

CITY OF OGDENSBURG, NEW YORK

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Office of the City Manager

MEMORANDUM

MEMO TO: City Council
FROM: Sarah Purdy, City Manager
DATE: September 22, 2016
SUBJECT: Update 16/36

COMPTROLLER UPDATES – No update.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS UPDATES –

Waste Water Treatment Plant Update

- Still in the process of going through and performing maintenance to the second Primary Tank.
- We were prohibited from taking the large primary digester completely off line because we cannot get the isolation valves to function properly. We are developing a strategy to make a repair so that we can accomplish this task.
- We are working closely with DANC to determine our staffing needs. With the uncertainty of knowing the future rating of our plant we are trying to formulate on how best to move forward. We are trying to address the information voids that have been created in the past by cross training our entire staff.
- GHD have started the preliminary engineering report. Time line is 90-120 for completion.
- In the process of replacing the sewer flow meter at the SLPC. The meter is approximately \$4,500. Installation could be another \$4,000 for mechanical and electric contractors. We are meeting today with DANC to determine if we have the expertise on our staff to do the installation work ourselves. The meter is used to bill the SLPC for their sewer usage.

Water Filtration Plant Update

- Successfully cleaned one of our four slow sand filters last Friday. The next cleaning date is set for September 30th. We will clean one of the four on a rotating basis every two weeks until next spring.

Equipment

- New York State is currently selling surplus equipment. Our staff has approached me to see if we could possibly purchase a used grader. They stated that we had our own for years, but that previous management did not want to make a repair on a rear seal about 15 years ago and it was never replaced. We currently have wings on two of our loaders, but they must be put on and pulled off based upon the work that needs to be completed on a daily basis. They created a Pro vs. Cons handout that I have attached. I will be speaking with you to determine what the best course is forward for the City at this time.

Road Cuts

- Local hot mix is limited with Hanson supporting airport project, but we continue to move forward when asphalt is available. They are starting to wind down on their projects so it should be easier to get material through the end of the season.

Paving / Milling / Streets

- All paving has been completed for the season.

- We are trying to identify and address sign issues. Replacing worn and missing signs.
- We are accomplishing road striping as time and weather permits.

Sidewalks

- Unit 7 continues to work every day on sidewalk projects.

Unit "6"

- Has been digging every day.
- Working on manhole and drop repairs.
- Performing water and sewer services as they arise.

Brush Pickup

- Third ward was completed on Tuesday.

Paterson St

- Punch List work is moving forward slowly.
- We will be assisting with the drainage work near Burger King and SH 37.

Solar Array

- The electrical work is proceeding. Panels are being interconnected. Poles have been strung with wire.
- Partial energization is scheduled for no later than September 30th, with full energization taking place by November 30th.
- We are starting some site preparation for a possible second phase of solar.
- We continue to move forward with the Tri-County Energy Consortium. The consortium is in the process of looking at wind power as well as solar, which could get us to our goal of 100% green energy sooner than originally projected.

Storm Drops / Cleaning Sewer Mains

- Crew is working on cleaning drops.
- Fall sewer cleaning will be taking place until completed or weather prohibits the process.

Mowing / Trimming

- On an as needed basis. Summer help is gone.

MISC.

- EAB – we met Tuesday, I will share the minutes as soon as I receive them. We have made the determination that due to the financial stress that all local governments are facing that we need an action plan if we want to go after funding to assist in this process. Our first major project is going to be a survey of our ash inventory. This will allow us to determine just how big the issue is. We will be contacting local governments to determine if they wish to participate or not. Our hope is to rally the citizen scientist, ranger school, educational institutions, etc. and train them to conduct the ash inventory over the next 6-12 months. I will keep you posted.

PARKS AND RECREATION UPDATES – On Thursday, Sept. 29, the softball field at Champlain Street will be dedicated as the “Peg LaVigne Softball Field.” The dedication will be held at 4 p.m. and is open to the public. The late Peg LaVigne was involved with the Ogdensburg Parks & Recreation Department for 40 years, where she promoted and taught adult exercise classes, volleyball at Lincoln and Kennedy schools, supervised public skating at the Golden Dome and high school dances. She also received the Ogdensburg Parks & Recreation Certificate of Appreciation in 1989 for 40 years of outstanding and dedicated service. Ms. LaVigne was also instrumental in forming and leading the Ogdensburg Women’s Softball League, which is still very much active today. A sign, paid for by fundraising, was recently installed by the Ogdensburg Parks & Recreation Department.

PLANNING DEPARTMENT UPDATES – No updates.

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LIBRARY BOARD APPOINTMENT - The Library Board would like to appoint Michelle McLagan to the Ogdensburg Public Library Board, to complete the five-year term of Dr. Michael A. O'Donnell which will expire 12/31/2019.

Grader

Pros

- 1) Pushing back banks after a snow storm
- 2) Plowing the streets during storms
- 3) Peels ice off the street
- 4) Cuts banks back when we have to use snow blower
- 5) Can keep up with storm's more efficient than the loader and wings
- 6) The down pressure of a grader plow and wing is greater
- 7) Price of a used one at DOT auction
- 8) If we buy used from Dot auction we know the machine and its history
- 9) We no longer have to borrow one from other municipality's
- 10) Can be used to level area throughout the city

Cons

- 1) Will not be used as much in the summer time
- 2) Age of the machines
- 3) Maintenance of another piece of equipment