

DEPARTMENTAL WEEKLY REPORTS

October 7, 2011

Electric

The line crews are building the structures needed to connect the substation transformer moved last week. Some of the structures had to be taken down to make room for the crane and the equipment, and some hardware needed replacement. The line crews installed a temporary service to the site on Elkton Road where the diner previously existed and also energized the University's new service to the computer center on Chapel Street.

The directional bore contractor has finished installing underground cable in three developments for system reinforcement. After completing Westfield Court and Donna Drive projects, the contractor finished installing cable in Haslett Park this week. The line crews finished installing the new cables up the riser poles and terminating the cables at Westfield Court and Donna Drive and will finish the Haslett Park cables shortly.

The bi-annual infrared scan of the overhead lines has started this week. So far only a few hot spots have been found, with none needing immediate attention. An electrician escorts a contractor along the routes and into substations for the scans, so that the line crews can preemptively address potential problems.

Friday, September 30, days before a circuit was to be infrared scanned, a connector overheated and a wire burned down causing a 40 minute early morning outage to customers along Bellevue Road. The outage also uncovered a defective relay which is being sent back for repairs or replacement under warranty. All circuits have backup relays and other redundancies to protect equipment for this reason.

The contractor building a second circuit for UofD's Lovett Avenue Science Center is nearing completion. Installing overhead wires along Main Street and pulling, terminating, and testing 1000' of underground cable from Kershaw Substation to Center Street is about all that is left. Barring any unforeseen problems, the October 21st deadline is easily within reach.

Water & Wastewater

The contractor working on the sanitary sewer crossing of the Christina Creek has placed the bases of all four vaults and is in the process of installing the wooden forms to place the concrete flow channels in the vaults. Work is moving along well.

The contractor at the Bellevue Lift Station is restoring the site. The new pumps are in service. Everything is working well.

Tom and I worked with the County over the weekend addressing a sewer problem at the boundary between our two systems along the White Clay Creek. Lingering damage from

the hurricane and tropical storm caused a blockage that became completely closed over the weekend. We were able to make the final repairs this week.

We have been focusing our Construction Inspection efforts on pavement restoration. We have accumulated quite a few locations that need to be repaired.

The maintenance crew worked this week with the Treatment Plant Operators to clean the clarifiers at the Newark Treatment Plant.

I am working with the State, our Dam Safety Engineer, and the Police Department to conduct a table top exercise to exercise our Emergency Operation Plan for the reservoir. This year we are going to be focusing on the communications between various agencies involved with response to an emergency. In the next exercise we will look at the various interactions involved with finer details of the plan.

Police

The Delaware State Police recently arrested a suspect for a commercial robbery in their jurisdiction. Information from that arrest lead to Newark Police Department detectives charging the suspect with a robbery that occurred on August 18, 2011 at Walgreens. Delaware State Police also supplied information to Newark Police Department that led to the arrest of a suspect for the robbery that occurred on August 27, 2011 at the 7-11 convenience store. Both suspects are currently being held at Gander Hill.

Corporal Micolucci continues to work on numerous graffiti investigations and expects to make several arrests within the next few days.

Newark detectives, with assistance from Delaware Crime Stoppers, and multiple tipsters have arrested two suspects responsible for the theft of over \$8,000 in scrap metal and power tools from a Newark business.

Corporal Darryl Saunders, Corporal Marty LaRue, Corporal Jim Marconi, Corporal Craig Maurer and PFC Adam Stevens were recently recognized as Officers of the Quarter by the Knights of Columbus for their actions on May 12, 2011 following a home invasion armed robbery that resulted in the arrest of four suspects. Cpl. Saunders was nominated for his contributions to the overall safety and security at Newark High School.

The new police recruits have completed their first two weeks of field training and are progressing on schedule.

Planning & Development

Planning

At its meeting Tuesday evening, the Planning Commission tabled consideration of the redevelopment of the properties at 132 E. Delaware Avenue.

Work has begun preparing materials for the upcoming November 1, 2011 Planning Commission meeting. The minor subdivision of properties at E. Cleveland Avenue to add two additional rental units is the item tentatively scheduled for review at the November meeting.

Economic Development

On Saturday the Main Street Mile was held; we had a record number of participants – 340!

On Wednesday morning, Assistant Planning and Development Director Maureen Feeney Roser attended the DNP Merchants' Committee meeting.

Community Development

This evening Planner Mike Fortner will staff the CDBG/Revenue Sharing Advisory Committee meeting. Final review of the 38th Year CDBG Program and 2012 Revenue Sharing Program will be held.

Parking

The Parking Division is working with a DelDOT representative regarding compliance with state and federal regulations for our new parking way finding signs.

This morning, Maureen and Parking Administrator Marvin Howard met with representatives from Desman Associates to provide requested information on the downtown parking system as part of our planning for a proposed parking garage at Lot #1.

Lang Development Group is replacing all decaying curbing around Parking Lot #4. The project should be completed in approximately a week.

Public Works

Engineering/Planning and Inspection

- Contract 11-06 – 2011 Street Improvement Program: Sam's Construction worked on Alexandria Drive, Devon Drive, and Cheltenham Road and completed the following:
 1. 5.0 c.y. of excavation of driveway apron patches.
 2. 1.62 ton of crusher run placement.
 3. 492.2 s.f. of 4" p.c.c. handicapped ramp sidewalk replacement.
 4. 56.0 s.f. of red detectable warning block installation.
 5. (4) single rolled curb catch basin adjustments and bonnet pours.
 6. (2) double rolled curb catch basin adjustments and bonnet pours.
 7. 12.22 tons of base hot mix patching at replaced curb.
 8. 8.80 tons of top hot mix patching of driveway aprons.
 9. 836.0 l.f. of p.c.c. rolled curb replacement.
 10. 66.3 l.f. of sawcut for curb and/or sidewalk removal.Contractor used 66.0 c.y. of DelDOT Class B concrete in above pours.

- WSFS: Met with WSFS representative to go over issues with stormwater management area and drainage issue and performed C.O. for building.
- Wynclyff: Started work on final punchlist for development.

Survey Crew

- Responded to complaints about obstructed sidewalks and sent notices to clear.
- Continued initial inspections for Phase 3.2 of the Sidewalk Repair Program.
- Marked grades on Briar Lane.
- Met with representatives of Karins and Assoc. to examine the legal description and recorded plans for the second phase of the Woods at Louviers.
- Continued converting the Detail Standards drawings into digital format.
- Identified property corners at 31 E. Mill Station Drive for the Parks Department.

Field Operations/Streets

- Catch basin crew repaired sink hole at 321 Chickory Way and rebuilt catch basins at N. College Avenue and Prospect Avenue, 118 W. Park Place, and at Ridgewood Glen and Paper Mill Road (north side).
- Street crew began installation of underground piping for drainage problems in City Hall parking lot.
- Hot mix crew excavated and applied 500 s.f. of hot mix on Harvard Lane at Vassar Drive.
- Street crew pushed up yard waste at Iron Glen Park for the Refuse Department.
- Street crew delivered trash cans for Refuse Department.
- Sign truck repaired and replaced signs and poles as needed and implemented detour and worked on road closures for the Police Department for the Main Street Mile. Also began painting yellow curb at fire hydrant locations.

Parks & Recreation

Administration/Planning

Conducted park inspections.

We received notification of grant awards from Delaware State Forestry for tree work in Redd Park and from DeIDOT (TE Funds) for Old Train Station Rehab.

Our tree contractor continues removing blockages/downed trees in the Christina Creek as a result of Hurricane Irene.

Tom continued coordinating for upcoming tree planting as part of the Reforestation Grant thru the Delaware Forest Service.

Tom met with an Eagle Scout to show him a possible project.

We met with Jim Ireland (Delaware Trail Spinners) and Bob Ehemann (DTF Grant Coordinator) for an update on the Redd Park Trail project. Phase III of the project is moving along well.

On Tuesday we met with Tyler Jacobson to begin moving ahead with plans for the Skate Spot project.

On Thursday I attended a meeting with representatives of the Newark and Wilmington Bicycle Committees and several other interested parties to begin discussions about a Wilmington to Newark Trail connector.

I began writing a Delaware Land and Water Conservation Trust Fund grant proposal for funding assistance for the Curtis Mill park development project.

We spent time working with several developers on matters relating to site landscaping.

Field Operation

Park and Building Maintenance

Mowing of some park areas. Recent rain has caused us to be behind.

Continued painting at Police Station as well as completing other building maintenance items.

Work continues on trail project in Redd Park with the Delaware Trail Spinners and State Parks Trail crew.

We completed clearing downed trees that fell and blocked the Christina Creek trail during Hurricane Irene.

Horticulture/Landscaping

Mowing at several horticulture sites.

Continued on landscape bed maintenance.

Assisted with park maintenance work orders.

Recreation Services

Athletics conducted the youth basketball coaches meeting in preparation for the start of the upcoming season. We are also coordinating with the University of Delaware men's basketball coaching staff to once again conduct a coach's clinic.

We conducted a staff orientation for the CATCH afterschool program scheduled to begin at Downes Elementary on October 3.

Events staff prepared for and held the annual Fall Community Clean Up with 268 volunteers collection over 1,200 pounds of trash and recyclables (which have yet to be weighed).

KRS/mp