

CITY OF HAGERSTOWN, MARYLAND STATUS & INFORMATION REPORT NO. 34 FOR 2021



August 27, 2021

To Mayor Keller 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>.

AUGUST 2021						
<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	2	3 3pm Executive Session 4pm Work Session 6pm National Night Out @ Fairgrounds Park	4	5	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	17 3pm Executive Session 4pm Work Session	18 7pm Board of Zoning Appeals Meeting	19	20	21
22	23	24 6pm Executive Session 7pm Regular Session	25 7pm Board of Zoning Appeals Meeting	26 4:30pm Hagerstown Historic District Commission Meeting	27	28
29	30	31 3pm Executive Session 6pm Community Input Meeting @ Wheaton Park				

COMMUNICATIONS

This Week's Headlines & Media Releases:

- Film Festival Opens Friday with Mendez, Roberts Award Winners
- COVID Bonus Pay: How the County Will Distribute Bonus Money
- Washington County Parents Form Group Opposing School Mask Mandate
- Free Job Fair Scheduled for Sept. 1 in Hagerstown; Nearly 40 Employers to Seek Workers
- OnTrack Washington County Seeks New Executive Director
- Feds: Three More Arrested in Hagerstown-Based Drug Ring
- German Tradition Continues in Hagerstown
- Parents Weigh Pulling Kids out of Schools Over Mask Mandate
- Fully Vaccinated HCC Employees Get \$500 Bonus
- Traffic Advisory: East North & East Avenues
- Traffic Advisory: BISFA Event August 28
- Traffic Advisory: City Park Lake Event
- Traffic Advisory: East North & East Avenues REVISED

This Week's Video Projects

- Mayor & Council Regular Session
- "Building City Park" Video Series: Part 5 post production
- "The Greens at Hamilton Run" :30 spot production

Channel 25 Hub City Now Programming:

- Mayor & Council Meeting
- "Council WRap"
- "City Park Lake 100th Anniversary Celebration" :30 spot
- "City Park Lake 100th Anniversary Celebration" Promotional Video
- "Building City Park" Video Series: Part 5
- Imagine Hagerstown August Promo
- Potterfield Pool :30 spot
- City Park Train Hub Promo
- "Visit Hagerstown" Promo
- "State of the City" Presentation
- "Council WRap" Promo
- Cultural Trail: "Fantastical Garden"
- Fit Room Promo
- Hagerstown Greens at Hamilton Run Promo
- Hager House Promo
- "Hub-Bub" Video Podcast
- Stormwater Program Informational Video
- MTA Commuter Connection

City Website:

- www.hagerstownmd.org attracted 11,270 user visits for the week of August 16-22, 2021.
- The most popular top entrances (the first page users accessed on the website):
 - Home Page 2,512
 - Utility Billing Page 1,359
 - Electric Division Page 234
 - Bids Page 216
 - Police Page 213
 - Parks & Recreation Page 173
 - Potterfield Pool Page 126
 - City Park 100 Page 121
 - Firefighters Page 113
 - Downtown Events Page 107
 - Dine Downtown Page 107

- Top Searches:
 - “Power outage”
 - “Jobs”
 - “Pay my bill”
 - “True”
 - “Online bill payment”

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

HYC: The Hagerstown Youth Council was recently approved and added to the City Code as an officially recognized Board and Commission. This week the Mayor and City Council approved the appointments for the seven newest members of the HYC. We are excited to welcome the following students to the Council:

- Natalie Asbury, South Hagerstown High School
- Alex Duncan, North Hagerstown High School
- Tanish Gupta, North Hagerstown High School
- Natalie Hewage, North Hagerstown High School
- Ella Murthy, North Hagerstown High School (not pictured)
- Manraj Singh, North Hagerstown High School
- Haileigh Taylor, Barbara Ingram School for the Arts



Neighborhood Update: City officials and staff joined Neighborhood 1st leaders on Tuesday for a Neighborhood Walking Tour of the south-east downtown neighborhood area (South Locust Street and South Cannon Avenue, East Baltimore Street and South Mulberry Street). Staff also attended a follow-up Neighborhoods 1st meeting of the Bester Community First group on Wednesday. The tour and meeting provided an opportunity for area residents to present neighborhood concerns and discuss strategies to address these concerns.

Events: Upcoming events include:

- **Imagine Hagerstown** Fourth Friday, August 27, 5-8 p.m., University Plaza featuring Jah Works; Dirty Soul opens. www.imaginehagerstown.org. Free. BYO chair, food, and drink.
- Beacon House is holding a Common Ground Art Festival – a free family art event. Saturday, August 28 at University Plaza from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- BISFA is holding an “Explore BISFA” event on Saturday, 4–8 p.m. Free open house and tours of the building.
- Staff is working with several organizations and businesses on grand openings and anniversary celebrations taking place in September

ENGINEERING

1. **North & East Avenues.** Conversion to one-way traffic is underway and should be established by the end of the week.
2. **Hamilton Run.** Met with the Soil Conservation District to begin planning the stream restoration in the North end of the City.
3. **Residential Planning.** Staff traveled to Mechanicsburg, PA, on Wednesday night with the Planning Commission to walk the “Walden” subdivision to see their techniques and innovative ideas to residential land development.
4. **Engineering Statistics**

Description	Week of 8/23/21	Calendar Year 2021 TOTALS
Traffic complaints received	5	142
Work Orders completed	3	104
Traffic counts completed	4	21
Construction Projects		
Description	Week of 8/23/21	Calendar Year 2021 TOTALS
Projects advertised for bids	0	1
RFP's Advertised	0	2
Projects under construction	11	11
Projects completed	1	1

PLANNING & CODE ADMINISTRATION

Zoning: Zoning Certificate for 858 Willow Circle – Renshaw Das Hospitality Group, LLC

New Development Cases:

Subdivision Sketch Plan for 39 single-family lots on the portion of the Unger (Pitzer) Farm (east end of Armstrong Avenue) that is within the city. The plan will engineer the roads and stormwater management and lay out the lots in the areas outside of the pre-established street rights of way. The rights of way of the extension of Armstrong Avenue and Moller Avenue already exist and will be utilized in the development.

Planning Commission:

On the evening of August 25, the Planning Commission used its regularly scheduled meeting time to take a field trip to the “Walden” community, located in Silver Spring Township, Cumberland County, PA (just south of Mechanicsburg). In addition to Planning staff, the City Engineer and Fire Chief participated as well. Walden is a new community (built over the last 15 years) that was built on “new urbanist” principles and utilizes subdivision develop designs in keeping with our established neighborhoods here in Hagerstown (Mealey Parkway and Potomac Heights for example). Parts of this development are consistent with the expectations set forth in our subdivision ordinance when it was revised several years ago. The purpose of the trip was to identify ways to make new subdivisions in the city more appealing, more sustainable and less “anywhere USA” in appearance. The Commission came away with new perspectives on elements that could be included in new subdivisions in the city.

The agenda for the September 1, 2021 meeting is as follows (meeting moved up one week due to Yom Kippur holiday):

- Site Plan Approval for the skatepark at Fairgrounds Park
- Consultation on design standards issues for proposed car sales at 850 Pennsylvania Avenue
- Amendments to the Comprehensive Plan regarding the extension of R. Paul Smith Boulevard
- Discussion of the field trip to Walden.

Historic District Commission Agenda for August 26:

HDC 2021-23: 247 South Prospect Street – Gideon Properties/Daniel Wolfe – New Door (table at previous meetings)- Postponed to next meeting.

HDC 2021-27: 2 East North Avenue – Aimee Grahe, T/A Hub City Healing Sign – Sign. (Tabled from last meeting) – Approved.

HDC 2021-29: 41 South Potomac Street – Danielle Cassagnol – Sign – Approved.

HDC 2021-30: 4 South Potomac Street – Lindy Castillo – Brick replacement and grant – Approved.

HDC 2021-31: 801 Hamilton Boulevard - Steven Skene – pool, deck and fencing – Approved.

Weekly Activity Report: August 16 –20, 2021

PERMITS								
TYPE	NUMBER OF NEW APPLICATIONS							NUMBER ISSUED
Building	10	Residential -	3	Commercial -	3	Other -	4	7
Electric	24	Residential -	10	Commercial -	12	Other -	2	22
Plumbing	15	Residential -	10	Commercial -	5	Other -	0	14
Mechanical	17	Residential -	15	Commercial -	1	Other -	1	15
Engineering Dept.	4							6
TOTAL	70		38		21		7	64
Est. Value of Issued Building Permit Projects:				FY22 Fiscal Year Totals:				
Residential				\$ 48,000.00		\$ 1,816,920.00		
Commercial				\$ 2,757,000.00		\$ 16,775,961.00		
Apartment				\$ 15,200.00		\$ 12,584,039.00		
Sign				\$ 0.00		\$ 77,536.00		
TOTAL				\$ 2,820,200.00		\$ 31,254,456.00		
Projects of Interest								
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Interior renovations pm 1st and 2nd floor at 1198 Kenly Avenue - \$750,000 - Erect walls to create new sales floor space at 28 East Baltimore Street - \$60,000 - Install concrete footers, steel beam, floor joist in area of collapse at 92 West Washington Street – \$845,000 - Renovate & reconfigure 1st story office space at 273 East Memorial Boulevard - \$1,000,000 - Interior alterations for robotics system at 1571 Wesel Boulevard - \$86,500 - Remodel existing kitchen at 101 West Irvin Avenue - \$45,000 								
RENTAL LICENSING PROGRAM YEAR: JULY 1, 2020 – JUNE 30, 2021								
						PROPERTIES	UNITS	
Registrations received week of Aug 16 – Aug 20						42	130	
New applications issued week of Aug 16 – Aug 20						3	3	
Total 2020-2021 registered (includes additions and subtractions since 6/8/20)						3,252	8,624	
Percentage of rental license renewals that have registered for the 2020-2021 license year						85.2%	88.8%	
Notes: The 2021-2022 rental license renewals for 9,709 units in 3,819 properties were mailed on April 30, 2021.								
PAYMENT								
Weekly payment received		\$ 6,475						
Weekly adjustment/credits		\$ 1,800						
INSPECTIONS								
TYPE	NUMBER CONDUCTED							
Building	75							
Electrical	54							
Plumbing	42							
Mechanical	8							
Safety	8							
Neighborhood Vitality	104							
Quality of Life	1							
Preventive Maintenance	41							
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:	1,487	Field Interviews:	15
Arrests/Warrants Served:	28	Moving Violations:	20
Domestic Violence Calls:	23	Safety Repair Orders:	1
DUI Arrests:	0	Warnings:	38
Reports Filed:	130		

REPORTS

08/19/21: Officer G. Anderson was dispatched to East North Avenue in reference to a burglary in progress. The suspect was described as a black male in his 30's, wearing blue jeans, a black and gray hoodie and carrying a blue bag. Dispatch advised the suspect had already fled the scene. The victim advised she just pulled in her driveway and saw a male enter her garage that is used only for storage. The victim called the police and the male headed toward the alleyway at North Locust Street. Officer Molineaux located a male matching the clothing description as well as carrying a blue bag on North Locust Street. The victim was 100% sure that male was the male in her garage. The suspect was charged with Burglary 4th degree.

08/20/21: Officer Zupan responded to Medway Road for the report of a light blue Kia with no tags. The vehicle had been parked on the street for approximately three weeks. Dispatch advised this vehicle is showing the tags have already been returned to the MVA. The officer placed a hold on the vehicle for proof of ownership and valid registration. The vehicle was towed by NexTow Towing. No further details are available.

08/21/21: Officer Wolfe was dispatched to North Locust Street for the report of a disturbance. The caller stated a male had choked and pushed her. She stated the male has mental issues and had become very aggressive. Upon arrival, Officer Wolfe observed a male yelling at Officer Perez who was the first on scene. The male slammed the door on Officer Perez and continued to yell. The caller was able to exit the residence via a back door. The male continued to yell, throw items at the officers, and behave in an aggressive manner. The male had cut his hands on broken window glass causing them to bleed. The male attempted to throw blood at the officers while yelling at them they had had AIDS. Based on the male's mental issues, his immediate danger to himself and others, Officer Wolfe deployed his Conductive Energy Weapon causing one probe to strike the male in the lower stomach. The male was taken into custody and transported to Meritus Center for further treatment. No further details are available.

08/22/21: Officer Daveler responded to Guilford Avenue for the report of a burglary. The caller advised Dispatch that he had viewed his home security camera and saw several individuals break into his residence. The caller advised that he was not at home but was enroute to his residence. When police arrived, the caller was very uncooperative. The caller stated he recognized the suspects however he was not willing to provide the names of the individuals to the officers. The officer detected the caller was being evasive when asked questions about the intruders and about the footage on his camera. The victim stated he would check his residence to see if anything was stolen and give the list to the police. The case will remain open pending a list of stolen items and prices.

08/23/21: Officer Williamson was dispatched to Noland Drive for a reported assault in progress with a gun. The caller advised Dispatch that a male was assaulting a female and had a handgun. The suspect had fled the scene prior to the officer's arrival. The caller stated he attempted to intervene on the female's behalf but the suspect raised his shirt and displayed a handgun in his waist band. The female's shirt was covered in blood but she declined treatment from CRS. The officer advised the female to go to District Court and get a protective order against the suspect and speak with CASA for help. No other information is available.

08/24/21: Officer Biden responded to Hagerstown Heating & Air on East Franklin Street for a reported theft. The owner of the business advised that over the past several months AC units have been missing from the business. The owner began watching his surveillance cameras in which he observed one unit being loaded into a green van. That same van came back several days later and took another unit. The suspects are described as a white female with half her head shaved and the other suspect with her was a white male. No further details are available at this time.

PUBLIC WORKS

CHART NO. 1 – GENERAL PARKING SYSTEM DATA

		Current Week	Previous Week
Number of Permit Holders	A & E Deck	151	151
	University District Deck	265	265
Number of Student Permits	Central, Market, Rochester Lots	43	39
Number of Patrons Using Decks	A & E Deck	1523	1570
	University District Deck	1366	1223
Number of Citations Issued	(Includes Warnings)	237	192
Late Payment Notifications		7	17
Peak Occupancy (%)	A & E Deck	65% Fri @ 6 PM	100% Sat @ 2 PM
Peak Occupancy (%)	University District Deck	67% Tues @ 10 AM	66% Thurs @ 10 AM

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

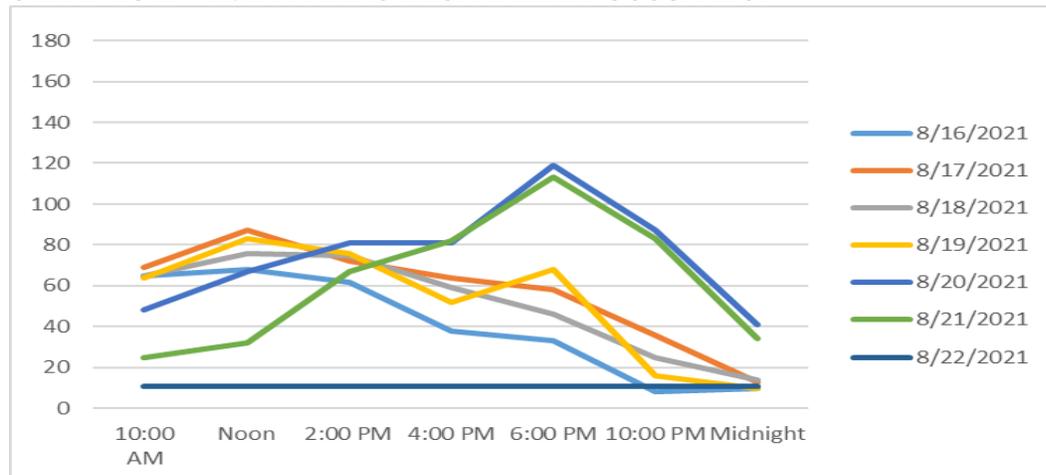
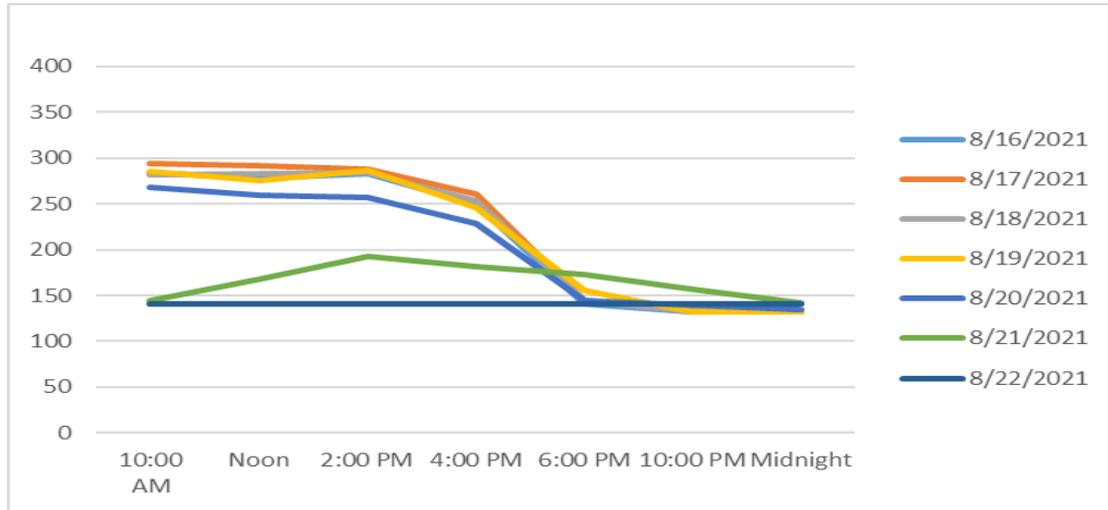


CHART NO. 3 – UD PARKING DECK WEEKLY OCCUPANCY



CENTRAL MAINTENANCE GARAGE REPAIR DATA

	Current Week	
DCED	0	0
Engineering	1	0
Fire	0	0
Light	1	1
Parks & Recreation	2	5
Planning & Code	0	0
Police	5	6
Public Works	5	6
Wastewater	0	1
Water	3	5
Human Resources	0	0
Weekly Totals	17	24
Yearly Total	616	599

UTILITIES DEPARTMENT

ELECTRIC DIVISION

Service Calls

- Thur. 8/19 - 765 Spruce Street – Miss Utility locate; emergency locate for the Water Department for a main break. Time Out: 6.7-6.9
- 429 North Locust Street – tree on line; the area was barricaded. Follow-up work will be needed by the customer to clear the private tree for safe access by our crews. Time Out: 16.3-16.9
- Fr. 8/20 - 310 South Cannon Avenue – tree on lines; Time Out: 4.9-6.8
- 430 Jonathan Street – lines down; the service conductor had failed. Time Out: 16.5-18.4

- Sat. 8/21 - A raccoon climbed the Wesel Substation structure and caused a direct fault on the No.2 low-side bus. An insulator needed replaced and the remaining bus inspected for damage in order to restore power. Time Out: 4.4-6.8
- 412 Reynolds Avenue – total outage; the customer’s main breaker had tripped. Time Out: 8.7-9.9
- 1032 Rose Hill Avenue – total outage; a failed lightning arrester was replaced. Time Out: 14.3-15.0
- Mon. 8/23 - 112 East Antietam Street – pole damaged; no damage to HLD facilities was found. Time Out: 18.1-18.4

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

Engineering

- Multiple permit reviews and service upgrade requests have been reviewed and/or completed by engineering staff. Staff performed underground locate requests across the system.
- Engineering staff met with multiple construction managers at various sites across the system for coordination of electrical utility infrastructure to support their projects.
- The Staff Engineer reviewed and awarded bids for HLD stock materials and ordered distribution transformers to provide service to new HLD customers.
- Engineering staff met with manufacturers of hardened communication devices for substation applications.
- Engineering staff created designs for lighting improvements at various points across the City.
- Engineering continued design of new facilities and support of construction activities performed by HLD line crews as we attempt to satisfy the increased demand for new facilities.

WASTEWATER DIVISION

Wastewater Treatment Plant at Frederick Street

Date	Flow (mgd)	Rainfall (inches)
Wednesday, August 18, 2021	5.71	0.74
Thursday, August 19, 2021	5.10	0.00
Friday, August 20, 2021	5.82	0.61
Saturday, August 21, 2021	5.25	0.07
Sunday, August 22, 2021	5.09	0.00
Monday, August 23, 2021	5.03	0.00
Tuesday, August 24, 2021	5.16	0.00
Weekly – Avg. Flow / Total Rainfall	5.31	1.42
Aug – Avg. Flow/Total Rainfall	4.74	1.75

Miscellaneous

- Troubleshooting of data conversion switches on DAF and PLC-1. Replaced faulty switch and ethernet ends.
- Replaced cuvette in UVT analyzer.
- Ran lines for water and waste for new lab sink.
- Replaced light fixtures on Final Clarifier No. 6.
- Replaced bearings on #1 Pista Grit Unit.
- Routine MVP Plant Work orders & Corrective Work Orders.

Wastewater Collection Wastewater Collection

SSES Weekly Progress

Activity	Districts	L. F. main	Feet of lateral	# inspected
CCTV Inspections	N/A			
Flushing	#12	12,927'		

Collection System Maintenance Tasks

- Sewage odor complaint, 1304 Dual Highway, problem in business with dry traps.
- Sewer backup call, 1003 The Terrace, flushed main, found problem to be on the private side.
- Sewer backup call, 634 George Street, flushed main line.
- Excavated temp patches and installed permanent patches at 710 Spruce Street, and alley behind 200 Summit Avenue.
- Exercised all generators and pumps at shop to ensure proper operation.
- Unit #592 & 594: cleaned and performed preventative maintenance.
- Unit #593: cleaned and repaired throttle pedal.
- Began preventative maintenance on all lift station generators in the system.
- General Pump Shop repair work.

Administration

Wastewater Division – Customer Call Log Summary 2021							
Type	Blockages	Grinder Pumps	Odor Complaints	Flushing	WW Pump Station	Other	Totals
Weekly	2	2	0	0	0	3	7
YTD 2021	103	52	5	0	0	110	270

Engineering

- Review of Site Development and City Permit Drawings.
- Gathering information for service inquiries.
- Updating GIS databases completed with water projects.
- Ongoing Construction Inspection of ongoing water projects.

Lab

- Process and regulatory testing were routine for the week.
- Consolidation of electronic and paper file system in progress.
- Laboratory personnel cross-training.
- Collected Industrial Pretreatment sample from ConAgra.
- Assessed sampler pump tubing.
- QA/QC data entry.

WATER DIVISION

Plant Flows - System Demand (MGD)

<u>Date</u>	<u>Willson</u>	<u>Breichner</u>	<u>Total</u>
08/19/21	11.40		11.40
08/20/21	11.11		11.11
08/21/21	10.86		10.86
08/22/21	10.52		10.52
08/23/21	11.68		11.68
08/24/21	11.52		11.52
08/25/21	11.68		11.68
Average			11.25

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

- Staff worked on facility maintenance and routine preventative maintenance.
- Staff repaired gate opener at Park Avenue.
- Staff replaced 4-way function valve at pump station #3.

Water Production at Breichner / Edgemont Reservoir. The Edgemont Reservoir pool elevation is currently at 0.72 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.

Water Distribution

- Crews performed customer service work and new meter installations as needed.
- Crews continued replacement of residential meters throughout the water service area.

Laboratory

- Process and regulatory testing were routine for the week.
- Bacteriological monitoring for August completed.
- Prepared HPC media; completed analysis on distribution samples.
- Collected sample from new main; results in progress.
- New water lab electrical and DI water install in progress.
- Consolidation of electronic and paper file system in progress.

Engineering

	<u>City</u>	<u>County</u>
Site Plans	-	-
Preliminary Plats	-	-
Grading Plan	-	-
Final Plat	-	-
Building Permits	10	8
Development Plan	-	-

- Updating GIS and other mapping with recent projects
- Review of site plan and city permit drawings
- Meetings and discussions about upcoming projects



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