

Sept 17, 2026

Dear Community,

So much has happened in these last weeks. We are squarely in the midst of transition and change, and at the same time life in the Village continues. I recognize that this has been an emotional and uncertain time for many. I have heard and understood that communication continues to be necessary to building and maintaining trust with the community. With that, I am trying to write more and share more about the work I am doing as a Village Council member.

- For the **strategic planning process**, 22 applicants responded to the call for proposals and the short list was narrowed down to 5 candidates, all of whom were interviewed in person. Now we are looking at our specific needs and timeline as we hone down to the best fit for the 10-12 month process we will begin. In all five interviews, I heard professional planners describe how we face challenges that are common to many small municipalities: infrastructure needs now and into the future, budgeting needs and possibilities, increasing costs of living and housing, falling affordability and hence diversity of residents. There is a unique opportunity here to look at these challenges together - holistically one might say - with the staff and with the community at large - facilitated by professionals - and work on strategy to address them in relation to one another, not in a vacuum apart from one another.
- I met with the Save Frogtown group that is advocating for continued conservation on **Glass Farm** on Sunday, Aug 30. Thank you Pam, Jayne and everyone there for being so welcoming and open to sharing perspectives and priorities with one another. It is admirable the community building that has developed there, but also their outreach and openness to sharing and learning together. As I confirmed there, Council has not made any decisions about Glass Farm besides beginning an exploratory phase to learn more about this piece of Village property and to engage the community in the process. My personal learning from this all is that we should've communicated more clearly about what the intention was from the beginning and where we were in the process. With everything going on right now, the presentation about the community engagement plan by Nia Holt of Planning and Zoning has been moved to a future Council meeting.
- I have begun to plan the **next Housing Retreat** to continue to track progress on the goals outlined there. Once the agenda for the retreat is finalized, we will also specify opportunities for public input/conversation regarding these specific goals and plans.
- The work continues to prepare the groundwork for the **interim village manager** and identify both regular ongoing work as well as timely projects and events that require their attention. Gavin and I met with Jeff Sheridan who will be the interim village manager on 9/17 to have a preliminary meeting about most urgent projects, needs and plans once he begins on 9/21. Jeff will be present at the Council meeting on 9/21.
- In terms of the **village manager recruitment process**, we are receiving proposals from firms that specialize in these searches of our size, scale, and manner. We will likely have a conversation about the proposals, which will be in the packet, at our first meeting in October. I hear there is a desire for transparency and public involvement in this process,

and as it continues to take shape we will keep this top of mind and share more as we go. Most firms say that the process takes 3-4 months.

- After several conversations with community members and stakeholders, **safety at Mills Lawn** remains of concern. We have brought this to the interim village manager as a pressing priority of the community to address the street/safety concerns around the school, in coordination with the YS school leadership.
- The **budget process** is beginning and there will be two to three meetings. This will require significant staff and Council involvement as I understand it will be a major focus of the following months.
- The **recall issue** (the lack of stated language in our charter) is being researched by our staff and an update will be provided at the first October meeting.
- On a related topic, several people have asked me to resign; many others have asked me to not resign. I have decided **not to resign** after learning about and consideration of circumstances that are commonly associated with resignation from public office.
- How to engage in **productive, respectful public discourse** and sharing of information. Down the line I think there is interest in holding a public meeting/town hall about how we do this better. Chambers contains rules and procedures that limit the ability for back-and-forth conversation. The newspaper reaches approximately ¼ of the residents and is not conversational. Facebook is a platform, but limited in reach and scope, and I am told often veers away from productive and respectful. There's been talk of a podcast or interview series. We need more mechanisms for sharing info and conversing/debating in a healthy way.

Lastly, thank you to all residents who have reached out, written emails, or made time to meet. This is hard work, time consuming, and requires a great deal of listening and patience at every turn. I appreciate those who have taken the time and effort to express their confusion, anger and frustration about the last weeks, and shared that with me and allowed time and space for us to talk about it and ask questions and clarify opinions and reasonings. Thank you to those who have expressed appreciation and support, and acknowledgment of the complexity, nuance, and difficulty of this position.

I am reading a small paragraph of Taoist thought a day. There are so many metaphors connected to nature, but it's true: change is inevitable. "Thunder and rain at night. / Growth comes with a shock. / Expression and duration / Appear in the first moment." With change there is a great opportunity for growth. There is much work ahead of us, and it remains a privilege to do it.

Sincerely,  
Angie