

DEPARTMENTAL WEEKLY REPORTS

November 23, 2011

Water & Wastewater

We are continuing to move forward with the cleaning and lining project on Kells and Wollaston Avenues. We have received a copy of the contract from the City of Wilmington and have met with the contractor to begin preparation of a budget and schedule. We expect to have unit costs and a rough schedule by the end of the day on Wednesday, November 23. As of today, the contractor is able to begin work on November 30, barring any holdups on our end.

Work is progressing on the north side of the Christina Creek sewer crossing project. We expect to be able to pull the engineer's inspector off the site on November 23.

We have received an email from NCC Councilwoman Diller's office stating that they had received a few complaints about curb boxes which were tripping hazards in the Old Mill Manor development off of Red Mill Road. Ms. Diller's office did not have specific addresses so our crew is scheduled to walk the neighborhood on November 25.

Roser Construction has started repairing our temporary roadway patches and should be finished either the first or second week of December.

Work has begun on the well building roof repairs at wells 11, 12, 13, 15, and 16 in and around the South Wellfield. The contractor plans to be finished work by November 25.

NCC Special Services has installed a temporary meter and sending device in manhole 124-4 along the White Clay Creek near Windy Hills to replace the one which was damaged during one of the tropical events back in August and September.

We met with a company that is capable of cleaning out the sludge from both of the sludge ponds at the NWTP. We forwarded them information on the sludge characteristics and are waiting for their proposal.

The quarterly sewer sampling of Dow Chemical, Brookside and Capitol Trail has been scheduled to begin Tuesday, December 6, 2011.

Following a recent sewer backup at Louviers Shopping Center which was the result of grease buildup in their private sewer, likely originating at the bar/restaurant, we sent a copy of the City regulations on FOG – fats, oil, and grease to Lenape Properties Management.

Police

On Wednesday, November 16th, marchers from the Occupy Wall Street Movement passed through Newark on the way to Washington, DC. Approximately 25 marchers walked down Main Street to Elkton Road heading towards Elkton, MD. No problems were encountered.

On Thursday, November 17th, on the 300 block of Lynley Drive at approximately 2226 hours the residents came home to find intruders in their residence. They had pried open a basement window and were stealing jewelry. One of the intruders, Pedro Rojas, was known to the victims. He was later arrested for burglary, theft and conspiracy. The investigation is continuing.

On Friday, November 18th, approximately 25 people from the Occupy Delaware Movement picketed at the intersection of South College and Main Street from 3:00-5:00 p.m. The protesters were orderly and no problems were encountered.

During this week, the Criminal Division continued to search for Marvin Holmes who is wanted on attempted rape charges with negative results.

Planning & Development

Planning

Work is continuing this week preparing materials for the upcoming December 6, 2011 Planning Commission meeting. The Commission will be considering proposed Zoning Code amendments regarding apartments in the downtown BB zoning district.

Economic Development

On Thursday evening, the Planning and Development Department hosted another outstanding Downtown Newark Partnership Annual Meeting and Volunteer Reception. All reports indicate that this was the best event yet.

This week the DNP unveiled its 2011 Annual Report.

Time was spent on holiday advertising and promotions with special emphasis on the Downtown Newark Gift Card Give Away logistics and promotional materials.

Community Development

On Thursday, Planner Mike Fortner attended the Dow Chemical Community Advisory Committee meeting.

Mike developed a map for the Newark Bicycle Committee that shows where existing bicycle parking is downtown as well as proposed locations for additional bicycle parking.

Mike also processed an application for a Home Buyer's Incentive Program loan.

Parking

We continued to work on drafts of the recent Desman Study evaluating the current need for additional off-street parking.

Public Works

Engineering/Planning and Inspection

- Laura's Glenn:
 1. Met with developer to review E&SC violations on Lot 4 that continue to go unaddressed.
 2. Delaware Home Crafters formed and poured 508.0 s.f. of 4" p.c.c. sidewalk along east and west sides of Trout Stream Drive (at open space areas) using 7.0 c.y. of 3500 psi concrete.
- Contract 11-06 – 2011 Street Improvement Program: Sam's Construction worked on N. Country Club Drive, Stamford Drive, Timberline Drive, and Swallow Circle completing the following:
 1. 3.0 c.y. of undercut excavation.
 2. 6.0 tons of crusher run placement in undercut excavation.
 3. 11.3 l.f. of 4" pvc roof drain connections.
 4. 1,302.9 l.f. of replacement p.c.c. rolled curb.
 5. 16.1 l.f. of p.c.c. sawcut for curb removal.*Contractor used 73 c.y. of DeIDOT Class B concrete in above pours.
- Contract 11-02 – 2011 ADA Handicap Ramp Installation Program: Worked on final estimate and sent to contractor.
- Wyncliff: Worked on compilation of final punch list for final acceptance.
- Compiled a GIS map and list of property owners and addresses along Country Club, Windsor, and Delrem Drives for the Engineering Assistant. Cross referenced the addresses with the New Castle County Parcel Search.
- Continued working on the 2011 NPDES Annual Report.

Survey Crew

- Began a topographical location survey of Rahway Park to determine a solution to the recurring drainage issues.
- Identified property corners at the Wyncliff addition for the Parks Department.

Field Operations/Streets

- Street crews continued on the 6th week of the Fall Leaf Collection Program.

Parks & Recreation

Administration/Planning

Carol Houck, representatives of Pennoni and I met with DeIDOT officials to discuss the Curtis Mill development project as it relates to changes to the site's entrance and signalization at the intersection of Paper Mill Road and Old Paper Mill Road.

I met with a Pennoni and Merit representative on three occasions last week to discuss construction items relating to the Pomeroy Trail. Merit committed most of its time last week working on the southern section of the trail on the University Courtyard property.

The Parks Superintendent conducted building maintenance inspections and met with a homeowner on Art Lane concerning a creek maintenance issue as well as another homeowner about a fallen tree behind his house by Handloff Park.

The Parks Supervisor continues researching options for an articulating loader unit to purchase in 2012.

Field Operation

Spot mowing and leaf clean up continues in park areas.

Parks staff completed hanging Christmas lights on the Main Street trees, cleaning out roof gutters on several buildings at the City Maintenance Yard as well as replacing several burned out light bulbs in a number of buildings/structures also at the Maintenance Yard.

Parks staff continued on park maintenance work orders as well as building maintenance work orders.

Parks staff loaded and set up materials/supplies for Turkey Trot and helped run the race.

Horticulture/Landscaping

Staking of all grass plantings at several horticulture sites as well as potting up planters with Tulip bulbs to force for spring placement at selected sites was completed by the Horticulture staff.

Staff continued cutting back perennials and doing bed clean up in all bed areas throughout park system.

Recreation Services

The Supervisor of Athletics attended the championship games for the youth soccer leagues and handed out trophies to the league and playoff champions. She also picked up all the equipment after the season ended at the field locations.

The community events staff prepared for and held the annual Turkey Trot. With seven hundred and thirty-nine 5K and 10K finishers and seven course records broken, it was a

great race day. Local businesses donated fruit, water, and over 50 giveaways for the post run raffle.

The George Wilson Center Coordinator is preparing for the 25th Annual Thanksgiving Breakfast at the George Wilson Center including coordinating volunteers, contacting sponsors, organizing supplies.

Electric

The line crews worked with the contractor pulling the service to two temporary pad mount transformers on Wyoming Road for the University of Delaware's East Campus Housing Project and setting up the service changeover to the ROTC building on the next pole. Poles had to be moved for the entrance of the project.

The electricians installed decorations at City Hall and readied the Christmas Tree at McDonald's Circle. They also worked with a line crew moving the service to well eight adjacent to Lewis Park and fixed all the broken lighting at the warehouse complex.

Engineering continued work on SCADA development and backup communications to relays and meters at substations. The current telephone line and modem systems are going to be used as backups to the wireless SCADA system. However, as older modems fail and newer ones have to be used as replacements, the land line system needs to be reengineered to maintain communications.

The project at UD's Science Center hit a snag last week when one of the breakers on the feeder cables failed to operate correctly. The electrical contractor is getting the manufacturer in to fix the problem. As soon as this is fixed and protocols are in place to notify the City when circuits have switched, the building will have two 34kV circuits as feeds with automatic switching; a first for the City.

KRS/mp