



December 11, 2020

Mayor Donald D. Lyons
City Council Members

Dear Mayor Lyons and City Council Members:

Next Meeting: Council Monday 12/11/20, 7:00 PM

The following report has been prepared to provide you with an update on current issues or projects in progress:

Assistant City Manager Natalie Dean reports that insurance open enrollment was completed this week and the City is pleased to report that rates were only increased this year by 2.9%. Also, the City has two entry level maintenance positions open in the Department of Public Services. The job posting for these positions can be found under Human Resources at www.cityofdowagiac.com. This week, interviews with seven different candidates for the payroll/accounting clerk took place out of the 60 applications received!

Director of Public Services Chad Tyrakowski reports crews have been working short-staffed due to COVID quarantines. However, the weather is cooperating, allowing for progress with outdoor projects and construction. The majority of leaves have been collected, so crews moved on to squeeze in brush pick-ups.



The major project of the week centered around the homes being built on Parsonage and Spruce. Although slowed by the discovery of 4" and 8" concrete under the asphalt, a lateral and section of sewer main were repaired while installing the tap and cleanout on Parsonage. Sherlock Homes delivered and set the house for the corner. A plan was established with MEC to supply temporary overhead and permanent underground services to both homes. Ferguson will install the water taps for both.

We worked with R&D, Jgrant Excavating, and the Housing Commission to redirect a collapsed sewer line that was located under the slab of Chestnut Towers. We worked with Lousbury at the former ICG site to repair a water valve that had been uncovered, identify/abandon three manholes and a vault, and supply top-soil. And, our crew disconnected a CCWS water service in preparation for demolition.





Flory Line Construction continues with pole replacements, working on the large pole between Chestnut Towers and our substation. While in process, a report of a leaning pole on Ashland led to the discovery of a large limb that had come down on a Johnson St. service, fracturing the pole. We initiated a short outage, pulling Flory to cut the large limb, replace the pole, and upgrade an outdated closer.

We coordinated with Miller-Davis to install the remaining curb along New York Ave, remove/replace some damaged sidewalk, and identify a sewer lateral. MEC was in to initially

pull fuses, and returned today to remove the old transformer, pole, and service. MEC also reviewed the plan to feed the new airport hangars, identified a tamper that was addressed, and assisted with a last-minute restoration due to a tree service damaging the riser and meter base of a home, causing arcing and requiring Public-Safety response.



NOVA has been at the WWTP this week to retrofit and replace the previously received parts for the tertiary filters. The digesters were emptied, with field application completed. F&V submitted this month's MOR report, including a new format requested by EGLE.

Meetings were held with Precision Concrete Cutting to finalize criteria for a sidewalk rating system. Mitch attended the SLAUA Board Meeting. Gordon and Mark participated in a TAMC Reporting webinar.

Today is the last day for DPW Maintenance Worker Tim Ruff, who is leaving to pursue another opportunity. We thank Tim for his contributions, and wish him and his family the best. With this and another position soon being vacated, we are in the process of advertising and scheduling interviews.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Kevin Anderson in blue ink.

Kevin Anderson, City Manager