

# CITY OF HAGERSTOWN, MARYLAND STATUS & INFORMATION REPORT NO. 10 FOR 2020



March 6, 2020

To Mayor Bruchey and Members of the City Council:

## UPCOMING MEETINGS

### MARCH 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 7-9am State of the City @ Maryland Theatre  4pm Work Session  6-8pm State of the City @ Bridge of Life	4	5 5:30pm Youth Advisory Council Meeting	6	7
8	9	10 3pm Executive Session  4pm Work Session	11 4pm Hagerstown Planning Commission Meeting	12 4pm Board of Traffic & Parking Meeting  4:30pm Hagerstown Historic District Commission Meeting	13	14
15	16 5pm Youth Advisory Council Meeting	17 4pm Work Session	18	19	20	21
22	23	24 7pm Regular Session	25 7pm Hagerstown Planning Commission Meeting	26 4:30pm Hagerstown Historic District Commission Meeting	27	28
29	30	31 No M&C Meeting				

## COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT

### **This Week's Headlines & Media Releases:**

- Hagerstown Leaders Tout Economy in Annual Report
- Chief Reports 'Success' of Violent Crimes Task Force
- Alms House Proposed for Satellite Hagerstown Police Office

- Census Preparations Enter Final Stretch
- Washington County Officials Organizing Preparations in Case of Coronavirus Outbreak
- Hagerstown Fire Department Introduces Five-Year Strategic Plan
- Lawmakers Divided Over Late Bill for Washington County
- Maryland Confirms 9<sup>th</sup> Case of Coronavirus
- Hagerstown, Washington County Continue Coronavirus Precautions
- Corderman Bills Would Send Inmates Back to Where They Came From on Release
- Press Release: Glitz & Glam Boutique Grand Opening
- Traffic Advisory: Medal of Honor Triangle
- Traffic Advisory: St. Patrick's Day Run Fest

**This Week's Video Projects**

- Mayor & Council Work Session
- "Hub Bub" Video Podcast Production
- Neighborhoods 1<sup>st</sup> Highlight Video Scheduling
- Neighborhoods 1<sup>st</sup> Highlight Video Shooting

**Channel 25 Hub City Now Programming:**

- "State of the City" Event Video
- "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](http://www.hagerstownmd.org) attracted 10,192 user visits for the week of March 2-8

- The most popular top entrances (the first page users accessed on the website):

• Home Page	2,310
• Utility Billing Page	1,102
• Calendar Page	365
• Civic Alerts Page	329
• Police Page	249
• Bids Page	209
• Jobs Page	143
• Parks & Recreation Page	134
• Firefighters Page	127
• Flying Fitness Page	73

- Top Searches:

- "True"
- "Jobs"
- "Online bill payment"
- "Pay water bill"
- "Pay bill"

**DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

**Business Development Update.** Staff attended the Grand Opening for Glitz & Glam Boutique located at 50 E. Franklin on Tuesday. DCED is soliciting grant applications from for-profit businesses on a rolling basis until allocated program funds have been distributed into the City Center Mixed-Use (CC-MU) zone. The grants will be used by businesses in the CC-MU to increase business efficiency and give businesses a competitive advantage. Examples of eligible uses are to purchase new computer software or hardware, new office machines or training to learn new software or marketing strategies. Please see this link for application: <https://www.hagerstownmd.org/695/Spring-Sprout-Grants>

**Main Street.** Staff coordinated a full group meeting on Wednesday. Approximately eleven attended. Vendor applications are being accepted for this year's Chistkindle Markt. The event is December 11 and 12.

**Events:** Main Street's Sweets on the Street event and the St. Patricks Day Run Fest scheduled for March 14 were cancelled due to Governor Hogan's executive order to prohibit events or more than 250 people due to COVID-19. The Maryland International Film Festival scheduled for March 27-29 is also postponed.

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

- March 16, 10 a.m. – Imagine Hagerstown Entertainment Committee Meeting

**FIRE DEPARTMENT**

<b>FIRE DEPARTMENT CALLS FOR ASSISTANCE</b>			
House/Apartment Fires	3	Community Risk Reduction	576
Building Fires	3	Public Service	5
Medical Assistance	35	Personal Injury Collision	6
Assist other Fire Departments	9	Fuel/Hazard Spills	1
Automatic Fire Alarms	5	Rescue	1
Downed Power Lines	1	Aircraft Standby	1
Water/Steam Leak	0	Dumpster/Outside Fires	3

**House Fire – 622 West Washington Street:** Firefighters were notified of a fire at 622 West Washington Street at approximately 2:40 p.m. Monday, March 9<sup>th</sup>. Firefighters arriving at the scene saw smoke coming from the attic area of the home. The fire, contained to the attic, was quickly extinguished. Six occupants of the home were displaced by the fire. The American Red Cross responded to assist the displaced family.

**PARKS & ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT**

**ENGINEERING DIVISION**

1. **Tree Planting.** Staff met with representatives of the Antietam Conococheague Watershed Alliance and we expect to work with them on three tree planting projects this year, with funding they are obtaining. The Northpoint Developer sent a \$185,000 check to Planning for the Forest Conservation Fund, so we expect to plant 400–500 trees this year along Wesel Boulevard with those funds.
2. **Board of Traffic & Parking.** The Board of Traffic & Parking were updated on the Bicycle Pedestrian Priority Area study, several large development projects, and a request from the Salvation Army.
3. **Engineering Statistics**

<b>TRAFFIC ISSUES</b>		
Description	Week of 3/9/20	Calendar Year 2020 TOTALS
Traffic complaints received	5	39
Work Orders completed	1	24
Traffic counts completed	4	6

CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS		
Description	Week of 3/9/20	Calendar Year 2020 TOTALS
Projects advertised for bids	0	2
RFP's Advertised	0	3
Projects under construction	4	5
Projects completed	0	1

**PARKS DIVISION**

1. **2020 Spring/Summer Parks & Rec Guide.** Our new guide is at the printer and will be available March 20<sup>th</sup>! Our Spring/Summer guide features many new programs like:

- Health & Wellness: Unlikely Craving Connection, Day to Day Detox, and Healthy Cooking Demos
- Fitness: Caribbean & Latin Dance, Fly Floating Meditation, Fly Fitness For Kids, Gymnastics, and Zumba Gold
- Outdoor Programs: Aqua Bands, Golf Clinics, STEAM Camp and Pop Up Skate Park
- A&E/Hobbies: Garden Flower Show, Colonial Mocktail Hour, Creative Photography, Train Talks, and Psychology of Golf
- New event: Touch a Truck



2. **Park Season.** Staff is gearing up for the park season. Water is being turned back on in our facilities and mulch is being spread around the play equipment.
3. **City Park.** Staff continues to assist in removal of the trees killed by the Emerald Ash Borer (ones that were not injected with pesticide to save them).
4. **More Vandalism.** Due to an attempted break-in, staff made repairs to the shop door located in the rear of City Park. Staff also had to make repairs to the City Park concession stand. Thanks to our Police Department, the vandals were apprehended before they even left the park.

## PLANNING & CODE ADMINISTRATION

### New Development Cases:

- 11935 Hopewell Road – Tractor Supply – site plan for a 140,400-square-foot warehouse addition.

### Zoning Certificates Issued:

- 138 West Washington Street, Suite 300 – Inspire Communication d/b/a Signera – digital signage and communication services and office space.
- 138 West Washington Street, Suite 212 – Beacon Grace, LLC – consulting and technology firm.

### Planning Commission. The Planning Commission discussed these items on March 11:

- Quit Claim Request for Alley 2-57A (Southern End of City Park) – agreed to recommend this quit claim request to the Mayor and City Council.
- Review of Comprehensive Rezoning Change Requests and Recommendation to Mayor and Council. Commission members declined to recommend that the zoning of the property on the East Side of Eastern Boulevard North change from RMOD to RMED. However, they did agree to recommend that the property on Security Road be added to the comprehensive rezoning with a zoning change from RMOD to RMED.
- CortPark – 12804 Little Elliott Drive – agreed to approve the developer’s request to extend site plan approval for 36 months.

## POLICE DEPARTMENT

### STATS

Calls for Service:	1,372	Field Interviews:	13
Arrests/Warrants Served:	24	Moving Violations:	25
Domestic Violence Calls:	23	Safety Repair Orders:	1
DUI Arrests:	2	Warnings:	41
Reports Filed:	126		

### REPORTS

**03/05/20:** Officer Wertz responded to the Quality Inn and Suites for a report of an assault that had just occurred. Upon arrival the officer met with the victim who stated a white male had punched him in the back of the head. The victim declined calling an ambulance. The officer observed the suspect walking in the parking lot and approached him. The suspect appeared heavily intoxicated and his eyes were glossed over and his speech was slurred. The suspect was informed that the hotel wanted him to leave the property due to his disorderly conduct. The officer escorted the suspect to his room to gather up his belongings. Once in the room the suspect pushed the officer with his left arm and made a fist with his right hand. The officer was able to take the suspect to the ground and place him in handcuffs. The suspect was first transported to Mertius Medical Center for treatment due to his intoxication. He was later transported to Central Booking and charged with Assault 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree.

**03/06/20:** Officer Williamson was dispatched to Weis Market on Eastern Boulevard for a theft report. The store manager stated that someone had stolen an entire cash register from the deli. The suspect used a large knife to cut the cables on the register in order to free it from the counter. The suspect then exited out the emergency door located in the deli. It should be noted the cash register had no cash in it since it was not used for daily operations. The manager was able to retrieve a photo of the suspect from the surveillance camera. HPD will attempt to identify the individual. The investigation is on-going.

**03/07/20:** Officer Routzahn responded to Community Depot on East First Street for a reported burglary. The officer met with the caller and who stated this location had just been burglarized two days ago (and Officer Decker took the report). On this occasion the suspect gained access to the entire building and destroyed six windows, four doors, five security cameras, the safe, a cash scanner. The following items were stolen: two Samsung computer monitors, two Dell tower computers and screens, five pair of Timberland boots, \$120 in US currency from a cash register that they damaged in order to gain access to the money, numerous hand tools and food items. The suspects also did damage to 5 of the 12 security cameras. The officer was able to capture the suspects on one of the remaining operating cameras. They appeared to be black males between the ages of 16 -25. The officer was also successful in getting latent prints from the scene. The investigation is on-going.

**03/08/20:** Officer Huff was dispatched to Main Avenue in reference to a theft that had just occurred. The caller stated that her daughter and her friend were in the back yard making “Tik Tok” videos when two males approached her daughter and threatened to shoot her if she did not give them her bike. The girls ran inside crying telling an adult of the incident. The one suspect was described as being approximately 5’-10” in height and wearing all black clothing. The second suspect was described as being 5’-7” in height and wearing a neon orange hoodie, dark hoodie and riding a green bike. The girls observed a gun on the hip of one of the suspects. The stolen bike, valued at \$150, is described as being pink and purple in color. No additional information is available at this time.

**PRESS RELEASES**

On 03/10/20 at 2:15 a.m. officers responded to 50 Summit Avenue for reports of a shooting. Upon arrival officers located a 22 year old male suffering from a gunshot wound. The male was transported to Meritus Medical Center with non-life threatening injuries. He has since been released. While officers were investigating the incident, a 41 year old male victim showed up at Meritus Medical Center with a gunshot wound. His injuries were non-life threatening and he has since been released. Through investigation it was determined that the suspect and one of the victims engaged in a verbal argument inside the Dagmar Hotel. During the altercation the suspect, 26 year old Gregory Ricardo Theratt II of Hagerstown, brandished a weapon and shot at the 41 year old victim. In the process of shooting at the 41 year old male, the 22 year old male was also shot. Officers were able to quickly locate Theratt and he was taken into custody without incident. Gregory Theratt was transported to The Washington County Detention Center where he was charged with the following: Attempted 2nd Degree Murder, two counts of 1st and 2nd Degree Assault, Reckless Endangerment, Firearm Use/Felony Violent Crime, Handgun on Person, Firearm-Possession with Felony Conviction, Loaded Handgun on Person, Illegal Possession of Ammunition, Regulated Firearm: Stolen and Regulated Firearm: Illegal Possession. Theratt is currently being held without bond.

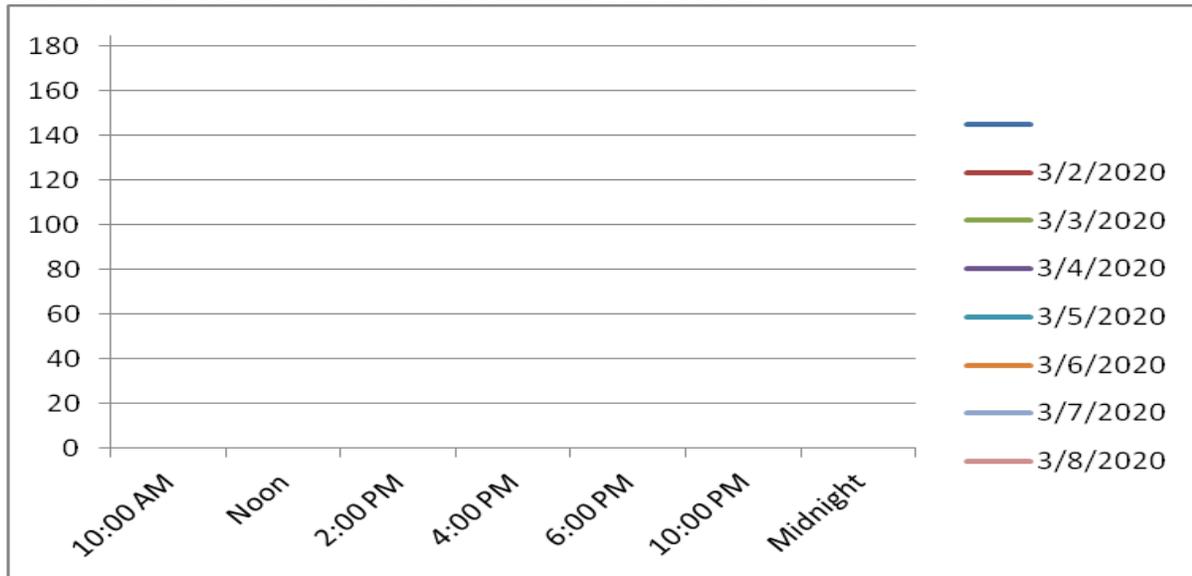
**PUBLIC WORKS**

**CHART NO. 1 – GENERAL PARKING SYSTEM DATA**

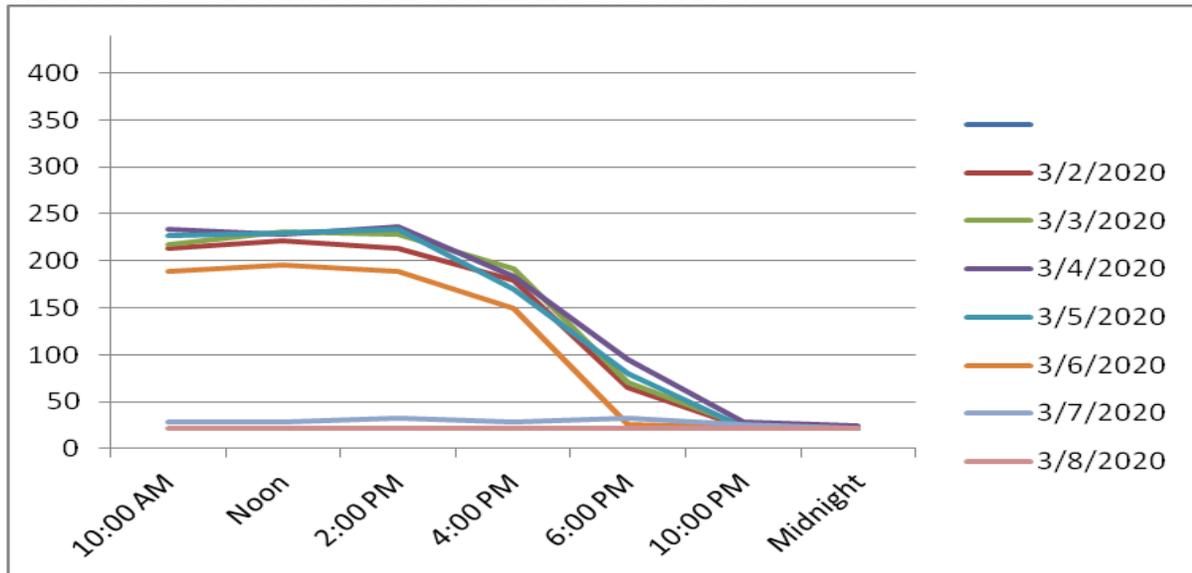
		<b>Current Week</b>	<b>Previous Week</b>
<b>Number of Permit Holders</b>	A & E Deck	185	185
	University District Deck	440	440
<b>Number of Student Permits</b>	Central, Market, Rochester Lots	28	28
<b>Number of Patrons Using Decks</b>	A & E Deck	1519	1313
	University District Deck	1792	1890
<b>Number of Citations Issued</b>	(Includes Warnings)	253	296
<b>Late Payment Notifications</b>		24	22
<b>Peak Occupancy (%)</b>	A & E Deck	*NA	100% Wed @ 6 PM
	University District Deck	47% Wed @ 2 PM	47% Thur @ 10 AM

**\*NOTE: A technical issue at the A&E Deck caused a failure recording daily occupancies.**

**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	0	0
Human Resources	0	0
Light	3	1
Parks & Engineering	3	0
Police	10	2
Public Works	13	5
Wastewater	1	0
Water	3	7
<b>Weekly Totals</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Yearly Total</b>	<b>233</b>	

### **AFTER HOUR CALL BACKS**

- Monday, March 2, 2020 @ 7:45 p.m.: Report of trash in the street at the intersection of Baltimore Street and Summit Avenue. The PW Supervisor arrived on scene to find a resident cleaning up the debris from knocked over trash can. No personnel called back to assist.
- Wednesday, March 4, 2020 @ 1:46 a.m.: Traffic signal head found broken at the intersection of Broadway and Locust Street. Two signal technicians called in to remove the broken head. Staff replaced the damaged head later in the day during daylight hours.

### **WATCH WORKS UPDATE**

- Maryland Watch Works is scheduled to take occupancy of the basement office space at 14 North Potomac Street on or about April 1<sup>st</sup>. Staff continues to paint the space (about 5,000 square feet of wall space) and construct some shelves. Painting should be complete by March 15<sup>th</sup>. Flooring is scheduled for March 19, March 20 and March 23.

### **BILLING OFFICE UPDATE**

- New offices for Billing have been completed on the fourth floor of City Hall near the Finance Department. New window blinds are to be installed by the end of March. Otherwise, staff can take occupancy at any time. They will be relocating from the Public Works/Water Department building to City Hall to improve efficiencies within that department.

### **EVENTS**

- Public Works assisted with the Antietam Watershed Alliance's cleanup of Hamilton Run on the north side of the city. A truck was provided for the half ton of debris that was collected from in and around the stream. Public Works staff hauled the debris to the landfill on the Alliance's behalf.
- The next event Public Works will assist with is the Vietnam War Memorial ceremony to be held on Sunday, March 29<sup>th</sup>. The event is at the memorial along Walnut Street. Public Works will provide the posting of the street and traffic control devices.

## **UTILITIES DEPARTMENT**

### **ELECTRIC DIVISION**

#### **Service Calls**

- Thur. 3/5 - Various locations: Street light patrol to assure the reliability of HLD lighting. Time Out: 18.7-21.1
- Sat. 3/7 - 527 Summit Avenue: Partial outage; animal caused transformer fuse operate. Time Out: 12.5-13.5
- Mon. 3/9 - 378 Radcliffe Avenue: Lines down; customer pulled service wires down while trimming tree. Time Out: 17.7-18.9

#### **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.
- Crews replaced a 34.5 kV subtransmission pole due to its deteriorated condition.

#### **Engineering**

- Multiple permit reviews, underground locates, and service upgrade requests have been reviewed and/or completed by engineering staff.

- The Staff Engineer focused on phase realignment to balance electrical load across various HLD electrical distribution circuits. Jobs will be designed and provided to the Distribution group for construction.
- Engineering staff attended Miss Utility Training.
- Engineering staff completed multiple designs for construction of new electric utility services and maintenance upgrades.

**WASTEWATER DIVISION**

**Wastewater Treatment Plant at Frederick Street**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Flow (mgd)</b>	<b>Rainfall (inches)</b>
Wednesday, March 04, 2020	5.72	0.00
Thursday, March 05, 2020	5.57	0.00
Friday, March 06, 2020	5.30	0.00
Saturday, March 07, 2020	5.17	0.00
Sunday, March 08, 2020	5.16	0.00
Monday, March 09, 2020	5.21	0.00
Tuesday, March 10, 2020	5.28	0.08
Weekly - Avg. Flow / Total Rainfall	5.34	0.08
Monthly – Avg. Flow /Total Rainfall	5.42	0.36

**Miscellaneous**

- Installed new light fixtures, wiring and switches in conference room.
- Installed new Cat 5 cable(s) and Ethernet switches from PLC 1 to conference room.
- Serviced diesel powered storm water pumps.
- Routine MP2 Work Orders & Corrective Work orders.

**Wastewater Collection**

SSES Weekly Progress

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Districts</b>	<b>L. F. main</b>	<b>Feet of lateral</b>	<b># inspected</b>
CCTV Inspections	N/A	Out of service		
Flushing	#1	5,853'		

**Collection System Maintenance Tasks**

- Pump Station #8; worked on new SCADA Installation, also chlorinated for downstream odors.
- Pump Station #19; Worked on installing new SCADA system.
- Built four new Homa grinder pump replacements.
- General pump shop repair work.
- Grinder pump call, 1650 Woodlands Run, replaced pump.
- Sewer Backup, 108 Calvert Terrace, problem on the private side.
- Sewer Backup, 709 Summit Avenue, problem on the private side.
- Customer complaint, 12818 Cathedral Drive. Staff met with customer, problem turned out to be storm drain issue.
- Replaced service lateral, 208 East Irvin Avenue from main line to curb, installed C/O.

- Replaced service lateral, 212 East Irvin Avenue from mainline to curb, installed C/O.
- 208/212 East Irvin Avenue, sawcut and prepped both excavations for permanent asphalt repairs.

**Administration**

Wastewater Division – Customer Call Log Summary 2020							
Type	Blockages	Grinder Pumps	Odor Complaints	Flushing	WW Pump Station	Other	Totals
Weekly	0	1	0	0	0	6	7
<b>YTD 2020</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>72</b>

**Engineering**

- Staff met with customers for sewer service.
- Staff met with engineering firm about a subdivision.
- Inspector met with customer for location of sewer.
- Inspector inspected sewer mains in housing development.

**Laboratory**

- Replaced mixed-bed tanks for pure water system from Culligan.
- Attended Continuity of Operations meeting.
- Prepared reagents for Lachat operation.
- Process and regulatory testing was routine for the week.

<b>WATER DIVISION</b>
-----------------------

**Plant Flows - System Demand (MGD)**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Willson</u>	<u>Breichner</u>	<u>Total</u>
03/05/20	9.83		9.83
03/06/20	9.56		9.56
03/07/20	9.40		9.40
03/08/20	9.26		9.26
03/09/20	9.89		9.89
03/10/20	9.78		9.78
03/11/20	9.82		9.82
Average			9.65

**Water Production at R. C. Willson**

- R.C. Willson and Pump Stations—Staff worked on facility maintenance and routine preventative maintenance.
- R.C. Willson—Made repairs to the lighting.

**Water Production at Breichner/Edgemont Reservoir.** The Edgemont Reservoir pool elevation is currently at 4.1 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.

**Laboratory**

- Collected distribution samples for monitoring for nitrification.
- Process and regulatory testing were routine for the week.
- Repairs were made to a water main break on Haven Hill Drive.

**Engineering**

<u>Reviews:</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>County</u>
Site Plans	1	1
Preliminary Plats	-	-
Final Plats	-	1
Replat	-	-
Grading Plan	-	-
Building Permits	12	3

- Staff met with customers for water service.
- Staff met with engineering firm about existing water service and subdivision.
- Inspector met with contractor for a start up of a new project.



Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Scott A. Nicewarner". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

Scott A. Nicewarner  
City Administrator