

DEPARTMENTAL WEEKLY REPORTS

July 15, 2011

Electric

On a hot afternoon last week, the aerial electric service cables to Klondike Kate's burned down and fell across the deck. A line crew had just arrived to remove insulating coverings from the wires installed for safety at a contractor's request. As they saw the lines burning, they evacuated diners from the deck and soon afterwards the wires came down. Engineering concluded because of the high temperature, high air conditioning loads, and the line covering which was installed weeks before, the insulation on the wires melted and started an arcing fault, burning the conductors.

The line crews were also called out Saturday afternoon because of a power outage. After checking the fault indicators on the line, the underground riser at the substation was isolated and found to be damaged. Squirrels had nested inside the pipe feeding out of the substation and chewed through the high voltage insulation.

The contractor building a backup circuit for UD's Lovett Avenue Science Center is working on aerial construction at Center Street. The contractor is also preparing to bore pipes underground along Kershaw Street, under Cleveland Avenue, under the railroad tracks and around the University's fields until meeting up with the aerial lines at Center and New Streets.

The line crews have been busy installing the underground distribution system for The Village of Twin Lakes, working on the upgrade behind the Newark Shopping Center, spraying vegetation climbing up poles, and rearranging loads to better balance the system. The line crews also had to install temporary guying holding poles along Amstel Avenue and Orchard Road for the installation of a UD steam line.

Engineering is reviewing approval drawings for a new 20MVA substation transformer to be installed by the end of the year. All the relay, breakers, and control specifications and wiring must be meticulously reviewed or issues at installation or later will appear that can easily be corrected before shipment.

Water & Wastewater

We recently met with the stakeholders group to discuss options to withdraw water from the White Clay Creek. The meeting was productive. The goal of this effort is to develop a plan that we can implement in an orderly fashion versus scrambling to make repairs should the dam or raceway fail due to age or storm damage.

Water levels in the creek have remained high enough that we are able to operate from the creek. The reservoir is full.

Work on the sewer crossing is moving along well. The contractor has moved to the north side of the creek where they will install the access roads and then finish the pipe crossings in the creek. After that they will begin work to set the vaults and lay the new pipe. I am not aware of any conflicts with the swimming pool nor have we been advised of any events at the pool to plan around.

The New Castle County Dive team is conducted training at the reservoir this week. They will have two more sessions on weekends in the coming weeks.

The contractor cleaning and televising our sewer lines in the Christina Creek basin is back on site. This effort is part of our sewer study to evaluate the condition of the pipe and determine what can be done to reduce or eliminate the need to have the high water warning lights located in manholes along the main line pipe run. When they have finished in this area we will evaluate where to send them next based on what we find.

Police

On Wednesday, July 6, 2011, Cpl. Conover responded to Rockmass Avenue for a report of a residential burglary. Cpl. Conover learned that while the victim was at work his garage was broken into. An all terrain vehicle, several tools and power equipment were stolen. The value of the stolen property is valued at approximately \$2,000.00. Evidence was collected at the scene by Cpl. Schwagel. There are currently no suspects in this case. The case has been turned over to detectives for additional investigation.

On Thursday, July 7, 2011, Officer Wolfrom responded to Tyre Avenue for a report of a theft. Officer Wolfrom contacted the owner of a residence who reported that the exterior air conditioner condenser unit had been stolen. The theft occurred sometime between June 23, 2011 and July 7, 2011. The condenser is valued at \$1,250.00. The same residence was also a victim of a theft of copper piping earlier in the year. There are currently no suspects. The case has been turned over to detectives for additional investigation.

On Thursday, July 7, 2011, Officer Smith responded to North Street for a report of a residential burglary. The victim had left the residence at approximately 10:00 p.m. and returned just after midnight to discover the burglary. The victim reported leaving the residence and it was believed to be all locked up. Upon returning to the house, the victim immediately noticed that a lap top computer was missing from the living room. As the victim continued to search the residence, it was determined that a television, jewelry and other items were missing. It is unknown how the suspect entered the residence. There are currently no suspects. This case has been turned over to detectives for additional investigation.

On Sunday, July 10, 2011, Officer Andres responded to Center Street for a report of an occupied residential burglary. The victim reported that while a sleep in an upstairs bedroom, the victim heard a sound as if someone was walking around the first floor. When the victim went to investigate the sound, it was immediately observed that the side door to the residence was ajar. The victim then noticed that two lap top computers and

an iPod were missing. The victim stated that the doors to the residence were not locked. No suspects were located.

Planning & Development

Planning

We have added to the Planning and Development Department's portion of the City website a history of planning in the City of Newark and, in addition, based on the U.S. Census information, updated Newark facts and figures.

Work has begun preparing materials for the upcoming August 2, 2011 Planning Commission meeting. Agenda items tentatively scheduled for review include the following:

- A. The proposed redevelopment of the Trader's Alley site calling for 14 upper floor apartments above a second story parking facility;
- B. Amendments to the Zoning Code regarding restaurant bars.

Economic Development

Assistant Planning and Development Director Maureen Feeney Roser continues to work on the upcoming Food & Brew Fest scheduled for Saturday, July 23rd, as well as downtown August promotions.

Maureen is also spending time preparing for Thursday night's DNP Board meeting.

On Wednesday afternoon, Maureen attended a Newark Nite review meeting.

Community Development

On Saturday, July 9th, the Design Committee volunteered their time on constructing the pergola in the alleyway between Homegrown Café and Mizu Sushi Restaurant (126-132 E. Main Street). Construction was completed.

Parking

On Monday, Maureen attended a pre-construction meeting for the City street contract related to the repaving of Lot #5.

On Wednesday morning, Maureen hosted the DNP Parking Committee meeting.

Code Enforcement

Certificates of Occupancy were issued for nine townhouse apartments at Rittenhouse Station this week.

Public Works

Engineering/Planning and Inspection

- S.W.M. Maintenance Follow-up: Inspected 12 facilities that were in need of maintenance. Maintenance at four facilities was completed, work has been initiated at four facilities, and four facilities remain untouched.
- Contract 11-06 – 2011 Street Improvement Program: Spent time conducting a survey of existing signs on streets to be worked on this year.
- Drainage Complaints:
 1. 333 Chickory Way: Met with owner to discuss drainage concerns in swale leading to his property.
 2. 110 Trout Stream Drive: Met with owner to discuss drainage concerns on her lot.
- Contract 10-03 – 2010 Street Improvement Program: Harmony Construction used 15.04 tons of recycled top hot mix to complete (3) hot mix patches on White Chapel Drive.
- Erosion & Sediment Control Inspections: Performed weekly site inspections at Porter Nissan Dealership Expansion, Laura's Glenn, and Sutton Place (2).
- Updated the stormwater quality slide show and sent to the Community Affairs Officer to post on the NPDES webpage.
- Met with Jen Pyle at the University of Delaware to coordinate our stormwater plan submittal to DNREC.
- Conducted 6 dry weather outfall inspections and associated paperwork.
- Trained Rittenhouse Day Camp counselors in the Enviroscope non-point source model.
- Performed quarterly wet visual monitoring tasks at the maintenance yard as per our industrial NPDES permit.
- Spent time discussing the Community Water Quality Improvement Grant with Greenstone Engineering.
- Assisted Jen Pyle in finding priority outfalls for visual monitoring in preparation for dye tests at the University of Delaware in July.
- Participated in an MS4 Permit Manager software demonstration webinar, hosted by CBI-Systems, LTD.
- Woods at Louviers: Marone Concrete completed the following punchlist items:
 1. Formed and poured 192 l.f. of curb replacement throughout the development.
 2. Formed and poured 122 s.f. of 4" p.c.c. sidewalk.
 3. Formed and poured 32 s.f. of 6" p.c.c. sidewalk.Contractor used 18 c.y. of Class B concrete.

Field Operations/Streets

- Sign truck repaired and replaced signs and poles as needed and applied thermoplastic for cross walk markings at the following locations: Delaware Avenue & Haines Street, Farmhouse Road & Delaware Avenue, Wilbur Street & Cleveland Avenue, and Rose Street & Cleveland Avenue.
- Catch basin crew excavated and installed new catch basin and 4' of storm sewer pipe at the intersection of Lovett Avenue and S. Chapel Street, and rebuilt catch basins at 1

Delanco Court, at the corner of Amoroso Way and Walker Way, 217 Walker Way, and across from 147 Haines Street.

- Catch basin crew repaired storm sewer line and catch basin in the yard at 818 Leeds Lane.
- Concrete crew excavated, formed, and poured 40 l.f. of 4' sidewalk at Shenandoah Drive at the City park, 13 l.f. of sidewalk at 13 Anna Way, and 8 l.f. of sidewalk at 15 Hawthorne Avenue.
- Hot mix crew excavated and applied 440 s.f. of hot mix on Academy Street in front of Allison Hall.
- Street crew removed tree and stump with assistance from tree contractor, uncovered blocked storm sewer, and installed approximately 4 tons of rip rap at the corner of Brook Drive and Park Drive at the storm sewer outlet in the stream.
- Street crew saw cut in front of 304 Walker Way and on Center Street by Happy Harry's parking lot for future curb and hot mix repairs.
- Street crew began installation of bike racks on Main Street at various locations.
- Loader operator turned leaf compost pile at 896 and Iron Glen Park.
- Street crew assisted Refuse Department with knuckleboom collection and 3-man packer.
- Street crew cut up and removed fallen tree from a blocked roadway on Aster Avenue.

Parks & Recreation

Administration – Charlie Emerson

I conducted park inspections and forwarded materials to Tom regarding items that need attention.

I attended a meeting with U of D representatives and City staff to discuss their plans for a Haines and Bennie Street connection.

I spent time working with Carol Houck and Pennoni finalizing the bid analysis for the Pomeroy Trail to be forwarded to DelDOT for their review.

We are finalizing project requests for the 38th Year Community Development Block Grant Program.

I committed time working on matters relating to Delaware Land and Water Conservation Trust Fund Grants we've received this year.

Recreation – Joe Spadafino

Paula sent out "first day" letters for the golf camp and soccer camps starting next week along with the third session of Rittenhouse Camp the following week.

Paula met with the Downes School Before and After School Care administrator to go over items for the upcoming school year and complete her evaluation. She also started conducting interviews for open counselors positions with the Before and After Care

program. Paula is working on continuing to stimulate interest for the new program at West Park Elementary School.

The outdoor pools were busy with the hot weather.

Camps held at GWC this week included Before and After Camp Care and Camp GWC.

Sharon and Debbie have been working on items associated with Safety Town. They have been setting up guest speakers, interviewing and assigning volunteers, and researching topics for the program. Safety Town is scheduled for the first two weeks in August.

Sharon and Debbie have been wrapping up items associated with the 4th of July Fireworks and Liberty Day Celebration.

The July Newark@Play, our monthly recreation publication, was delivered to our email list of over 4,000.

Summer camps and programs are doing well. The weather has brought on some challenges with rain and heat becoming an obstacle on some days.

Parks and Horticulture – Tom Zaleski

Horticulture staff completed the following:

- Mowing of horticulture sites
- Watering of new plant material throughout park system and nursery stock
- Committed time working in landscaped beds

Parks staff completed the following:

- Mowed park areas and performed first line maintenance on equipment
- Completed various routine park maintenance work orders
- Completed monthly check of fire extinguishers in all buildings
- Installed new sliding board on a play unit at Dickey - the slide was vandalized
- Started organizing to repair the west end of old warehouse building at City Yard
- Completed cutting back plant growth in a swale along Barksdale Road
- Storage of materials and equipment and clean up from Liberty Day event
- Continued working with a volunteer group to place wood carpet (safety surface) under play equipment throughout the park system
- Delivered stone dust to Wyncliff for an Eagle Scout project to improving trail access from Wyncliff into Redd Park

Parks Superintendent and Supervisor completed the following:

- Completed park inspections
- Continued working on gathering bids to clean tennis court surfaces at four court sites

- Continued gathering quotes on crack sealing on multipurpose court
- Started working on items relating to the Reforestation Grant requirements
- Met our contractor concerning tree issues at several park sites
- Inspected mowing at certain basin areas and Reservoir
- Advised Water Department on fencing for the Reservoir site

KRS/mp