

CITY OF HAGERSTOWN, MARYLAND STATUS & INFORMATION REPORT NO. 7 FOR 2020



February 21, 2020

To Mayor Bruchey and Members of the City Council:

UPCOMING MEETINGS

FEBRUARY 2020

For additional information and a complete list of City events, please visit our Calendar of Events on the City's website at <http://www.hagerstownmd.org/calendar.aspx>

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4 4pm Work Session	5	6 6pm Youth Advisory Council Meeting	7	8
9	10	11 3pm Quarterly Joint Meeting With County Commissioners @ County 4:15pm Executive Session 4:30pm Work Session	12 4pm Hagerstown Planning Commission Meeting	13 4pm Board of Traffic & Parking Meeting 4:30pm Hagerstown Historic District Commission Meeting	14	15
16	17 HOLIDAY CITY OFFICES CLOSED	18 3pm Executive Session 4pm Work Session	19	20 6pm Youth Advisory Council Meeting	21	22
23	24	25 7pm Regular Session	26 7pm Hagerstown Planning Commission Meeting	27	28	29

COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT

This Week's Headlines & Media Releases:

- Hagerstown Fire Department Wants More Space
- Basheer Azizi Meets Downtown Challenges Head-On
- Council Hears Zoning Change Recommendation
- Council Discusses Chain Link Fence Height
- New Group Addresses Hagerstown's Youth Violence with First Event for Middle and High Schoolers
- New Photos Sought for Faces of Hagerstown Second Exhibition
- Alexander House Owners Propose Renovations to Historic Downtown Building
- Former Hagerstown Restaurant Owner Gets 18 Months in Drug Case

- Doleman Black Heritage Museum Seeks Grant to Create Oral History of Jonathan Street
- Corderman: Give Part of Hotel Tax to CHIEF
- Press Release: Schmankerl Stube Celebration & Ribbon Cutting
- Press Release: Councilwoman Keller to Receive Trailblazer Award
- Traffic Advisory: Antietam Street
- Yard Waste Collection Advisory: 2020 Season

This Week's Video Projects

- Mayor & Council Work Session
- "State of the City" Video Scheduling
- "State of the City" Video Shooting
- "Hub Bub" Video Podcast Recording

Channel 25 Hub City Now Programming:

- "Hub Bub" Video Podcast
- See It, Say It, Send It App Video
- The Fit Room :30 Spot
- Stormwater Program Informational Video
- Mayor & City Council Meeting—Thursday at 7pm, Saturday at 9am, and Sunday at 9am & 3pm
- MTA Commuter Connection

City Website:

- www.hagerstownmd.org attracted 9,633 user visits for the week of February 10-16, 2020.
- The most popular top entrances (the first page users accessed on the website):
 - Home Page 2,096
 - Utility Billing Page 942
 - Police Page 276
 - Bids Page 229
 - Jobs Page 172
 - Parks & Recreation Page 113
 - Civic Alerts Page 106
 - Collection-Schedules-Zones Page 104
 - Firefighters Page 104
 - Flying Fitness Page 98
- Top Searches:
 - "True"
 - "Jobs"
 - "Online bill payment"
 - "Water"
 - "2020 holiday pickup schedule"

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

HYAC: The Hagerstown Youth Advisory Council met to discuss upcoming community projects. Their next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 5th at 5:30 p.m. at the BuroBox.

Business Development Update:

- Staff attended the monthly Fort Detrick Alliance meeting this week.
- The Celebration and Ribbon Cutting of the expanded Schmankerl Stube will be held on Monday, February 24th at 1 p.m. The Schmankerl Stube is an authentic Bavarian Restaurant located in downtown Hagerstown, where it has been a cornerstone business since 1988. Founded by Charles Sekula, the restaurant is now owned by Dieter Bosel, executive chef. Their philosophy is if customers are happy and enjoy the food, they will return. The expansion of the restaurant has doubled its size, enabling it to accommodate more customers while creating more job opportunities in the community.

- The Grand Opening and Ribbon Cutting for District Cannabis will be held on Tuesday, February 25th at 10:30 a.m. District Cannabis is a licensed medical marijuana cultivation center committed to producing the highest quality and safest products for Maryland patients. District Cannabis is located at 560 Western Maryland Parkway.

Main Street: Main Street is hosting their first 5 Committee Full Meeting on February 26th from 4-5:30 p.m. Attendees can meet at the DCED office or tune in during or after the meeting by using ZOOM Video Conferencing.

Events:

- The Augustoberfest Committee continues to meet and gear up for the 25th Augustoberfest. The event will be held on August 15 and 16 this year.
- Staff coordinated meetings this week with the City Logistics Team to review plans for upcoming events including Imagine Hagerstown and the Boys & Girls Club Over the Edge Rappelling Event.

Imagine Hagerstown: Planning is underway for the 2020 Imagine Hagerstown Saturday Street Festival – Saturday, September 26, 2020. Meetings next week include:

- February 24th at 10 a.m. – Imagine Hagerstown Entertainment Committee Meeting
- March 3rd at 10 a.m. – Imagine Hagerstown Food & Beverage Committee Meeting
- March 4th at 10 a.m. – Imagine Hagerstown Marketing & Sponsorship Committee Meeting

PARKS & ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

ENGINEERING DIVISION

1. **Heyser Parking Lot.** This project is currently out to bid and would pave, landscape, and light this 44-space on top of the hill in City Park adjacent the Mansion House.
2. **Pangborn Lake.** We believe we are in the final stages of the State/Federal permits for this project. We anticipate bidding as soon as the permit arrives and hopefully starting construction in July.
3. **Engineering Statistics**

TRAFFIC ISSUES		
Description	Week of 2/16/20	Calendar Year 2020 TOTALS
Traffic complaints received	4	31
Work Orders completed	3	22
Traffic counts completed	0	2
CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS		
Description	Week of 2/16/20	Calendar Year 2020 TOTALS
Projects advertised for bids	1	1
RFP's Advertised	0	0
Projects under construction	7	7
Projects completed	0	0

PARKS DIVISION

1. **Program Open Space.** Staff is scheduled to meet with the County Parks Board on March 5th to present our FY21 requests for funding.
2. **Potterfield Pool.** A Notice to Proceed was issued to the contractor to install a new roof on the pool house.

3. **Restrooms for BMX and FIT Room.** Architectural plans are complete and we applied for a building permit to split the existing restrooms to create separate restrooms for BMX and the FIT Room.
4. **New Event: Touch a Truck.** Staff is working with various City Departments to bring a new event to City Park called *Touch a Truck*. *Touch a Truck* will provide an opportunity for kids of all ages to explore the vehicles they've seen on City streets, in movies, books, and driving around town. A hands-on experience for the entire family! Climb on, honk a horn, "drive" and explore a wide variety of trucks like a dump truck, crane, excavator, street sweeper, fire engine, backhoe and more! Food and kids activities will also be part of the fun. The event is being planned for Saturday, June 27th from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the City Park Train Hub Museum & Engine 202

PLANNING & CODE ADMINISTRATION

New Zoning Certificates Issued:

- 761 East Wilson Boulevard, Suite Z – Divine Blessings Hair Salon Barber On Site.

Board of Zoning Appeals. The BZA hearing scheduled for February 19 was canceled. The application was withdrawn when it was determined that the variance requested was not needed.

Planning Commission. The Planning Commission will discuss input received at the February 25 Mayor and Council's public hearing on the comprehensive rezoning. Commission members will make recommendations to the Mayor and Council on any changes requested by the public.

Historic District Commission. Because no cases were received for review, the February 27th HDC meeting has been canceled.

Weekly Activity Report: February 10–14, 2020

PERMITS								
<u>TYPE</u>	<u>NUMBER OF NEW APPLICATIONS</u>							<u>NUMBER ISSUED</u>
Building	9	Residential -	6	Commercial -	2	Other -	1	10
Electric	14	Residential -	9	Commercial -	5	Other -	0	14
Plumbing	14	Residential -	9	Commercial -	5	Other -	0	14
Mechanical	9	Residential -	5	Commercial -	3	Other -	1	9
Engineering Dept.	6							6
TOTAL	52		29		15		2	53
<u>Est. Value of Issued Building Permit Projects:</u>					<u>FY20 Fiscal Year Totals:</u>			
Residential	\$ 257,789.00				\$ 4,956,533.00			
Commercial	\$ 80,000.00				\$ 8,741,472.00			
Apartment	\$ 5,300.00				\$ 1,169,900.00			
Sign	\$ 2,000.00				\$ 430,505.00			
TOTAL	\$ 345,089.00				\$ 15,298,410.00			
Projects of Interest:								
- Construct single family home at 12502 Chambliss Drive - \$105,000								
- Construct single family home at 17347 Kilpatrick Court - \$105,000								
- Renovation of two existing restrooms on second floor at 224 West Washington Street - \$56,000								
- Interior renovations at 444 Stratford Avenue - \$38,000								
RENTAL LICENSING PROGRAM YEAR: JULY 1, 2019 – JUNE 30, 2020								
					<u>PROPERTIES</u>	<u>UNITS</u>		
Registrations received week of Feb. 10 – Feb. 14					1	1		
New applications issued week of Feb. 10 – Feb. 14					2	2		
Total 2019-2020 registered (includes additions and subtractions since 5/2/19)					3,603	9,250		
Percentage of rental license renewals that have registered for the 2019-2020 license year					99.0%	99.0%		

Notes: The 2019-2020 rental license renewals for 9,609 units in 3,807 properties were mailed on May 3, 2019.

PAYMENT

Weekly payment received	\$ 75
Weekly adjustment/credits	\$ 75

INSPECTIONS

TYPE	NUMBER CONDUCTED
Building	73
Electrical	71
Plumbing	60
Mechanical	26
Safety	57
Neighborhood Vitality	21
Quality of Life	2
Preventive Maintenance	0
Planning & Zoning	2

INSPECTIONS KEY:

Categories of Conditions

Safety	Conditions which are or reasonably present a hazard to occupant or public.
	<u>Example:</u> No smoke alarms, improper wiring, handrails
Neighborhood Vitality	Conditions which cause or tend to cause diminution to property
	<u>Example:</u> Weeds, trash, debris, junk vehicles, deterioration of a structure.
Quality of Life	Conditions which negatively impact occupants.
	<u>Example:</u> Damaged surfaces, damages elements, missing screens
Preventive Maintenance	Conditions which are technical violations and need addressed to prevent deterioration.
	<u>Example:</u> Mortar deterioration, clogged gutters, minor rotting wood
Planning & Zoning	Conditions which violate Land Management Code requirements (zoning, forest conservation, floodplain, historic district and other requirements) and progress inspections of development projects for site plan compliance.
	<u>Examples:</u> Uses not permitted in property's zone, construction of new facilities, follow up inspections on open violations.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

STATS

Calls for Service:	1,272	Field Interviews:	18
Arrests/Warrants Served:	21	Moving Violations:	20
Domestic Violence Calls:	30	Safety Repair Orders:	7
DUI Arrests:	0	Warnings:	104
Reports Filed:	128		

REPORTS

02/13/20: Officer Wertz responded to police headquarters for a report of a theft. The victim stated that she had taken her vehicle to a local dealership for repairs and when the vehicle was returned to her a ring had been removed from the vehicle's console. She had already contacted the dealership and inquired if anyone found a ring. The dealership contacted HPD and asked for assistance since they felt that a company employee was a person of interest for the possible theft. HPD set in motion a plan to catch the possible thief. The plan was successful and the ring was recovered. The employee was terminated and Officer Wertz filed charges against him.

02/14/20: Officers were dispatched to Outer Drive for the report of a disturbance. Upon arrival, officers located a male in the street with a knife and a machete. The male, who had family members standing close by, was threatening to harm himself. Officer Campbell ordered the family members to stand a safe distance back from the male. The officers began to give verbal commands for the male to drop his weapons but the male refused. Officer Campbell loaded a less lethal shotgun with stabilized beanbag rounds and positioned himself behind the officers to persuade the male to drop his weapons. The male's brother at that point began to assault Officer Zupan who was also at the scene. At this point, Sergeant Plummer gave the command for Officer Campbell to deploy the less lethal beanbag shotgun. The male immediately dropped his weapons. The male, the male's brother, and Officer Zupan were all transported to Meritus Medical Center for treatment of their injuries. The male and his brother received multiple charges for the incident.

02/16/20: Officers were dispatched to Liberty Street for the report of shots fired. Officer Smith located shell casings and looked for possible impact areas. He located a gray Infiniti that had been struck five times in the rear area of the vehicle. The officer took photos and searched for bullet fragments. Officer Smith was unsuccessful in locating fragments, however it appeared that one round went through the bumper, entered the back seat, and struck the "B" pillar of the driver side door. No further details are currently available.

02/17/20: Officer Williamson responded to South Potomac Street for a report of a burglary to a storage unit. The victim stated that a storage unit he rents from Valley Properties had been broken into. The locking bracket was pulled off of the door to gain access. The victim reported that his small moped had been stolen. No further details are available.

02/19/20: Officer Wertz was dispatched to South Cannon Avenue in reference to items being stolen from inside a motor vehicle. The victim stated that she parked her vehicle in front of her residence and thought she has secured the vehicle. She began receiving phone calls and alerts in reference to possible fraud attempts to her bank account. She discovered that someone was trying to use her bank card at a Sheetz. She then checked her vehicle and found that her vehicle had been ransacked and items were missing including her bank cards. No damage was done to the vehicle. She contacted her bank and cancelled the bank cards. There is no additional information available.

PRESS RELEASES

On 02/15/20 at 9:30 p.m. officers from the Hagerstown Police Department Violent Crime Task Force along with members of the Washington County Special Response Team executed a search and seizure warrant at 316 Jonathan Street in Hagerstown. Upon execution of the warrant officers located drugs, drug paraphernalia and US Currency. Officers arrested 28 year old James Williams of Hagerstown. Williams was taken into custody without incident and transported to the Washington County Detention Center where he was charged with the following: CDS: Possession with Intent to Distribute, CDS: Possession-Not Marijuana and Common Nuisance-CDS Distribution. James Williams is currently being held without bond

OTHER NEWS/INFORMATION

HPD Has a New Detective. Detective Dustin Vogel has been employed by the Hagerstown Police Department since 2014. He was originally assigned to the Patrol Division and served on Alpha Platoon under the supervision of Sergeant Casey Constable. Effective February 17, 2020, Detective Vogel was transferred to the Criminal Investigative Unit under the command of Sergeant Andrew Lewis. We wish Detective Vogel much success as serves in a different capacity at the Hagerstown Police Department.

PUBLIC WORKS

CHART NO. 1 – GENERAL PARKING SYSTEM DATA

		Current Week	Previous Week
Number of Permit Holders	A & E Deck	185	185
	University District Deck	440	440
Number of Student Permits	Central, Market, Rochester Lots	28	28
Number of Patrons Using Decks	A & E Deck	1614	1525
	University District Deck	1820	1832
Number of Citations Issued	(Includes Warnings)	270	256
Late Payment Notifications		32	40
Peak Occupancy (%)	A & E Deck	100% Fri @ 6 PM	85% Wed @ Noon
Peak Occupancy (%)	University District Deck	53% Tue @ 10 AM	54% Wed @ 9 Noon

CHART NO. 2 – A&E PARKING DECK WEEKLY OCCUPANCY

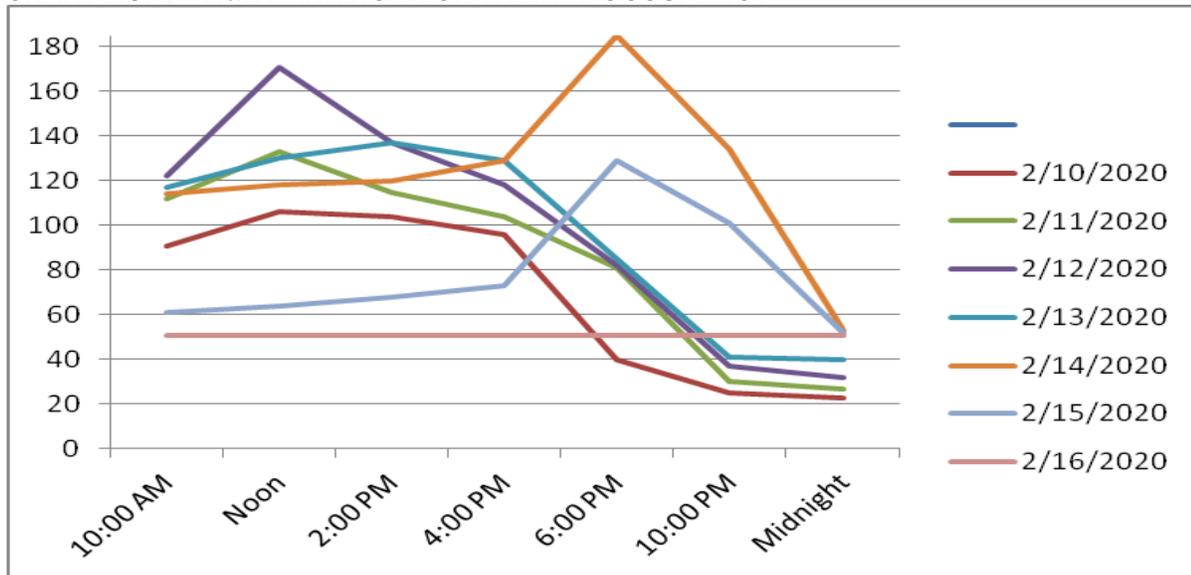
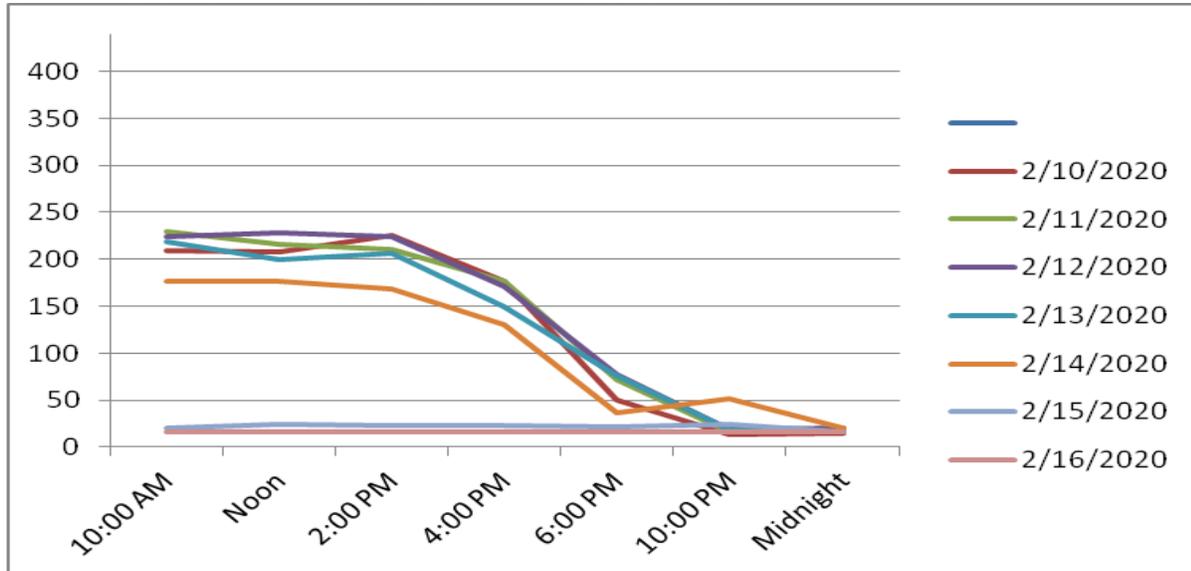


CHART NO. 3 – UD PARKING DECK WEEKLY OCCUPANCY



CENTRAL MAINTENANCE GARAGE REPAIR DATA

	Current Week	Previous Week
DCED	0	1
Fire	1	1
Human Resources	0	0
Light	4	1
Parks & Engineering	0	5
Police	8	8
Public Works	5	6
Wastewater	3	6
Water	2	8
Weekly Totals	23	36
Yearly Total	158	

AFTER HOUR CALL BACKS

- Friday, February 14, 2020 @ 10:30 p.m.: Staff from the A&E Parking Deck reported the Pay On Foot machine was jammed with a bad bill. The deck was mostly empty and drivers were paying other ways to exit. Our service technician arrived at 7 a.m. on Saturday morning to address the issue and to make repairs to an exit lane that was not dispensing the receipt tape. The equipment was returned to normal operations for the weekend.

BILLING OFFICE REMODEL

- Progress continues on the fourth floor of City Hall for some new space for staff from Billing. The work included the removal of a wall, the construction of a new wall, drywall patching, painting and a new ceiling. The intent is to have the work completed by the end of February with staff relocating from their space at 51 West Memorial Blvd. to City Hall in early March.

UTILITIES DEPARTMENT

ELECTRIC DIVISION

Service Calls:

- Mon. 2/17
- 108-110 North Mulberry Street: Partial outage; triplex wire replaced to correct problem. Time Out: 8.8-11.0
 - 1014 Corbett Street: Total outage; customer tore service wires down while trimming trees. Line crews reattached service to restore power. Time Out: 11.2-12.1

Distribution:

- HLD began a street light project where downtown street lights are being removed temporarily to have them professionally refinished.
- HLD line crews assisted Verizon Company with several pole replacements throughout our service territory.
- Line crews assisted Potomac Edison with switching at our substations as they conducted maintenance to their facilities.
- HLD continues work in the Carroll Heights area as part of our system improvement and upgrades to improve service reliability.
- ARS Contractors continue to do tree trimming in HLD service territory as part of our yearly maintenance.

Engineering

Staff worked on the following projects:

- Multiple permit reviews, underground locates, and service upgrade requests have been reviewed and/or completed by engineering staff.
- The Staff Engineer and Engineering Designer began rail crossing sighting work for an extension of HLD's underground electric infrastructure in the area of Wesel Blvd.
- Engineering staff began coordination work for the bi-annual testing of HLD's line operations vehicles.
- The Staff Engineer continued review of schematic and construction drawings for new HLD 38kV vacuum breakers.
- The Staff Engineer released, reviewed, approved, and entered bids for HLD stock material purchases.

Administration

- The Electric Operations Manager responded to multiple regulatory requests for information regarding HLD electric utility operations.

WASTEWATER DIVISION

Wastewater Treatment Plant at Frederick Street

Date	Flow (mgd)	Rainfall (inches)
Wednesday, February 12, 2020	6.89	0.13
Thursday, February 13, 2020	7.07	0.04
Friday, February 14, 2020	6.51	0.00
Saturday, February 15, 2020	6.27	0.00
Sunday, February 16, 2020	6.09	0.00
Monday, February 17, 2020	6.17	0.00
Tuesday, February 18, 2020	6.11	0.00
Weekly - Avg. Flow / Total Rainfall	6.44	0.17
Monthly – Avg. Flow /Total Rainfall	6.51	1.38

Miscellaneous

- Removed faulty WAS pumps from ASPS building and rebuilt in the shop.
- Replaced defective piping on Hypochlorite tank and made modifications to drain tank.
- Installed/ programmed electronic level controller and transducer to replace defective mechanical float switches at ENR drain station.
- Routine maintenance (MP2 Program) and Corrective Work Orders.

Wastewater Collections

SSES Weekly Progress

Activity	Districts	L. F. main	Feet of lateral	# inspected
CCTV Inspections	#4,8,9	936'	10	163'
Flushing	#6	7,476'		

Collection System Maintenance Tasks

- Sewer backup, 1048 Noland Drive, cleaned blockage from mainline.
- Grinder pump call, 20112 Teakwood Drive, reset smart switch.

- Met with Mr. Gehr, 837 West Washington Street, about removing his fuel tank and the close proximity to our main line per Jim Bender. While there, replaced MH covers 17085 and 17086, and dug out and raised MH 17086.
- Changed out lids on manholes 22071, 22131 and 08082.
- Worked on storage rack in the pole barn.
- Hauled in B-10 stone and topsoil for inventory.
- Routine pump shop repair work.
- Met with Jeter Paving at Summerlin to correct their mistake with our MH dishes.

Administration

Wastewater Division – Customer Call Log Summary 2020							
Type	Blockages	Grinder Pumps	Odor Complaints	Flushing	WW Pump Station	Other	Totals
Weekly	4	2	0	0	0	2	8
YTD 2020	13	14	2	0	1	25	55

Engineering

- Staff attended a webinar for training with Collection System on Data Collector.
- Staff reviewed several projects.
- Staff attended Service Awards celebration for City employees.

WATER DIVISION

Plant Flows - System Demand (MGD)

<u>Date</u>	<u>Willson</u>	<u>Breichner</u>	<u>Total</u>
02/13/20	9.63		9.63
02/14/20	9.67		9.67
02/15/20	9.55		9.55
02/16/20	9.58		9.58
02/17/20	9.98		9.98
02/18/20	10.24		10.24
02/19/20	10.08		10.08
<i>Average</i>			9.82

Water Production at R. C. Willson

- R.C. Willson and Pump Stations—Staff worked on facility maintenance and routine preventative maintenance.

Water Production at Breichner/Edgemont Reservoir. The Edgemont Reservoir pool elevation is currently at 4.0 feet. Site evaluation continues per the contract with Hazen and Triad. City staff and Hazen and Sawyer continue to work with MDE Dam Safety on the final Dam Evaluation Report, Emergency Action Plans, and the design criteria and project schedule.

Water Distribution

- Distribution crews are working throughout the system performing customer service work and new meter installations as needed.
- Crews continue to replace residential meters throughout the water service area.
- Repairs were made to a water main break on Maplewood Circle.

Laboratory

- Process and regulatory testing were routine for the week.

Engineering

<u>Reviews:</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>County</u>
Site Plans	1	1
Preliminary Plats	-	-
Final Plats	2	-
Replat	-	1
Grading Plan	-	-
Building Permits	13	2

-Staff verified existing services on several locations.

-Staff reviewed several projects.



Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Scott A. Nicewarner".

Scott A. Nicewarner
City Administrator