**Director of Public Works Report**

**Activity highlights for the month of February 2021**

**Engineering:**

*Misc*.

* 6 Permits/Applications for asphalt paving (0), driveway grades/concrete pour inspections (0), storm water (0), excavating (6), Street Privilege (0), storm connection (0), permit parking (0), banner (0)
* 40 Diggers Locates for Storm Sewer & Sanitary Sewer as of 1/25/2021 – 2/22/2021
* Degradation fees – The new permitting requirements went live in late December of 2020.   The permit webpage was updated with a new Right Of Way Permit Application and degradation fee calculator.  This webpage can be viewed here <https://www.wirapids.org/permits.html>.
	+ 2/15/2021            EXCV-21-0076    3141 8TH ST S                    240 SF   $1,686.96
	+ 2/15/2021            EXCV-21-0079    2410 2ND AVE                   560 SF   $3,079.44
	+ 2/15/2021            EXCV-21-0080    1761 SMITH ST                  560 SF   $3,079.44
	+ 2/15/2021            EXCV-21-0081    641 AIRPORT AVE            280 SF   $1,539.72
* Flood modeling along the Wisconsin River near the roundabout and the DOT office building – The City and DOA met on 2/17/2021 to review final steps to reach permit approvals and construction.

*Traffic*

* The City was noticed via email on 2/1/21 that the $534,600 grant was approved.   Submitted a Standalone Signal Grant through the WI DOT the following intersections along the Expressway: Chase St, W Grand Ave, High St. Results are expected in November of 2020.
* Stop signs were installed in late December at Two Mile Ave and 16th St.  Monitoring is continuing.
* Signal complaints/issues –
	+ 2/9/21 – Expressway at 8th St – complaint that EB lefts and WB lefts onto 8th St were malfunctioning and not sensing vehicles presence.  WWLC investigated this issue and no issues were found.  Additional details are being requested by the Police Department.
	+ 2/4/21 – Expressway at Lincoln St – EB Left arrow is triggered when semi-truck is in inside EB thru lane.  WWLC reviewed situation and this may occur from time-to-time when large vehicles somewhat hide the camera view for the left turn lane.
	+ Modified vehicle detection at STH 54/Expressway to better accommodate gaps in vehicles approaching the intersection. Further modifications/tweaks will be made in late January. Monitoring is continuing.

*Project Designs/Construction underway:*

2021 Projects

* RECC Rail Spur – Design is being modified and resubmittal to CN will occur in early February.  Meetings were held with DOT, agreements documents and requirements for the TEA grant are being prepared, and follow-up occurred on review items with CN.  Plans are at 99% complete.  CN supplied comments to the plans in late October.  Updates will occur to the final plan set and Engineering Dpt. will prepare bidding documents.  A Public Hearing was held on July 28th.  Results are pending speed limit and obtaining clear vision for northbound traffic.  Testimonies were submitted to OCR on June 19th.  The City and CN are working with OCR on a schedule for testimonies and public hearing.  Matalco and CN are working on an operational plan.  90% plans are complete.  A petition was sent to Office of the Commission of Railroads on 4/13/20.  Conceptual plans are complete and are being reviewed by CN.  Purchase Order sent to Ramboll on Nov. 1

Maintenance Projects

* Concrete Joint Sealing – proposals are being requested from contractors for joint sealing work on Plover Rd / STH 54.
* Sidewalk Concrete Cutting (Safe Step) - TBD
* Sidewalk and Curb & Gutter Maintenance – preparing requests for proposals for sidewalk and curb & gutter for 2021 maintenance work.

2021 and Future Designs for Reconstruction Projects

* Preliminary Construction Estimates are complete for 2022 projects.
* Preliminary surveys for 2021: 100% complete - 15th St from (Apricot to Norton), 18th Ave (Russell to W Grand Ave), Jefferson St (25th Ave to east dead end), 11th St (Washington to Apricot), DOA flood project in Lyon Park near DOT building, 10% - 8th St Culvert Rehabilitation, 0% - Apricot St retaining wall repair and underdrain installation
* Preliminary surveys for 2022: 100% complete - Fremont St (13th Ave to 14th Ave), Fremont St from  7th Ave N to 10th Ave N, 0% complete – 9th Ave N (McKinley to Fremont)
* 11th St (Washington St to Apricot St) – Design is 99%. Open House is scheduled for 2/23/2021.
* 15th St (Apricot to Norton St) – Design is 99%. Open House is scheduled for 2/24/2021.
* 18th Ave (2021 Construction) – Design is 70% and is expected to be at 90% in early February - preliminary resolution letters were sent to residents in mid-May.
* Jefferson St (2021 Construction) – Design is 99% complete.  Open House is scheduled for 2/25/2021.  A CSM for the real estate purchase is complete and approved at the February Plan Commission and Council. Conversations with two property owners on the real estate purchase is ongoing.
* W Jackson St – Approaching 60% design, title searches are nearing completion, Public Information #2 is being scheduled.

*Storm Water Utility*

* Annual MS4 Report to the DNR is due at end of March 2021.
* 2020 Storm Utility Billing Updates are finalized and sent to WWLC.
* One Mile Cr. – Council approved 2/16/21 moving forward with dredging both the lower and upper ponds, and utilizing MSA for design of the lower dam repair & upper dam removal.

**Streets, Buildings, and Grounds:**

*Refuse and Recycling*

* Garbage Collection estimated at 307.52 tons (2020 279.94 tons)
* Recycling Collection estimated at 82.02 tons (2020 72.64 tons)

*Construction*

* Reviewed 2020 construction plans and recommended changes or trees that may need to be removed

*Public Works Maintenance*

* Cleared R/W in green spaces to prevent damage to new mowers
* Cleared R/W in areas that trees were hanging out into roadway and hitting vehicles
* Plowed 8”snow events
* Plowed/ Salted snow events of 3” or less of snow
* Took delivery of 510 tons of salt
* Removed snow from the downtown business area
* Patched City Streets
* 75% Completed on Office space remodel and Women’s Locker Room addition
* Hosted four food drives out of the back storage area at City Garage
* Cleaned and organized Parks buildings and storage buildings
* Set up OSHA 10 training, forklift training and Competent person training to be completed in March of 2021

*Paint and Signs*

* Started off season equipment maintenance
* Removed signs damaged during snow events
* Removed winter banners and installed spring banners
* Refacing signs for spring installation.
* Stickering and numbering new service truck for Waste Water treatment plant

*Shop and Repairs*

* Multiple repairs to snow fighting equipment after an event
* Replacement of pins and bushings on backend of tractor backhoe
* Hard surface loader bucket
* Multiple big truck services
* Serviced and repaired eight dewatering pumps
* Finished servicing and repaired small engine equipment
* Hard surface tractor backhoe

*Building Maintenance*

* Cleaned and organized of all parks sheds
* Interviewed for Aquatic and maintenance position
* Continued maintenance at the Aquatic and Robinson Park ice rinks
* Continued mowing route brush clean ups
* Tree trimming
* Moved office furniture on the 3rd floor for carpet repairs
* Started the work on the 3 new office areas and women’s locker room and bathroom at the city garage
* Added 14 new LED lights in the west end of the garage
* Completed painting of Centralia Center bathrooms

 **Wastewater:**

* Plant performance was strong in February. We maintained near single digit concentrations on all effluent parameters. Liquid train nitrification is also remaining strong, the monthly average for effluent ammonia was 0.8 mg/l, with the new permit looking to be 32 mg/l.
* Winter conditions can make collection system operations more challenging. Freezing water lines on trucks, buried manholes, and steamy sewers make routine work more time consuming and difficult. Saving indoor projects for abnormally cold periods has been a great way to keep staff efficient and productive.
* The Wastewater Department is evaluating the feasibility of replacing our CHP cooling system/gas chiller condenser. This would be a big project, but would be excellent preventative maintenance for a piece of equipment heavily relied on.
* The in-house initiative to install bypass piping around our feedstock heat exchanger is proving to be successful. There has been little to no vivianite precipitant build up on the tubes, saving thousands of dollars on cleaning costs, and lost BTUs.
* With the assistance of the City’s consultant Black & Veatch, preparation is underway for the full scale pilot testing of RAS (return activated sludge) fermentation and PAD (post anaerobic digestion) treatment. Should these tests prove successful, chemical costs could be reduced by as much as 90%, the plant may be able to meet future phosphorus permits utilizing biological phosphorus removal. This is an exciting time at the Wastewater Department.
* The City’s third largest lift station “Two Mile Ave” lift has VFDs (variable frequency drives) over 15 years old. This month one failed, so staff is pre-emptively replace it and another. This should ensure reliable efficient performance for that station for years to come.
* Collection system crews have been televising sanitary sewers, flushing dead ends, responding to sewer related calls, and assisting plant staff with maintenance.

**Director Activities:**

* Correspondence: 569 incoming, 252 outgoing emails
* Facilitated 2 formal public works management staff meetings
* Met with managers individually to discuss operations, planning, and department structure
* Munis work order meeting took place with IT and Munis staff
* Review wayfinding phase 1 budget, layout, next steps
* 1 hr storm sewer training (Contech)
* Several meetings were held to discuss providing wastewater service to an industrial customer w/staff, the potential customer, and customer’s engineers. Currently the treatment plant does not have the flow or load capacity to treat this waste, but discussion may continue if the customer determines the City would be its best partner.
* Met with Mariani to discuss wastewater contract and wastewater related progress
* Compile data and begin DNR catastrophic storm grant project closeout documentation
* Held several transportation utility meetings, worked on data gathering, and had staff discussions about progress.
* Interviewed 5 candidates for Aquatics/Building Maintenance Technician position
* Flood Mitigation project meeting with Engineering and WI DOA
* Wastewater contract discussion, met with Biron, and prepared a contract narrative for further discussion.
* Work on WRRC closeout – change orders, aggregate, etc.