

Memo

To: Mayor and Council
cc: Department Heads
From: Pat MacQueen
Date: October 5, 2009
Re: Manager's Report

Downtown 155B Orders

The bids for the cleanup of the southern parcel of the burnt out downtown properties have been advertised and the bid opening is October 19, 2009. In the last report, I indicated that we were waiting for approval to be able to use Neighborhood Stabilization Program funds for this cleanup. That approval has been obtained. Previously, I reported that the northern abutter had retained counsel to assist with the problems which must be resolved between that property owner and Heinrich Kandel, the owner of the two burned properties. Apparently, that attorney has been un-retained and now it will be up to the two property owners to work out the resolution of the issues of the joint wall that they share in the demolition of that wall.

Watson Street Demolition

The demolition of the building next to the Watson Street Pump Station got underway today. It is a project that requires continual wetdown of the premises to keep contaminated dust from flying around. Fortunately, with the weather we have been having that shouldn't be too much of a problem.

ATV Meeting

Last Wednesday, people involved in implementing the new cross-town ATV trail met to try to finalize plans for the implementation. Another such meeting is scheduled for October 14th. At that meeting, it is hoped that plans for a ceremonial grand opening will be formulated with the idea that such an opening will occur at the end of the month.

NHDOT Meeting on Rt. 110 Phase II

On Thursday October 1st, City Planner Laflamme and I attended another of the historical meetings on Rt. 110 Phase II with respect to the so-called historical mitigation which must be done because of the project's removal of properties. Each of these meetings is an eye opener on how people who live in a different world can look at an issue. It is difficult to get these people to even talk or think about the ridiculous costs they are proposing such as 'documenting' each removed home to the tune of \$20,000 each. While it is clear that the Federal Law requires mitigation of the impact of the loss of the 'historic' structures, some of the ideas such as appropriate landscaping which add to the project make sense, but others such as this type of over extensive 'documentation' makes no sense at all.

Assessing RFP

After five years with Avitar as the City's assessor it is time to do another beauty contest to determine the next contractor for this function which will begin as of July 1, 2010. We have begun work on this process and expect to have it advertised within the next month.

Fire Station Grant

We have received word that the Town of Londonderry received the only stimulus funding for the construction of new Fire Station facilities under the so-called stimulus funding. We will try to get a copy of their application but my guess is that it will boil down to the fact that we didn't have any architectural or engineering plans prepared for the project which means we weren't "shovel ready" which is the big emphasis in all the stimulus funding. Generally, it is the more affluent towns which are in the "shovel ready" position because they have already prepared the plans and were in a position to build the project without the stimulus funding.

Rural Development Grant Submission

The Rural Development grant application we had been working on was submitted to Rural Development in Concord on Friday September 25th. This is to try to obtain funding assistance in making long overdue improvements to the City's WWTF which were necessary even before the advent of the BOP FCI, but are even more necessary with that

facility projected to come on line in late 2010. We will be meeting with RD and State officials in Concord on the 21st to go over the application.

Weekend Events

All the events this weekend seemed to get off OK despite the on and off again miserable weather. Homecoming and the Lumberjack Festival had the best in terms of weather. RiverFire had drizzle off and on for most of the afternoon. We were in retrospect lucky to be able to get the fires off before the real downpour started, which was about fifteen minutes after the fires had died down. Darting in and out among rainfalls seems to be becoming an annual ritual.

School Board Meeting with Milan and Dummer

Attached is a notice from Superintendent Cascadden of a Berlin School Board meeting with the Milan and Dummer School Boards at the Berlin High School Library on October 6, 2009 at 6pm. The Mayor and Council are invited to attend this meeting.

PW Monthly Report

Attached.

Manager's Time Keeping

Attached.



Berlin Public Schools
183 Hillside Avenue, Berlin , NH 03570
Telephone: 603/752-6500; FAX: 603/752-2528

September 24, 2009

Mayor and Council
Berlin City Hall
164 Main St.
Berlin, NH 03570

Dear Mayor Bertrand and Council Members,

On Tuesday, October 6, 2009, the Berlin Board of Education will meet with Milan and Dummer School Boards as part of the requirement for school districts with tuition and/or AREA agreements.

The agenda is as follows:

- I. Call to Order
- II. Discussion and Questions
 - a. Review of laws
 - b. Review of minutes
 - c. Cooperation and joint efforts
Efficiency of Operations/school districts in the valley
- III. Public comments
- IV. Adjournment

You are invited to attend this joint meeting to be held at Berlin High School Library, beginning at 6:00 p.m. The Berlin Board of Education will hold its regular meeting immediately following the joint meeting, rather than on Wednesday, October 7, 2009.

Sincerely,


Corinne Cascadden

cc: Pat McQueen, City Manager

Public Works Dept. & Pollution Control September Monthly Report

Safety:

1. Dicky Laflamme remains out on Workmen's Comp., had shoulder surgery. He has been out since November 17th, 2008. Currently applying for disability.
2. September 11, 2009 Michael Ross backed into dumpster handle at the belt line of his lower back. (report only, no medical attention necessary)

Meetings/Special Events:

- September 15th: Met with Waterworks on several planning items and issues.
 - Paving Plans for this fall.
 - Wescott Street
 - School Street by Cambridge and Spring
 - Lower end of River Street
 - Rocky Lane
 - Hinchey Street away from the Phase two 110 project.
 - Project Planning on waterline replacements
 - Moving from Gobel Street to Burgess
 - May do Spring Street from Gilmette to Hillside
 - Next year plan to replace waterlines in High Street area around the Middle School and Jr. High School.
 - Issues
 - Granite Street Dust and Noise complaints from residents. Miscommunication on solution between Myself, Craig Carrigan and Steve Lefevre than Roland Viens not in agreement and he bring it to the Water Commision for a decision not changing current set up.
 - Waterworks installing temporary repairs on storm and sewer systems than back filing without Sewer Crew involvement on final connections.
 - September 15th met with Diane Roy (safety inspector) N.H. Department of Labor to go over her inspection of the Public Works Garage. We reviewed some of the deficiencies in the area that should be resolved.
 - One of major concerns is housekeeping. The is a lot of clutter on shelving that could be removed or organized in manner to reduce the potential of something falling from higher elevation.
 - Oxy/Acctylene bottles must be chain unto the cart

Public Works Highlights and Projects:

- Repairing several washouts from the August 23rd Storm Damage.
 - Unity Street
 - Willow Street
 - Spring Street
 - Cates Hill
 - Sessions Street
 - Western Avenue
- September 14th and 15th assisted with clean up and traffic control for vehicles and pedestrians for the Fagins Pub demolition incident.
- September 19-21 assisted the High Street fire with barricades and clean-up.
- Set up Barricades and signage for Homecoming and River Fire.

Sewer Crew Highlights and Issues:

- 9/1 investigated sink hole by the National Guard Armory, it ended up being their responsibility.
- Completed the extension of the storm collection system on Portland Street to capture spring from Arthur Street embankment which flowed across the Peters and Greene properties was completed. This storm line was over 260 feet with the installation of two structures.
- Repairing several storm drain washouts from the August 23rd Storm Damage.
- Cleaned over 65 catch basins.
- Cleaned over 1600 feet of main sewer line with the high pressure sewer jet.
- Repaired storm line by Enman Hill and Grafton Street. Replaced over a hundred of failed 12" RCP with 12" SDR 35 plastic pipe.
- Repairs sewer services, sewer lines and storm lines from the waterworks projects on River Street, Gobel Street and School Street.
- September 14, repaired sewer service at 137 Bridge Street, manhole failure caused system back-up.

Pollution Control Information Submitted by Henry Noel:

Monday, October 05, 2009

To: Mike Perreault

From: Henry Noel

Re: Monthly Report for September

1. No accidents or incidents to report this month.
2. We had no violations of our Discharge Permit this month:
3. No outside Trainings this month.
4. Flows through the Plant hovered around 1.32 MGD for the month, especially during the first half when no rain fell and the River flow dropped. This is very low and approaches what Berlin Water Works discharges daily, ~720,000 gallons plus another 60,000 gallons of sludge. We saw Influent Flows as low as 1.09 MGD this month.
5. We experienced a number of mishaps this month:
 - a. Re-installed repaired Submersible Pump #2 at Dairy Bar pump station on September 10 and have run it alone all month looking for problems to develop; nothing so far, it has just run smoothly as a new pump would. We are asking for permission to order a new Flygt pump so we can replace the #1 Submersible Pump and send it out for repairs.
 - b. Cyclo gear TSP #1 continues to make grinding noise, even after repair and adjustment last month. Will need to open it up and inspect it carefully. Nothing to report here.
 - c. Phantom Hazardous Gas Alarms coming in at Headworks; determined that sensor is old and drying up so ordered replacement. Installed replacements September 15 at Headworks and Watson Street Pump Station: OK now.
 - d. UPS at Main Plant PLC failed on night of T-Storm 8/21; gave to Mark Vaillancourt to replace batteries at CP4, Headworks, Plant Water System UPS's. All UPS's will have fresh batteries, ie, no more than 3 years old when installed. Mark found UPS for Vulcan Controller had failed when he replaced the batteries (9/16); ordered a new one and installed it September 18.

- e. NH Bureau of Labor inspector Diane Roy performed a walk-around Inspection on September 21: had some issues with signage, guards, Confined Space procedures, labeling (Crane and Hoist), and miscellaneous other items.
Working down list I made of items she talked to me about.
- 6. Pete Marquis with JP Bell Construction began unloading Hydronic flush water into our sewer system at the manhole at the City Industrial Park for processing; unloaded 6 loads the week of September 21. This is Sewer Revenue for the City, once we bill them for services.
- 7. Received and put in service new Instrument for Lab to test BOD's with: an Optical D-O meter, on September 23. Used it today myself, seems to run well: much faster than old meter.
- 8. #1 Centrifuge continues to run well, dewatering sludge 5 days a week. We had a Level Sensor/Temperature Probe fail on 8/31; bypassed it to resume operation and plan to order a new and a spare. Replaced with new on September 11.
- 9. Moved inactive Chart Recorder from the Dairy Bar to Armory Pump Station and worked with Mark Vaillancourt and crew to put in service; want to track daily flows so that when the Bell people begin to dump to the sewer at the Industrial Park, we can count the frequency of dumps and estimate the amount of liquid to correspond with their account, for billing purposes. Meanwhile, made contact with Groveton Acquisition LLC about salvaging some Chart Recorders we could use in our other Pump Stations: found 3 Foxboro units, comparable to the newer ones we have and offered \$100 apiece for them. They accepted, have pulled them out for me, and am awaiting a check to be cut so I can go pick them up. Picked up on September 10 and put in storage for now.
- 10. Worked with CDM Constructors to improve the communications network among the 6 pump stations and the Main Plant; they submitted a proposal, which I've passed along to Andre Caron for comment. No comment yet; need to decide shortly if I proceed with this.
- 11. Ted collected Samples for permit-required Toxicity testing August 26 and sent them out by way of their courier. Expect results in another 5 to 6 weeks. Toxicity Test results came in September 15 and all OK (no observable effect of Dummer Yard leachate, sampling procedures OK, and sent along to USEPA, NHDES).

Michael P. Perreault, Public Works Director

