

DEPARTMENTAL WEEKLY REPORTS

June 15, 2012

Electric

A tree branch burned down two phases Tuesday morning at Kent Way and College Avenue causing an hour and a half outage to several university buildings.

The line crews continued with wire pulling along South College Avenue from the bridge to Chestnut Hill Road. The line crews also performed a scheduled outage for East Hall this weekend so university contractors could install new conduits to the building being constructed next door.

Engineering, electricians, and line crews worked together upgrading relays at the West Main Substation. Two out of four have been changed. Engineering also worked with the line crews and a breaker technician to fix a mechanical problem with a new breaker under warranty.

Water & Wastewater

We have been able to correct one problem at the Cooches Bridge pump station and now we are chasing a new one. We are experiencing intermittent pump failures that we are able to clear and get the pumps restarted but we are not able to correct. We have scheduled a visit from the pump manufacturer to trouble shoot the system. In the mean time we have increased our surveillance of the system.

Tom and I are meeting this week with representatives from an engineering firm working with the university on projects that will use the sewer system on Kells Avenue. We will be discussing improvements that will need to be made to handle the increased flow.

I have received the letter from the Christina Creek Nature Conservancy that I referred to in my last report. They are concerned about trees falling in the creek. I am preparing a response.

Police

The Newark Police are mourning the loss of retired police K9 Paco who passed away on Sunday, June 10th with his handler, Cpl. Christopher Jones and family by his side. K9 Paco was diagnosed with Bi-Lateral Hip Dysplasia and was retired from service in September 2011. K9 Paco's health worsened recently and after consulting with Dr. Miki King of New London Veterinary Clinic, the decision was made by Cpl. Jones that K9 Paco needed to be put to rest.

K9 Paco entered into service with the Newark Police Department in August 2006 after being acquired from one of the nation's foremost suppliers of law enforcement canines, Vohne Liche Kennels of Denver, Indiana. K9 Paco's entry into service marked the first

time in more than two decades that Newark PD utilized police canines for service. K9 Paco was trained by the Delaware State Police Canine Unit. K9 Paco was known for his friendly demeanor and quickly became a community favorite, often seen surrounded by school children at community events and demonstrations. Those who did not have the same appreciation for K9 Paco were the criminals he encountered. During his career K9 Paco handled over 1,500 complaints, 400 burglar alarms, conducted over 100 tracks and 700 searches. K9 Paco was responsible for the seizure of over \$150,000 in drug tainted US currency, 30 pounds of marijuana, several firearms and two vehicles used for the transportation of narcotics. K9 Paco was recognized by the United States Police Canine Association (USPCA) as a nationally certified narcotics detection dog. Cpl. Jones and K9 Paco were recognized in 2008 by the USPCA for the fastest completion of the timed certification course by a first time participant.

On Thursday, June 7th Officer Lawrence was walking foot patrol in the area of East Main Street when he walked through the parking lot of Mojo's. Officer Lawrence observed several subjects smoking marijuana in a car. Two suspects were taken into custody. During a search of the vehicle a loaded handgun was located concealed under the driver's seat.

On Sunday, June 10th Cpl. Walker responded to a residence on Woodlawn Avenue for a report of a domestic incident. When officers arrived they contacted the female victim who had been strangled and had cuts to her face. The victim's cell phone was stolen by the suspect so the victim could not call 911. The suspect also attempted to steal other items from the residence. The suspect was identified as Brian K. Tinsley 2nd, DOB 03/04/1985. Newark and New Castle County Police searched for the suspect on Caravel Drive and attempted to arrest him. The suspect fled from officers and was not apprehended at that time. On June 12th the suspect turned himself into his probation officer and turned over to Newark PD. Tinsley was charged with: Strangulation, Theft, Attempted Theft, Assault 3rd Degree, Attempt to Obtain Controlled Substances by Theft, and Malicious Interference of Emergency Communications. Tinsley was issued \$10,000 secured bail and transported to Howard Young Correctional Institute.

Planning & Development

Planning

On Wednesday afternoon, Planning and Development and Code Enforcement staff met with a representative of Newark Toyota to discuss a new apparatus which stacks vehicles for display.

On Thursday Planner Ricky Nietubicz and I attended the Newark Day review meeting.

Some time was spent preparing development proposals reviewed at the June 5, 2012 Planning Commission meeting (The Lofts at Rittenhouse and 136 Elkton Road) for City Council review.

On Friday Development Supervisor Mike Fortner and I attended Board of Adjustment training provided by UD's Institute for Public Administration.

On Monday, Councilman Jerry Clifton and I hosted Baltimore City Planner Brent Flickenger.

Some time was spent on upcoming Planning Commission reports. Projects tentatively scheduled for review at the July 10th Commission meeting are South Main Street Plaza and Trader's Alley.

Economic Development

Over the weekend, the Community Bulletin Board at Switch was reconstructed through Downtown Newark Partnership efforts.

On Tuesday I attended a meeting of the Greater Newark Economic Development Partnership's Steering Committee. Recent branding efforts and a June 25th fund raising golf outing were among the items discussed.

A considerable number of Downtown Newark Gift Cards were sold this week as graduation and teacher/coach appreciation gifts.

Ricky and I spent some time this week preparing for tonight's DNP Board meeting.

This week Ricky contracted with Clipper Magazine for the August downtown advertising campaign.

Community Development

This week Mike completed a Financial Draw in the amount of \$2,667.93 and submitted it to New Castle County for the reimbursement to the CDBG program.

Parking

Some time was spent preparing the bid package for the Center Street entrance to Lot #3.

Some time was spent working with the Newark Development Trust to facilitate Lot #1 parking garage efforts.

On Thursday afternoon I met with UD Assistant Director of Facilities – Ground Services Mike Loftus to review Lot #6 maintenance responsibilities.

Code Enforcement

Work continued this week on the amendments to the 2012 IBC.

Considerable time was spent on property maintenance concerns.

Clean up and repairs will begin next week on the following properties:

- 705 Brook Drive (Clean up and repairs).
- 49 Shull Drive (Repairs).

Public Works

Engineering/Planning and Inspection

- Contract 12-04 – 2012 Street Improvement Program:
 1. Participated in a pre-construction meeting. Work is scheduled to begin the last week of June.
 2. Began measuring streets (for milling quantities) to be worked on this year.
- Rittenhouse Station:
 1. Measured and calculated escrow for incomplete items. Escrow will replace existing L.O.C.'s.
 2. Measured and calculated costs of items installed on Veteran's Lane, by the contractor, at the request of the City.
 3. Met with DeIDOT Project Manager for Elkton Road contract. It was agreed that DeIDOT's contractor would mill and repave the south end of Veteran's Lane to where the contractor for Rittenhouse Station ended his repaving. This will be completed at no cost to the City.
- 307 Markus Court – SWM Maintenance: Re-inspected the bio-filtration swale to ensure the proper mowing height and width was being maintained.
- Erosion & Sediment Control Inspections: Performed site inspections at Laura's Glenn and Sutton Place.
- U of D East Campus Residence Halls: Met on site with Construction Manager, Contractor, and Public Works Inspector to discuss methodology for construction of new catch basin and junction box over an existing storm sewer line.
- U of D Carpenter Sports Building Addition: Attended meeting with U of D, Public Works Inspector, CCR, Engineer and Developer regarding evaluation of existing subsoil conditions for infiltration at Storm Tech System location.
- DNREC Proposed Policy Review: Reviewed proposed Sediment and Stormwater Plan renewal policy. Forwarded comments to DNREC.
- 136 Elkton Road: Met with Public Works Inspector and Site Contractor to review as-built condition of weir wall in inlet structure. Also inspected StormTech System #1 isolator row for sediment and debris.
- Stormwater Management Facilities: Assisted Stormwater Program Coordinator in taking GPS coordinates for recently completed stormwater facilities and entered information in City's stormwater database.
- Trader's Alley Subdivision Review: Reviewed revised plans for project and forwarded comments to Public Works Director.

Survey Crew

- Tri-State Lawn Care began work on the Phase 3.1 sidewalk contract.
- Continued to work on the drawing and creating comp points to set for the new pole shed at the warehouse.
- Obtained elevation shots at the end of Kershaw Street for Mike Sistik.
- Created new city maps for the Special Projects Coordinator illustrating where the new boundaries are for the redrawn State House & Senate electoral districts.
- Performed elevation surveys at the George Wilson Center pavilion and the Dickey Park single pavilion for proposed concrete pads.

Field Operations/Streets

- Catch basin crew repaired catch basin at 102 Briar Lane and across from 101 E. Park Place off S. College Avenue.
- Street crew saw cut Wilson Road for future curb and hot mix repairs.
- Storm sewer crew cleaned out culvert at Cherry Hill Manor service road of debris and trash.
- Street crew completed work at Iron Glen Park of trash removal from yard waste.
- Street crew cleaned up paper, debris, and trash left over from student move-out at Curtis Paper Mill parking lot.
- Street crew assisted Refuse Department on the knuckleboom and delivery of trash cans.
- Street crew loaded and hauled left over steel from maintenance garage to recycling plant for disposal.
- Worked on storm sewer cleaning list at the maintenance yard around the sediment filter.
- Vac-all crew continued cleaning catch basins as per schedule.
- Sign truck repaired and replaced signs and poles as needed.
- Sidewalk sweeper continued with duties on Main Street.

Parks & Recreation

Administration & Planning

I prepared and submitted the second and final reimbursement to the Delaware Land and Water Conservation Trust Fund grant program for Phases III and IV of the Redd Park Trail rehab project. The grant totaled \$99,999.00. We'll soon submit an additional grant application/proposal for Phase V to complete the project.

The Hall Trail bollard replacement project was completed last week. We replaced the "sleeve" bollards with collapsible bollard. These bollards will make maintenance and emergency access to the trail much easier.

We have prepared a draft design/build contract for the Skate Spot project. Parks and purchasing personnel are reviewing the draft.

A second cutting of the bamboo along the Hall Trail is occurring this week. Later this summer or early fall the bamboo will be sprayed again. At least one additional cycle will occur next year.

Pomeroy Trail Update:

- Phase 1, 2 and +/-80% of 4 have been paved.
- Merit began working in the trail segment at north end of the University Courtyard Apartments this week. The old trail surface was removed and the base is being applied and prepared for paving.

- The frame for the canopy at the CSX bridge was installed. Later this week or next week the top will be attached.
- Merit replaced the curbing and sections of sidewalk on the south side of Wyoming Road.

Tom conducted park inspections, attended the wrap up meeting about Newark Day, attended fireworks meeting for upcoming 4th of July event, reviewed landscape installations at Martin Honda and Rittenhouse Station, continued working on the Main Street tree pit project, continued on concrete pad installation specifications for under shelters at Dickey and Wilson Center Parks, and started organizing for numbering the light poles along the Pomeroy Trail.

Rich started researching for the purchase of a utility trailer, completed park recycling report for May, coordinated daily scheduling of field staff, and attended wrap up meeting for Newark Day.

Parks/Horticulture

Parks staff continued mowing operations, conducted IPM inspections at the Wilson Center, repaired a door in the Alderman's Court, stored away all materials/supplies from Newark Day, assisted with the installation of a new door to gym area at the Police Station, did trash removal throughout park system and set up and removed stages for the summer concert series on Main Street.

Horticulture staff continued on landscape bed maintenance and mowing operations, assisted with storing away materials/supplies from Newark Day, continued mulching bed area and applied insecticide controls as needed at several sites throughout park system.

Recreation Services

Paula met with Joe regarding upcoming fall programs. She continues to finalize dates and times with instructors.

Paula sent out first day letters to campers for the first session of Rittenhouse full day and Hobbit half day camps and pick up and drop supplies for the camps and staff training and orientation.

Paula is working on the renewal paperwork for the annual license with the Office of Child Care for West Park School.

Tyler met with the Camp GWC director in preparation for staff orientation and the start of Camp on June 18.

Tyler continued to prepare for the opening of the outdoor pools on June 12 and the lifeguard orientation. Rainy weather prevented the pools from opening.

The community events staff conducted the Newark Day wrap up meeting and developed action items for the 2013 event.

Sharon and Joe conducted a fireworks meeting with the University of Delaware, Newark Police and Code Enforcement in preparation for the 4th of July Fireworks and Liberty Day.

Joe has been meeting with the recreation supervisors about Fall 2012 program plans.

Joe and the recreation staff has been preparing for summer staff orientation that will be held June 14 and June 15.

CSH/mp