

final thoughts...

The Public Works first ever community forum went well. Maybe it was a bit under-attended but the information distributed was important. We will continue with at least, an annual forum to help keep our customers informed and to give them an opportunity to voice their ideas and concerns!



in this issue >>>

- Groundbreakers
- Stereotypes and new ideas
- New Building Fee Schedule
- Grease Trap inspections



Office Report

The next Front Line Safety Committee meeting will be April 20th at 3:15.

The next Front Line Safety video will be April 6th at 3:15 p.m. at the PPC.

Visitors at Public Works!!

Visitors in the last two weeks included Tom Brickey with Schulte Supply, Kurt Buerck, Mark Morgan with Industrial Sales, Ken Baer and Kent Critchell with ERB Turf Equipment, Inc.

Happy Birthdays:

In April :

Neil Bert 13th

Kyle Welker 13th

Floyd Cox 14th

Wendell 16th

Happy Anniversaries:

Verlin Vernon 37 years

Brian Bohnert 8 years

A Twice Monthly Update from Perryville Public Works

April 3, 2015

coming soon >>>

In The Next Issue

Projects everywhere

Sewer Update

End of the Snow

Community Forum

Building department changes

And even some surprises!

What's In The Works And More!

Happy Birthday to a Groundbreaker

In 1990, I accepted my first public works job as the Deputy Director in a town about the size of Perryville. Truth is, I didn't know very much about public works. Immediately I was put in charge of a utility where EVERYONE knew more than I did. Tough spot for a 28 year old. But fortunately for me, we had a Utility Manager (over gas, water and sewer) who took it upon himself to educate his "boss". Not everyone would've looked at it like he did. He worked hard, took me out on every opportunity and before long, even if I didn't know it all, I could at least speak the language. His name was David Frisbee and he also became one of my best friends in that town. He looked out for me and made me so much better!

Since then we each have moved on and he and his wife now live in another town where he is the Utility Manager and his wife, Janeice, runs the local bank. Last week, as she walked to work, she was kidnapped at gunpoint. She was forced to open the bank and told to open the safe. No one else was there yet. She told him that she couldn't open the safe. He replied "Well, you gonna die today lady!" And he shot her with a forty caliber handgun point blank in the middle of the chest. The bullet hit a necklace she had on and then her sternum. The two stopped the bullet right there. She fell over and he shot her again in the right shoulder from behind. The bullet went in and flew across her chest cavity...missing every artery, her esophagus, her lungs and her heart (by less than an inch), before coming out and into her left arm. The robber ran out and Janeice got up and walked across the bank to call 911.

The helicopter landed and flew her 100 miles to the nearest trauma center. She never lost consciousness, most likely corrected the crew on factual errors during the trip (she is the world's best trivia expert) and never received blood. The local police chief said on the TV "We have seen a miracle today." She did not need stitches and was released in two days. She is rehabbing now and will soon be back to work.

Sometimes, faith is a mystical thing and it tends to ebb and flow. Sometimes, we need a little proof. And sometimes, we need a miracle. Here is our Easter Miracle.

Give thanks.



From the Director: Simple Words

Lies, rumors and innuendo rarely have any positive effects. Most of the time, these words make things much worse. Just look at Ferguson. If everyone sticks to the truth from the start, it is a totally different story. But it seems to be human nature for us to comment on our thoughts and opinions on others lives, whether it is factual or not. That is why I am not on Facebook. Far too much hurt available there.

We have seen these things hurt cities and countries. We have seen these things hurt families. We all are human and therefore have human frailties. I often worry that these same things can affect our PW family in a negative way.

So I challenge each of you to work hard to be positive and keep the bad stuff to yourself. If you really have a complaint or a suggestion, go to your supervisor, find out the truth before spreading "opinions" and help us continue to build something positive and something great. Ask me, I am always here after 4 for talking.

We are a family here. We do depend on one another. Let's don't tear down any part of our intricately interdependent family. Let's just get stronger!

Happy Birthday

Last week was Brenda Ochs birthday. Below is a picture of her at her birthday lunch given to her by her co-workers. Every department at Perryville Public Works depends on Brenda for far more than anyone realizes. She is loyal, hard working and dependable. She truly never stops. What does she do? Hmmm: Answers 90% of all calls and distributes messages, helps customers with all sorts of problems, takes care of all payroll for PW including overtime, timesheets, etc., takes care of sick leave and vacation paperwork, completes the monthly gas testing paperwork for Public Service Commission (PSC) records, coordinates all ads required by PSC, responsible for OQ for all gas personnel monthly, keep all office supplies ready and in-stock, record all requisitions monthly, typing for all superintendents, responsible for ads for holiday schedules, almost all of our Missouri One Call locates, coordinate and help edit the newsletter twice a month, work with sponsors of the Banquet and coordinate it's setup as well as the constant flow of calls with questions from leaf season to snow removal.

Happy 49th, Brenda!



The gas division has been busy this week running gas services to 1817,1818,1819,and 1820 Trishia. They are also working on completing the annual Cathodic Survey (pipe to soil reads), then we will work on repairing the ones with low reads. We have changed out a couple dead meters that were found during the past read cycle. Once the cathodic repairs are complete we plan on finishing the gas project at Toohey Drive. Then we will be concentrating on the removal of the old odorant tanks and pouring concrete pads for the new ones. Last but not least, we will be working on getting geared up for the Meter change out project. Sounds like it is going to be a very busy summer. Mark Brown, Tim Paulus, Angie Fields, Tracy Prost, Charlie McLeod and myself (Tim Britt) have been meeting this week with the proposers of the meter change out program. I will also be meeting with Brent Buerck, Tim Baer and Lincoln Duncan Thursday, April 2, 2015 at 10:00 am to discuss the Natural Gas Project along the outer road to Rambling Hills Subdivision.

Water and Sewer Update

Daily lift station checks were completed, and water samples taken to Jackson for routine state sample reporting. The new 8 inch PRV valve has been installed in McBride; this should give Gilster and the Air Port increased volume. Crews started on the pads for the three generators at Rock Quarry, Show Me Shell and Welty. Staff repaired five meter settings and two service line leaks. We were able to complete eight grease trap inspections, leaving the quick shops, schools and halls by the week of March 30th.

Staff worked with MoDNR on oil cleanup from Sutter Oil on North Main past the roundabout to the creek 3-25, 3-26, 3-27, 2015. Staff inspected water and sewer on Trishia and made two water taps on Trishia. We rodded a couple of sewer mains and responded to a sewer overflow on School St. This was from a private sewer line on Ste Maries Street. We worked with the Angie Fields to determine where the sewer was originating from. Staff replaced a guide rail at Rand Lift station and three more are on order. City staff met with meter venders to review proposals for the meter change out program planned for this year. A lot of good information was gained from those meetings. Tim Britt. Tim Paulus and Charlie McLeod will meet on 4-2-15 to try and come to a decision on who is best suited to complete the project for the City or at least get the field down to two for a final meeting.

NATURAL GAS: THE NATURAL CHOICE

Benefits of Natural Gas Water Heating

- ⌘ Quicker recovery
- ⌘ A 40 gallon natural gas water heater delivers more hot water than a 52 gallon electric water heater
- ⌘ Less Maintenance / No electric elements to replace
- ⌘ Less expensive to operate



Water Plant >>>

HELLO SPRING!!!! We have been doing a plant trial for the past couple weeks testing a coagulant from a different supplier. It works the same as our previous supplier so we are switching to them. This will save us around \$1600 annually. We installed the new circuit board in the raw water flow meter, sent a pump off for repair, and replaced the level sensor on GST #2. The tank 1 refinishing is going well and hopefully should be done in a couple weeks. Let's keep our fingers crossed that it can be put back into service by the end of April.

Happy Easter!

Project Directories

Street Dept.

Sinkhole projects – Going slow in winter
Conc & Curb Repairs – All over town

Gas Dept.

Rambling Hills extension – Design – project due to complete before Sept.

WWTP

Sand Filter Repairs – On hold
Engineering study – awarded and started

Water Plant

New UV – in final design

Water/ Wastewater Dept.

Elevated tank painting – Started

Water System Renovation – Tasks

4-6 coming soon:Hurst-Rosche engineers

Sewer Lining: 99% complete



Refuse, Street, Airport & Maintenance

Maintenance Department: We are servicing the water and sewer plant mowers and tractors. We are working some recall notices on Police cars and we are still have some recalls from the last recalls. We are getting filters for the lift station generator, so that we can service them. We still have the Park Center mower. We are changing the oil and other things. We are still working on getting all the new license plates on the vehicles.

The Refuse Department: The two new employees are learning the routes. Kyle will have to pick up trash all day, until he gets his CDL license. He said he is ok with this. We are picking up many biodegradable bags. It seems since the warm weather everyone has bags.

The Street Department: We are busy with the last week of leaf pickup for the Spring cleanup. Here again, the week of warm weather and everyone has leaves piled up. I hope that we can get them all picked up in just one week, considering it is raining. We are trying to get the city streets swept again, all 56 miles of the streets have some type of cinder ash on them. They need to get cleaned up. You can only clean so many streets in a day because the street sweeper has to be cleaned up each time it is used and that usually takes approximately 1 hour. We are trying to catch up on brush, as you know the same truck that picks up the leaves is used for chipping of brush. There is plenty of brush to be chipped up after the recent ice storms. We are in a wait and see mode on the final cleanup of our salt spreaders and snow equipment. It sleeted the other day, so you never know. We will install some more street signs as we get time, and we still have plenty of concrete work to get done at the Airport, American Legion and several other spots from gas or water breaks. It will soon be time to clean up the city's lots that we mow and get ready for another mowing season and weed eating. The street department is also patching some pot holes in some of the blacktop streets. We sent several of the street department personnel and one of our mechanics to a free street sweeping seminar on cleaning, the use of sweepers, mechanical problems and how to solve them.

Airport: We cleaned FBO office. We checked the runway lights, beacon light and the windsocks.



Waste Water Plant

We have been busy at the Waste Water Plant! We have been hauling oodles and gobs of leach water from the landfill. We had a pump repaired and replaced. We had problems at our pump house and we fixed it and lots of stuff in between. With the weather breaking we finally have a chance to do some minor/major projects. Soon we will be knee deep in trees to plant. **Any volunteers????**



Update From the Building Department

By Angie Fields, CBO

We are closing in on the first anniversary of the implementation of the grease trap policy guide. The city has worked with many different commercial kitchens in order to help them comply with the policy. Nearly all commercial kitchens have complied or have scheduled the install of a grease trap. Just to give you an idea on how much of an impact the policy has had on our sewer system, I have figured out some of the savings to the city since the grease policy was implemented last year. This only takes into consideration 2 lift stations, no cleaning of the lines to the station. Before the grease policy the lift stations at Big Springs and Show-Me Shell needed cleaned every 10 days to 2 weeks. This equates to approximately 25 times a year. After talking to Charlie, we spent 4.5 man hours (3 guys 1.5 hours), 1.5 hours of VAC-CON truck and 1.5 hours of service truck usage. Equate that to dollars, we were spending nearly \$650 each time we cleaned 1 station. So each year, we spent nearly \$32,500 cleaning just those two lift stations, all because of grease. Now, those same lift stations are cleaned approximately every 3 months, for 4 cleanings a year. That equates to \$5,200 a year for those stations. A savings of \$27,300 a year to the city. A pretty substantial savings and money that will be allocated to other much needed improvements to city infrastructure.