City of Wisconsin Rapids
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Director of Public Works Report

Activity highlights for January 2019

Airport:

- Worked with BOA and engineers to plan and prepare for 2019 development
- Hangar construction planning and design discussions/meetings continue
- Solicited estimates for potential upcoming terminal upgrades
- Worked with CVB regarding terminal marketing and partnerships
- Worked with Ho Chunk for procurement and installation of marketing monitors

Buildings and Grounds:

- Clearwater pump pit at city hall was cleaned. Pumps, discharge valves, lines were removed, checked, and cleaned
- Heating systems are being adjusted for more even heating with less temperature fluctuation
- Memorial bench program has been implemented and benches-grills have been ordered
- Tree work continues weather permitting
- Another city auction was run with surplus equipment from Centralia, Wastewater and City Garage
- Low board hockey and skating rink have been maintained as well as possible. Recent weather has been a challenge
- 2019 tree city packet was submitted
- Loose tiles at airport terminal have been repaired
- Work continues at zoo as weather permits on phase 1 improvements to the petting zoo
- Christmas decorations are removed and stored for the season
- Building inventory-capitol plan are being work on and updated
- Maintenance performed at several locations including ice machine rebuild, lighting, and drywall repairs at Centralia, painting, plumbing and heating repairs city hall, and lighting repairs at the zoo

Engineering:

Misc.

- 6 Permits/Applications for driveway grades, concrete pour inspections, storm water, excavating
- 26 Diggers Locates for Storm Sewer & Sanitary Sewer
- Exhibits and preliminary contracts were prepared and sent out as part of a proposal request to local land surveyors for the East Side Assessor Plat along Smith and Cherry St.
- Surveyors attended the annual survey convention which provides training opportunities and information on the latest industry trends.

Traffic

- Signal improvements at Lincoln St and Riverview Expressway are complete

- Public Works received concerns about pavement markings on CTH Z at 8th St S. City staff sent a letter to Wood County Highway Dpt. Identifying the concern and offering some suggestions and potential to cooperate on temporary and long-term options. Wood County is reviewing the short-term and long-term options and hopes to meet within the next couple of weeks.
- Preemption Testing occurred with City, CN, Federal Railroad Administration, Office of the Commission of Railroads in September. The City is conducted further testing with CN staff on Nov. 14th and continues to work with DOT staff on identifying corrective measures at Chase St, W Grand Ave and High St. A new controller was installed at Chase St and another one is ordered for W Grand Ave in preparation for reprogramming in the next few weeks. The old controllers do not have the capabilities to perform the necessary timing needed for the railroad preemption updates.
- Speed limit sign request was received on Township Ave east of 8th St S. A preliminary review of the area was done and the speed counter is planned to be installed the first week of February.

Project Designs/Construction underway:

- E Grand Ave – 3rd St to 8th St – Final plans were submitted August 1st, 2018 to DOT. Bid Opening was Dec. 11th, 2018. The low bidder is Gerke Excavating, Inc. from Tomah, WI. The low bid amount was $2,562,506.53. Irrigation and landscaping plans were prepared in January and are currently under review. Also, initial investigating is taking place on the ability to apply for PECFA funding for disposal of any petroleum hazardous material along the corridor. The City is responsible for those costs and additional assistance would certainly be advantageous. A new website was built and is published at http://bit.ly/EGrand along with detour & construction schedule maps. A meeting was held with the Chamber who will be working with the Engineering Dpt to meet with property owners in the coming weeks to update them on the project and provide basic phasing and construction schedule.
- Centralia Parking Lot – Excel Engineering who is working on the Northpointe development is currently redesigning the Centralia Parking Lot to fit with the proposed development. Storm Water Permits were reviewed and approved for the Centralia Lot and Arbor Terrace.
- 2018 Sidewalk Cutting/Grinding invoices have been mailed out to property owners.

2018 reconstruction projects

- High Street – 12th Ave N to 17th Ave N – all concrete driveway work is complete so residents can access their driveway and garage. Pember will be returning immediately in spring to complete the remaining sidewalk work.
- 10th St S sidewalk project –One section of sidewalk south of Goodnow will need to be replaced in the spring. City crews will be making the final restoration to areas along the project in 2019.

2019 & future designs for reconstruction projects

- E Grand Ave sewer & water plans are complete. Sewer, Water and Storm Water permit applications were submitted.
- E Grand Ave (Bridge to 3rd St) including 2nd St (Birch St to E Grand Ave) plans are 95% complete. Sanitary Lining contract was completed and is currently being let for bid.
- Transportation Project Plat for Seneca Rd and 2nd Ave/STH 54 was approved by Council in November and real-estate acquisition letters were sent out by DOT the week of Nov. 26th. Signature to the final plat is planned for next week.

- Tentative 2019 construction schedule is shown on the Engineering website.
- 14th Place Sewer & Water plans were completed and DNR permit applications for sewer and water extensions were submitted.

E River Bank Recreational Trail

- Phase II – a request for proposal was sent to MSA for bid letting and final plan modifications the week of Nov. 26th. The proposal was requested for the Public Works meeting on Dec. 4th. Also, a request for proposals for soil investigation around the clock tower in Mead Rapids View Park is being worked on. It is anticipated that the soil investigation work is completed in December. MSA is working to complete the final plan revisions. Soil boring work is complete and report data should be available very soon. Advertising for bids is anticipated to begin Feb. 22 with potential bid opening March 15th.

Storm Water Utility

- One Mile Cr. – The easement agreement was mailed to property owners on October 30th, 2018. Discussions with several properties have occurred in the last couple of months. A future neighborhood meeting is proposed to answer any final questions and provide an opportunity to meet with folks that have not responded yet.
- Stormwater Management Plan – MSA revised the storm water management plan and provided a final draft review on Nov. 26th. The report was submitted to the DNR at the end of 2018 and is currently under review.
- 2018 Storm Utility accounts were updated based on razing of buildings, developments, and land use changes.

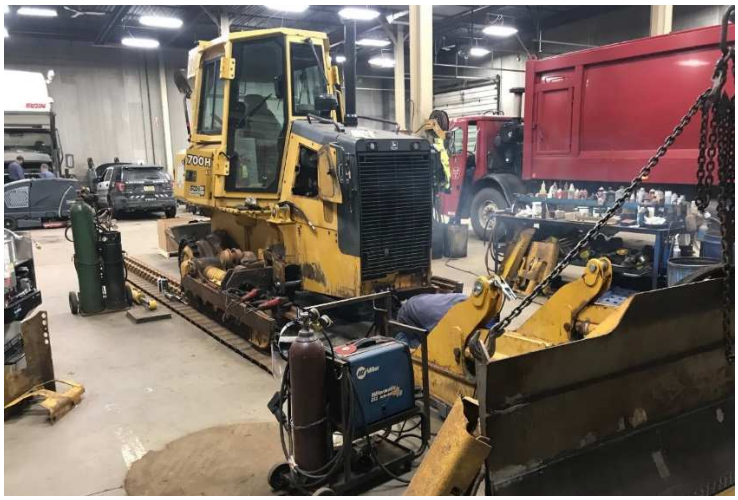
Streets:

Recent Retirements of Public Works staff

December 2018	31 ½ Year employee Keith Verjinsky started work in 4/21/1986 held many positions within the Street Dept., most recently Grader Operator and End loader Operator on Construction Crew
February 2019	30 ½ Year employee Kevin Anderson started work in 4/13/1988 held many positions within the Street Dept., most recently Relief Loader Operator, Relief Excavator and Tractor Backhoe Operator

- Painting at City Hall (Mayor's Office, HR Offices, Finance Main area, Clerk's Office)
- Assisted Waste Water with jetting dead ends
- Removed Christmas Decorations
- Fixed floor Tile at Airport
- Serviced construction water pumps
- Cleaned and replaced light fixtures in City Garage
- Screened Compost
- Manhole inspections for preliminary engineering of 2020 Construction projects
- Start build-out of garbage cans (approximately 3500 of 7200 built)
- Crushed our own black top to use on alley's and gravel shoulders
- Christmas tree pickup

- Removed snow piles from parking lots
- Maintain city streets in multiple rain/ice events, two-day snow storm and little snow events
- Took delivery of 800 tons of salt
- Assist Water Utility repairing water main breaks
- Assist in power installation to STH 34/13 Wisconsin Rapids sign
- Brushed road right away in multiple locations
- Worked with Parks to work out tree trimming areas
- Replaced multiple signs due to damage by vehicles during snow events
- Cleaned and serviced Centerline Paint Machine, Walk Behind and Curb Machine
- Installed 4’ x 6’ advanced warning traffic sign on overhead trombone arm
- Fixed Exhaust filter system on garbage truck
- Serviced spare recycling truck
- Convert hydraulic broom (for skating pond and general cleanup) from 3-point to skid steer style hitch
- Make loader forks for new mini loader
- Service small engine equipment (compactors and cut off saws)
- Find short in wire harness on street sweeper and repair
- Repair metal failures on plows and wings after snow events
- Rebuild wings after structural failures
- Picked up 383 tons of Garbage and 95 tons of recyclables
- Purchased a used 80hp little loader to replace a 22-year-old tractor
- 5-year service performed on 17 year old dozer (turn pins on track, replace wore out hydraulic hoses, replace bushings on hydraulic ram pins, make blade pins, install hard surface on push blade, and install new cutting edges) It is estimated that the staff doing this work vs. shipping it to a maintenance facility saved the City $15,000



Wastewater:

- Plant performance has shown some volatility during the recent holiday season. With large industrial users starting and stopping processing often, we see significant BOD load changes. Fortunately plant staff made the appropriate adjustments to keep all parameters within discharge permit levels.
- With the bitter cold temperatures plant staff has made the decision to fire our biogas boiler to heat our thermophilic digesters. Our biogas boiler is a 2,000,000 BTU unit as opposed to our CHP heat exchangers at 1,500,000 BTU. This means better performance for digesters and more ability to take hauled in waste during the winter. The sacrifice is less biogas for the generator to burn and make power.

- Although colder weather is setting in, septic and holding tank hauled in waste volumes remain quite high, this means more revenue for the utility, but not without more work load for our staff.
- Exceptional Quality Class A biosolids are available for local residents and companies to come and take for their use as state certified commercial fertilizer!
- In December we hauled 1950 tons of Exceptional Quality Class A fertilizer to a local farmer. We were paid for all of the material, a huge win for rate payers!
- The Wastewater Commission with staff recommendations selected *Process Equipment Repair Service LLC* to perform the Primary Clarifier overhaul this summer.
- Collection system crews have been cutting roots, cleaning catch basins, televising sewers, and cleaning lift stations with operations staff.
- Liquid train nitrification still appears to be helping to improve our biological microorganism settlability. Nitrification of ammonium nitrogen means higher oxygen demand from *nitrosomas* bacteria, which means higher blower electric costs, but does seem to be solving our settlability problems. Settlability is paramount in terms of plant capacity.
- Street Department staff has been assisting Collections Crews with winter dead end flushing/cleaning. This type of interdepartmental cooperation means efficient and effective system preventative maintenance.

  "Our Resource Recovery Facility strives to efficiently and effectively reclaim water, make green power, and produce Exceptional Quality fertilizer."

Other:

- Completed interviews and made job offer for parks position
- Continue to participate in a Harvard University research project relating to encouraging ordinance compliance through non-traditional methods.
- Presented a project update to the senior center board at the Centralia Center
- Lift station/Force main project continues to progress well.
- Assisted Mayor Vruwink meeting with prospective donors for the recreational facility and pool project.
- Held health insurance Q&A with the street department staff in cooperation with the human resources department