



City of Hagerstown, Maryland Status & Information Report No. 26 for 2009

July 10, 2009

To Mayor Bruchey and Members of the City Council:

UPCOMING MEETINGS

❖❖ JULY 2009 ❖❖						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2 8 am Market In The Square 5 pm City Center Jazz Nights @ University Plaza	3 Holiday - City Offices Closed	4 6 pm Fireworks at Fairgrounds Park
5	6	7 4 pm Work Session	8	9	10 8:30 pm Friday Night Outdoor Movies @ Wash. Co. Free Library	11
12	13	14 4 pm Work Session	15	16 8 am Market In The Square	17	18
19	20	21 4 pm Work Session	22	23	24 8:30 pm Friday Night Outdoor Movies @ Wash. Co. Free Library	25
26	27	28 7 pm Regular Session	29	30	31	

COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

1. Events.

- The City of Hagerstown is helping to sponsor two events - Wind Down Fridays at the Maryland Theatre and free movies at the Washington County Free Library. The Wind Down Fridays will start on Friday, July 10 from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m., and the free movie will be on July 10 starting at 8:15 p.m. outside the Library.
- The City of Hagerstown will provide co-sponsorship of the "Remembrance In The Park" Preparedness Event to be held at Hagerstown City Park, Emergency Services Tribute Garden Section on September 1, 2009.
- The final City Center Jazz Nights was held last Thursday. More than 100 people attended despite severe weather.
- Craft applications are still coming in for Augustoberfest. This year's Augustoberfest will be Saturday and Sunday August 22 and 23.

2. Hagerstown Government Television

- Wind Down Friday at The Maryland Theatre with host Karen Giffin, Director of Community Affairs; Jay Constantz, Executive Director The Maryland Theatre and Benito Vattelana, Secretary Board of Directors The Maryland Theatre.
- National Night Out with host Karen Giffin, Director of Community Affairs; Brian Rising, Target Store Team Leader and Gerald Kendall, Hagerstown Police Department.

3. **Press Releases.** Press releases distributed include: Traffic Advisory Velo Club's Hagerstown Challenge; Highlight Hagerstown awards; Thomas Days at the Railroad Museum
4. **Hagerstown Website**
 - Hagerstown Walks, City Walking Routes map available online at http://www.hagerstownmd.org/Com_Affairs/events.asp
 - Going Green, City-Wide Recycling Program brochure available online at http://www.hagerstownmd.org/Com_Affairs/cityDirectory.asp
 - Going Green, Energy Savings Tips available online at http://www.hagerstownmd.org/Com_Affairs/cityDirectory.asp

PARKS DEPARTMENT

1. **Hagerstown Greens at Hamilton Run** – Work continues on the greens, tees and various other maintenance issues at the golf course. Landscaping and grass planting has begun.
2. **Park Benches** – Last week, fourteen metal park benches were received and will be placed throughout City Park. This week, we received an additional fourteen, to be placed in Pangborn Park, Fairgrounds Park and the trail between the two. Also on order for the trail are trash receptacles.
3. **Pangborn Park** – Working with the plumber, the water line to the refurbished restrooms at Pangborn Park has been repaired.
4. **Hager Park** – The tenant of Hager Park residence recently vacated the premises; we are now in the process of making minor repairs and repainting the interior.
5. **July 4th Cleanup** – In staff's opinion, this year's July 4th event at Fairgrounds Park had the best fireworks display ever. With the biggest crowd to date, cleanup of the fireworks continued through Monday with assistance from the Western Maryland Consortium crew.

PLANNING DEPARTMENT

1. **Zoning Certificates Issued For New Businesses:**
 - Uncle Louie G's Flavored Ices recently opened on East Washington Street.
2. **New Development Cases:**
 - Site plan received for an 8.23 acre tract behind the 1st Virginia Bank on Paul Smith Boulevard, for a two-building retail block, totaling 70,000 square feet.
3. **Planning Commission:** The Planning Commission reviewed the following matters on Wednesday, July 8:
 - Home occupation amendments to allow "home work stations" as an accessory use for residential units (rather than a special exception to the BZA) – this will go for public hearing on July 29th.
 - Special exceptions for reuse of commercial buildings and spaces in the residential districts – this will go for public hearing on July 29th.
 - Mini-warehouse storage facilities in the I-MU District – decided not to pursue.
 - Wind and Solar Ordinance – requested that staff do further research on municipal models.
 - New zoning district names – agreed to zoning district name changes for the commercial and residential districts when the comprehensive amendments to the Land Management Code are undertaken. The numbering system will be replaced with abbreviations (e.g., C1, Commercial Local, will become CL, Commercial Local).
4. **Historic District Commission:** The HDC reviewed the following cases on Thursday, July 9:
 - 105 North Potomac Street - Doug and Kristy Carroll - approved the use of simulated slate material to replace existing worn out natural slate material on the mansard roof of the old Junior Fire Company Building.
 - 31-33 West Antietam Street - A & S Associates, LLC - approved rear demolition and fence
 - Workshop: 72-76 West Washington Street - John McPherson sought and received guidance on contemplated additions to the Manny's Rugs building on West Washington Street.

5. **Tree Canopy Cover Goal:** On July 7th, the Mayor and City Council considered the Planning Commission's tree canopy cover goal for the city of 30% by 2050. To give a sense of what that means, 30% of the current land area of the City is 2,235 acres. With the tree cover which has been added from annexation and the tree plantings which have been added and approved from development since 2003, at maturity, the tree canopy cover of the city would be 21.4% or 1,593 acres. Using the 2009 land area for the city, the proposed increase of 8.6% would equate to 641 additional acres of tree canopy cover. When the City used the State's grant in 2003 to plant 246 trees at South Hagerstown High School, it was estimated that the tree canopy cover at maturity of that project would be approximately 4-11 acres. It would take 58-160 projects like the South Hagerstown High project to reach the 30% goal.

6. **Heritage Area Grant Awards:** The Maryland Heritage Area Authority considered the recommendations for grant awards for this year at their meeting on July 9th. Since no one raised any objections on the MHAA Board, it would seem that our two grant applications will be fully funded as recommended. We will be awarded \$5,000 for round three of the interpretive plaques and \$100,000 to extend the sidewalk café district enhancements from South Potomac Street to North Potomac Street. The official notices of award should come out within the next couple of months.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Calls for Service	CDS Arrests	Other Criminal Arrests (Including Warrants)	Parking Tickets	Moving Violations	DUI	Search Warrants Executed
4,524	42	112	1,056	226	12	2
Numbers above are from 6/11/09 thru 7/8/09						

1. **Counterfeiting Arrest (6/11):** HPD investigators and United States Secret Service agents executed a search warrant on a house at 306 South Locust Street in reference to an on-going counterfeiting investigation. Investigators looking into a rash of counterfeit U.S. currency being passed throughout Hagerstown learned that persons inside the home were manufacturing fake bills. As a result of the investigation and search warrant, 33 year old John Robert Scott, Jr. was arrested and charged with manufacturing and possessing counterfeit U.S. currency.

2. **1st Degree Assault (6/13):** At 6:47 p.m. officers responded to WCH for a stabbing victim. They learned that the victim, Fohn Zawolo, was involved in an altercation with his brother Shaw Zawolo in the area of the first block of Elgin Boulevard. During the altercation, the victim was stabbed three times. Officers were not able to locate the suspect, and the investigation is continuing. The victim's injuries were serious but non-life threatening.

3. **Prostitution Arrest (6/13):** The Street Crimes Unit arrested Tina L. Strouth of 507 West Washington Street for prostitution after she solicited a plainclothes officer.

4. **Prostitution Arrests (6/17 & 6/18):** The Downtown Squad conducted prostitution stings utilizing a plainclothes officer. Arrested were:
 - David Edward Wilson of Delwood Avenue, Hagerstown.
 - John Clifford Britton of Weber Way, Hagerstown.
 - James Morris Guyer III of Hamilton Boulevard, Hagerstown.
 - Frank Kurtz of Bennette Court, Thurmont, MD.
 - Charles Stewart McCleaf of Redbud Court, Waynesboro, PA.

5. **Prostitution Arrest (6/30):** The Street Crimes Unit arrested Jeanni Heather Ricketts (no fixed address), for prostitution after she solicited a plainclothes officer.

6. **Shots Fired (6/21):** At 7:35 p.m. officers responded to the alley to the rear of Hagerstown Trust on West Franklin Street. There they found one .25 cal. bullet. A male was reported to have shot at another male. The suspect is a black male wearing a red shirt and fishing style hat with dreadlocks. Possible suspect vehicle is a compact silver vehicle with VA registration.

7. **Stabbing (6/21):** At about 12:50 a.m. a citizen stopped an officer in the first block of West Antietam Street and reported that someone had just been stabbed. The officer found the victim, William Smith, who was suffering from an apparent stab wound to the left chest area. He was transported to WCH where he was admitted for treatment of non-life threatening injuries. Based on information gathered during the investigation the suspect was later located and arrested. He was Samuel Lee Taggart of 55 Avalon Avenue. Taggart was charged with 1st & 2nd Degree Assault and Reckless Endangerment.
8. **Handguns Recovered (6/23):** At 3:42 p.m. a citizen flagged down an officer in the 400 block of Park Place to report he found two handguns in the bushes in front of his house. HPD had been in the area for a report of shots fired just after midnight on 6/22, but did not located anything. The weapons were .22 cal. revolvers. Additionally, .380 cal. shell casings were found on the ground there.
9. **Handgun Recovered (6/23):** At 4:25 p.m. officers responded to the 400 block of Center Street after a neighbor spotted two males in a silver Toyota Camry pull a handgun from a bag in the area of Ridge Avenue Park. Patrol officers located the males and a vehicle fitting the description, but the witness could not identify them. Officers found a .32 cal. revolver in the alleyway behind the 400 block of Center Street. The incident is still under investigation.
10. **Bank Robbery (6/25):** At 2:25 pm a male wearing something covering his face entered the Sovereign Bank located off of Edgewood Drive near the Martin's Food store. The male approached the counter and demanded money from the tellers. No weapon was displayed and no one was injured. The suspect fled the bank walking across the parking lot towards the Martins Food store where he was seen entering a newer model silver SUV with unknown registration plates. The suspect entered the passenger side of the vehicle as a second person, (no description) drove them away. The vehicle drove towards the Dual Highway, towards the McDonald's entrance before the witness lost sight of it. Both the suspect and driver are unknown at this time. The suspect was described as a black male, approximately 5'-6" to 5'-8" tall wearing a black Washington Nationals baseball hat, a light colored button up, long sleeved shirt, and what appeared to be jeans with a pattern or design on the back right pocket area. The design was lighter than the pants and fairly large. The suspect also was wearing gloves at the time of the incident. The item covering his face has not been identified at this time.
11. **Bank Robbery: (6/26):** At 11:03 a.m. an unknown white male entered the M&T Bank located on Garland Groh Boulevard. The male approached the teller and handed them a note demanding cash. After receiving the cash the suspect exited the bank and fled on foot across the parking lot towards the WalMart Store. No one was injured in the robbery and no weapons were displayed. Officers from the Washington County Sheriff's Office and MSP responded along with Hagerstown City Police officers to the area. The suspect was described as a white male in his late 20's to early 30's, approximately 5'-8" to 6'-0" tall, thin build. He was wearing a blue baseball hat and a dark colored button up shirt. The suspect also had a tattoo of some kind on the side of his neck. After reviewing the surveillance footage investigators believe the suspect is the same person responsible for some of the recent bank robberies that occurred in the county a few weeks ago at other M&T banks.

RECREATION DEPARTMENT

1. **Hager House & Railroad Museum**
 - Tours: Staff is pleased with the continued steady rate of tourism, and we are glad to report that the last month's statistics at both our historic sites showed an increase over last season with the Hager House reporting over 1,500 visitors last month and the Railroad Museum over 1,100 an increase of over 200 people from 2008! Requests for tours continue to come in weekly.
 - Hager House Programs and Events: This week staff continues to plan for the upcoming historical presentation next week of "Mother Goose Unplugged" the history behind our popular Nursery Rhymes also preparations are being made for next months " Antebellum Hagerstown" presentation. Staff spent time this week creating news release for these events and researching for presentations to be put on later in this season.
 - Railroad Museum at City Park: Staff spent much time this week putting the final touches on the advertising and preparations for this weekend's "Thomas the Train Event" we look forward to a big turn out. Effort was also put forth to plan new uses for the exhibit space on site and to start the rotation of pieces very soon. Staff is very motivated by the chance to build visitation to this Museum!

2. **Fairgrounds Park**

- Saturday, August 8th Community Yard Sale Fairgrounds Park Stables from 7 am to 2 pm.
- Saturday, August 22nd Warwagens Car Club "Car and Bike Show" Fairgrounds Park Stables from 8 am to 4 pm.

UTILITIES DEPARTMENT

ELECTRIC DIVISION

1. **Problem Areas.** Recent call-outs included:

- Wed. 7/1 - Various locations (re-connections for non-payment). Time Out: 17.3-17.8
- Thu. 7/2 - Various locations (re-connections for non-payment). Time Out: 17.8-18.2
- 36 West Antietam Street (District Court building). Cover at base of cross-walk signal was busted; replaced cover and secured base. Time Out: 16.5-17.3
- Fri. 7/3 - 130 East Baltimore Street (rear). Secondaries arcing; trimmed trees, additional trimming in coming week to avoid any future problems. Time Out: 19.7-20.4
- Sat. 7/4 - Various locations (re-connections for non-payment). Time Out: 9.0-9.7
- Sun. 7/5 - 430 East Washington Street. Total outage; bird in transformer; fuse was replaced and service was restored. Time Out: 10.4-11.3
- Mon. 7/6 - Various locations (re-connections for non-payment). Time Out: 16.1-16.6
- Tues. 7/7 - Street Light Patrol (various locations). Time Out: 20.5-23.0
- Wed. 7/8 - Various locations (re-connections for non-payment). Time Out: 17.0-17.1
- Various locations (re-connections for non-payment). Time Out: 22.0-22.1

2. **Distribution** Recent activity included:

- The installation of poles, transformers, underground primaries, etc., continues in the Cramer's Alley area.
- Inspection and repair of Feeders #1 and #4 at Fairground Substation continues.
- Inspection of Feeder #2 at Fairground Substation has been completed.
- No high bill complaints were received this week.
- Line maintenance work continues in various areas.
- Line crews continue trimming trees in various residential locations.
- Temporary service was installed at WPC so necessary repairs can be made to their facilities.

Lamps Replaced	New Fixtures Added	Changeouts	Fixtures Removed
24	0	4	0

3. **Engineering** Staff worked on the following projects:

- The Staff Engineer finalized the specifications for substation circuit breakers to be put out to bid. The new breakers will replace our aging units to improve reliability of our system.
- The Electrical Engineer finalized the specifications for the fiber optic cable and materials to begin Phase II of our fiber optic communication project between our substations for SCADA.

WATER DIVISION

Plant Flows - System Demand (MGD)

<u>Date</u>	<u>Willson</u>	<u>Breichner</u>	<u>Total</u>
07/01/09	11.20		11.20
07/02/09	10.68		10.68
07/03/09	10.42		10.42
07/04/09	10.52		10.52
07/05/09	10.93		10.93
07/06/09	11.80		11.80
07/07/09	11.79		11.79
Average			11.05

Water Production at RC Willson

- Willson continues to operate well; water temperature is currently 80 degrees. Organics have increased causing us to adjust coagulant feed rates. We have also seen a sharp increase in overall water demand in the last few days.
- The instrumentation crew has repaired the exhaust fans in the filter room and the pump room. They are installing new UPS units at Willson, Breichner and Park Ave. (maintenance office). They also moved the chlorine analyzer from the gate house at the west end to Pump Station #6. Operation and maintenance crews have been mowing and performing routine preventative maintenance.

Water Production at Breichner

- The Edgemont Reservoir is currently at -6.5', the bypass is open 1 turn and the hydrant is shut. The Breichner Plant was not operated last week; the manganese level is now exceeding 1.20 mg/l (very high).

Water Distribution

- Crews are continuing to perform customer service related duties throughout the system which includes meter settings, meter reading and meter exchanges. We will be replacing the meters at Potomac Heights Elementary School and the Career Studies Center. The Jonathan St. main replacement project is going well. The Water Dept. has installed water main to the intersection of Jonathan St. & Pennsylvania Ave. The main has passed pressure and bac-t tests and crews are working on the service changeovers in the last block. We are working on Cedarwood Dr. changing services over and are planning to insert about 200' of 2" water line. Virginia Ave. overlay is completed and we are moving to the county overlay on Jefferson Blvd.

Laboratory

- New sections of lines were tested microbiologically on Jonathan and O'Neals West. They were approved for use.
- Bi-annual point of entry parameters were reported to MDE as part of EPA's lead and copper self monitoring regulation. These are parameters normally reported in our monthly operating reports but are put in a separate format.

Engineering

Reviews:

Simplified Plat	2
Building Permits	8

WASTEWATER DIVISION

Wastewater Treatment Plant at Frederick Street

<u>Date</u>	<u>Flow (mgd)</u>	<u>Rainfall (inches)</u>
Wednesday, July 1, 2009	6.90	0.08
Thursday, July 2, 2009	6.81	0.05
Friday, July 3, 2009	6.43	0.00
Saturday, July 4, 2009	6.16	0.00
Sunday, July 5, 2009	6.08	0.00
Monday, July 6, 2009	6.39	0.00
Tuesday, July 7, 2009	6.34	0.00
Weekly Average/Total	6.44	0.13
Monthly Average/Total	6.44	0.13
Yearly Average/Total	6.76	17.98

NPDES Permit Report. Was completed and mailed to MDE and EPA, there were no permit violations for the month of June 2009. This is our 15th consecutive month with a permit violation. There have been only two permit violations in the past 36 months, dating back to June 2006.

Plant Projects

- ENR-UV the contract has been forming the foundations and walls for the ENR Filters, they have also beginning to install new electrical conduit for the backup generator. Plant & Collection System staff assisted Conewago with investigation of the 36 inch to 18 inch ozone cooling water discharge piping by using the CCTV unit to video the pipe.
- Headworks – contract is installing electrical conduit for the new barscreens and associated equipment.
- Electrical Junction box replacement – Crews from Light Division have installed a temporary transformer on the Oxygen/Aeration Basin. Plant staff has connected the power leads to the mixer junction boxes. All mixers are in service, the junction box should be upgraded by the end of next week.
- Pressure Vessels – Inspections completed and new certificates have been posted.
- Plant Painting – Trophy Painting has completed the painting of the Primary Blending piping on the oxygen/aeration basin. New Look Painting has few remaining pipe supports to complete.

Wastewater Collection System

<u>Activity</u>	<u>Districts</u>	<u>Linear Feet of Main</u>	<u>Feet of Lateral</u>	<u># of Lateral Inspections</u>
CCTV	38	1,109	39	3
Flushing	19,20,21	2,156	-	-

<u>Point Repairs</u>	<u>Districts</u>	<u># of Repairs</u>	<u>Reason</u>	<u>LF of Repairs</u>
Main Line Only	1	1	Cracked pipe	7
Lateral Only	21	1	Roots	18
Main & Lateral	1	1	Roots	31

Collection System Maintenance Task

- 11015 Parkwood Drive – replaced grinder pump core
- 1514 Kensington – replaced leaking discharge assembly on grinder pump
- Flushing trouble spots on Outer Drive, Rock willow and Sharpsburg pike.
- 63 Belview Avenue – Open manhole for Roto-Rooter
- Collection System Crews began scheduled inspection of Grinder pumps and Alarm System in the Brightwood and Fairway Meadows area. Eight units were completed this week.

Laboratory

- Regulatory and process testing is running routinely.
- A sampler was set at Phoenix Color to monitor their industrial discharge.

Administration

- Bids were advertised for the Salem Avenue CS Rehabilitation Project on July 7, 2009. The pre-bid meeting is scheduled for July 22, 2009.
- The quarterly report for the Consent Judgment was mailed to MDE on July 6, 2009. A copy has also been posted on the Utilities Department - Wastewater Divisions web page.
- Staff attended progress meetings for the ENR-UV project and the Jonathan Street project this week.

**City of Hagerstown Strategic Plan -
Focus on the Quality of Life in Hagerstown**

Respectfully submitted,

Bruce J. Zimmerman
City Administrator