

Water Department Report 8-8-22

1. Miss-Digs have slowed down slightly and plateaued after an extremely busy spring and early summer. We are seeing fewer for big projects which take a lot of time and cover a lot of area. Now we are seeing mostly residential requests.
2. On June 15th Kevin from ETNA Supply delivered our new base station to the Front St. water tower and we were able to install it together and Sensus got it programmed. We are back to business as usual with billing and performing our daily consumption reports.
3. We continue to work with Prien and Newhof on planning for the upcoming infrastructure projects, beginning with the sewer interceptor and the downtown projects.
4. In April City Manager Grace and I attended several sessions from the Water infrastructure Conference hosted virtually by EGLE.
5. We have submitted to EGLE our annual Emergency Response Plan update, as well as the brand-new annual Lead Service Line Replacement Report.
6. We completed all of our seasonal turn-ons for summer, including irrigation, Cemetery, Farmer's Market, Little League, and the parks.
7. In May Craig assisted the Garden Club with hauling mulch at Duck Pond Park to help with their spring clean-up and decoration. In addition, Craig made a repair to underground PVC piping for the irrigation at the park.
8. We rebuilt the fire hydrant at the corner of Main and Fourth after discovering that it had failed during our spring round of hydrant flushing. We have never seen a hydrant fail in the way that this one had and we are not sure what happened to cause it.
9. On 5-19-22, ourselves and DPW were called in to repair a broken water main at the corner of Richards and Victory Streets. Due to a terrific team effort, we were able to make the repair relatively smoothly that night.
10. I completed and submitted our annual Consumer Confidence Report to EGLE. It was approved for publications, and the announcement with the link to the report on the city web site went out with the June bills. The City Hall staff did a nice job getting the report posted correctly, especially since everyone was new to the process, and I distributed hard copies to all our usual recipients.
11. On 5-26-22 I, along with City Manager Grace and Mike Baker toured two iron removal facilities similar to the one we are hoping to get to treat water from Well 5 and the new well we hope will be constructed. It was very informative and we all learned a great deal.
12. During the month of June, we completed all of our annual schedule of compliance sampling for 2022. We sampled for Disinfection Byproducts, PFAS, Nitrate, Nitrite, and Sodium. All samples were analyzed by Eurofins Eaton Analytical in South Bend, and all results came back well within limits, if any detect was made at all.

13. We put together a new schedule of tap fees and connection fees as well as updated the list of costs for various hardware related to metering. Those fees have been adopted by the City Commission.
14. On Sunday, 6-5-22 we were notified of a water leak on Lake St. Along with help from DPW, we excavated the customer's galvanized service line, which had ruptured, and replaced the line from the water main to the tree lawn with copper. Because the service included a lead goose-neck at the main, the city was responsible for replacing the line into the customer's house. Core Bore bored a new service line from the tree lawn to the basement on Monday, 6-6, and Hickok Plumbing hooked up the internals. We connected the line at the tree lawn to complete the new service to the house.
15. We both attended a virtual meeting between the City, P&N, and Kevin Lemmer our District Engineer from EGLE to discuss the planning of the Well6/Iron Removal facility project that is scheduled to begin in the next few years. There was good, informative input from all sides.
16. On July 4th the crew was called in to repair a leak once again at Mill Pond Apartments. The failure was almost identical to what had occurred at another building this winter where the top of the 2" copper service pipe had deteriorated and failed. Craig and the DPW were there late into the night to make the repair. Fortunately, unlike the winter leak, we didn't have to depressurize all of Rynearson and Chamberlain Roads. The only two facilities affected by the boil order were Mill Pond and Buchanan Meadows. We consulted with our District Engineer, Kevin Lemmer, and developed a sampling plan. After two days of clean bacti samples came back, we lifted the boil order.
17. On July 6th we repaired, again along with DPW, the water service for the new home at 139 Schirmer Parkway. The service had been damaged by the concrete contractor and we will be billing the owner for the repair.
18. We have restarted our pot-holing program to catalogue our service line materials for our Distribution System Materials Inventory. Thus far we have pot-holed 27 services in 4 days of work. Streets with older infrastructure tend to take a lot longer due to vast root networks associated with older trees. (cough, looking at you Cayuga St. cough) We are also returning to the pot-holing sites with topsoil and grass seed to repair the grass we disturb.
19. We are excited about using the Trello app to track work flow and schedule our daily tasks. We have been using it heavily since 7-18 and it has worked really well for us.
20. We have performed all of our regular MOR's, PM's, shut-offs, turn-ons, e-mails, generator cycles, activity briefings, morning checks, leak checks, meter changes, door cards, zero usage lists, plowing, salting, shoveling, and the other assorted items that come up on a day-to-day basis.

Scott Desenberg, O.I.C