



March 10, 2020

## City Manager's Report

The City is working with State and Local health department officials to ensure that we are observing proper procedures for keeping staff and citizens safe as the COVID-19 disease continues to spread throughout the world, including the United States. In short, the recommendation is that folks wash their hands, stay home if they are ill, and self-quarantine for 14 days if they are returning from an area that may have had COVID-19 disease present. As the disease continues to spread, we will watch for advice from the public health sector and continue to update our recommendations. Supplies of disinfectants and hand sanitizers are very limited, but we have enough supplies on hand to protect our staff at this time.

Projects are continuing to progress. The SCADA system to control our water and sewer systems is currently being installed. 4 new antenna masts for the SCADA system are nearly complete, and footings are dug for the cement anchors. The automatic reading meters are in the process of switching from an AMR system to an AMI system. The difference will include usage datalogging for most residents. We will try to place the antenna in a location that best serves most residents. The manufacturer (Neptune) was on site yesterday evaluating the potential sites for the antenna install. They will run a computer model to help choose the best location. If there are many residents who aren't picked up by the system, we may have to add more antenna sites at a later date. Interim Public Works Supervisor, Nick Powell is working hard to keep the public works department moving forward. We are looking for an experienced leader to help transform the department into a more organized entity.

Roads: We are still applying cold patch asphalt to fill the worst potholes. We will resume using hot patch for our repairs when the weather warms up.

Admin: Sales Tax: February: \$30,419.00 (month over stats aren't available yet, but the sales tax revenues continue to be far less than expected.) We are currently 67% of the way through the fiscal period, reports show that General Government has spent 69.5% of our planned expenditures and received 64.7% of our expected revenues. Tax revenues have declined substantially below our budget projections, and the City continues to take steps to reduce expenses and cut costs. Public Works have spent 67.3% of our planned expenditures and received 71.1% of our expected revenues. All of these budgetary figures include payments for grant funded projects, not yet reimbursed.



**Projects:** The AMR contractor will install a fixed mounted AMI antenna to provide the services described in sales presentations. The library parking and driveway project is prepared for final compaction and asphalt when the weather is warm enough to install it. We expect the project to be complete long before our August deadline. FEMA is expected to fund an estimated total of \$60k for damages incurred during the Spring storm season. These funds will allow us to replace damaged equipment and make necessary repairs. Again, thanks to Andy Stephens who has performed admirably in his assignment, working with FEMA. The Pool Project is continuing to progress, we should have more news in the coming month.

**Parks:** Our parks are beginning to wake up. Public Works has begun preparing the equipment to begin maintenance in the coming weeks.

**Library:** Operating smoothly. The library hours may change slightly in the coming weeks to accommodate schedule and State Aid requirements. Currently the hours remain (M&W 10-3, Tu & Th 10-6, F 11-2). The library saw 5 new patrons in February. March events include Paint Party on March 13<sup>th</sup>, and Story Time on March 20<sup>th</sup>.

-Ryan Wallace, City Manager