



Water/Sewer Update

This month we repaired 9 leaks not including leaking meters. We made 5 new water taps including a big water tap for DOT. The water crew repaired some main sewer lines and cleared 7 blockages. We continued cutting our right of ways and spraying manholes. We also are keeping up with our yearly valve maintenance. We did some sewer smoking to find any I&I. The water crew has also assisted with a few things helping improve veterans park. Our new guys are still learning and are improving everyday.

Natural Gas Update

Lodge – Propane burn

An old propane system was previously used at the Veteran’s Lodge. The gas crew burned the existing propane left on site and the water crew is working to remove the propane system from site.

Gas leak at Dollar General Distribution Center prompted immediate repair of gas line

The gas leak was due to corrosion. Our crew also removed trees at the Transco tap station. Lightning damage at the Border Station behind Dario required the Rosemount pressure transmitter to be changed. Installation of 1500 feet of 2” distribution main was also completed during May on the Tinker Creek Road in Union.

Getting ready for Dispatcher Center @ City Hall

The Call Center desk was installed in hall at City Hall and the addition of Plexiglass will provide additional protection between the dispatcher and the general public.



Electric Update

For the month of May, the Electric Crew accomplished many tasks along with hiring a new member on the team, Derrick English. The crew started the month by completing multiple underground services along with storm repairs. Also we performed substation ground maintenance in all city substations.



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Truth, Honor, Loyalty

Truth, Honor, Loyalty – It is good from time to time to remind ourselves of the importance of truth, honor and loyalty. These are concepts of actions that are vital to individuals and organizations alike. We all know we should be truthful, conduct ourselves honorably and be loyal. Equally, our organization (team, group, community, company, corporation, government, municipality) also has to be truthful, honorable and loyal. But rumors attack these important concepts. Rumors contain half truths and are, therefore, not truthful. Rumors cause unsuspecting harm and are, therefore, not honorable. And finally, rumors are started by those who don’t understand the meaning of loyalty.

As we think about truth, honor and loyalty, we need to be constantly mindful not to violate personal and confidential information. Copying, repeating and distributing this information inappropriately is a violation of these principles. This is particularly important for all city employees. The very nature of our jobs puts us in contact with such information about the public and our municipal government. But don’t confuse personal and confidential information with secrets. There is no place in our organization for secrets. Secrets violate truth, honor and loyalty. Much information, such as personnel files and public records are personal and confidential, but as part of the public record, are not secrets. Just as there are appropriate ways to access such information, there are inappropriate ways also.

Creating and passing rumors and violating personal and confidential information is not only not truthful, honorable and loyal, it is cowardly. The City has a tremendous organization, so it’s appropriate that we sometimes remind ourselves of some basic values that need to be protected. If you hear a rumor, have the courage to stop it. Seek the truth, demand the truth; there should be no secrets. Be sensitive to personal and confidential information. Protect it. By protecting it, you protect yourself. Respect yourself and the confidence placed in us all.

We all “hear” things all of the time. It is wrong to both judge others on “hearsay” and to pass along that information. We live in the information age but many times, even large media organizations get it wrong initially. The internet does not contain any truth serum. And just because we may “hear” something, it is not necessarily true.

Be truthful, honorable and loyal.

In this issue

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- Lab Certification P.2
- News and Notes P.3
- Natural Gas, Electric & Water P.4

SAFETY

“The single biggest problem in communication is the illusion that it has taken place.” -George Bernard Shaw

IMPORTANT NEWS:

New Employees:

Please welcome Mr. Kevin Carter to the water plant and

Mr. Derrick English to the Electric Line crew.

WATER PLANT Update

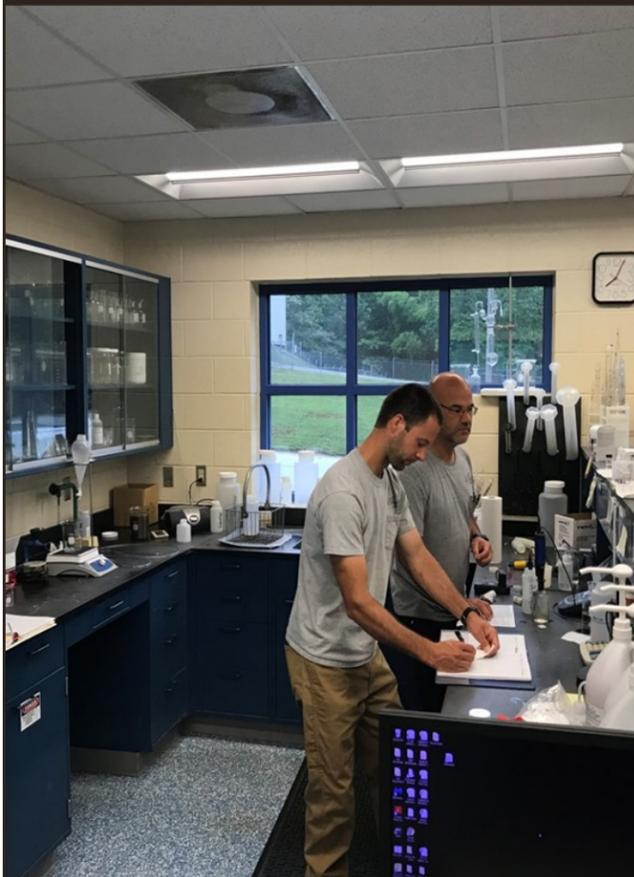


It's been a busy month of May at the water plant. We installed three more Swan Turbidimeters, a total of eight complete with one more to go. Utilities Services finished up the cleaning ,repairing and painting of Aqua Lane Tank and put back in service. Completed the installation of the new #3 pump at Aqua Lane Pump Station . Osborn finished repairing and spraying of #2 basin and we put it back in service. Osborn also repaired #2 sodium hypochlorite bulk tank. Arnold Franklin celebrated 22 years of service. Willie Holcombe celebrated 13 years of service.

The City of Union Tosches Creek Wastewater Plant events that took place the Month of May. Over the course of the month we treated 35.47 million gallons of wastewater. We also registered 7.1" of rain for the month. This was a little short of the record, set in 1910, according to The Weather Channel.

The industrial flow was not as much as usual due to Covid-19, which had a lot of businesses shut down the entire month. The operators worked hard at keeping the wastewater plant in compliance with the permit issued by SCDHEC. They also checked our 15 sewage pumping stations regularly to make sure they were pumping all they were designed to pump. We also received leachate water from the landfill and septic trucks brought water from those who have septic tanks from our county.

We met with the Design and Electrical Engineers to discuss the electrical layout for the sodium hypochlorite and sodium thio-sulfate system. We also received our Standardized samples for requalifying the lab and each operator. Which is a every year occurrence . (SCDHEC standards) These have to be performed and results returned usually within a short period of time. Pic: John and Daniel are performing part of the procedures for re-certifying the wastewater lab.



GIS Update

Too Many Things to Do

Busy is our middle name these days. Our kick-off date of July 1st is fast approaching with too many things to complete.

On Monday, June 11th, we will be meeting with Greg Steele here, at City Hall to discuss after-hours calls. His primary focus will be the needs of our crew supervisors on how they want the calls relayed to them. It will give him a feel for operations on how best to serve us. Also, Rebecca and Britni will provide their needs for after hour restoring of services.

Don't hang up! Our one number call center will be in play on July 1st as well. Several people will be trained to fill in for breaks, lunch hours, or vacation. The receptionist desk is stationed in the hall to greet customers as they pass and assist with directions if needed. Tamika Browning will be filling this position. With her wonderful personality, I'm sure she will do well.

Let's get started with our data. I have created our dashboard and workforce templet for the crews. We will begin testing our system this week to find our weaknesses before the kick-off.

We are all excited about the changes and will work diligently to be successful.



- You may have noticed that there are several items in this newsletter related to veterans. Our electric crew took down the flag poles at Veterans Park and refinished them, sanding and painting. They will also be taking down some trees near the right side drive at the Veterans Building in the park. The water/sewer crew has been hauling concrete blocks to the same site to start a new access road. The gas department eliminated (see pic above) the remaining propane in the tank so we could dispose of it.
- The tennis courts are now finally under construction. Over the next 8-10 weeks, you will see major changes. First the fence comes down and then the existing asphalt is removed. Finally, new compacted base and asphalt are put down. The end will be a

new surface and a new vinyl clad fence. Looking forward to the grand opening!

- Maxie Sanders and the gas crew moved the receptionist desk to the entrance way at City Hall. Maxie then crafted the new plexiglass protective barrier for the counter.
- Many thanks to Melody Porter who has spent long hours overseeing our new call center project. She is also coordinating the implementation of the Workforce system as well. She has received great support from our staff as well, especially Rebecca Lance. Thanks Rebecca!
- We received another \$500,000 grant for sewer improvements. The work will be targeted at the Union Mills area and should just about complete those upgrades.
- We will be kicking off the West Main sewer project in late July or early August. Expect some traffic delays as we progress down the last two block s of Main before the bypass. This project also brings improvements to S. Evans, Ravenscroft, Buffalo St, E. Hillcrest and Malone Avenue.

Thanks to the Street Department!

This week we have received several compliments regarding the street department. I have received several calls including Mr. Pendergrass of May Street and Mrs. Moore of Maple Street.

I also received a few calls thanking us for the prompt pick up of limbs and sticks. Even for the delivery of new trash carts. Keep up the great work!



NEWS and NOTES

A Semi-Regular Feature

- The city broke ground on the Depot project on Main Street today. Another step in the revitalization of our downtown area and continued support for the existing merchants. This project will be a community space that will provide function as well as aesthetics to the area. We appreciate the continued leadership we receive from the city and hope that we can continue the progress.
- You will be seeing a new message on all of our vehicles soon. We will be spreading the word about our new phone number 429-1700. This number will be everyone's 24 connection to our wonderful customer and emergency services.