



Benjamin Marentette <bmarente@traversecitymi.gov>

[city commissioners] Communication to City Commission

1 message

Marty Colburn <mcolburn@traversecitymi.gov>

Sun, Mar 19, 2023 at 2:28 PM

To: CityCommissioners_Group <citycommissioners@traversecitymi.gov>

Honorable Mayor and City Commissioners:

I have been made aware of certain early deliberations pertaining to my pending performance review and my tenure with the City of Traverse City. The purpose of this memo is to communicate my focus, intent, and dedication to Traverse City in the near-term, as your City Manager.

Serving as Traverse City's City Manager is an honor, and I am proud of the work we have accomplished together. However, our work is not done. From protecting the whole of the Great Lakes from invasive species, to ensuring a sustainable financial future for key components of our soon-to-be complete City Master Plan, to executing on our shared economic development efforts, we have several important collaborative efforts underway. I am focused on ensuring that these significant, collaborative projects such as the senior center, fire stations, downtown parking deck, and the Brown Bridge Quiet Area addition are put on a sustainable path of completion. I have no desire to depart my post until this occurs.

It is my intent to see these projects through until they are on a path to success and completion. This will certainly take more than a few months, but no more than a few years. I would estimate that within the next 2-3 years, I will be writing to inform you of my retirement plans. However, today is not that day. Abrupt or hasty action that could potentially disrupt the significant positive momentum for these projects would have sizable negative impacts for Traverse City. While at no point has the City Commission alerted me to an urgent need for my departure, nor have they asked about my future. I share this information now in the hope that we can continue to have these strategic discussions together in the appropriate and constructive way and at the appropriate time.

This City is my home, and this job is meaningful to me. In recent years, we have discussed adding an additional assistant manager staff position. Perhaps we could together revisit that opportunity as well as the reasons that prompted the unexpected early deliberations regarding my pending performance review. Know that I am dedicated to this work, and I pledge to continue to execute my responsibilities to the best of my ability and to work with Commissioners on all the necessary planning to ensure that my eventual departure is conducted in such a way that we set the City and my successor up for success.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve. I look forward to our continued success together.

Sincerely,

--

Martin A. Colburn, City Manager

[City of Traverse City](#)

mcolburn@traversecitymi.gov

Tel: 231-922-4440

Fax: 231-922-4476