

# City of Hagerstown, Maryland

## Status & Information Report No. 25 for 2013

June 28, 2013

To Mayor Gysberts and Members of the City Council:

### UPCOMING MEETINGS

JUNE 2013						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 Blues Fest @ Central Lot
2 Blues Fest @ City Park	3	4 4pm Work Session	5	6	7	8
9	10	11 4pm Work Session	12	13	14 3:30pm Flag Day Event @ University Plaza	15
16	17	18 7pm Regular Session	19	20	21	22
23 MML Annual Convention	24 MML Annual Convention	25 No Meeting  MML Annual Convention	26 MML Annual Convention	27	28	29
30						

### DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

#### BUSINESS & COMMUNITY RELATIONS DIVISION

**Grand Opening/Anniversaries:**

- Draper & McGinley, PA and Edward Jones Investments, both located at 140 South Potomac St., held grand openings with a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony on Thursday. The building was acquired by the City of Hagerstown in 2009 in an effort to contribute to the revitalization of the area. Once the property was acquired by the City, critical repairs were completed and the property was marketed for resale. In 2012, the City sold the property to CAPYBARA, LLC. The City of Hagerstown worked closely with CAPYBARA, LLC throughout the sale and renovation process, and the private-public partnership contributed to the transformation of 140 South Potomac Street into a newly-renovated office building for two businesses.
- A Grand Opening/Ribbon Cutting for El Paso Cantina and Grill at 10 E. Washington Street is scheduled for Friday, June 28 at 4 PM. The restaurant is owned by Jose Gomez. Please join us and celebrate El Paso moving to City Center.
- The Flying Pie on South Potomac Street is scheduled to have an official grand opening on Tuesday, July 9 at 2 PM.
- Another Grand Opening and Ribbon Cutting will be held in City Center on Wednesday, July 10 at 4:30 PM. The event is being held to celebrate Wertman Photography moving into downtown. The business is owned by Monika Wertman and is located at 245 North Potomac St.
- Checkers is hosting a Grand Opening and Ribbon Cutting at 1720 Dual Highway, Hagerstown, MD 21740. This event will be held on Thursday, July 25 at 4 PM.

### **Events:**

- Staff assisted the Korean War Veterans with the dedication of the Korean War Monument along Mealey Parkway which was held on Sunday, June 23. The event was very successful and honored those who fought and those who died for our country.
- Miss Maryland and Miss Maryland Outstanding Teen Pageant was held from June 19 to June 21, 2013 in Hagerstown at the Maryland Theatre.
- Wind Down Fridays will begin at The Maryland Theatre with Bike on Friday, July 5 from 5 PM to 8 PM, and that is also Bike Night in Downtown.
- Faire off the Square will be held this Saturday, June 29 from 9 AM to 2 PM. This month the featured nonprofit is the Community Free Clinic.
- Staff are working with Parks and Engineering for the Grand Opening Cutting of the Dog Park on Saturday, June 29 from 10 AM to noon. The official Ribbon Cutting will be held at 11 AM.
- Fireworks at Fairgrounds Park will be held on July 4. Opening ceremonies are held at 6 PM and entertainment will start at 6:30 PM.
- Antietam Velo Club will be hosting their annual bike race in the North End on July 6 at 8:30 AM.

### **Fundraising:**

- The Augustoberfest Event fundraising continues.
- The Fund Raising Goal for the Dog Park Task Force was \$20,000. They have reached and surpassed the goal.

**Market:** Hillhaven Homegrown Farms are starting as a vendor at City Farmers Market this Saturday. They feature organic produce, flowers and baked goods.

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

- City Park Hosts Colonial Musicians for Arts in the Park
- Dog Park Grand Opening Marked by Leash-Cutting Ceremony
- City Officials, Rotary Club Members Re-dedicate Park
- Battle of Hagerstown Tours Mark 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary
- Photo/Video Opportunity: Junior Police Academy
- Three City Center Businesses Celebrating Grand Openings This Week
- E-casts:
  - o A Special Invitation Grand Opening and Leash Cutting - Dog Park
  - o A Special Invitation Grand Opening and Ribbon Cutting - Draper & McGinley, P.A.
  - o A Special Invitation Grand Opening and Ribbon Cutting - Edward Jones
  - o A Special Invitation Grand Opening and Ribbon Cutting - El Paso

### **Channel 25:**

Watch the City Newsroom at the top of every hour. This week's news stories include:

- Jonathan Hager House Profile
- Washington County Arts Council Moves Gallery in City Center
- Western Maryland Blues Fest Wrap-Up

Also airing at select times: "Divided Valor: Hagerstonians in the Civil War" daily at 3:00 PM.

### **Websites:**

#### **City Website:**

Website analytics for [www.hagerstownmd.org](http://www.hagerstownmd.org) for the week of June 21 - June 27:

Website traffic continues to climb! This week, over 8,000 people viewed more than 21,000 pages.

#### **Top Content:**

- |              |              |
|--------------|--------------|
| 1. Home page | 7,414 visits |
| 2. Jobs page | 1,368 visits |
| 3. Calendar  | 780 visits   |

**PLANNING & CODE ADMINISTRATION DIVISION**

**New Businesses:**

- 1580 Wesel Boulevard – Finn Thai Restaurant.
- 5 Nottingham Road – West End Pub and Restaurant, LLC – restaurant only.
- 22 North Mulberry Street (Mulberry Lofts) – Posh Locker – consignment shop

**Planning Commission** – The Planning Commission reviewed the following matters on June 26:

- Text Amendment: finalization of draft to be forwarded to the Mayor and City Council, in particular clarification on appropriate foot candle measurement for sign illumination.
- Future Land Use Map Amendments outside the city in the MRGA.
- 2012 Annual Planning Commission Report to State.

**Historic District Commission** – The HDC approved the following cases at a special meeting on June 20:

- 13 East Washington Street – WHAG – cable entry port.
- 25 West Washington Street – Beatitudes Hair & Beauty Supply Store – individual letter sign.
- 34-36 South Potomac Street – Washington County Arts Council – signs and grant (REVISED).
- 114 North Potomac Street – Oak Hill Interior Design – flower boxes and grant.

**APFO Review of The Reserve at Collegiate Acres** – The County Commissioners approved an APFO mitigation plan for 272 multi-family units at The Reserve at Collegiate Acres today. The developer is Trey Alter. The project will pay \$2,000 per unit in an APFO fee (above and beyond the excise tax fee) that will be paid up front before permits can be issued for each phase of development. Phase I is planned for 2013 and Phase II for 2015. The other aspect of the plan was splitting the project up into the two phases with the two year separation. We will attempt to get this scheduled for Mayor and City Council review and vote in July. Once Mayor and City Council approval is gained, the project will be eligible to apply for permits. The developer would like to start Phase I in this construction season.

**Noise Ordinance Update** – Staff continue to refine the proposed update of the City's Noise Ordinance, chapter 155, to provide better tools for protection of quality of life while still protecting constitutional liberties. We expect discussion on the matter with the Mayor and City Council in August.

<b>PERMITS</b>								
<b><u>TYPE</u></b>	<b><u>NUMBER OF NEW APPLICATIONS</u></b>							<b><u>NUMBER ISSUED</u></b>
Building	9	Residential -	6	Commercial -	1	Other -	2	17
Electrical	13	Residential -	7	Commercial -	6	Other -	0	13
Plumbing	7	Residential -	4	Commercial -	3	Other -	0	7
Mechanical	10	Residential -	6	Commercial -	4	Other -	0	10
Engineering Dept.	23							22
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>62</b>		<b>23</b>		<b>14</b>		<b>2</b>	<b>69</b>
<b><u>Est. Value of Issued Building Permit Projects:</u></b>					<b><u>Fiscal Year Totals:</u></b>			
Residential	\$ 70,545.00				\$ 9,335,864.00			
Commercial	\$ 234,425.00				\$ 30,080,192.00			
Apartment	\$ 0.00				\$ 2,158,364.00			
Sign	\$ 3,950.00				\$ 282,124.00			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 308,920.00</b>				<b>\$ 41,856,544.00</b>			

Construct L Shaped addition at 1929 Dual Hwy. - \$115,000

Emergency generator for proposed 911 center at 120-128 W. Washington St. - \$60,000

Adding new antenna equipment to existing frame structure at 431 Dual Hwy. - \$50,000

**RENTAL LICENSES FOR PROGRAM YEAR EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2013**

<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>FACILITIES</u>	<u>UNITS</u>
Registrations Received	137	428
New Applications Issued	3	21
Total Registered	2298	6341
Percentage of total invoiced	71.4%	73.1%

**Notes:** The 2013-2014 rental license renewals for 8678 units in 3220 facilities were printed and mailed on May 1, 2013.

**PAYMENT**

Total Payments Received \$ 21,400

Adjustments \$ 2,650

**INSPECTIONS**

<u>TYPE</u>	<u>NUMBER CONDUCTED</u>
Building	65
Electrical	46
Plumbing	24
Mechanical	9
Safety	71
Neighborhood Vitality	119
Quality of Life	9
Preventive Maintenance	76
Planning & Zoning	4

**Notes:** Please note that exterior inspections of properties registered in the rental licensing program are NOT included in this total.

**INSPECTIONS KEY:**

**Categories of Conditions**

Safety Conditions which are or reasonably present a hazard to occupant or public.

Example: 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.

**PARKS & ENGINEERING**

1. **Hagerstown Dog Park** We are wrapping up construction for the opening this Saturday. All the concrete has been poured for the entrance, the footings and concrete floor are poured for a new pavilion. To provide water for the dogs, a water line has been installed. As a buffer, we planted more than 40 trees and 75 evergreens along the neighboring properties. The new fence is installed. We have completely refurbished the old fence to the south and west, the barb wire brackets will be removed in a couple weeks and replaced with a standard post top. Dog dispensers, mutt mitts and waste receptacles are being installed. A dog park sign, directional signs as well as signs explaining the dog rules are now in place.  
  
The security system screen on the fence and fountains are in process but won't be in place for Saturday's opening. We expect them in by mid-July.
2. **Demo of Mid-Town** Removal of the upper floor will be done today and the contractor will begin removing the basement walls and backfilling to form a 3:1 slope down to the adjacent parking lot. This contract includes removal of the driveway all along Prospect Street and removal of the old motel signs hanging on the remaining building. In demolishing the motel, we uncovered the rear wall of the remaining building and found a number of places that need to be repaired. In discussions with Planning it was felt that no work should be performed on that wall at this time.
3. **Park Circle Multi-Use Path** The section of the 10-foot wide path along the north side of Memorial Blvd is about 60% complete. We have asked Public Works to proceed with installing the bike lane signs on Summit Avenue and Jonathan Street from Lee Street to Church Street, as we expect Alpha Space Control to paint that bike lane within the next week. We delivered letters to the residents and businesses on Summit & Jonathan to inform them of the bike lane.
4. **Rotary Club of Long Meadows Park** In partnership with the Long Meadows Rotary Club, staff is planning a park rededication on Monday, July 1<sup>st</sup>, at 6:00 pm at Rotary Club of Long Meadows Park.
5. **Arts in the Park** City Park hosted the Walkers Performing Arts Children's Theatre on June 23<sup>rd</sup> and more than 100 people attended. WHAG and the Herald-Mail provided media coverage.

## POLICE DEPARTMENT

### STATS:

Calls for Service:	1,743	Field Interviews:	33
Arrests/Warrants Served:	21	Moving Violations:	36
Domestic Violence Calls:	25	Parking Violations:	18
DUI Arrests:	2	Safety Repair Orders:	7
Reports Filed:	199	Warnings:	30

### REPORTS:

- **06/21/13:** Officer Filges was dispatched to Broadway for a reported assault. Upon arrival there were four males and three females on the porch. Witnesses stated two females were involved in a fight inside the apartment. One of the females left with a pit-bull puppy valued at \$150.00. Three individuals were transported to Central Booking and charged with Burglary 1<sup>st</sup> degree and other related charges.
- **06/24/13:** Officer R. Dean responded to E. Franklin Street for suspicious persons report. According to the maintenance supervisor of the apartment building, the apartment was leased to an elderly lady, and no one else should be there. The suspicious individuals were transported to the Washington County Central Booking without incident.
- **06/25/13:** Officer Plummer was dispatched to Locust Street for an assault that had just taken place. A witness stated an uninvited individual entered the residence and challenged the resident to a fight. Damage was done to the property. Charges are forth coming on the intruder.

### OTHER NEWS/INFORMATION:

- **Good news!** HPD received additional funding requested for the Civilian Coordinator under the State of Maryland's Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention (GOCCP).

The coordinator will be responsible for working with the various law enforcement partners to ensure violent and repeat offenders are Identified, Apprehended and Prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law. HPD is entering the second year of the Safe Streets program and will be forwarding the results of the program's first year to Council in July.

- **Update on the Gang Related shootings from April.** Our investigators have been working on the case and with the cooperation of the State's Attorney's Office indicted more than a dozen individuals in connection with the Bloods and Crips shooting on Jonathan Street this past April. Several arrests have been made over the past few days and more indictments are pending.

The use of indictments continues to be an effective tool for arresting individuals involved in violent crime. I believe the active pursuit of this investigation over the past two months by detectives and patrol officers on the street has played a large part in preventing further retaliation.

## PUBLIC WORKS

### PARKING SYSTEM DATA

		Current Week	Previous Week
<b>Number of Permit Holders</b>	A & E Deck	154	157
	University District Deck	281	279
	Downtown Parking Lots	372	372
<b>Number of Patrons Using Decks</b>	A & E Deck	1,804	1,620
	University District Deck	1,596	1,537
<b>Sales of Discount Coupons</b>		0	0
<b>Number of Citations Issued</b>	(Includes Warnings)	177	176
<b>Number of Late Payment Notifications</b>		39	47
<b>Number of Cars Booted</b>		2	2

### CENTRAL MAINTENANCE GARAGE REPAIR DATA

	Current Week	Previous Week
DCED	1	0
Fire	3	2
Human Resources	0	0
Light	1	5
Parks & Engineering	1	0
Police	11	3
Public Works	4	10
Wastewater	1	4
Water	6	3
<b>Weekly Totals</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>27</b>

CMG data represents completed work orders for any size repair. The repairs can include smaller items such as windshield wiper and headlight replacements to larger items such as hydraulic system rebuilds or transmission replacements. Repairs in progress will only be reported when complete.

## UTILITIES DEPARTMENT

### ELECTRIC DIVISION

1. **Problem Areas.** Recent call-outs included:
  - Fri. 6/21 - Various locations- (reconnections for non-payment) Time Out: 16.5-17.5
  - Sat. 6/22 - 653 Court Avenue- total outage; customer's main breaker had tripped, Lineworker reset breaker to restore power. Time Out: 16.3-17.2
  - Mon. 6/24 - Various locations- (reconnections for non-payment) Time Out: 16.2-16.7
  - Tues. 6/25 - Various locations- (reconnections for non-payment) Time Out: 16.5-17.3
  - Various locations (Storm Trouble) - total outages, trees on wires, lines arcing; lineman reattached numerous & trimmed several tree branches from service wires following severe storms in our service area. Time Out: 21.3-1.7
  
2. **Distribution** Recent activity included:
  - Metering Staff received no high bill complaints this week.
  - Line crews continue annual feeder inspections for Mitchell Substation.
  - Line crews continue trimming trees in various residential locations.
  - Line crews performed various service upgrades and meter installations.
  - Continued with pole inspections and re-tagging throughout the City.

Lamps Replaced	New Fixtures Added	Changeouts	Fixtures Removed
8	0	1	0

3. **Engineering** Staff worked on the following projects:
  - Engineering staff reviewed and processed multiple building permits regarding fences and new construction involving HLD electrical distribution equipment.
  
4. **Administration:**
  - Staff assisted the IT department and USMH with the installation of a Wi-Fi device in the square.

**WASTEWATER DIVISION**

**Wastewater Treatment Plant at Frederick Street**

Date	Flow (mgd)	Rainfall (inches)
Wednesday, June 19, 2013	8.36	1.04
Thursday, June 20, 2013	6.86	0.00
Friday, June 21, 2013	6.44	0.00
Saturday, June 22, 2013	6.07	0.00
Sunday, June 23, 2013	6.13	0.09
Monday, June 24, 2013	6.19	0.00
Tuesday, June 25, 2013	6.09	0.02
Weekly Average/Total	6.59	1.06
Monthly Average/Total	6.36	4.76

**Projects:**

- No major projects this week.

**Miscellaneous:**

- Start of WWTP inventory.

**Wastewater Collection**

**SSES Weekly Progress**

Activity	Districts	L. F. main	Feet of lateral	# inspected
CCTV Inspections	15	171	6	1
Flushing	15	10,070		
<b>Point Repairs</b>		<b># of Repairs</b>	<b>Reason</b>	<b>L.F. of Repairs</b>
Main & Lateral	2, 15	2	Roots	34
Manholes	1	2	Epoxy manhole	16 V.F.

**Collection System Maintenance Task**

- Changed seal filters at stations 9 and 10, cleaned floats at 9, 10 and 11, also adjusted off-float at 11, confirmed chemical feed pump operation at station 26 (50 GPD).
- Grinder Pump alarms at 20006 Cherry Hill Circle, replaced smart-start controller.
- 1502 Kensington; pump running when crew arrived, and no alarm light.
- Replaced pump cores @ 20006 and 20012 Mount Aetna Road.
- Installed Bio-Bags throughout infrastructure to control FOG.
- Finished cleaning in district 15 and started district 16.
- Repaired bench and parged walls in manholes 01207 and 01201.
- Applied Parsons SEL 80 Epoxy to walls in manhole 01199.
- Replaced remaining lateral at 217 Bryan Place for roots.
- Replaced lateral for 1120 Oak Hill Avenue root intrusion.

## Administration

Wastewater Division – Customer Call Log Summary 2013							
Type	Blockages	Grinder Pumps	Odor Complaints	Flushing	WW Pump Station	Other	Totals
Weekly	0	4	0	1	0	1	6
YTD	37	27	6	7	8	22	107

\* Other - consist of calls that maybe directed to other City Departments or the County Department of Water Quality

## **Engineering:**

Staff attended a Division managers meeting with the Utilities Director.

Staff continued working with City Permits staff on streamlining the sewer permits process.

## **Wastewater Laboratory:**

The lab renewed the contract with Heritage Environmental Services to remove spent COD testing waste.

Process and regulatory testing was routine for the week.

## WATER DIVISION

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

<u>Date</u>	<u>Willson</u>	<u>Breichner</u>	<u>Total</u>
6/20/13	11.79		11.79
6/21/13	11.92		11.92
6/22/13	11.66		11.66
6/23/13	11.89		11.89
6/24/13	12.02		12.02
6/25/13	12.45		12.45
6/26/13	12.05		12.05
Average			11.96

### **Water Production at RC Willson**

- Operations
  - Completing routine PMs.
- Maintenance
  - R C Willson – Performed routine PMs.
- Instrumentation
  - R C Willson – Installed an emergency light.
  - Pump Stations – Repaired the sodium hypo feed line at Rockwillow and Hellane Tanks.
  - Pump Stations – Ran generator conduit at P.S. #6.
  - Breichner Plant – Running conduit for the compliance alarm.

### **Water Production at Breichner**

The Edgemont Reservoir is currently -5.5'; the bypass is closed and the hydrant is closed.

### **Water Distribution**

- Distribution crews are working throughout the system performing customer service as needed and are working on meter exchanges throughout the system. We are working on Virginia Ave. overlay and finishing services on Summit Ave. Also, we are installing new services on Hurricane Ct. and lowering services on Sharpsburg Pike.

### **Laboratory**

- Lab Technician Mike Horst has taken on the position of union shop steward at the Willson Plant.
- A sample was collected and is being tested from a new line on Frederick St.

- Process and regulatory testing was routine for the week.

**Engineering**

Reviews:

	<u>City</u>	<u>County</u>
Site Plan		1
Building Permit	15	4

- Staff met with a consultant on final details of the Robinwood Loop Closure main construction drawings.
- Staff attended a division managers meeting with the Utilities Director.
- Staff continued working with City Permits staff on streamlining the water permits process.
- Staff met with a commercial developer's consultant on final approval of an expansion site plan.

Respectfully submitted,



Bruce Zimmerman  
City Administrator