need the existing water treatment equipment and the reservoirs will no longer be used as the drinking water source for the Village. The Village was concerned about the water within the reservoirs becoming an issue with possible algae and the resources to treat the water. NWWSD has agreed to continue to be responsible for water treatment with the purpose of recreation only in the future.

The Village has been working for a couple of months to purchase the property beside the administrative offices. This building would be used to house the McComb Police Department and our tax administrator.

The Village turns 175 years old on August 18, 2022. Council has been working on plans for this celebration which will take place on August 6-8. An updated schedule of activities will be listed on the webpage and in next month's newsletter.

### **May Highlights:**

The Village renewed the contract with the Hancock County Sheriff's Office for twenty hours per week above and beyond their normal patrol of the Village.

The Village with the assistance of Lizzy at the Hancock County Regional Planning applied for the NatureWorks Grant. We would like to replace the split-rail fence and sand underneath the playground area. We will not know until fall if we are awarded this grant.

We had several applicants for the pool manager position and hired a pool manager and co-assistant managers. The Village is also very fortunate to have many lifeguards for the summer. In some areas they are having a

difficult time finding lifeguards and some pools are not going to open. Also, good news for the pool this year is the splash pad is working.

Several streets within town were also paved. We are working with the Hancock County Engineers office to submit paving bids when they do in hopes of a reduced price. We have a compiled list of streets within the Village and will be addressing them based on deterioration. Our hope is to be able to do so many feet per year.

The Council has discussed open burning within the downtown district for several years. After much research and listening to several of the downtown building owners council has asked the solicitor to provide an ordinance preventing open burning only in the downtown district. Recreational fires will still be permitted in the other areas of the Village.

The Village sold the 2012 police truck and is waiting for the new cruiser to arrive. The estimated arrival is in July.

On May 23, Joe George resigned from Council and as Council President. A special thanks to Joe for all his time and commitment to the Village.

We are also working on a Downtown Revitalization Grant with several property owners and our hope is to begin the process of revitalizing our downtown buildings.

The military banners were hung throughout the Village before the Memorial Day Parade. A special thanks to the street department for their time to hang all of them. Due to the number of banners we even had to extend to the bank poles and AEP poles beyond the downtown area. If you are interested in purchasing a banner for next year, please contact Hayley at the Village office.

#### **June Highlights:**

We welcomed Jamie (Steen) Gill as our new member of council. Jamie is a graduate of McComb and lives in McComb with her husband and daughter. We had four applicants for the open position and thank each one for their interest. Council elected Sara Klay to be the new president.

The Village was very fortunate to receive Hancock County Foundation sponsorship dollars to help offset the Village's 175<sup>th</sup> celebration. We will be celebrating on August 8, at the school following the Athletic Booster's Meet the Team night with cake and ice cream.

The Village decided to do Dollar Mondays at the pool for the rest of the season. Each Monday it will only cost a dollar to get in. On excessive heat days the pool may stay open longer to give residents extra time to cool off. The Hancock Community Foundation has also informed the Village they will be partnering with the Village to provide up to five community swim days. It will not cost to enter the pool on the announced days. Please watch the pool Facebook page for this special opportunity. Hours for the upcoming weekends will also be extended. On Fridays and Saturdays, the pool will be open until 8:00 p.m.

Mark Blass, McComb Ventures, LLC, has applied for rezoning the undeveloped Hartley Addition. He is proposing to change the zoning to include multi family. The current zoning is single homes and condominiums. He is interested in building single family homes, duplexes/triplexes, and townhouse apartments. Council would like to hear your thoughts on this proposed development. Planning and Zoning will meet on July 20 at 3:30 to consider this request.

Happy Fourth of July!

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Cathy". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped initial 'C'.