

Mayor and Council,

Below is the weekly report for the week ending today, May 26th, 2023. Please don't hesitate to contact me with any questions.

Have a great weekend!

City Manager's Highlights

1. WE have been notified by the League of American Bicyclists that they are going to announce the results from the latest Bike friendly Community application process on 5/31. The City's designation was up this year and we are hopeful that our rating will improve from Bronze to Silver this year.
2. UDon't need it is underway and the first sale is Friday 5/26. Additional information can be found on the City's website here: <https://newarkde.gov/836/UDont-Need-It-Student-Move-Out-Program>
3. Staff are performing some initial research into the maintenance agreements for the mural at the CSX crossing of Library Avenue. So far, we have been unable to identify any formal maintenance agreements with DelDOT or CSX so any new mural will likely require us to start from scratch and develop formal agreements.

Police

1. On Tuesday, May 23rd, Newark PD hosted a promotion and awards ceremony. The ceremony included the promotions of Chief Mark Farrall, Captain Scott Rieger, Lieutenant Greg D'Elia, Lieutenant Truman Bolden, Sergeant Will Smith, Sergeant Aaron Olicker, Sergeant Blake Potocki, Master Corporal Daniel Bystricky, Master Corporal Alex Whitt, Master Corporal Carter McKennon, and Master Corporal Andrew Golden. Also recognized during the ceremony were over 60 awards ranging from the Purple Heart to Letters of Commendation and included sworn and civilian employees of the Newark Police Department, a New Castle County Police Officer, and several civilians.
2. On Wednesday, May 24th, members of Newark PD attended the police vs. fire game at Newark American Little League. Newark PD sponsors the Yankees while Aetna sponsors the Phillies. NPD is proud to partner with Aetna in support of these young athletes.
3. On Thursday, May 25th, Chief Mark Farrall and Deputy Chief Kevin Feeney attended the graduation ceremony for Sgt. Darryl Saunders who recently completed the New Jersey State Association of Chief's of Police, Command and Leadership Program. This intensive leadership course was developed in partnership with the NJSACOP and the U.S. Military Academy at West

Point to adapt the models of command and leadership from West Point to the needs of law enforcement. Sgt. Saunders is the latest in a long line of NPD Officers and Dispatchers who have graduated from this leadership program.

4. This weekend, NPD will have extra officers on hand to assist with University of Delaware commencement services.

Parks and Recreation

1. Parks staff is working hard on landscape islands to get them cleaned up.
2. Plaster repairs at our two pools are underway and nearing completion. The pools should be filled this weekend to keep the plaster wet while it cures. Pool covers will be installed until opening to keep people out of the pools until they officially open and staffed with lifeguards.
3. Tree plantings are underway at Dickey Park and the Wilson Center to address locations where trees have died over the past few years.

Planning and Development

1. The temporary certificate of occupancy (TCO) was issued for the Green Mansion Hyatt Place hotel in time for them to meet their planned opening date.
2. Staff met with the contractor for Fountainview on Thursday to begin discussions on what needs to be done for reconstruction. We are experiencing some rumor mill issues on this issue where incorrect or incomplete information is being circulated among the residents. Will work with the condo board to address.
3. Staff are preparing the supplemental census application that we will submit as part of the process to get a quote for a recount.
4. Staff are continuing to work on the launch of the parking advisory committee.
5. Interviews for PT parking ambassadors were completed this week. We currently have four vacancies.
6. Three more properties reached warning status for the nuisance property ordinance and were sent notice letters this week.
7. The property maintenance team is preparing for student move out.

Finance and IT

1. Round 1 of user acceptance training for Tyler 311, our new report a concern software, is underway for next two weeks. This will launch on our website and through our app soon.
2. Multi-factor authentication training required by our cyber insurance policy is underway.
3. The 2024 budget process is continuing to wind up. All personnel requests are due to the Finance and City Manager by next Wednesday. CIP due June 9th and operating budgets are due June 16th.
4. Accounting staff continue to work on the audit.

Electric

1. Crews completed all work at the Grove to energize the locations requested by the owner.
2. Engineering met with the developer for 134 East Main Street to continue the discussion about how to maintain electric service to Chipotle during construction of the 134 East Main project.
3. Engineering held the kick off meeting for a study to analyze available capacity for electric vehicles on a feeder by feeder level with our consultant. Staff are currently collecting all the required load and system data needed by our consultant to complete the study. The consultant is also going to make recommendations on charger sizing for City fleet vehicles based on usage.
4. Engineering staff are pricing out an alternative looped feed to Possum Park Road neighborhoods and options for protecting the three poles where we are on Delmarva's poles to help reduce the chances of another prolonged outage like what we experienced this past Sunday.