

City of Hagerstown, Maryland Status & Information Report No. 41 for 2014

October 17, 2014

To Mayor Gysberts and Members of the City Council:

UPCOMING MEETINGS

OCTOBER 2014						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7 4pm Work Session	8	9	10 7-9pm Haunted Tours & Ghost Walk @ City Park	11 7am-2pm Community Yard Sale @ Fairgrounds Park 7-9pm Haunted Tours & Ghost Walk @ City Park
12 7-9pm Haunted Tours & Ghost Walk @ City Park	13	14 4pm Work Session	15	16	17 7-9pm Hagerstown City Park Ghost Tours @ City Park	18 7-9pm Hagerstown City Park Ghost Tours @ City Park
19 7-9pm Hagerstown City Park Ghost Tours @ City Park	20	21 3pm Executive Session 4:30pm Work Session	22	23	24 7pm City Center Ghost Tours (begins at Bulls & Bears)	25 12-2pm Howl-o-ween Dog Costume Parade @ Fairgrounds Park 6pm Alsatia Mummers Parade
26	27	28 5pm Executive Session 7pm Regular Session	29	30	31 6-8pm City Wide Trick-Or-Treat	

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

BUSINESS & COMMUNITY RELATIONS DIVISION

1. **Grand Openings**
 - Please mark your calendar now for the Grand Opening/Ribbon Cutting of After Hours Pediatrics. The event will be on Monday, Oct. 27 at 4:30 p.m. The owners are Dr. Anand Budi, Dr. Leon Weaver, Dr. Kris Athey and Dr. Ruth Dwyer. The business is located at 186 Eastern Boulevard. Please join us in celebrating another business making Hagerstown its home.

2. Events

- **Harvest Hoedown at Fairgrounds Park** was held on *October 11, 1-4 PM*. Approximately 2,500 people attended the event. It featured scarecrow making by Community Free Clinic, pumpkin painting, balloon giveaways, hay rides, Antique Tractor Club barrel rides, Petting Zoo, PAL Obstacle Course, City Farmers Market vendors, face painting and many more fun fall activities. Entertainment provided by the Country Showcase of America Jamboree and local dance groups. Sponsors of the event include: City of Hagerstown, Antietam Cable Television & Disney, the Maryland Apple Promotion Board, Columbia Bank – Hagerstown Trust Division and Pediatric Dental Center of Frederick.
- **Wind Down: Freaky Friday** will be held on *Friday, October 17 from 6-9 PM*. A bonus night has been added for Wind Down! Join us for live music from “River Knot.” We’re getting freaky on this particular Friday so wear your costumes, young and old! Downtown Movement is stepping in to host a Costume Contest! There are hayrides through the downtown area, fall crafts and face painting for the kids and celebrity pumpkin carvers!
- **City Center Ghost Tours** will be held on *October 24 beginning at 7 PM*. By wagon or on foot, visit and hear about some of Downtown’s most haunted sites. Reservations and admission for both walking tours and hay ride tours are required. Tours leave promptly from the Potomac Walk outside of Bulls and Bears Restaurant. Light refreshments provided by Bulls and Bears.
 - Hayride Ghost Tour: 7 PM, 8 PM, and 9 PM- \$6 per seat, refreshments provided.
 - Walking Tours: 7 PM and 8 PM - Adults: \$3 | Children 6-12: \$1 | Children 5 and under: Free | Goodies provided.
- **Spooky Sprint** will be held on *October 25. Registration at 5 PM*. The two mile race begins at Fairgrounds Park. To register, call 240.313.2805 or e-mail jdick@washco-md.net. Sponsored by the Washington County Recreation Department, the City of Hagerstown, the Hagerstown Firefighters “Coats for Kids Project” and the Alsatia Club.
- **Alsatia Mummies Parade** is being held on *October 25, 6 PM at Hagerstown’s City Center*. This traditional autumn evening event features local floats, bands, costumed mummies and more! Contact the Alsatia Club at 301.739.2044 for more information.
- **Utility Relief Concert** will be held on *Wednesday, October 29 beginning 7 PM at The Maryland Theatre*. The City of Hagerstown is proud to host this event, featuring local school and community groups’ performances, for a night of entertainment that creates and brings awareness while with raising funds for City residents that could not keep up with surmounting costs of utilities. With the current economic climate, this event is more important than ever. This will help residents with a basic need – utilities. This will allow those who are helped a peace of mind and some relief. Performances include South Hagerstown High School Jazz Band, Barbara Ingram School for the Arts Choral Group, Western Heights Middle School Dance Group, Rockland Woods Elementary “The Treblemakers,” Ebenezer AME Church, Miss Maryland, Abigail Nigh and more! For ticket information, contact The Maryland Theatre at 301.790.2000
- **City Wide Trick-Or-Treat** is being held on *Friday, October 31 from 6-8 PM* throughout the City of Hagerstown. Welcome kids in costume to your home by turning on your porch light!

2. **Fundraising:** Staff is working on fundraising for the Utility Relief Benefit Concert, George Washington Statue and holiday events.

3. This Week’s Headlines and Media Releases:

- Canine Mummies March the Red Carpet at Howloween Dog Parade
- Experience Hagerstown’s Hauntings on City Center Ghost Tours
- Fire Prevention Review - Things to Remember All Year Long
- Traffic Advisory: Pavement Preservation Program

- Traffic Advisory: Wind Down Friday

4. **Channel 25**

- Watch the City Newsroom at the top of every hour. This week's news stories include:
 - A Trip with the Mayor to Wesel, Germany
 - Fire Prevention Tips
 - "The Fishing Lesson" Public Art Promotion
 - Howloween Dog Costume Parade Commercial
 - Downtown Pop-Up Shops Re-cap
 - Maryland Theatre Seating Promotion
 - Special Broadcasts:
 - ▶ Divided Valor - Saturday and Sunday at 2 PM.
 - In production:
 - ▶ Action Products Supports Mercy Ships Medical Endeavors

5. **Websites:**

- City Website:

- About 7,400 users visited www.hagerstownmd.org for the week of October 6, 2014 - October 12, 2014.
- Top entrances (first page users accessed on the website):
 - ▶ Home page 2,617 users
 - ▶ Jobs page 334 users
 - ▶ Utility Billing page 310 users
- Top Searches:
 - ▶ "harvest hoedown"
 - ▶ "holidays"
 - ▶ "trick or treat"

- engageHagerstown:

- Total Participants: 321
- Unique Visitors: 5,601
- Page Views: 33,849
- Current topics:
 - ▶ What are some of your favorite memories of watching or participating in the Alsatia Mummies Parade?
 - ▶ How can we promote and encourage character development in our community?
 - ▶ To what community efforts are you most likely to dedicate your time and energy as a volunteer?
 - ▶ Calling all entrepreneurs! Tell us about your big idea for a new business in our community.

- ▶ What are some creative ways to make our community more family-friendly?

PLANNING & CODE ADMINISTRATION DIVISION

1. Zoning Certificates Issued:

- 20 West Washington Street, Suite 101 – Regenerate – spa services.
- 431 Dual Highway – Seven Star Hotel, Inc., d/b/a Grand Venice Seven Star Hotel, Inc. – hotel and conference center (change of ownership only).
- 20 East Washington Street – By Grace – retail sales of antiques and custom-made furniture.

2. Historic District Commission:

The HDC reviewed the following items on October 9:

- 100 West Washington Street – Aaron House for Board of County Commissioners of Washington County – approved a dumpster enclosure.
- 705-707 Oak Hill Avenue – John Lee Rohrer – approved gutter replacement and installation of a section of fence.
- 49 South Potomac Street – Rodrigo Allvenada/Hamad Abuziyad – approved replacement of the storefront window and entry door.
- 10 Public Square – What's NXT – approved a temporary banner and replacement of signage.

The HDC is scheduled to review the following cases on October 23:

- 21 South Potomac Street – The Maryland Theatre Association, Inc. – sign and grant.
- Workshop: 28 West Franklin Street – Donovan Violet – Replacement Windows.
- Workshop: 38-40 East North Avenue – Bob Jones – Front Mansard Roof Replacement.

3. War of 1812 Bicentennial Observance: Although lightly attended, the City's opportunity to promote itself as the first place that the Star Spangled Banner appeared in a music book generated significant positive press. An interpretive plaque was unveiled by Mayor Gysberts and Congressman Delaney at the Maryland Theatre relating the story of Gruber's Printing House, which was located at that site and printed the song book as well as the more well known Hagerstown Almanack. Exhibits and programming from the Washington County Historical Society, Maryland Historical Society and Fort McHenry National Monument rounded out a quality event. While final costs are being tallied, it appears that contributions from the Hagerstown Almanack and grant funding from the Maryland Heritage Area Authority are covering just about all of the cost of the event.

4. Board of Zoning Appeals: The BZA heard one case on November 15. A variance was granted to Shre Ganesh One Corp. to construct a storage building to within 14 feet of the rear property line at 1101 Dual Highway (Days Inn).

5. Weekly Activity Report: October 6–10, 2014

PERMITS								
<u>TYPE</u>	<u>NUMBER OF NEW APPLICATIONS</u>							<u>NUMBER ISSUED</u>
Building	12	Residential -	5	Commercial -	3	Other -	4	12
Electric	27	Residential -	15	Commercial -	10	Other -	2	27
Plumbing	18	Residential -	14	Commercial -	3	Other -	1	19
Mechanical	12	Residential -	8	Commercial -	4	Other -	0	12
Engineering Dept.	4							13
TOTAL	73		42		20		7	83

Est. Value of Issued Building Permit Projects:		Fiscal Year Totals:
Residential	\$ 36,168.00	\$ 1,710,140.00
Commercial	\$ 156,000.00	\$ 12,857,451.00
Apartment	\$ 0.00	\$ 2,410,640.00
Sign	\$ 39,322.00	\$ 96,657.00
TOTAL	\$ 231,490.00	\$ 17,074,888.00

Projects of interest:

- Phase I demolition of MELP at 600 South Cannon Avenue - \$35,000
- Renovations to existing kitchen area for Chargrill equipment at 1680 Wesel Boulevard - \$100,000

RENTAL LICENSING PROGRAM

	PROPERTIES	UNITS
Total registered or invoiced for 2014-2015 program	3,378	9,106
Registrations received week of October 6	12	42
New applications issued week of October 6	4	6
Percentage of total invoiced that have registered & paid	95.5 %	96.7 %

PAYMENT

Weekly payment received	\$ 2,100
Weekly adjustment/credits	\$ 50

INSPECTIONS

TYPE	NUMBER CONDUCTED
Building	39
Electrical	52
Plumbing	46
Mechanical	11
Safety	20
Neighborhood Vitality	141
Quality of Life	2
Preventive Maintenance	11
Planning & Zoning	0

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.

PARKS & ENGINEERING

1. **Stormwater Project near City Light and Cleanwater Circle.** We are in the early stages of the project, we have selected an engineering consultant to prepare the design of the facilities; the consultant has performed preliminary field surveys at the sites, and is working on the preliminary design plans and specifications. We are expecting to receive 50% design plans for review on or about October 22nd. Over the next few months we expect the consultant to complete the final design of the facilities, and to prepare specifications and permit applications for submission to the various review agencies. The project is on schedule with the milestone dates listed in the City's grant application.
2. **Memorial Park, Phase II.** Ten trees were received and planted; weather permitting, landscaping will be completed next week. To give the "Circle of Achievement" a formal appearance, the trees are hornbeams and are deliberately planted close together to "pleach" them into a hedge effect in the tree canopy.
3. **Street Tree Contract.** The list of quantities has been sent to the contractor and we expect on holding Preconstruction meeting next week. This contract will plant new trees at Fairgrounds Park and City Park to replace trees that have been infested by the Emerald Ash Borer, as well as street trees in various locations. DNR will make a presentation to Mayor & Council regarding the EAB on Tuesday.
4. **Bike Maps.** The 3rd edition of the City Bike Map is being printed and will be available Wednesday. Pictures, QR codes to videos, and all bike rack locations have been added to this edition, as well as six new bike routes.
5. **South Prospect Street.** Staff met with the Neighborhood First group on Tuesday night regarding trash being set out by tenants way before collection day. Several properties were noted. Code staff will be reviewing what can be done about this growing problem.
6. **Engineering Division Items**

Traffic issues		
Description	Week of 10/10/14	Calendar Year-to-date
Traffic complaints received	2	132
Work Orders completed	0	103
Traffic counts completed	4	35
Construction Projects		
Description	Week of 10/10/14	Calendar Year-to-date
Projects advertised for bids	0	20
Projects under construction	11	15
Projects completed	0	7

POLICE DEPARTMENT

1. STATS

Calls for Service:	1,742	Field Interviews:	156
Arrests/Warrants Served:	29	Moving Violations:	10
Domestic Violence Calls:	23	Parking Violations:	13
DUI Arrests:	2	Safety Repair Orders:	63
Reports Filed:	156	Warnings:	62

2. REPORTS

- **10/09/14:** Officer St.Clair responded to Hollyhock Road in reference to a theft. The victim stated that a CAT 318, a piece of equipment owned by David H. Martin, had been tampered with and two 12 volt Interstate batteries had been taken out of the equipment. The total loss is \$300 for the two batteries. The officer on scene requested more special checks to this area. No additional information is available at this time.

- **10/10/14:** Officer Vanderwall was dispatched to 106 Wayside Avenue for a report of a burglary. The victim advised she and her family are in the process of moving out of this residence. When she returned she discovered the downstairs door to be off its hinges and items missing from the house. The estimated loss is over \$1,000. There are no suspects at this time.
- **10/12/14:** Officer Vanderwall responded to Thames Street for a reported assault. The victim stated he was riding his bike on Fairmeadows Boulevard when a loud import style car passed him and threw a water bottle striking him in the left leg. The victim fell from his bike. The suspect's car turned around and threw another water bottle at him. The victim advised the vehicle was a dark colored Honda with two occupants. There are no suspects at this time.
- **10/14/14:** Officer Bobetich responded to 412 Freemont Street for a malicious destruction of property. The victim reported a broken driver's side window and cracked windshield to his 2003 Volkswagen. The victim believes this incident may be related to a robbery that occurred earlier on Freemont Street. No further details are available at this time.

3. PRESS RELEASES

- On October 09, 2014, officers from the Hagerstown Police Department responded to Hub City Liquors on Maryland Avenue after a white male entered Hub City Liquors armed with a weapon. The male managed to get behind the sales counter of the store and attempted to gain entry to the cash register before being confronted by employees of the store. After the confrontation, the male exited the store before obtaining currency and fled on foot heading northbound. It is believed that the suspect may have sustained facial injury to the right side of the head as he was exiting the store. Anyone with information on this incident is asked to contact the Hagerstown City Police Criminal Investigation Division. A monetary reward is being offered for information leading to the arrest of the suspect.
- Officers responded to the Sportsman's Den on October 11, 2014 for a report of an assault in progress. Officers discovered through investigation that Brian Cornelius Driver was the suspect. Driver was in a verbal argument with another male inside the bar at which time he pulled out a knife and lunged at the other male. Driver attempted to stab other customers that tried to intervene as well. Driver was arrested without further incident.

PUBLIC WORKS

PARKING SYSTEM DATA

		Current Week	Previous Week
Number of Permit Holders	A & E Deck	194	183
	University District Deck	444	443
	Downtown Parking Lots	366	382
Number of Patrons Using Decks	A & E Deck	1,891	1,684
	University District Deck	2,143	2,071
Sales of Discount Coupons		0	0
Number of Citations Issued	(Includes Warnings)	211	212
Number of Late Payment Notifications		48	47
Number of Cars Booted		1	0
Peak Occupancy (%)	A & E Deck	71%	69%
	University District Deck	63%	63%

CENTRAL MAINTENANCE GARAGE REPAIR DATA

	Current Week	Previous Week
DCED	0	2
Fire	1	0
Human Resources	0	0
Light	1	3
Parks & Engineering	2	2
Police	5	6
Public Works	5	7
Wastewater	2	1
Water	6	4
Weekly Totals	22	25

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

Problem Areas. Recent call-outs included:

- Thur. 10/9 - 30 East Franklin Street- total outage; lineman reconnected service and installed (4) meters that had been removed in error. Time Out: 17.6-18.8
- Sat. 10/11 - 820 Commonwealth Avenue (Wash Co Board of Education) - de-energized 3 phase service to Credit Union Building for upgrade. Time Out: 6.7-7.4
- 820 Commonwealth Avenue (Wash Co Board of Education) - re-energized service and installed meter at completion of upgrade. Time Out: 12.0-12.4
- 32 Elizabeth Street- lineworker received a call for un-authorized use of power. No issues were found at time of call and supervisor to follow up on the next business day. Time Out: 14.5-15.0

Distribution: Recent activity included:

- Metering Staff received no high bill complaints this week.
- Line crews continue trimming trees in various residential locations.

Lamps Replaced	New Fixtures Added	Changeouts	Fixtures Removed
18	0	4	0

Engineering Staff worked on the following projects:

- Engineering Staff completed multiple permit reviews and service upgrade requests.
- Engineering staff reviewed updated mandates from OSHA in regards to Rule 1910.269 which deals with Electric Industry practices. We are reviewing 111 pages of documentation to ensure HLD is in compliance with the mandates or working to become compliant by January 1, 2015. So far in the review (about halfway through), HLD's progressive Safety Program Implementation has placed HLD in compliance with these standards ahead of the mandatory date.

- The Staff Engineer downloaded information from one of HLD's recording devices placed on a resident's electrical service after they made us aware of an electrical issue. The data will be analyzed for abnormalities. If any exist, HLD will make necessary repairs or notify the customer repairs are required on their equipment. This service is offered at no charge to the HLD customer for both residential and commercial electrical installations.

Administration:

- The Director of Utilities conducted a meeting with the Contractor and City Staff, to include Administrative, Engineering, Permitting, and Utilities, regarding the MELP demolition that will be taking place in the near future.
- Staff met with NEXtera Energy to discuss our Purchase Power Contract position beyond May 31, 2017.

WASTEWATER DIVISION

Wastewater Treatment Plant at Frederick Street

Date	Flow (mgd)	Rainfall (inches)
Wednesday, Oct 8, 2014	5.84	0.00
Thursday, Oct 9, 2014	5.57	0.00
Friday, Oct 10, 2014	5.45	0.00
Saturday, Oct 11, 2014	5.89	0.45
Sunday, Oct 12, 2014	5.85	0.00
Monday, Oct 13, 2014	5.85	0.00
Tuesday, Oct 14, 2014	5.52	0.00
Weekly – Avg. Flow / Total Rainfall	5.68	0.45
Oct – Avg. Flow/Total Rainfall	5.71	0.95

Miscellaneous

- Met with Evirep and installed new motor on primary sludge pump.
- Finished rebuilding WAS pumps for ASPS building.
- Pulled defective Jeta grit removal unit with crane and ordered new parts to rebuild.
- Tied-in 3 phase wiring to accommodate Synagro's tank cleaning equipment.
- Routine maintenance (MP2 Program) and Corrective Work Orders.
- Atlas Copco was onsite to repair ZA-5 compressor.

Wastewater Collection

SSES Weekly Progress

Activity	Districts	L. F. main	Feet of lateral	# inspected
CCTV Inspections	10	1,681	0	0
Flushing	1,8,9,10	10,080		
Point Repairs		# of Repairs	Reason	L.F. of Repairs
Manholes	7	7	Overlay & I&I	

Collection System Maintenance Task

- Opened manholes in District 7 for flushing crew.
- CCTV lateral at 1146 Outer Drive; owner's problem.

- Replaced frame and cover for manhole 07117; 07187 installed new 1 1/2 riser, manhole would not open; 07186 lid was stuck in riser.
- 07169 installed conversion ring and installed 3 risers on Linden Ave for overlay.
- Installed flow-thru plugs in manhole 07028 and reconstructed flow channel, once line was plugged had infiltration under flow line. Stopped leaks with Seal Tite and built channel with Emaco 400.
- Parged manholes 07030 and 07033, manhole 07030 had minor infiltration at effluent side.
- Installed flow-thru plugs in manhole 07034 and repaired voids around influent and effluent pipes, stopped infiltration and grouted bench in manhole 12063.
- Finished working on invert in manhole 07034 with water plug and Emaco 400.
- Finished trouble spots, started cleaning in district 8, station 3 to manhole 09063 had brief surcharge last night.
- Started inspection in district 10.
- Water pump on emergency generator at station 22 leaking.
- Replaced generator battery at station 23.
- Grinder pump call at 11332 Eastwood, pump ok; and 11106 Pinewood, replaced pump core.
- Exercised emergency generators and downloaded flow meter at Newgate.
- Installed new transfer switch at station 7.

Administration

Wastewater Division – Customer Call Log Summary 2014							
Type	Blockages	Grinder Pumps	Odor Complaints	Flushing	WW Pump Station	Other	Totals
Weekly	3	2	3	0	1	0	9
YTD	43	80	18	1	4	66	212

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

Engineering

- Staff met with a consultant on final approval of an industrial expansion site plan.
- Staff met with the MELP demolition contractor regarding questions related to the main trunk sewer line
- Staff met with the Utilities Director regarding a request for waiver of sewer charges for evaporated air conditioning water.

Wastewater Laboratory

- Placed loaner diluter in service. Diluter is functioning normally.
- Contacted Fisher Scientific with regard to pump tubing for Lachat. The tubing we currently use has been discontinued.
- Collected industrial wastewater sample from Culligan.
- 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>
10/09/14	11.19		11.19
10/10/14	10.99		10.99
10/11/14	10.70		10.70
10/12/14	10.95		10.95
10/13/14	11.38		11.38
10/14/14	11.40		11.40
10/15/14	11.16		11.16
Average			11.11

Water Production at RC Willson

- *Operations*
 - Routine cleaning
 - Routine PMs
- *Maintenance*
 - R C Willson – Routine PMs
- *Instrumentation*
 - R C Willson – Working on the new PACL feed system
 - R C Willson – Installing a new tap pH probe
 - R C Willson – Working on the new enunciator panel

Water Production at Breichner

- The Edgemont Reservoir is currently at -9.5'; the bypass is open and the hydrant is closed.

Water Distribution

- Distribution crews are working throughout the system performing customer service as needed. We are installing new meters throughout and are working with the City, County and State on overlay projects. We are installing a new 8" water main on Buford Drive and continue to flush hydrants and test large meters throughout the system.

Laboratory

- Repaired drip tube used to direct and collect condensate from the still.
- Collected 1st set of monthly THM samples.
- Sampled for Mn at the Willson Plant.
- Collected weekly THM/TOC samples.
- Process and regulatory testing was routine for the week.

Engineering

<u>Reviews:</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>County</u>
Site Plan		1
Building Permit	8	8

- Staff met with Water Division staff regarding Airport metered services.

Respectfully submitted,


Bruce Zimmerman
City Administrator