



July 9, 2019

City Manager's Report

Despite being in an active state of emergency, the Fourth of July activities in Crescent were wonderful this year. I would like to acknowledge the hard work of public works employees for getting the town and parks ready, and to the police and fire personnel for keeping things safe through the holiday. The Police Chief deserves special mention for his work building the operations plan used on the 4th. Next year the city will take a more active role in planning the Fourth. We do not want to take anything away from the Chamber of Commerce or the folks that plan activities, but rather serve as a central hub for organizing the events of the day. We believe that a little coordination will help things run more smoothly, and may give us some opportunities to increase participation. We have formally ended the emergency response and are now in a disaster recovery mode. We expect the vast majority of the recovery will occur sometime in the first quarter of the fiscal year 2019-2020 (FY19-20), but full recovery may take much longer. We are still finding items damaged by the storms as we dig into the repairs. Timeline (not priority) for repairs is vehicles, communications including computers and phones, water and sewer control systems then roads and drainage. We have had many complaints of drainage problems in the city. We attribute most of the issue to record rainfalls (storm and flooding are considered a 225 year event) and the particularly flat geography of Crescent. Lack of bar ditch and culvert maintenance (including rubbish in the bar ditches) is also to blame. We also have had many people try to correct issues on their property and end up creating new water flow and drainage issues for themselves or their neighbors. In the long term, a hydraulic analysis and a storm drainage master plan will help Crescent to improve the drainage. In the short term, improved maintenance of bar ditches and culverts will help. We currently have ordinances requiring residents to clean their bar ditches (e.g. 12-15) and codes that prevent residents from throwing trash or debris (e.g. 12-8) into drainage ditches, but I believe we need to enact some ordinances to prevent people from changing the flow of drainage water without an approval process. Currently, many of the problems we investigated during the peak storm flows were caused by improper drainage ditch slopes caused by erosion and/or people digging or filling bar ditches without a master drainage plan. This master drainage plan should be developed using information from a hydraulic survey that establishes flow lines and water drainage patterns. The hydraulic survey will be an expense we do not have budget for at this time, and I have not researched grant funding opportunities that may exist. We have replaced a lost PWA employee and added one part time position to assist with the increased workload. Logan County is unable to provide inmates at this time, but I believe they will resume the program in the future. When they do, we will use inmate labor for many of the road repairs.

Roads: The storm damage is very apparent in the roads, where we have seen much damage to the road surface and the road base below the asphalt. We have made some repairs, but we have a long way to go. Things are drying out to the point where we can start fixing asphalt. We are trying to prioritize the busiest and most heavily damaged areas first. No inmate labor hurts us here.



Admin: Sales Tax Report. (June 2019, \$33,267.46) At the end of the fiscal period, in General Government we have spent 91.7% of our planned expenditures and received 106.3% of our expected revenues. Strong sales tax and carefully managed spending have resulted in a budget surplus to General Government of approximately \$150,000. In Public Works, we have spent *94.4% of our planned expenditures and received 98.2% of our expected revenues, resulting in a surplus of approximately \$40,000 in Public Works funds. (*Including a debt reserve transfer from PWA to the Waterline Replacement Fund of \$21,412, not reflected on the financial reports in Council Packets.) Some disaster response expenses have landed in June (the last month of FY18-19) which has had a small impact on the budget surplus we had accrued throughout the fiscal year in Public Works, however most of the disaster related expenses will occur in FY19-20. We do expect to be reimbursed for much of the disaster related expenditures in FY19-20.

Projects: The electronic water meter project bid opening was on June 24. We received one qualified bid from Core & Main. The bid was broken into 4 quadrants, a base bid and 3 alternates. The price for all 4 is approximately \$230k which was about 20% less than we were expecting. Because the complete project is only about \$20k more than our budget, we are planning a budget amendment from the PWA contingency reserve to complete the entire meter replacement at once. Construction will begin as soon as practical; we expect in the first quarter of FY19-20.

Parks: The public works department did a great job getting the town ready for the Fourth of July holiday, so the parks look pretty good at the moment. We recognize there are areas that can be improved on, including bathrooms, swings and equipment, finishing up the parking barrier fence, and many other areas. We will work to address these issues as we can, but at a lower priority than infrastructure. The splash pad opened on July 3rd in time for the holiday. Operating hours are currently 8am-8pm every day. We will adjust these hours as necessary and may have to restrict the use of the splash pad to prevent overload to the sewer system, but at the present time, we believe our system can handle the flow.

Library: Operating smoothly. The librarian has been continuing to assist with the Farmers Market. To assist with the anticipated flood or insurance and FEMA paperwork and to help administer the grant projects currently underway and provide resources for new grant applications in this fiscal year, I have increased the librarian's hours to full time. The library hours will remain the same (M & W 10-4, Tu & Th 10-6, F 11-2) but her additional hours will be spent administrating current grants and applying for new grant resources.

Thank you,
Ryan Wallace
City Manager