

CITY OF HAGERSTOWN, MARYLAND STATUS & INFORMATION REPORT NO. 38 FOR 2020



September 25, 2020

To Mayor Bruchey and Members of the City Council:

UPCOMING MEETINGS

To obtain City Department or City Boards and Commissions meeting information, please visit <https://www.hagerstownmd.org/27/Government>. We encourage you visit our website at <https://www.hagerstownmd.org> for all City-related updates. Other inquiries may be made by visiting the City Resident 311 page at <https://www.hagerstownmd.org/841/Services>.

SEPTEMBER 2020 <i>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</i>						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 3pm Executive Session 4:30pm Work Session	2	3 4pm Hagerstown Youth Advisory Council Meeting	4	5
6	7 HOLIDAY City Offices Closed	8 No M&C Meeting	9 4pm Hagerstown Planning Commission Meeting	10 4pm Board of Traffic & Parking Meeting 4:30pm Hagerstown Historic District Commission Meeting	11	12
13	14	15 4pm Work Session	16 7pm Board of Zoning Appeals Meeting	17 4pm Executive Session	18	19
20	21	22 3pm Executive Session 4:30pm Work Session	23	24 4:30pm Hagerstown Historic District Commission Meeting	25	26
27	28	29 7pm Regular Session	30 7pm Hagerstown Planning Commission Meeting			

COMMUNICATIONS

This Week's Headlines & Media Releases:

- Businesses Will Still be Accessible During Wesel Blvd. Closure
- Parts of Memorial Blvd., South Cannon Avenue to be Closed Saturday Night
- No Exception for Maryland Theatre Capacity, State Says
- \$8M for Firefighters – Washington County Gets Federal Grant
- South Side Block Party Combines Virtual, In-Person Activities
- Barnes, Keller Competing to be Hagerstown's Mayor
- 10 Candidates Vying for 5 Hagerstown Council Seats
- Hagerstown Continues to Monitor Budget

- The Little Cabin That Could: Jonathan Street Project Highlights History, Future of Area
- Thiam Chosen as Nominee for House of Delegates Vacancy
- Lawmaker Exchange: Congressman Hosts Colleague from Washington State on Tour
- Press Release: Imagine Hagerstown Finale
- Press Release: Hagerstown Logistics Center Groundbreaking
- Traffic Advisory: Memorial Boulevard
- Traffic Advisory: South Cannon Avenue (cont.)
- Traffic Advisory: South Walnut Street

This Week's Video Projects

- Mayor & City Council Work Session
- Professional Blvd. Bridge Drone Footage
- Economic Development Marketing Video Footage
- "Moller's Sustained Wind" Video
- "Utility Payment Plans" Spot

Channel 25 Hub City Now Programming:

- Mayor & City Council Meeting
- PayByPhone YouTube Video
- "Washington County Heroes" Face Covering Campaign Videos
- "Together We Rise - Washington County" Video
- Washington Goes Purple: Act Now :30 Promos
- "Hub Bub" Video Podcast
- Hagerstown Cultural Trail Featured Artist Video
- PCAD Rental Interior Webinar Series Program
- Symptoms of COVID-19 Informational Video
- Stormwater Program Informational Video
- MTA Commuter Connection

City Website:

- www.hagerstownmd.org attracted 11,076 user visits for the week of September 14-20, 2020.

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

• Home Page	2,216
• Civic Alerts Page	991
• Utility Billing Page	989
• Police Page	274
• Calendar Page	218
• Outdoor Movies at City Park Page	169
• Parks & Recreation Page	168
• City Park Fall Fest Page	161
• Bids Page	157
• Firefighters Page	149

- Top Searches:

- "True"
- "Jobs"
- "Firefighters login"
- "Pay my bill"
- "Pay bill"

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Business Development Update:

- The Economic Development team virtually attended the 2020 MEDA Annual Conference. The theme this year was Inclusivity and Resilience Amid the Pandemic -- A Focus for Economic and Community Development. Topics included Back to the Future presented by Anirban Basu; Creating a More Equitable Economy; Diversity, Equity & Inclusion; Banking Initiatives to Support Economic Development; Maryland Hospitality and a Secretaries Roundtable.

- Outdoor Dining continues this Sunday, September 27 from 11:30 a.m. – 3 p.m.
- Members of the team also participated in:
 - Chamber Board Meeting
 - Weekly Business Recovery Partners Team
 - Grand Opening of Penny Mart (167 South Potomac Street)
 - Chamber 101st Annual Meeting (virtual) - Jill Thompson received an award as a member of the Community Partners Business Response Team. This nine-member team of community economic partners met daily at 8:30 AM during the emergency phase of the pandemic to assist local businesses and non-profits as they navigated the recovery and reopening the phases of the pandemic.

Grand Openings: Upcoming anniversaries and grand openings include:

- Sloan School of Music, 263 Eastern Boulevard – Grand Opening on Saturday, October 3 at 11 a.m. – open to public
- Potomac Dental Centre, 1301 Potomac Avenue – 50th Anniversary & Grand Opening of New Location – Saturday, October 3 at 4 p.m. – open to public

Imagine Hagerstown: The final Imagine Hagerstown event of 2020 will be held at University Plaza on Saturday, September 26 from 5–8 p.m. Fourth Saturday will feature stories and music by the following artists:

- 5:00 p.m. | Fanny Crawford, Storyteller
- 5:45 p.m. | J Berd and DJ Jon Daily
- 6:45 p.m. | Jill Fulton Band

FIRE DEPARTMENT

FIRE DEPARTMENT CALLS FOR ASSISTANCE			
Cooking Fires	0	Community Risk Reduction	25
Building Fires	1	Public Service	5
Medical Assistance	30	Personal Injury Collision	11
Assist other Fire Departments	8	Fuel/Hazard Spills	3
Automatic Fire Alarms	7	Gas Leaks	1
Downed Power Lines	1	Investigation: Carbon Monoxide Incident	1
Electrical Wiring Arcing	2	Dumpster/Outside Fires	4

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Credit Card Chip Readers. After many months of delays and setbacks, the City is now using our new chip-enabled credit card readers in both the Customer Service and Permits locations! Our credit card process with our new vendor (Bridgepay) is PCI compliant and is also enabled on our website (for online transactions). This allows customers to insert/swipe credit cards at payment stations throughout City Hall, decreasing the amount of manual intervention by our City staff (and reduces handling of physical cards – good news in the pandemic). We’re also using Bridgepay’s software system on the “backend” of processing, which interfaces with our MUNIS financial system.

MUNIS v.2019. We’re in the final configuration steps of getting MUNIS v.2019 up on our VX-Rail servers. Once configurations are completed, end users throughout the City will be able to log-on to the new environment and test all of their daily processes and functionality. We are currently on track for a February 2021 implementation into “live” production for the new MUNIS version (the City is currently on MUNIS v.11.3.21). MUNIS v.2019 will bring lots of new functionality and an updated look to our City’s financial software system.

PARKS & ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

ENGINEERING DIVISION

1. **Wesel Boulevard.** C. William Hetzer, the City's contractor, began the roadway reconstruction this week. The portion of Wesel Boulevard between Burhans Boulevard and the Wesel Storage Center has been closed to traffic to allow Hetzer to complete this first phase of construction more quickly and safely. The City expects the roadway to be reopened to traffic by mid-November, with the remaining construction expected to continue through the Winter and Spring of 2021.
2. **Potomac Avenue Rippled Pavement.** The mystery has been solved. A few years ago, Columbia Gas paved Potomac Avenue after they completed their main replacement. Shortly after that, in the vicinity of the former Schindel's Pharmacy, the street pavement began to ripple and develop cracks. This week our contractor milled the area and the problem was caused by rotting wooden ties that were part of the former trolley tracks! The street was yellow brick pavers before the advent of asphalt. The contractor removed all of the materials and repaved the area.



3. **Secretary of Transportation.** Staff attended virtual "pre-tour" meeting with State Highway Administration officials. We shared the Mayor & Council priorities from our discussion in April.
4. **Tree of Hope Mural.** Artists touched up some areas on the mural this past Saturday.

PARKS DIVISION

1. **Skate Park Task Force.** The Skate Park Task Force met for the second time this week. They have established goals and criteria for site selection. They are meeting weekly and plan to be finished in November.
2. **Park Improvements in City Park & Fairgrounds Park.** We continued to prepare ADA-compliant walkways for paving by Craig Paving.
3. **Wheaton Park Court.** Quelin should be completing his work on the mural in another week or so. An October 6th "dedication" ceremony is being planned.

4. **Recreation Programs**

What	When	Time	Where
Tai Chi	Tuesdays	6-7 p.m.	Pangborn Park
Pop-Up Skate Park	Mondays	5-6:30 p.m.	Covenant Life Church, 1515 Dual Highway
Geocaching in the Parks	October 4 November 7 December 13	2-3:30 p.m. 2-3:30 p.m. 2-3:30 p.m.	City Park Train Hub, 525 Highland Way Thomas Kennedy Park, 50 E. Baltimore St. Mills Park, 519 Northern Avenue
Croquet	Fridays	6-8 p.m.	Pangborn Park Lawn Bowling Court
Virtual Gymnastics	September 26 September 27	7 p.m. 10:45 a.m.	For enrollment to virtual outdoor and indoor programs call 301.739.8577, Ext. 170
Virtual Have Fun With Paint	September 27	1 p.m.	
Virtual Yoga for Weight Loss	Mondays Wednesdays	5:30 p.m. 5:30 p.m.	*Beginning September 28 th (Please note this class may move to the Fit Room.)

5. **Potterfield Pool.** Staff is issuing a new Request for Proposals this week for a new management contract over the next few years.

6. **Golf Stats**

Golf Course	9/17/19–9/23/19	9/17/20- 9/23/20
# of Golfers	391	471
Total Revenue	\$7,396	\$8,363

POLICE DEPARTMENT

STATS

Calls for Service:	1,548	Field Interviews:	6
Arrests/Warrants Served:	20	Moving Violations:	35
Domestic Violence Calls:	15	Safety Repair Orders:	3
DWI Arrests:	3	Warnings:	95
Reports Filed:	133		

REPORTS

09/18/20: Officer Cramer responded to Virginia Avenue for a male passed out in a vehicle. When the officer arrived, he observed a vehicle sitting in the intersection in the right-hand travel lane with a black male in the driver's seat. The driver did not respond to officers trying to get his attention. The vehicle was operating and was running in drive, facing an intersection. Officer Cramer positioned his police car's front bumper to the front bumper of the male's vehicle, for the safety of all involved and motorists. The officer gave a verbal command to the driver to shut off the car and step out of the vehicle. The driver was slow to respond. Officer Cramer could smell a strong odor of marijuana coming from the open driver's door. The officer asked for the driver to show his driver's license, however he stated he did not have one. It was later learned the driver had an active warrant through the Washington County Sheriff's Office. The driver was arrested and transported to Central Booking.

09/19/20: Multiple HPD police units were dispatched to Elizabeth Street for a report of an assault with a firearm on a Fed Ex driver. Officer Mazloum located an elderly white male, detained him, and asked if he would talk to the police. The elderly male agreed. The driver of the Fed Ex vehicle stated he was making a delivery at a home on the street. When the resident opened the door and saw the box, the resident stated to the Fed Ex driver that the box needed to be delivered to the apartment upstairs. While the door was open, the resident's dog lunged at the driver and the driver struck the dog in the head. The resident became upset and stated he was going to get his gun. The resident did return with a gun and pointed it at the driver. The driver then called 911. The officer located a toy gun that indeed looked like a real firearm. The officers discovered the resident had history of gun violence. He was arrested and transported to Central Booking.

09/20/20: Officer Flinn responded to Burger King on Dual Highway for a property damage collision. Dispatch advised that a vehicle had driven into the side of the building. The driver of the vehicle was inside the business. The officer observed the driver's speech to be slurred. The driver stated she accidentally pushed the gas instead of the brake. Empty wine bottles were located inside of the vehicle. The driver was transported back to HPD where she consented to a breath test. Due to the results of the test, she was charged with Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol and other related charges.

09/21/20: Officer M. Anderson checked a Virginia registration plate on a 2005 Ford Crown Victoria located on North Cannon Avenue. That registration plated returned to a 2009 Toyota. A check of the Crown Victoria's VIN number showed the registration plate to that vehicle being turned into the MVA due to the fact the vehicle was sold. MVA had no information regarding the new owner of the Crown Victoria. The vehicle was towed to an impound lot and held for proper registration and insurance. No further details are available.

09/22/20: The Emergency Communication Center alerted the Hagerstown Police Department about a disturbance involving a firearm at North Cannon Avenue. A tan vehicle was fleeing the scene towards Fairgrounds Park. The officer made contact with the victim who stated he was exiting a black SUV on East Avenue when the suspect, who was driving a tan vehicle, began giving the female driver of the SUV an obscene gesture. The suspect rolled down the driver's window and pointed a revolver at the victim. The victim advised the suspect that there were cameras pointed right at them. At that point, the suspect fled the area. The incident was indeed captured on camera and the suspect was identified. This case has been forwarded to the Criminal Investigative Unit. No further details are available.

OTHER NEWS/INFORMATION

Congratulations to Officer Timothy Cramer. Effective Thursday, September 17, 2020, Officer Cramer completed his field training and is now certified for solo patrol. He will remain on Alpha Patrol in the Patrol Division and will be under the command of Sergeant Casey Constable. We wish him much success as he continues his law enforcement career 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	157	145
	University District Deck	257	265
Number of Student Permits	Central, Market, Rochester Lots	29	27
Number of Patrons Using Decks	A & E Deck	1105	926
	University District Deck	986	816
Number of Citations Issued	(Includes Warnings)	270	259
Late Payment Notifications		43	55
Peak Occupancy (%)	A & E Deck	48%	46%
		Thu @ Noon	Thu @ Noon
Peak Occupancy (%)	University District Deck	35%	34%
		Tue @ 2 PM	Tue @ 2 PM

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

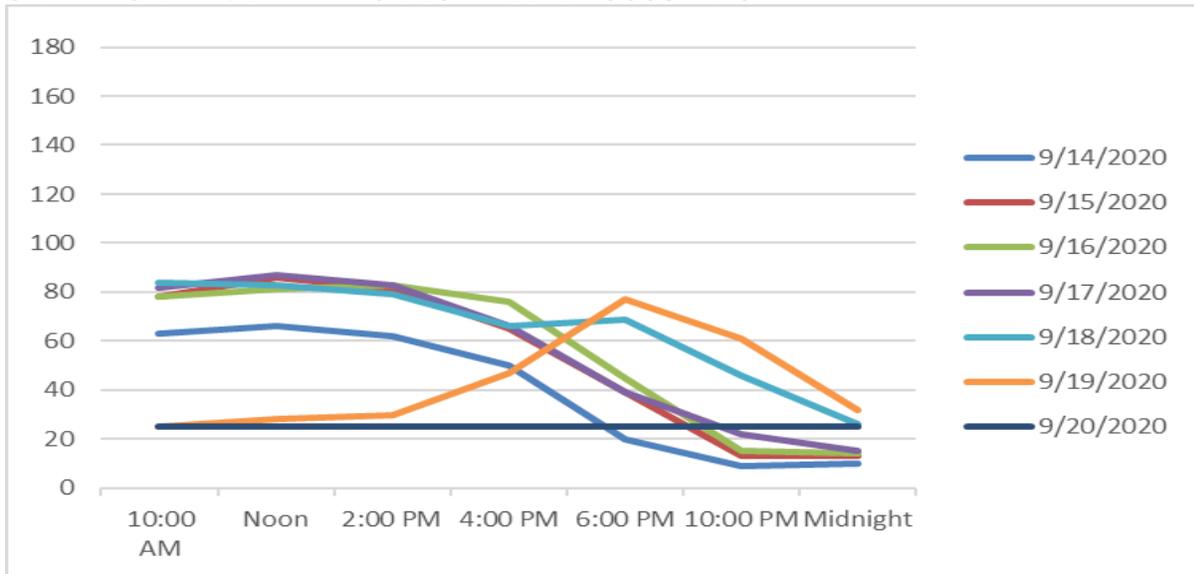
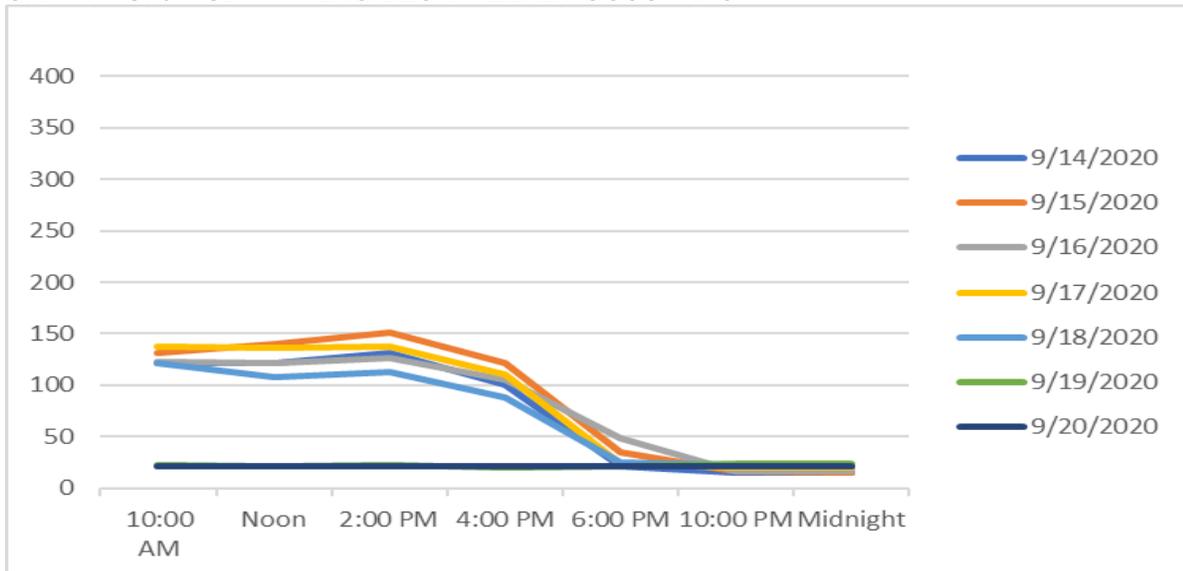


CHART NO. 3 – UD PARKING DECK WEEKLY OCCUPANCY



CENTRAL MAINTENANCE GARAGE REPAIR DATA

	Current Week	Previous Week
DCED	0	2
Fire	0	2
Human Resources	0	0
Light	1	2
Parks & Engineering	4	1
Police	5	6
Public Works	6	6
Wastewater	3	5
Water	3	4
Weekly Totals	22	28
Yearly Total	881	

AFTER HOUR CALL BACKS

Wednesday, September 16, 2020 @ 4 PM: Received report that the traffic signal at the intersection of South Potomac Street and Wilson Boulevard was not cycling. Staff investigated the situation watching the signals change repeatedly as programmed. No issues found.

SPECIAL EVENTS. Staff provided some minor traffic control and street posting for the Bester Community of Hope fireworks held on Saturday, September 19th. Each week, staff is also posting South Potomac Street for the outdoor dining. Upcoming events include a grand opening of a business on Magnolia Avenue on October 3rd, outdoor dining through October, the Over the Edge fundraiser for the Boys & Girls Club of Washington County on October 24th, Vietnam War Memorial on November 11th, Tree Lighting in the Square in November and the Donut Drop on December 31st.

UTILITIES DEPARTMENT

ELECTRIC DIVISION

Service Calls

Fri. 9/18 - 435 East Baltimore Street – Miss Utility locate; emergency locate for Water Department to make repairs to water main break. Time Out: 20.9-21.1

Distribution

- HLD have been assisting the Commercial billing office with delivery of customer information packets.
- Line crews continue maintenance and improvement work at our Bulldog Substation.

Engineering

- Multiple permit reviews, underground locates, and service upgrade requests have been reviewed and/or completed by engineering staff.
- Engineering staff worked with the substation testing and maintenance contractor to perform commissioning of upgraded equipment at Bulldog & Zayre Substations.
- Engineering staff performed duties involved with the rebuild of Wesel Blvd and construction plans of Building #2 for Northpointe Development.

WASTEWATER DIVISION

Wastewater Treatment Plant at Frederick Street

Date	Flow (mgd)	Rainfall (inches)
Wednesday, September 16, 2020	4.72	0.00
Thursday, September 17, 2020	4.77	0.00
Friday, September 18, 2020	4.56	0.00
Saturday, September 19, 2020	4.50	0.00
Sunday, September 20, 2020	4.52	0.00
Monday, September 21, 2020	4.34	0.00
Tuesday, September 22, 2020	4.49	0.00
Weekly – Avg. Flow / Total Rainfall	4.56	0.00
Sept - Avg. Flow/Total Rainfall	4.89	0.85

Miscellaneous

- Worked with Hull Crane Service to remove nitrified recycle pump and install new one.
- Reconnected motor, pipe and wiring for scheduled startup. Repaired leak on 8" utility water line feeding pressurization pump.
- Installed new LED light overlooking liquid oxygen controls.
- Routine MVP Plant Work orders & Corrective Work orders.

Wastewater Collection

SSES Weekly Progress

Activity	Districts	L. F. main	Feet of lateral	# inspected
CCTV Inspections	#6	370'	150'	11
Flushing	#7	11,075'		

Collection System Maintenance Tasks

- Worked on septic tank verification program.
- Odor complaint, 23 South Cannon Avenue, problem on private side.
- Odor complaint, 12804 Oak Hill Avenue, problem on private side, flushed mainline.
- Grinder pump call, 1533 Kensington Drive, reset smart switch.
- Grinder pump call, 1524 Kensington Drive, reset smart switch.
- Pump Station #11, adjusted programming on PLC.
- Completed prep work in the backfield for Pangborn Park project.
- General pump shop repair work.

Administration

Wastewater Division – Customer Call Log Summary 2020							
Type	Blockages	Grinder Pumps	Odor Complaints	Flushing	WW Pump Station	Other	Totals
Weekly	1	1	1	0	0	3	6
YTD 2020	34	65	13	0	1	99	212

Engineering

- Review of site development and City permit drawings.
- Gathered information regarding sewer service inquiries.
- Construction inspection of ongoing construction projects.

WATER DIVISION

Plant Flows – System Demand (MGD)

<u>Date</u>	<u>Willson</u>	<u>Breichner</u>	<u>Total</u>
09/17/20	10.85		10.85
09/18/20	11.03		11.03
09/19/20	10.59		10.59
09/20/20	10.49		10.49
09/21/20	10.54		10.54
09/22/20	10.56		10.56
09/23/20	10.77		10.77
<i>Average</i>			<i>10.69</i>

Water Production at R. C. Willson & Pump Station Distribution

- Staff worked on facility maintenance and routine preventative maintenance.
- Staff repaired chlorinator #1 at R. C. Willson.
- Staff installed new cell panel at pump station #2.
- Staff repaired trackvac leak at R. C. Willson.
- Staff repaired slope mower at R. C. Willson.
- Staff replaced packing, high service pump #4 at R. C. Willson.

Water Production at Breichner / Edgemont Reservoir. The Edgemont Reservoir pool elevation is currently at 1.48 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, design criteria and project schedule. Emergency Action Plans have been completed.

Water Distribution

- Crews performed customer service work and new meter installations as needed.
- Crews continue to replace residential meters throughout the water service area.
- Crews worked on facility maintenance.
- Crews installed two 2" taps at Westfields.
- Crews distributed 24-hour shutoff notices and performed shutoffs.
- Crews worked on three main repairs and a fireline repair.

Laboratory

- Process and regulatory testing were routine for the week.

Engineering

<u>Reviews:</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>County</u>
Site Plans	-	-
Preliminary Plats	-	-
Final Plats	-	-
Replat	-	-
Grading Plan	-	-
Development Plan	-	-
Building Permits	8	11

- Review of Site Development and City Permit Drawings
- Construction Inspection and testing of ongoing projects
- Updating GIS mapping of City water utilities



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