VILLAGE OF POPLAR GROVE

"A Great Place to Call Home"

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August 2020 Public Works Report

General:

Our second round of Village wide mosquito spraying has been done after an increase in mosquito activity.

ROW inspections were done throughout the month for all new builds on temporary CO's. There are still various issues that builders need to address before final CO's will be issued. I met Newark Builders in Westergren to go over sidewalks that were not done to code and need to be replaced. They complied and replaced the areas that were done incorrectly. I also met with Premier Concrete to go over sidewalks that need to be replaced in Burledwoods for the same reason. To date, they have not been replaced.

Our Village insurance company sent a representative out to inspect our buildings and offer recommendations to make for a safer working environment.

There was an issue of potential water meter tampering at a residence this month. After consulting with Roxanne, it was determined that we do not have anything in our ordinances that address this issue. At our request, her office drafted an ordinance outlining meter tampering and penalties associated with it.

Chris and I met with the new owners (Pickering Installations) of the Forest Pallet property and their design professionals. Their property has a common wall with our building on East St. The building we own will be demolished as part of the site improvements for our new public works shop. This is going to take coordination and a joint effort by both parties to make dividing the two properties go as planned. The owners of Pickering Installations and their design professionals seemed to understand this and I believe we are all on the same page. We will reach out to them with a formal agreement and a timeline once we have further details.

Streets/Storm Sewer:

We had a strong storm blow through on August 10th which caused significant tree damage and required cleanup. Staff was able to handle all tree removal.

There is a blockage in the storm sewer along W Edson Road and Frinks was hired to jet the line. However, in order for them to effectively jet the line we first needed to dig out the retention area where the outlet was supposed to flow to. With our mini excavator out for repair, I rented a similar machine from AA Andersons for us to use. We have excavated the area out to the best of our abilities until it dries out further. Frinks also can not do anything further until it dries up.

Staff attempted to paint crosswalks throughout the Village and parking stalls on Main St. Our paint sprayer would not operate properly and was sent to Sherwin Williams for diagnostics and repair. We anticipate getting the sprayer back and painting in early-mid September.

A broken storm sewer casting was replaced, and fence posts were removed from the ROW in Olson Woods as staff preps to snow plow the neighborhood for the first time this winter.

Street Sweeping took place throughout the month.

Potholes were patched on multiple occasions.

I previously reported that I met Todd Trieloff, with Bel Air Condo Association, on Lindbergh Lane to go over what their contractor found with the piping that was believed to be causing storm water backups. The right of way was returned to an open ditch design to assist with water flow. It was determined that a retention wall needs to be put on the backside of the ditch to decrease the slope and the association has hired a contractor. This work has been completed.

Parks/Buildings:

I continue to work with our design professionals on our new public works facility. At the direction of President Costanza, we will also be adding a generator to the facility to ensure we do not have any disruption to our operations in the event of a power outage.

Mowing is in full swing on all Village owned parks and properties. The fifth roadside ditch mowing for 2020 has been done and retention ponds have all been mowed multiple times as well.

There was vandalism to the back of the storage building that is on Main St. This property backs up to the bike path and the vandalism was reported by a resident. I immediately made contact with the property owners attorney (this was the only number we could find associated with the property as they do not have a utility bill) and asked them to reach out to their client and inform them by Village code, they had ten days to remove. I also happened to catch the property owner out mowing and stopped to speak with him. I informed him of the ordinance violation and asked with the racist nature of the graffiti, that he remove it quicker than the ten days allowed. At President Costanza's direction, trail cameras were also purchased and placed out to try and catch the vandals in the future. The graffiti has since been cleaned up and we have not had an issue since.

Broadleaf and non-selective pesticides were applied throughout Village Parks and properties.

8 dead trees were removed from Lions Park and stumps were ground out. We rented a stump grinder to grind these stumps, as well as ROW trees that were removed during the August 10th storm.

Dach Fence was approved by the board for fence installation at the dog park. However, before the fence can get installed, site improvements need to take place. Staff spent significant time this month re-shaping the area and trying to grade out low and high spots. This proved to be a difficult task as this site was previously used for a BMX track and the dirt they had brough in is filled with rocks. We purchased and rented a few pieces of equipment to assist us with making progress. There are still a few low spots that need to get filled in and black dirt brought in before the property is seeded and fertilized. We are currently waiting on the Eagle Scout and his troop to pick up the larger rocks that are on the surface. After the rocks are picked up, we will address the low spots and put down top soil. The fence will get installed, concrete pads poured for benches, and then we will put down grass seed, fertilizer, and straw blankets. I anticipate the grand opening of the dog park to be in early spring after the grass has been established.

I previously reported that the Village salt shed sustained wind damage on the evening of July 9th. The building partially collapsed and was deemed a total loss. NTRAK and staff have torn down what was still standing and a new one is on order. The building collapse also damaged our shop fence and that has since been replaced by Dach Fence Co. Staff removed the old fencing. The new fencing that was installed created a larger shop yard. As a result, staff hauled 3" road base stone to the shop and spread it. I had Harris Trucking haul in semi loads of CA-6 road stone so staff could grade the yard out and roll it. This was a significant improvement to what will eventually be our materials/storage yard when the new shop is built. Lastly, our excavator that sustained damage from falling concrete blocks has been repaired and put back into service.

Water/Sewer distribution:

Carina, Chris, and myself had a meeting regarding sewer plant capacity and who owns it at the SWWTP. There were multiple developers that contributed to the SWWTP expansion and own capacity for future connections.

Oak Lawn Mobile Home Park has been in contact with myself, Owen, and Chris regarding potentially hooking up to Village water. These are very preliminary talks at the moment and they would have to follow our ordinances, rates, connection fees, and EPA requirements.

Staff adjusted manholes again this month with composite adjustments rings to prevent damage to the manhole castings and our plow equipment.

Outside of parkway restoration and an adjustment to a manhole, the watermain replacement project on 173 has been completed. NIS ended up having to extend new valves and main to the very northwest corner of the intersection. The main was put back into service and is functioning as it should. Staff assisted NIS with pressure checks, opening and closing valves, flushing lines, and issuing/releasing a boil order.

Staff moved sludge at the SWWTP to assist test in their pressing process.

Locates were done as required by law and are coming in daily. We also marked and called in our locates.

Meters were read and all un-reads were gathered manually.

Other work performed by staff included, door notices, water turn ons, water turn offs meter installs/replacements, MXU replacements/installs, bbox adjustments/repairs, final reads, consumption/water quality/pressure complaint appointments.

If there are any questions, please feel free to contact me at MHilden@villageofpoplargrove.com or 815-742-0418

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