

DEPARTMENTAL WEEKLY REPORTS

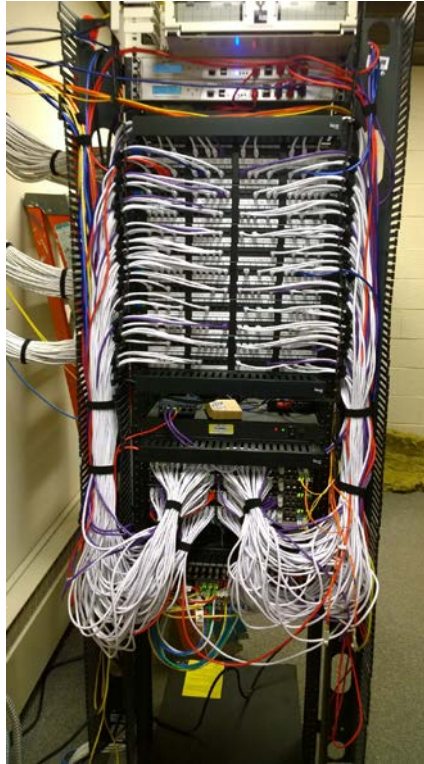
September 26, 2014

City Manager's Office

IT Department Weekly Status Report – Joshua Brechbuehl, IT Manager		
Total Tickets Currently Open - 124		
Voice Over IP (Phone System) Replacement	On-Track	Expected Completion Fall 2014
Moving the City away from standard Copper phone system to new Voice over IP (VOIP) Phone System		
Latest Update: Continuing Design. Assigning devices.		
City will see improved call control, conference call features, voice mail integration, collaboration and call clarity. This will also cut down or even eliminate long distance phone charges.		
PCI Compliance	Started	No ETA
City has upgraded itself to higher standard for PCI Compliance. New benchmarks are required and City is working towards those new benchmarks in security and process.		
Latest Update: Demo was provided for PCI compliance software that may alleviate many of our PCI concerns. Currently running network security audit.		
Achieving this higher standard of PCI compliance will provide the City a better level of security for monetary transactions.		
License Plate Reader Cameras (2)	HOLD	September 30, 2014
The City was granted 2 License Plate Reader cameras that will be placed at the edge of the City.		
Latest Update: Status is on hold		
Cameras would ideally be connected to City Metro Mesh, however current bandwidth is not sufficient for proper use. Investigating options to either increase speed or alternatives.		
Police Activity Tracking System	HOLD	Expected Completion Fall 2014
City Police has need to upgrade existing software used to track daily activities.		
Latest Update: RFP's being evaluated – No Update		
Software is used to track detailed information about officer/team activity during a shift for use in determining efficiency ratings and total counts.		
Municipal Building Network Rewiring Project	On-Track	Expected Completion Fall 2014
Due to age of existing network cabling throughout building, it is necessary to upgrade for VOIP implementation		
Latest Update: New wiring installed. Users migrated to new system (see photo below). Adding additional fiber to clean up network in other locations		
Upgrade existing Municipal Building network wiring from CAT3 to CAT6		
Council / Manager / Department Weekly Reports	On-Track	Expected Completion Fall 2014
Weekly reports in new format		
Latest Update: Final review is forthcoming.		
Feedback from Council indicated increased need for more efficient and clear delivery for Department Manager weekly reports. We are looking into leveraging system that would allow multiple sorting methods with ability to search based on search term.		
Virtual Server Backup Solution	Started	Expected Completion Fall 2014
Since migrating from a physical infrastructure to a virtual infrastructure, a new backup solution was necessary.		
Latest Update: Testing (No Update)		
Consolidate all City backups into single source solution using Microsoft Cloud technologies.		

Other Notable IT Updates

- City staff has been fully migrated to new wiring. Adding additional fiber connections for redundancy and throughput to heavy user locations.
- eCare has been disconnected and re-routed to CustomerConnect.
- Planning for CityView 8 decommission next week.
- IT Desktop Support staff will be working towards Dell Certification.
- City's Network Administrator has passed certification exam CompTIA Network+.
- This photos represent the finished installation of the Municipal Building's new network wiring.



Planning & Development – Maureen Feeney Roser, Director

Planning

Considerable time was spent this week preparing for the October 7, 2014 Planning Commission meeting. On the agenda are:

1. Election of Officers.
2. Review and consideration of an amendment to the Zoning Code regarding “no impact” home based businesses.
3. Review and consideration of a Comprehensive Development Plan amendment, a rezoning, major subdivision and a special use permit for the .846 acre property located on the west side of Center Street from 21 - 49 (odd addresses). Applicants are requesting approval to rezone the parcels from RS (single family detached residential) and NCV (New Center Village) to BB

(central business district) and major subdivision approval to demolish the existing single-family dwellings at the site and build a four story, mixed use building with 3,000 square feet of office space and parking on the first floor and 30 apartments above.

On Thursday, Development Supervisor Mike Fortner attended the Newark Bicycle Committee meeting.

Also on Thursday, Mike attended the WILMAPCO Technical Advisory Committee meeting.

On Thursday evening, Mike staffed the Board of Adjustment meeting. The Board unanimously approved a variance for the Mediterranean Grill at 612 Newark Shopping Center. The variance was from Section 32-56.4(a)(4) - Minimum number of seats. The minimum number of seats required in facilities selling alcoholic beverages for consumption on premises and restaurant patios is 50 seats. The applicant has 15 seats, and was granted a 35 seat variance. The applicant now will proceed to Council for a Special Use Permit at the October 27th Council meeting.

On Monday evening, City Council took the following action on Planning and Development related items:

1. Approved a Special Use Permit for a grocery store greater than 5,000 sq. ft. in the BB zone for the Newark Natural Foods new location in the Newark Shopping Center;
2. Approved the lifting of a deed restriction against the sale of spirits at 76 East Main Street for Del Pez Sea Mex Restaurant.

On Monday evening, Mike gave a presentation to the Newark Evening Rotary Club on the Comprehensive Development Plan.

This week the Planning and Development Department processed:

- 9 Buyers Deed Transfer Affidavits.
- 6 building permit reviews.
- 2 subdivision plan reviews.

Public Relations

Planner/DNP Administrator Ricky Nietubicz did several press releases on the following topics:

- Storm water preparations.
- Paving on East Park Place.
- Special Council meeting on September 29th.

On Sunday, Ricky and DNP volunteers staffed the Downtown Newark Partnership table at Community Day; and, Mike helped staff the Community Day table for the Newark Bicycle Committee.

Economic Development

Considerable time was spent this week preparing for Sunday's Taste of Newark, 12-3 p.m. on the Old College Lawn. A few tickets still remain at the pre-event price of \$50 each. Tickets can be purchased in person in the Planning and Development Department; at Vance Funk's Law Offices at 273 East Main Street or on line at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/taste-of-newark-2014-tickets-11861809993>.

Community Development

Time was spent preparing for the Community Development Block Grant/Revenue Sharing Advisory Committee meeting to be held tonight (September 24th) at 7:00 p.m. This marks the first review meeting for applications for the 41st (7/1/15 - 6/30/16) CDBG and 2015 Revenue Sharing Funds. (Please note: At the September 22nd Council meeting, it was stated that this meeting's agenda was not on the City website. In fact, it was on the site as a link through the Calendar. Changes have been instituted to make it easier to find for future meetings).

Parking

The Parking Division received the "quarters only" stickers for the new credit/debit meters from IPS. When the new meters were shipped from the factory they incorrectly listed *coins* for a method of payment (the meters used in the pilot program correctly identified quarters only); the Division has installed the updated stickers on the meters. (Please note: This issue was also mentioned at the Council meeting, but corrected stickers had already been requested from the vendor by that time).

Code Enforcement

61, 63 and 65 Munro Road received C/O's this week.

2000 Fountainview Drive, unit 302 received a C/O this week.

Demolition of the Brunswick Blue Hen Bowling Alley has begun.

Fraternity and Sorority inspections are ongoing.

Code Enforcement Supervisor Steve Wilson continues to work with the Washington House Condo Association, their management company and engineers to move forward with repairs to the building façade and public protection.

The Division continues to work with IT concerning CityView implementation issues.

Building Maintenance

- Police Station sewage grinder pump repairs are complete.
- Facilities Maintenance Supervisor Dave Greenplate met with Wilkinson Roofing representatives to make repairs around scupper on police roof.
- The K-9 plaque in the Police Station was installed, along with some shelving for future plaques.

- 10 Defibrillator cabinets were installed around the different City facilities.
- All of the trial paper towel and toilet tissue dispensers were removed. This trial was very informative.
- Repaired water lines at the George Wilson Center due to a low water pressure complaint.
- Cleaning products and equipment have been ordered for municipal facilities and the Division anticipates delivery by next week.

Public Works & Water Resources – Tom Coleman, Director

Management

- Street Contract: Deep lift patching on East Park Place is complete except for joint sealing which will be completed on Friday, September 26th (weather depending). This work will require a detour for through traffic (residents on the closed sections will still be able to get to their houses) for a few hours. If you have any questions, please let me know.

CONTRACT 14 - 04

2014 STREET IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM WEEKLY PROGRESS UPDATE

LOCATION	CURB	MILLING	BASE PATCH.	BASE HOT MIX	UTIL. ADJ.	TOP PATCH.	TOP HOT MIX
Ash Avenue - Woodlawn Ave. to culdesac	X	X	*	n/a	X	X	X
Corbit Street - New London Rd. to W. Main St.	*	*	*	*	*	n/a	*
Dallam Road - Old Oak Rd. to Hillside Rd.	*	*	*	n/a	*	n/a	*
E. Park Place - Haines St. to Academy St.	n/a	X	X	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Falling Tree Court - Farmhouse Rd. to culdesac	X	X	n/a	X	n/a	n/a	X
Hawthorne Avenue - Anna's Way to Adelene Ave.	X	X	X	X	n/a	n/a	X
Long Meadow Court - Country Hills Drive to culdesac	X	X	X	X	n/a	n/a	X
Magnolia Circle - Hawthorne Ave. to culdesac	X	X	n/a	n/a	n/a	X	X
Old Oak Road - W. Main St. to Dallam Rd.	*	*	*	n/a	*	n/a	*
Old Oak Road - Dallam Rd. to Cheltenham Rd.	n/a	*	n/a	n/a	*	n/a	*
Thorn Lane - Elkton Rd. to City Limit	X	X	n/a	X	X	n/a	X
Timberline Drive - S. Wynwyd Dr. to Church Rd.	X	X	X	X	n/a	n/a	X
W. Mill Station Road - Delrem Dr. to 74 W. Mill Station Rd.	X	X	X	X	n/a	n/a	X
AS OF WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2014 (13) TOTAL LOCATIONS ON CONTRACT (9) LOCATIONS COMPLETED (0) LOCATIONS CURB R & R IS COMPLETE AWAITING MILLING (0) LOCATIONS CURB R & R IS ONGOING (4) LOCATIONS NO WORK HAS BEEN INITIATED (4) LOCATIONS AWAITING COMPLETION OF WATER MAIN INSTALLATION * - NOT STARTED %- COMPLETED(WORK CONTINUES) X - WORK COMPLETED N/A - NOT APPLICABLE							

- Handicap Ramp Contract: Work is underway on Lehigh and Short Lane, which should be complete this week. Next week they should be moving to Veterans Lane which is the end of the contract.
- Cherry Hill Manor Service Road Repaving: The contractor has boxed out and stoned all of the service roads. They have started the final grading the stone for hot mix application, which is currently scheduled to begin late next week.
- Corbit Street Area Water Main Replacement: The water main on Corbit Street is live all services are connected to the new main. Capping of the old main and paving of the excavation should be complete by the end of the week. The contractor anticipates moving the pipe crew onto Old Oak/Dallam Road area starting Monday, September 29th. Notice of the work will be distributed to affected residents beginning on this week.
- Arbour Park Booster: Held bid opening for this project. No update from last week.
- White Clay Creek Crossing: Waiting to schedule road restoration with City crew.
- Concrete Tank Roof Repair: No Update at this time
- Paper Mill Road Culvert Replacement: No update at this time
- McKees Solar Park: Contractor continues to run wiring between the panels and installation of inverters.
- Management team members participated in a Webinar: "Preparedness Tools and Resources for Drinking Water and Wastewater" put on by ICMA.
- Met with members of DelDOT Traffic Division and their consultant to discuss traffic related issues affecting Newark. This is a semi-annual meeting where DelDOT representatives and Newark representatives can discuss completed, continuing and upcoming projects to better the traffic and pedestrian movements in and around the City. DelDOT, PW&WR and NPD were present along with an aide for State Representatives Paul Baumbach and John Kowalko.
- Delaware Avenue Cycle Track: We were advised by representatives from DelDOT at our coordination meeting last week that the best way to speed up the cycle track project would be to perform preliminary engineering and provide that information to DelDOT. This engineering work can be funded using Community Transportation Funding from state legislators (which can also be used as a match for federal funding of up to 80% of the project cost) so we are meeting with one of our engineering firms next week to discuss the next steps. We are also working with the Newark Bike Committee Chair, Mark Deshon, and the Executive Director of Bike Delaware, James Wilson, on preparing CTF funding request letters for all Newark State Legislators. Our hope is that we would be able to get enough funding through the CTF to cover the preliminary engineering. This preliminary engineering will have to come to Council prior to commencing, assuming that we are able to procure enough funding through the CTF. DelDOT's Bicycle Coordinator has indicated he is very excited about the project and wants to be involved in our project meetings if possible. Both Mark Deshon and James Wilson from Bike Delaware are also going to attend and James is working on getting a project manager from DelDOT's Engineering Department to come as well. These are very promising signs.
- We have begun completing an application that would certify Newark as a "Bike Friendly Business" through the League of American Bicyclists. The questions in the application provide for a lot of good ideas for improving our bike programs and facilities. We are working on this application with Planning and Administration assistance and hope to apply for certification during the next application period. We would be the first Newark business and the third in Delaware (The Bike Boutique in Wilmington and DelDOT are currently certified).

- Retro Reflectivity Study: Interns have resumed collecting inventory data for signs throughout the City.
- A coordination meeting was conducted to determine the locations for the remaining Big Belly Solar Compactors throughout the City.
- Wednesday night we received calls about a sediment discharge along the western area drainage ditch that was discharging into the stream that runs through Phillips Park under the Hall Trail. This source of the discharge was from a temporary sediment trap at the Chimney Ridge construction site between South Main Street, Winslow Road, and Beverly Road. This trap has been designed and constructed such that it has to be pumped down between storms in order to provide adequate storage to trap the heavily sediment laden runoff from the disturbed construction site during a storm. We identified on Wednesday that it had not been pumped down, and with the 2" of rain expected for later that evening into Thursday, we instructed the owner that they needed to do so ASAP. We worked with the owner to install additional sediment filtering practices to minimize sediment leaving the site and he complied with everything we requested; unfortunately, it appears that the fine grained nature of the soil resulted in cloudy water still escaping the site. DNREC was called and responded to the site Wednesday evening and the City shut off the dewatering pump. Fortunately, the pumped down trap did prevent a heavy sediment release during the storm but there is clearly a need for further controls. On Thursday we spoke at length with both DNREC and the owner to come up with a plan that will hopefully address the issue (flocculent tubes) which the owner has ordered and should have installed shortly. If it is determined that this is again not sufficient, we will regroup and discuss additional controls. Friday we are meeting the owner on-site to indicate placement of all additional controls.
- We attended a meeting with UD to discuss our repaving requirements for Academy Street around the Academy Street Dining and Resident Hall project.
- We coordinated a site visit with the owner of 132 E. Delaware Avenue to view the green roof they installed last summer to determine how well the installation is performing and to see if there are things we need to change in our requirements to ensure future installations are a success. This roof was installed just before things started to dry out last summer and then had to endure the worst winter since the 70's so we were very impressed when we saw that not only was the installation doing well but it appeared to be thriving. We have included a picture below for reference. The owner has done a great job and indicated that they would be happy to show the facility and share their experience with others thinking of doing a similar installation.



Figure 1: Green Roof at 132 E. Delaware Avenue

- Coordinated the cleanout of a stormwater conveyance channel just west of Rahway Drive along Barksdale Road that had been clogged, potentially impacting upstream properties. This will help to reduce incidents of flooding in and around the intersection of Rahway and Barksdale Roads. The pipe was found to be mostly blocked by sediment and debris prior to our efforts.
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Figure 2: Storm Water Drainage Maintenance at Barksdale and Rahway

Stormwater Weekly Report

- ☛ Pulled together general project and “Community Water Quality Improvement Grant” background information and timeline for the Deputy City Manager, as he was preparing to meet with a concerned resident in the Hunt at Louviers about Basin 3.
- ☛ Prepared for and participated in Community Day. As Co-Permittees on the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit, the University of Delaware and City of Newark work together on a joint stormwater educational booth. This year we raffled off a rain barrel and approximately 537 people made their way through our booth and received a stormwater education.

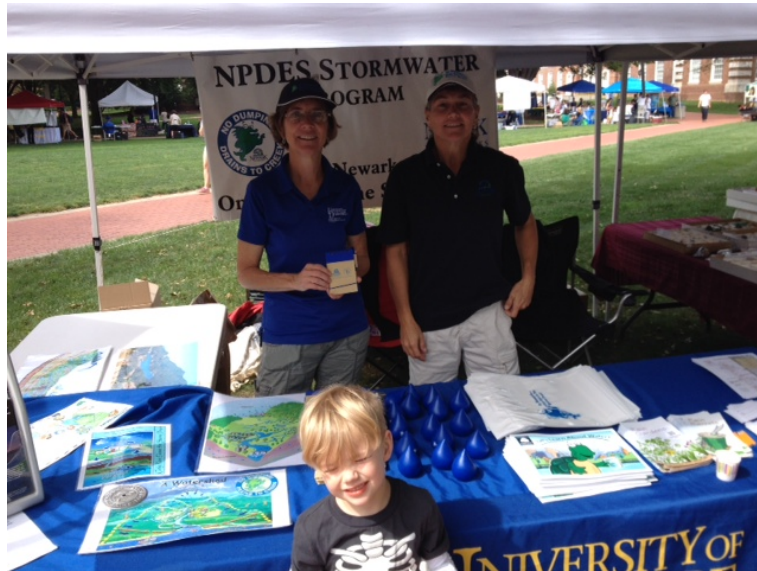


Figure 3: Community Day 2014

- ☛ Participated in a Chesapeake Stormwater Network webcast, “Creating or Enhancing Your Local Residential BMP Program”.
- ☛ Hosted a DE AWRA board meeting at City Hall.
- ☛ Met with Brandywine Nurseries onsite before a volunteer planting planned for the Hunt at Louviers. They did some spot pruning/weed whacking to better prepare the sites for volunteers to plant plugs. Volunteers were broken up into three groups. It was discovered that approximately 500 sq. ft. of the original plantings in Basin #3 had been mowed over, so it was replanted by the volunteers, and a temporary fence was installed to protect the new plants and prevent further mowing. The new plantings in Basin 3 should help provide more flowers so we are hopeful this will help prevent future mowing. Approximately 42 volunteers helped plant and weed the basins.



Figure 4: Hunt at Louviers Supplemental Planting

- ☂ Rechecked one IDDE site.
- ☂ Completed stream adoption tasks at Rittenhouse Park, including water quality and benthic macroinvertebrate monitoring. A macroinvertebrate is an organism large enough to be seen with the naked eye, but without a backbone. Finding pollution intolerant species in the creek can be an indicator of good water quality.

Refuse Division

- Several employees have attended the harassment training seminar.
- Normal refuse operations have been completed.

Water and Wastewater Division

- Several employees have attended the harassment training seminar.
- The Water Division continues to perform maintenance at the NWTP and the Reservoir including debris removal from the Raceway.
- Water crews watched two training videos on the subject of Water Main Flushing and Cleaning. The videos are produced by the American Water Works Association and were provided by the Delaware Rural Water Association, a valuable resource for utilities throughout the state.
- A hydrant that was determined to be defective during system flushing was replaced at 40 Minquill Drive.
- Temporary fence installation was completed surrounding the damaged portion of a stormwater basin at the Hunt at Louviers.
- Topsoil was placed and sewer cleanouts and water boxes were adjusted in Laura's Glenn.

Street Division

- Several employees have attended the harassment training seminar.
- In support of the Parks Department, a concrete pad has been formed and poured below the pavilion at Kells Park. The final pour was to be completed early this week.



Figure 5: Kells Park Pavilion

- A concrete pad and trash cans were installed at the Reservoir.
- Catch basin brick repairs have been completed on several basins throughout the Hunt at Louviers.
- Portions of a large hydraulic spill that occurred on Bradford Lane has been sealed to cover up the remaining portion of the stain.

Garage

- Several employees have attended the harassment training seminar.
- Shop responded to the DSWA transfer station in Townsend for a trash truck that could not close the dump door in the rear of truck. The technicians called back to the shop to bring down an Electric Department Digger Derick truck to hold the back door open so they could remove the hydraulic cylinders that had failed. The truck was then driven to the shop while another tech picked up cylinders from Gran Turk in PA. The Garage, from the first call for service had the truck up and running in 6 hours.



Figure 6: Trash Truck 409 Repair

Electric

1. A padmount transformer was replaced on Timber Creek Lane.
2. Crews installed underground cables at the Preserve in the single family home section.
3. High voltage aerial conductors were upgraded in the rear of homes on Delaware Circle and insulators were replaced for an upcoming voltage conversion.
4. Electricians inspected all streetlight poles for missing handhole covers. Many were replaced and additional covers are on order and are being custom made.
5. Electricians have begun installing a new electric service for the community garden shed in Fairfield Park.
6. Engineering completed substation transformer contingency calculations using 2014 maximum summer loads and proposed project loads.
7. Engineering calculated fault levels for an arc flash study at the Warehouse Complex.

Parks & Recreation

Administration & Planning

Curtis Mill Park Update:

- The work on Paper Mill Road and Old Paper Mill Roads was completed.
- Signal arms still need to be installed.
- Parking blocks were installed.

LeRoy Hill Park Baseball Field Drainage Project Update:

- Excavation operations were completed.
- Drain pipes were installed with stone back-fill.
- Started hauling in top soil.

We committed time reviewing and commenting on subdivision plans.

Tom, Park Superintendent, completed inspecting all horticulture sites this week and prepared related maintenance work orders.

Parks, Public Works and Finance personnel met with a representative of Davey Tree Service to discuss the issue of the approach of the Emerald Ash Bore for the purpose of creating a plan to address the impact on the City's Ash tree population.

Tom inspected four park and open space areas and developed work orders as needed.

Tom met with volunteer coordinator from a local real estate agency to organize their staff to assist with two park projects next week. Eight volunteers will help apply mulch around trees at Folk Park and eight will walk the Christina Creek trail pruning plant growth encroaching onto the trail.

Rich, Park Supervisor, began organizing for a project to paint park parking lot space line at various park sites.

Rich is making arrangements to complete a project to place rock on a slope that sashed out on the north end of the Pomeroy Trail.

Tom completed landscape inspections at two subdivision sites for the purpose is issuing CO's.

Parks Maintenance

The crew committed time at Fairfield Park clearing the site we've selected for the Community Garden program.

We placed and pinned parking blocks at the Curtis Mill Park site.

The crew is preparing soccer fields for league play.

We finished painting lines on a select few multi-purpose and basketball courts.

We are nearly finished replenishing wood carpet (safety surface) under dozens of children's play units.

Mowing operations are ongoing and the crew pruned trees along downtown Main Street.

The crew committed time on Friday and Monday loading and unloading equipment and supplies for last Sunday's Community Day event.

Recreation Services

Paula coordinated the Soccer Shots program at the West Park and Downes Schools After Care program. The program included a free one-week demonstration and have now started a 6-week instructional program at both locations. There are 13 children enrolled at West Park and 11 at Downes.

Paula attended a Wellness Committee meeting at Downes Elementary School. She and Tyler are part of that committee representing Newark Parks and Recreation.

Paula distributed rosters to instructors for upcoming classes and sent an email blast to previous participants for youth basketball reminding them about the program and registration.

Tyler attended the GIS Committee meeting to see how it will integrate with our needs.

Joe, Tyler, Andee and Liz attended the VOIP phone meeting.

Tyler met with the dance instructor in preparation for the start of our fall dance classes.

Tyler held several interviews and made hiring decisions in preparation for upcoming programs including the CATCH Afterschool Home Work Club at Downes and Youth Swim lessons.

Tyler sent out promotional emails about the upcoming Fall Flea Market at the George Wilson Center scheduled for October 4.

Sharon prepared for and held Newark Community Day. She met with staff, sent vendor reminders, created a digital version of the vendor map, added additional vendors, and attended to last minute details. There were 229 vendors registered for the event and approximately 12,000 people in attendance. Numerous volunteers helped with the event set up, children's games, and vendor break down. Thank you to all Parks and Recreation, Public Works, Electric, and Police personnel for all of their hard work preparing for and implementing the event.

On Facebook this week, we gained 2 new page 'Likes'.

Finance - Lou Vitola, Director

I attended an informative, current employee harassment training session hosted by the City Manager's Office. All employees were required to attend.

I attended DEMEC's annual board meeting, at which Sue Kelly, President of the American Public Power Association (APPA), served as keynote speaker and advised attendees on current regulatory, economic and operating challenges facing public power today. Fitch Ratings also presented and noted DEMEC's recent ratings improvement. My term as Secretary/Assistant Treasurer has expired. The board affirmed my nomination to the post of Treasurer/Assistant Secretary.

Customer Service

Staff continues to work hard on keeping pace with tax payment processing as we approach the payment deadline of September 30, 2014.



All 900 panels at McKees Park have been erected. Work to install the inverters and tie in the panels is underway, and the Park is expected to be producing solar power within three weeks, weather permitting. Advertising efforts continue on-line, the Newark Post featured the Park in a recent story, DEMEC featured McKees Park at its annual board meeting, and a notification was added to utility bills last week. Through DEMEC, the City was nominated for the Solar Electric Power Association (SEPA) Utility of the Year awards program as a result of our innovative way to include public participation in our funding process and provide rebates for solar investments. Through September 24, 2014, we have raised a total of \$2,895 in funding for the park, \$800 of which consists of sixteen \$50 investments and \$2,095 of which represents outright donations and panel donations. Please see the new site www.greennewarkde.us which highlights Newark's green efforts over the years, in addition to profiling McKees Park. From there, customers can:

- Link directly to the McKees Park Crowd Funding Site to either donate or invest in McKees Solar Park electric output online, (<http://www.gofundme.com/mckeessolarparkfund>)
- Link to a fillable form which can be submitted electronically to the Customer Service Department, which will add a donation or an investment to an existing electric customer's bill,
- Link to a paper form which can be printed and filled out manually and taken to the Customer Service Department, which can process the donation or investment in person. Printed forms are also available in the department.

Accounting

Internal budget hearings are complete. The Finance Department will continue efforts to compile the CIP and Operating budgets in advance of the upcoming financial workshop (scheduled for Monday, October 6, 2014) and public budget hearing (scheduled for Monday, November 17, 2014).

The Deputy City Manager, IT Manager, other supervisors and I accepted a demonstration from a third-party payment processing company that presented a viable alternative to card processing that would significantly reduce the effort and cost to independently achieve PCI compliance. Progress meetings with the IT group will continue in an effort to address new PCI standards.

Alderman's Court

This past week we held three court sessions. We processed a total of 50 arraignments, 57 trials, 15 capias returns, 4 case reviews and 2 pleas. We videoed 4 prisoners and transported 5 on Thursday from the various prisons for other events.

Police

NPD has just launched a crime tip app for download for both Android and iOS platforms. The free app allows citizens to send crime tips anonymously to NPD. Pictures can also be sent through the app. As fighting crime is a community effort, tips from the public are an invaluable asset to any law enforcement agency. Just today, NPD announced the arrest of an arson suspect. A tip from the public in that case helped investigators immensely in identifying the suspect. The app can be downloaded by searching Android or iPhone apps for "NPDTips." Users of the app are reminded that the app is not a substitute for calling 9-1-1 or the non-emergency number to report a crime or emergency. Tips can also be reported to NPD by texting 302NPD and your message to TIP411. Information can also be provided anonymously to Crime Stoppers at 1-800-TIP-3333 or via the internet at www.tipsubmit.com where a reward may be available.

On Friday, September 19th, Sergeant Scott Rieger graduated from the FBI Academy in Quantico, Virginia. He successfully completed a 10-week course of instruction and is currently enjoying a well-deserved vacation. He will be returning to duty in the Street Crimes Unit the week of September 29th.



NPD is investigating a recent spate of robberies that occurred this past week. NPD is stepping up patrols in the affected areas and will be hosting a community safety meeting in the near future to discuss any concerns.

Elkton, MD Police arrested Kyle Price, a suspect in the September 18th strong-arm robbery. He is currently incarcerated in Cecil County and is awaiting extradition to Delaware.

The Newark Police Department is investigating two attempted arsons which occurred in the early morning hours of September 20th in the 100 block of Victoria Court in the City of Newark.

At approximately 12:17 a.m. NPD officers, along with Aetna Fire Department, responded to a report of a fire at an apartment in the 100 block of Victoria Court. When officers and the fire department arrived they learned that the fire had been extinguished by the residents of the apartment. Through an investigation it was determined that an unknown suspect entered the home through an unsecured rear door while two 21-year-old residents were in their bedrooms. The unknown suspect placed loose pieces of mail on the stove and then lit the burners before fleeing the home. The two residents were alerted to the fire by the smoke alarm. They then used a fire extinguisher to put out the fire which was contained to the stove top.

At approximately 12:28 a.m. while officers were still on scene investigating the first fire, they were approached by a resident of a nearby apartment, also in the 100 block of Victoria Court. That resident reported that he came home to find his apartment filled with smoke. He discovered that an unknown suspect had placed a roll of paper towels on the stove and then lit the burners. The fire had burned itself out and was limited to the stove top. It is unknown if this residence was locked prior to entry by the unknown suspect. There were no signs of forced entry.

Update on Arsons: The Newark Police Department have identified and arrested John J. Grimes of Newark for two arson fires, which occurred in the early morning hours of September 20th, in the 100 block of Victoria Court in the City of Newark. Grimes was identified after he was captured on numerous surveillance video camera systems throughout the City of Newark. On September 25th, 2014 detectives located Grimes at his residence and placed him into custody. Grimes was arrested and arraigned through JP Court #11. He was committed to Howard R. Young Correctional in lieu of \$40,100 bail.

NPD are reminding residents to secure their homes and report any and all suspicious activity to the police immediately by dialing 9-1-1.

CSH/mp