

DEPARTMENTAL WEEKLY REPORTS

December 10, 2010

Electric

The contractor has completed the underground cable bores along Radcliffe Drive. Approximately 5,500 feet of underground primary was pulled, with four sectionalizing boxes and one new pole installed. The line crews have started terminating the cables. This project along with the underground cabling completed last summer along Lafayette Road will bring much more reliability to the customers in Nottingham Green and Nottingham Manor.

In a concerted effort, engineering, line crews, and electricians worked on troubleshooting issues with a circuit which feeds industrial customers on Bellevue Road. After removing a feeder breaker, dismantling substation switchgear, and extensive testing of the current transformers and a relay, it was discovered that the relay operated correctly, but because of the nature of a fault that required this attention, the readings on the relay were misleading.

Engineering attended a DEMEC sponsored seminar about load shedding during peak times. Voltage reduction and demand curtailment from customer participation was explored. Global participation from DEMEC members should enhance economies of scale and the buying power of load reduction devices.

Police

A 15-year old suspect has been identified as the graffiti vandal using the tag "EDGE". The tag is painted at many locations of the east and south side of Newark as well as in county and state police jurisdiction. The juvenile has been charged and another graffiti suspect should be arrested in the near future.

On Monday, December 6th, at 9:25 a.m., officers responded to a report of suspicious persons on North Fawn Road. A resident observed two males in the rear of a house touching the window ledge of a neighbor's house. The resident called out to the suspects who stated they were looking for someone. The resident called the police with a description of the suspects. Corporal Marsillii searched the area and found the two suspects in the area of Patrick Henry Court. The suspects confessed to attempting to break into the house. They also confessed to another burglary in the area. This is a good example of how important it is for residents to call the police and report any suspicious activity no matter how minor it may seem.

On Tuesday, December 7th, unknown suspect(s) broke a basement window and entered a house on the 200 block of Cullen Way. The suspects stole thousands of dollars worth of jewelry. It appears that the incident occurred between 11:30 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. This is the second burglary to occur at the Hunt at Louviers in the past two weeks. In both

incidents, entry was made through a basement window. Neighbors that were home at the time of the incident reported that they did not see or hear any suspicious activity.

On Tuesday, December 7th, a search warrant was executed at a local business regarding counterfeit National League Football clothing being sold. Over 300 counterfeit jerseys were recovered from the business. An additional 69 counterfeit jerseys were recovered at the suspect's residence. The suspect purchased the jerseys from China for \$20 each and then sold them for \$25 to \$65. The suspect cooperated with the investigation and the facts were reviewed by the Attorney General's Office. The trademark infringement will be handled civilly.

Planning & Development

Planning

The Planning and Development Department has received and is completing a report regarding a request for a special use permit for the sale of alcoholic beverages for consumption at the premises at the 896 Diner at 1108 S. College Avenue.

Economic Development

On Wednesday, Assistant Planning and Development Director Maureen Feeney Roser hosted our Downtown Holiday Storefront Decorating Contest judging. Sixty-two (62) businesses participated with the top three selected as follows: Caffé Gelato, Flavor, and Clothes in the Past Lane. The awards were presented at Friday evening's Winterfest festivities.

On Thursday morning, Maureen met with the Main Street Mile Committee to review income/expenses; future race format; and related issues.

On Friday morning, Maureen met with representatives of the University's Office of Communications and Jerry DuPhily and Julia Miro Wenger of Event Allies to discuss a cooperative monthly presence at the new I-95 Welcome Center.

Community Development

On Tuesday, Planner Mike Fortner provided staff assistance to the DNP's Design Committee. The Committee set objectives for its 2011 Work Plan.

Parking

This morning, Parking Administrator Marvin Howard staffed the Parking Committee meeting.

Code Enforcement

The University of Delaware's ICEB facility building permit was picked up this week.

Public Works

Engineering/Planning and Inspection

- Contract 10-03 – 2010 Street & Parking Lot Improvement Program: Fontana Concrete Contractors, Inc. adjusted (1) storm sewer manhole on White Chapel Drive and replaced 35.5 s.f. of 6" p.c.c. driveway apron at Elan Park using 2.0 c.y. of DeIDOT Class C concrete.
- Proposed 2011 Handicapped Ramp Contract: Began examining existing conditions at ramp locations and compiling quantities of curb, sidewalk, etc., to install new ADA compliant ramps.
- Weekly Erosion and Sediment Control Inspections: Performed weekly site inspections at Laura's Glenn, The Mayer Subdivision, 2 Old Casho Mill Road, 108 E. Main Street, Twin Lakes, and U of D ECUP Building. Contacted site contractor and owner representative for Twin Lakes of problems with the site and met with the superintendent for the U of D ECUP project regarding questions for erosion problems from recent rain event.

Survey Crew

- Completed comparison of relocated monuments at the reservoir to previous year's results.
- Completed comparison of relocated reservoir spillway drill holes with previous year's locations.
- Made changes and corrections to map of handicapped ramp locations to be repaired or replaced next year.
- Began traffic counts in Fairfield per Public Works Director's request – Current locations are N. Country Club Drive (between Windsor Drive and Wilshire Lane) and Cambridge Drive (between Fairfield Drive and Stamford Drive).

Field Operations/Streets

- Street crews continued with the Fall Leaf Collection.
- Backhoe and operator assisted Water Department with the main break on South College Avenue.

Parks & Recreation

Administration – Charlie Emerson

I participated in a conference call last Friday with representatives of Pennoni to discuss lighting matters relating to the Pomeroy Trail.

I committed a good amount of time working with the developers for the Ivy Hall Apartment addition and Marrows Court on items relating to required landscaping and the surety bond (warranty) requirements.

On Monday I submitted a Pre-Application to the Delaware Land and Water Conservation Trust Fund (DTF) grant administrator for funding support for the Redd Park trail improvements project. We're in the second year of the four (4) phase trail relocation and improvements project. We have partnered with the Delaware Trail Spinners and the Delaware State Parks Trail Crew to evaluate the existing trail system, relocate and realign certain routes and construct more sustainable trails which includes several footbridges that cross over Jenney's Run and some of its feeder tributaries. Two of the four phases of the project are complete. During phases one and two more than 1,300 volunteer hours were committed to the project.

I'm preparing a project status report and request for reimbursement for a DTF funded parks project. We received matching grant funding (50% match) to replace four (4) old spiral slide units at these park sites: Devon, Handloff, Stafford and Kells. Installation was completed this fall.

Recreation – Joe Spadafino

Paula gathered supplies and attended the Heritage Month celebration at the After Care program at Downes School. The kids were divided into four countries (South Africa, China, Germany and Guatemala) and competed in various activities and a world cup soccer game during the celebration.

Paula conducted a meeting with the referees for the youth basketball league and West Park and visited Downes Elementary Schools to show them the gymnasiums used for the leagues. She also took game supplies to the schools for the start of league play on Monday.

Paula started working on the winter/spring activity data entry sheets and started compiling information for the fall 2010 program statistics.

Paula sent out reminders to the winter volleyball teams about rules changes and enforcement of rules for the leagues.

Tyler prepared materials (maps, itineraries, rosters) and led the bus trip to New York City on Saturday, December 4.

Sharon prepared for and held three holiday events this week. She met with staff, purchased supplies and prepared materials for Winterfest, Snack With Santa and Santa's Secret Shoppe.

Winterfest was well attended with approximately 400 people present for Santa's arrival and the holiday tree lighting. Additional people attended the event following the Delaware Special Olympics Reindeer Run.

Snack With Santa had 128 attendees this year. Children participated in crafts and activities and, of course, had a chance to visit with Santa.

Santa's Secret Shoppe had four vendors and the children had a great time shopping for their loved ones.

Joe talked with Ocean City, Maryland about their skate park and arranged a site visit and meeting with their Assistant Director and Skate Park Manager. He also continued communications with Pillar Design about creating sample Skate Spot designs and cost estimates.

Parks & Horticulture – Tom Zaleski

Parks staff placed holiday lights and decorations on the tree at Academy Building lawn.

Parks staff loaded/set up/took down all materials and supplies for last Friday's Winterfest event.

We converted one of the Kubota tractors from mowing to snow removal ready.

Horticulture staff continues to work on landscaped area fall clean up and perennial cutbacks.

KRS/mp