

## STATE OF THE CITY ADDRESS

### A JOINT MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL AND SCHOOL BOARD CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS

March 7, 2016

5:30 PM

Present:

- City Council: Pepin, Soldati, Dumont, Messier, Witham, Cameron and Paradis.
- School Board: Austin, Brennan, Rivers, Pepin, Bolduc, Hiller and Gibson.

Mayor Hilliard opened the meeting at 5:30 pm. City Manager Belmore welcomed everyone before introducing Scott Smith, Director of Finance and Administration, who reported on the financial condition of the City. He summarized that we have collected approximately 95% of revenues, about 60% has been expended, and historically, expenditures fall within 98% of appropriations. The City Council fund balance retention policy is to stay between 5%-17%; we are at 10.24%. He reported on implementing GASB 68 for pensions. The recommendation to replace retiring debt to fund improvements, Enterprise Funds and financial software upgrades were reported upon.

CM Belmore outlined proposed CIP items for FY2017 before speaking of efforts to keep the City informed through the Mayor's forums and NIXLE, etc., as well as continuing efforts to support, expand and retain businesses through outreach activities by the City's Economic Development Manager. He spoke of the Master Plan and the City's goals for a livable, walk-able, vibrant downtown and preservation and protection of our open space. He reported that the Rocky Hill Water Tank Rehabilitation project is complete.

Superintendent of Schools, Jeni Mosca, presented videos of High School, CTC, Idlehurst and Maplewood Elementary Students. Students from the Middle School spoke personally about what they have learned during their time at the Middle School.

Councilor McCallion arrived at 6:12 pm.

School Board Chair, Don Austin presented the financial details of the budget for FY2016 and stated that nothing was budgeted for CIP for the schools this year.

Mayor Hilliard gave an address, stressing that "communities succeed when citizens succeed". He read the children's book, The Promise by Nicola Davies.

The State of the City Address concluded at 6:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

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Elise B. Brelis, Deputy City Clerk