

Pardee's response to Smith's November 2023 Project Listing

Smith's November 2023 listing is long, without priorities, and missing significant items. Pardee suggests these items need his and council's attention:

- No mention of council establishing the escalation policy for code enforcement which would be helpful in "Fighting the Blight on North Main." Tom Ryan's [city attorney's] experience with other communities should be helpful. Ask Ann Arbor.
- No mention of repairing the seven Main Street paver aprons and utilizing input from Bill Baird of MDOT [Michigan Department of Transportation].
- No mention of getting concurrence from businesses on their East Alley repair cost participation and making the East Washington storm sewer repair.
- No mention of implementing a helpful project tool based on the capital improvement plan graphic for the budget's capital improvements and the three major project milestones of expected dates for request for quotations, council approval, and expected completion. This will show when budgeted capital improvements are expected to be completed.
- No mention of street repair priorities consistent with HRC's [Hubbell, Roth & Clark, the city's contract engineer] PASER [Pavement Surface Evaluation and Rating] study results. Nine streets remain in poor condition from their 2022 update.
- No mention of a three-year budget process which will show the city's financial outlook.
- No mention of an educational process, with Coté participating, for council members on how the city's budget is determined, the city's financial outlook, and the expected need for additional revenue.
- No mention of West Miller Road's street and sidewalk expenditure requirements consistent with Upper and Lower Mill Ponds being joined and Oakland County dam responsibility assumption.
- No mention of clarification of sewer cost changes to citizens from Independence Township and the \$60 million sewer bond implications.

Tonight's November 2023 auditor's report should provide updates of GO [general obligation] bonds ending, millage reductions in comparison with other cities, found monies, and the city's financial situation.