



HISTORIC
Bellefonte[™]
Est. 1795

To: Council

From: Ralph

Date: August 18, 2023

Subject: Borough Manager's Report – July 2023

Operations/Staff Updates:

- Building and property - Armory building – elevator shaft contractor is onsite starting the project. We will have a project meeting every two weeks. The IT consultant (who handles the current borough building IT) is doing all of the planning work to integrate the Armory with the existing building. Various other smaller projects are in phases of completion.
- Personnel – We have some openings at the Wastewater Treatment Plant due to someone leaving and a retirement. We are going through the steps to fill these openings.
- Streets – Crews are working on storm drain repairs.
- Streets - Penn DoT SR 150, South Water Street Wall Project – This project was completed in early August.
- Streets - Traffic Light at Parkview and Zion – Our engineer is nearly complete with survey work and has submitted a grant application. Penn DoT is planning to have a meeting with the School District related to the planned elementary school along Airport Road. This may have an impact on our design.
- Borough Authority Water/Wastewater – the borough authority held a work session in July to discuss design concepts for the Big Spring cover. The Authority does not want to see the pumphouse view blocked by the structure for a hard shell cover. Discussions are continuing. The draft meeting minutes of the August 15 meeting will be the August 21st meeting materials.

- Wastewater – The Plant is facing a number of issues – personnel shortages due to non-work-related injuries, vacancies, equipment failures and long lead times for replacement parts. I have attached notes presented to the Authority by Frank Noll, WWTP Superintendent.
- Water – I have attached notes presented to the Authority by Matt Auman, our Public Works Superintendent.
- Corning line break on June 28th – the staff held an After-Action Review to discuss the event so that improvements in the operations/processes can be implemented.
- Parks - Stage at Talleyrand/performance center – We recently received the draft Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that will cover the responsibilities of the borough and the Stage group. This will be developed by Council.
- Parks - Kepler Pool at Governors Park/Nittany Valley Rec. Authority – The group is getting ready to go out to bid for the construction/renovation work.
- Parks – seasonal personnel are grass-cutting, tree trimming, dead tree removing, and performing general maintenance
- Refuse – personnel changes with inter-department moves. Crews recently trained on new mulch bagging /silt sock machine for Musser Lane compost facility.
- Former National Guard Armory property along Zion Road – Don and I met with the owner recently. Due to extremely high costs for renovating the buildings, he has put a hold on the brewery project. He has not made a final determination yet.
- Waterfront development – According to an article, it looks like the Spring of 2024 at the earliest.
- PA Highlands Community College (PHCC) – The PHCC is still very much interested in getting established in Bellefonte/Centre County. They are trying to work with Weis for space in the former grocery store building on East Bishop Street. If that doesn't work, they will keep looking.
- SEDA-COG Joint Rail Authority (JRA) RR Spur along Potter Street – council has approved the purchase of the spur with the rail conditional upon having an agreement with Bellefonte Historical Railroad Society (BHRS) regarding access and use of the spur.

July	Meetings/Activities Attended
1	➤
2	➤
3	➤
4	➤ Holiday
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Department head meeting ➤ Council work session and business meeting
6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Staff meeting ➤ Meeting with AFSMC representative
7	➤ Armory elevator pre-construction meeting
8	➤
9	➤
10	➤ Vacation
11	➤ Vacation
12	➤ Vacation
13	➤ Vacation
14	➤ Vacation
15	➤
16	➤
17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Department head meeting ➤ Council work session and business meeting
18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Staff meeting ➤ Authority work session – Big Spring cover project
19	➤
20	➤ Vacation
21	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Meeting with Water/wastewater engineer ➤ Meeting to discuss zoning projects
22	➤
23	➤
24	➤
25	➤ Meeting with Armory building contractor/vendor
26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Meeting with member of Spring Creek Watershed Commission ➤ Senator Dush citation ceremony – Macy Neideigh
27	➤ Sick day
28	➤ Meeting with County Administrator – plans for former Centre Crest property
29	➤
30	➤
31	➤ Meeting with rep of Spring Creek Watershed Commission

Activities

Work session and Council Agenda formatting and preparation

Agenda/Meeting preparation and follow up, coordinate with staff – directives, policy questions

Unscheduled, informal, meetings, calls, emails to/from staff – Department day-to-day operations

Correspondence – elected, fellow staff, residents, business owners, other government staff, realtors, customers, etc. via emails, phone calls, letters

Draft meeting minutes review

Armory building – focused on getting the elevator installed.

Bellefonte Borough Authority Meeting July 18th 2023 WWTP Report

Bulk Water sales for the month of June were approx. 684,640 gals.

6/1/23 – Purchased and installed a 3rd portable A/C unit for the power distribution room. * *
Finished spreading of 117 wet tons of biosolids on field #1 of the Spicer farm.

6/2/23 – Chris Roelke from B & L at the plant for approximately 6 hrs. to review probe data and analysis results. Plant walkthrough to determine new sampling locations tied to ammonia issue.

6/5/23 – E.Q. digester blower #2 failed forcing the use of the old E.Q. blowers to feed air to D2 and D3 digesters. Blower motor is fried and wiring will need replaced from unit to breaker box. Blower motor picked up 6/12/23 by EMS. * Biocarb pumps both failed and had to pump product into a tote to drip feed. Martz Tech. in the following day and got back in service.

6/8/23 – Case loader taken to Groff tractor for bucket cylinder repair. One cylinder too bad for repair and will need ordered.

6/9 thru 6/12 – BNR filter discharge tank full of sand and maintenance 2 days of lowering sand level and a day trying to clear sand at the discharge end of the line.

6/13/23 – Jet pump in the North activated sludge swing zone died and is OOS.

6/15/23 – Chris Roelke from B & L at the plant for almost 5 hrs. Touched on TRE (Toxicity Reduction Evaluation) report, BNR sand tank evaluation plus the removal of sand from 400 feet of 8" discharge line and the 3 jet pumps that are OOS in the activated sludge tanks.

6/16/23 – Received the new scissor lift that had been a safety committee request.

6/23/23 – Stitzer crane service at the plant to pull jet pumps for inspection by a field service tech from Riordon Materials. Only able to pull units up from the North clarifier and found impellers excessively worn and motor shot on one. Repaired one with the only spare impeller on site. Can only suspect we have the same issues on the South unit.

6/26/23 – Complete Biomag process shutdown from 3:30 am to 7:45 am. Mag drum VFD failure tripped the MCC feeding power to the system. * Jet pump failure occurred on the South swing zone area. OOS. New replacement pumps quote received with a 16-18 week lead time.

6/27/23 – Shut down the Leibert A/C unit in the power room. Contacted Allied Mech. who has a 5 ton portable unit that is available for set up on a loaner program.

6/28/23 – VFD installed for the Mag drum. * May eDMR submitted to DEP with two permit violations.

Water Report July 2023

- 6/1/23 Install valve and replace fire hydrant @ 430 E. Linn St
- 6/2/23 Replace and relocate water lateral @ 502 Valentine St
- 6/5-9/23 Mow and spray water/ sewer right of ways
- 6/14/23 Leak detection
- 6/15/23 Leak detection
- 6/19/23 Raise manhole and valve box's (Rolling Ridge Dr)
- 6/20/23 20" water main break (435 Willowbank St)
- 6/21/23 20" water main break (435 Willowbank St)
- 6/22/23 4" water main break (735 Willowbank St)
- 6/26/23 Clean sewer main @ Brown Ave
- 6/27/23 Clean up @ Willowbank St leaks
- 6/29/23 Exercise valves for 4" water main leak @ Willowbank St
- 6/30/23 Repair 4" water main @ 435 Willowbank St

Bellefonte Borough Authority Meeting August 15th 2023 WWTP

Report

Bulk Water sales for the month of July were approx. 314,200 gals.

7/3/23 – Received notice of his resignation from one of our plant operators. – Submitted the plants 4th of 4 required passing WET tests along with the TRE (Toxicity Reduction Evaluation). Maintenance installed repaired E.Q. digester blower motor.

7/7/23 – Head of Maintenance placed on light duty for at least a month (shoulder). – Allied mechanical installed a portable 5 ton A/C unit in the power control room to assist the 3 small portable units in use.

7/11/23 – Roller bearing failure occurred on the belt thickener. Repaired with used one from storage.

7/13/23 – BioMag system shutdown for approx. 6 hours. Martz came and replaced a damaged Ethernet cable connection.

7/14/23 – EMS in to make wiring connections at the repaired E.Q. digester blower motor. Found that the VFD will need replaced.

7/18/23 – Chris Roelke from B & L on site to review analysis numbers and a visual inspection of the A.S. units. Reviewed jet pump issues and the information gathered so far for repairs or replacement.

7/20/23 – EMS in to conduct a vibration analysis on the E.Q. digester blower that's operational. After consulting with Chris @ B & L, the scheduled three week sampling procedure for our NPDES permitting has been halted due to not operating under normal conditions.

7/21/23 – Informed by a plant operator that he will be off with a back injury for the unforeseen future leaving the plant with only 3 assigned operators.

7/24/23 – Maintenance installed a coupling bracket with added weights to try to diminish the released air from the vacated area of the pulled jet pump.

7/25/23 – Violation letter sent to one of our industrial users for violation of their lead limits. – Jet pump in the south A.S. anoxic zone went OOS. – Maintenance employee, Robbie Nichols, attended the required Biosolids Land Application training in Harrisburg.(25th & 26th)

7/26/23 – Submitted June eDMR to DEP with 3 violations.

7/27/23 – Meeting @ 8:00am DEP WQS, Chris Roelke, myself and Shannon. Review and discussion of ammonia violations and projected solutions. Inspection/tour to see the problems at the clarifiers and view the pulled impeller showing probable cavitation issues. Spot checking of D.O. readings around the clarifier zones completed by Chris & SS.

Water Report August 2023

7/5/23	Replace ¾" water line @ 313 E. Curtin St
7/6/23	Camera sewer laterals
7/7/23	Leak detection
7/10/23	Jet sewer @ Governors Park and Teener League Field
7/11/23	Leak detection
7/13-14/23	Jet sewer mains
10/17/23	Leak detection Colville area
7/19/23	Install new water tap (500 block E. High St)
7/20/23	Leak detection
7/20-21/23	Monitor blasting near 20" water main on Valentine Hill (Logan Greene development)
7/21/23	Dug up and located sewer main on 400 block E. Cherry Lane to get depth for new sewer manhole installation
7/24/23	Hydro excavated near fire hydrant @ 963 Tanney St
7/26/23	Replaced fire hydrant @ 963 Tanney St
7/27/23	Leak Detection Coleville area. Located service line leak at 290 Upper Coleville Rd
7/28/23	Dug up and locate shut off @ 290 Upper Coleville Rd
7/28/23	Replace ¾" service line @ 110 Capperella Dr