

Below is the weekly report for the week ending today, April 26, 2024.

Items for Newsletters:

1. **Fishing with First Responders:** Fishing with First Responders will be held on Friday, May 3 from 6:00 – 8:00 at Hillside Park. Pre-registration is required, please visit WWW.NEWARK.GOV/PLAY
2. **Free Water for a Year initiative:** We have selected our 3rd winner in the free water survey drawing! There is 1 more chance to win \$1000 worth of free water for anyone who completes a survey before June 2024. Newark Water customers are encouraged to complete the online survey at this link: <https://newarkde.gov/lead> to enter a sweepstakes for free water for a year, up to \$1000 value! The data we collect will help complete a required inventory of service lines and reduce operating costs for the water utility.
3. **Spring Concert Series:** The Spring Concert Series will begin on Thursday, May 2-June 6 from 7:00-8:00p.m on the Academy Building Lawn, Main Street. The Spring Concert Schedule is Attached.
4. **City newsletter:** To sign up for the City's email newsletter, [click here](#).

Police

1. **Knights of Columbus officer recognition:** On Tuesday, April 23, 2024, The Knights of Columbus St. Michael Council #4548 recognized four Newark Police Officers as Officer of the Quarter recipients for 2023 at their awards dinner. The officers included Cpl. Andrew Pagnotti, Cpl. Dan Burgess, Officer Ryan Hultberg and Cpl. Andrew Vari. Each officer was recognized for their outstanding contributions to public safety and the community for each of the four quarters of 2023.
2. **Special Olympics:** On Wednesday, April 24, 2024, Chief Farrall, Sgt. Conover and Cpl. Rob Vernon attended a Special Olympics/Newark Charter School Bocce Ball tournament. The three officers engaged with the athletes and participated in medal presentations at the end of the event.
3. **Campus Protest:** Also on Wednesday, Newark PD officers provided operational assistance to the University of Delaware Police for an organized protest on campus. The demonstration was peaceful and lawful.
4. **Bring your Child to Work Day:** On Thursday, April 25, 2024, Newark PD Officers assisted with the Bring Your Child to Work Day at the George Wilson Center. Twenty-one children enjoyed interactive demonstrations and presentations from the K9 Unit, Evidence Detection Unit, Traffic Unit, Animal Control, Crisis Negotiations, and the Mobile Command Post. Aetna Hose, Hook & Ladder was also present with a fire truck display and demonstration and a DNREC K9 officer assisted with the K9 demonstration.

Public Works

1. **Administrative Professional Day;** PWWR is proud to recognize and thank our wonderful Administrative Professionals, Juli and Bella, who are the friendly and familiar voice on the other end of the phone for all of our resident's public works needs. Along with the other admins, they help keep the department and City running smooth and achieve our Commitment to Service Excellence.
2. **Fleet Maintenance Manager Job Posting:** Pursuant to our 2024 Operating Budget, PWWR is now recruiting for the Fleet Maintenance Manager position. This position will be responsible for the management of the Fleet Maintenance Division which includes four skilled mechanics and performs routine and non-routine maintenance on the 300+ vehicles and pieces of equipment in the City fleet, in addition to assisting other divisions and departments.
3. **Water Tank Painting:** After several weeks of preparation work and background air monitoring, our contractor will begin the removal of the lead-based paint on the outside of the Arbour Park Water Tank, located near Dove Drive in Arbour Park. Residents have received notices informing them of the upcoming work to remove the lead-based paint from the tank and recoat it with a lead-free coating. Follow-up notifications include our scope of work along with contact information for the department for any questions or concerns. We expect the containment and removal to begin on or about April 30 and last approximately 2 weeks, assuming good weather.

Parks and Recreation

1. **Arbour Day:** Activities at Lumbrook Park in recognition of Arbor Day went well with tree trimming, dead wooding and removal off some invasive trees including the tree of heaven that is the host of the invasive spotted lantern fly.
2. **Devon Park:** Construction work has begun again with grading and subsurface drainage system being installed over the next month.
3. **Memorial Day Ceremony:** Organization of the Newark Memorial Day Ceremony and Parade continues with the recruitment of Military veteran and active groups and organizations to participate in the Ceremony and Parade. The event will be held on Sunday, May 19 with the Ceremony scheduled for 1:00p.m. and the Parade stepping onto Main Street at 2:00p.m. For more information on the event or to participate, please visit WWW.NEWARK.GOV/PLAY

Purchasing & Facilities

1. **Cornice Repairs:** HK Griffith continues to make good progress on the cornice repair project and anticipates substantial completion by May 15th.

2. **Council Chamber Renovations:** BSS Contractors have completed electrical work and are beginning to install drywall and drop-down ceiling. No schedule changes.
3. **VFW Parking Lot:** The permit is almost complete for this project, and we are looking to begin in early May. The project should take less than a month to complete.
4. **NPD Security Gate:** The gate is finally operational. It will take some time to work out access details, but hopefully this gate will be in use sometime in May.
5. **Sustainability Plan Update:** Per the Newark Community Sustainability Plan, we are due for the five-year update this year. CAC Chair Helga Huntley and Jeff Martindale will coordinate an update to the plan with a consultant and receive pricing for the update.

Planning and Development

1. Land Use

- a. Planning Commission met on April 23 and heard two development applications.
 - i. 55 Benny Street was issued a positive recommendation for the Comprehensive Plan amendment, rezoning and minor subdivision by site plan approval.
 - ii. 50 and 54 Corbit Street was issued a positive recommendation for the Comprehensive Plan amendment and rezoning and a negative recommendation (2-3) for the minor subdivision by site plan approval.
- b. Planning staff met with members of the local development community for discussion around affordable housing and to get feedback on a potential inclusionary zoning ordinance on April 25.
- c. Staff received a [sketch plan](#) submittal for 87 South Chapel Street on April 22. This rezoning and major subdivision by site plan approval is for a seven story building with parking on the first two floors and 146 apartments on the third through seventh floors.
- d. Staff issued Subdivision Advisory Committee comment letters for the following projects:
 - i. Comprehensive Development Plan Amendment, Rezoning, Minor Subdivision and Special Use Permit for [515 Capitol Trail](#) on April 22.
 - ii. Administrative subdivision for [174 East Main Street](#) on April 22.
- e. Staff has finalized the May 7 Planning Commission agenda. The Comprehensive Development Plan amendment, rezoning and major subdivision for 30 South Chapel Street and the draft language for Chapter 32, Zoning, amendments related to marijuana-related zoning regulations are on the agenda.

2. Code Enforcement

- a. Property Maintenance and Fire Protection staff began the newly mandatory exterior and common areas inspections for multifamily properties that had previously been exempt. Violations found are being issued notices for correction. Additionally, the posting of door hangers for interior units has provided opportunities for tenant interaction and education resulting in tenants permitting inspections on the spot as well as calling to schedule inspections.
- b. Property Maintenance assisted Newark PD, UDPD, Student Conflict Resolution, and Greek Life in a meeting with the tenants of 163 West Main Street.

- c. Code Enforcement Officers responded to a report of a driveway under construction without a permit. Upon arrival it was founded as well as the contractor not having a valid City of Newark contractor's license. Both the property and the contractor have been cited.

3. Parking

- a. Final 2022 vs. 2023 parking revenue analysis was submitted to Finance and the City Manager for inclusion in the December 2023 financials to be presented on a future Council agenda.
- b. Parking staff worked with Parks and Recreation regarding replacement signs for Parks that have recently been defaced regarding parking lot rules and regulations.
- c. Parking and Alderman's Court staff have been working to improve the current rate of compliance with payment plans for parking fines. Parking is working on a solution to digitize payment plans in the existing ticketing system; however, it may require an additional module for the software. Alderman's Court staff have been working to encourage higher up front payments and shorter payment timelines to help with the rate of non-compliance.

Finance and IT

- 1. **Video Management:** Our new Video Management System (VMS) will be going live on May 1st. This is switching from Ocularis to Genetec.
- 2. **Utility Support:** The Newark Area Welfare Committee (NAWC) donated \$20,000 to us to help pay down the balances of 48 customers who were at risk of disconnect. Criteria was that these customers did not receive assistance from the NAWC within the last year.
- 3. **American Rescue Plan Act:** ARPA reporting to the US Treasury was filed on April 26. Report was reflective of activity up to March 31, 2024.
- 4. **Rate Study:** Met with UFS this week to review the rate study for electric and impact fee recommendation for water and sewer. Final reports should be in our hands within the next week or so.
- 5. **AutoPay:** Payments and Utility Billing Group will be sending out an email to entice our customers to sign up for AutoPay. Letter has been completed and should go out the middle of next week. Goal is to cut down on the number of customers paying by credit/debit card, move to eCheck, and to have their bills paid automatically (auto pay) so we can cut down on the amount of paper bills (postage savings).

CITY OF NEWARK

SPRING CONCERT SERIES

MAY 2 - JUNE 6

THURSDAYS • 7 - 8 P.M. • ACADEMY BUILDING LAWN

MAY 2

THE BRANDYWINE RIDERS

COUNTRY, ROCK & JAZZ

MAY 9

AMI YARES

ROOTS, FOLK & FOOT-STOPPERS

MAY 16

SHELLEY KELLEY BAND

FOLK & VARIETY

MAY 23

BIG IZZY AND FRIENDS

SINGER/SONGWRITER ROCK BLUES & POP

MAY 30

DUSTIN MANUCCI TRIO

ROCK

JUNE 6

ABE OVADIA

MODERN JAZZ

This program is made possible by the Delaware Division of the Arts, a state agency dedicated to nurturing and supporting the arts in Delaware, in partnership with the National Endowment for the arts



Delaware
Division of the





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CITY OF NEWARK

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POSTED: April 26, 2024

FLEET MAINTENANCE MANAGER

The City of Newark is seeking a talented, technical leader for its Fleet Maintenance Division. This position is responsible for oversight and management of the Fleet Maintenance Division of the Public Works & Water Resources (PW&WR) Department, which is responsible for the City of Newark's fleet of nearly 300 vehicles and pieces of equipment. The Fleet Maintenance Manager provides supervision and support of the Fleet Maintenance Mechanics to troubleshoot, maintain, and repair a wide variety of vehicles and equipment during both normal working hours and after-hour emergencies. This position also works with department directors and staff to develop bid documents and specifications for replacement vehicles and equipment. Starting salary is commensurate with experience. Salary range of \$67,002 to \$100,776 plus excellent fringe benefits.

Interested individuals can review a full job description online and must complete an application at www.newarkde.gov/jobs by **4:00 p.m. Friday, May 24, 2024**. EOE.