



Public Service Department

MONTHLY REPORT

January 2017

Professionalism

Integrity

Reliability

Quality

Pride

Be inspired.

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DEPARTMENT HIGHLIGHTS

January 2017

Initiative to Improve Stormwater Quality

In accordance with the New Albany Stormwater Management Plan, the city continuously looks for ways to improve the quality of stormwater runoff within the community to promote healthy streams and waterways. One such consideration is the use of organic fertilizers versus chemical-based products. To gather more information about the all natural alternative for feed-quality lawn, tree and shrub care programs the director met with a representative from Good Nature Lawn Care, a local vendor that specializes in the use and application of organic products. It was explained that organic lawn care programs will create a lawn that stands up better to the stress of drought and disease than a chemically treated lawn. Also, chemicals used in today's manufactured fertilizers can be unhealthy and pose a risk to people, pets and the environment.

The service department oversees the care and maintenance of all city owned grounds, parks, reserves, cemeteries and right-of-way areas. Therefore, if it is determined feasible the city could strategically transition its fertilization program from chemical-based to organic over a multi-year period.

Solar Power Project Considered

The director and operations manager recently met with company representatives from Dovetail Solar and Wind to discuss the generation of electricity for the public service facility through the use of solar power. Dovetail Solar and Wind has been a renewable energy solutions provider for commercial, business, government, institution and individuals since 1995. The project goal for the use of solar power is to lower energy costs for the service department while reducing environmental impact from coal-fired power plants. In follow up to the meeting, the city will receive a report detailing the cost versus benefit of supplying electricity to the service facility from solar panels.

Professional Development

Carl McNeal attended training at the Bureau of Workers Compensation (BWC) entitled Train the Trainer, to renew his certification to train the public service department crew members on forklift safety and operation.

PROJECT PLANNING UPDATES

January 2017

Stream Buffer Restoration Project

OSU graduate student, Rosalie Hendon, has proposed an internship with the city to help develop and implement a streamside buffer restoration project in New Albany. The project will help Ms. Hendon meet her college curriculum requirements while improve the beauty and health of New Albany's stormwater system. As part of OSU's Master of Environmental and Natural Resources program, the internship will require 8-10 work hours per week towards the project which will include design, planning and installation of native trees, shrubs and grasses. Three locations were initially considered for this project, however Thompson Park was determined to be the best site and was approved by the New Albany Parks Director Dave Wharton. The anticipated date of completion is late spring of 2017.

Trees proposed for Central College Road Corridor

Members of the community development department and the director met to further discuss the installation of additional trees along the north side of the Central College Road corridor from SR 605 to US 62. In November of 2016, a request came from the New Albany Links HOA for the installation of additional trees along Central College Road to beautify and create a buffer from the roadway to the residential homes. Staff determined that to meet the city's strategic plan for rural corridors trees would need to be installed in clusters, as they were previously when a public leisure trail was constructed from New Albany Links Drive to Dean Farm Road. A follow-up meeting is scheduled with the Links HOA in February to discuss the city's design for additional trees and to go over the estimate for sharing the project costs. If approved by city council, these trees could be installed as early as March or April of 2017.

CITY CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

January 2017

Beech Road 2 Million Gallon Water Tank

- Caldwell Tanks was the general contractor awarded the contract to construct a \$4,500,000 water storage facility on Beech Road.
- The water storage tank was completed and placed in operation in August of 2016.
- Work still remains on the Smith's Mill Road PRV water monitoring equipment.



Completed Beech Road Water Tank.

Johnstown Road Water Tank Repainting

- Central Painting & Sandblasting was the general contractor awarded the contract to repaint the Johnstown Road Water Tank.
- The cost for repainting was \$396,200.
- Work was started in August and completed in October of 2016.



Workers painting the Johnstown Road Water Tank in September 2016.

Planter's Grove Sidewalk Improvement Project

- Strawser Paving is performing the sidewalk replacement as part of the city street improvement project.
- Crews encountered heavy root growth beneath the concrete sidewalks.
- Sidewalk improvements will continue in May of 2017.



Completed sidewalks on James River Road.

Beech Road Fiber Hut

- Through a working agreement with the city, AEP served as the general contractor on this project.
- Construction began in November 2015 and was completed in August 2016.
- This prefabricated structure is temperature controlled and holds electronic equipment used to support New Albany's robust fiber optic network.



Completed Fiber Hut building on Beech Road next to the water tank.

PUBLIC SERVICE PROJECTS

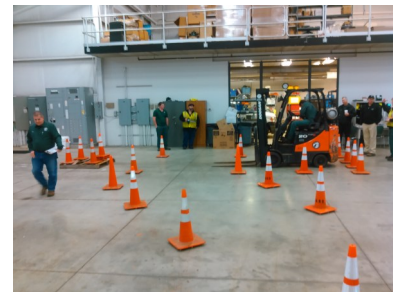
January 2017

The city is in the process of obtaining a Level I municipal arboretum certification from ArbNet. To meet the requirements for the Level I status, 25 different species of trees and/or woody plants must be identified and labeled. Certified Arborist, Aaron Noblet of Preservation Arborists, LLC, climbed approximately 40 feet high to obtain a branch containing buds to evaluate and confirm identification of this tree in the Swickard Woods Park.



City arborist must locate a tree bud to identify the tree specie.

Maintenance Worker Carl McNeal attends annual training from the Bureau of Workers Compensation to maintain his teaching skills for training city crew members on the proper operation and safety precautions for the use of the service department forklift truck. Staff training is held annually in the service garage to refresh workers skills and train new and seasonal employees.



An obstacle course is set up in the garage to practice safe forklift operation.

Service staff recently created a reference manual containing Safety Data Sheets (SDS) of products and materials used in the operation of department. For easy access the SDS books were mounted in the garage near the fleet mechanics work area. These reference sheets contain instructions for safe use, potential hazards and first aid instructions for chemicals and products commonly used by workers, such as paints and transmission fluid.



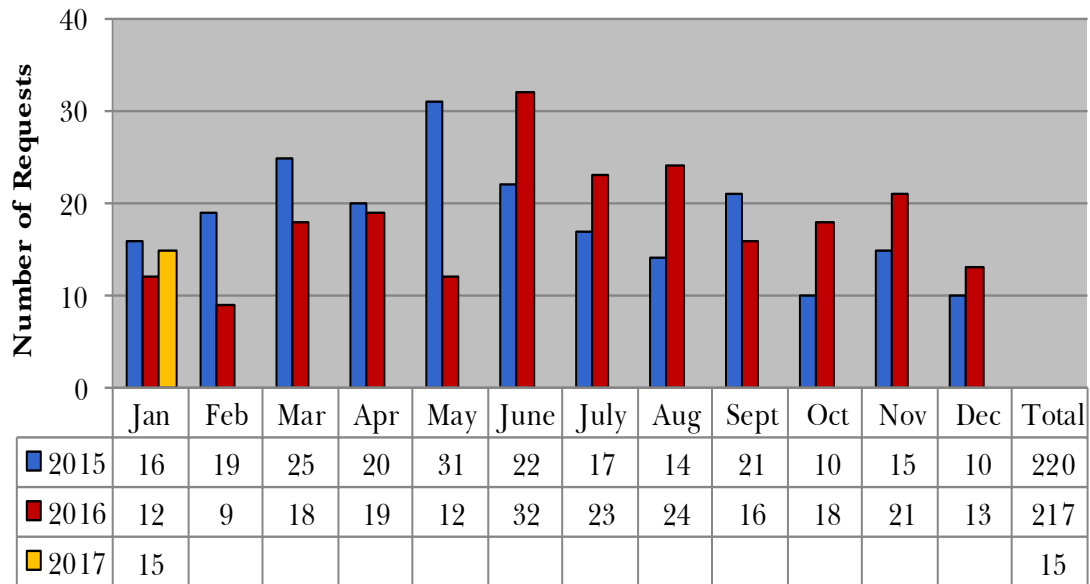
Safety Data Sheet books were mounted in the garage for emergency reference.

A 2016 Freightliner dump truck was recently purchased for \$152,000 from Stoops Freightliner of Dayton. The truck, already built for snow removal and equipped with a plow, is currently being utilized this winter season by service department crews. This is a replacement truck for one that went unexpectedly out of service. In June, the truck will be repainted and branded to match the other snow plow trucks in the city's fleet.

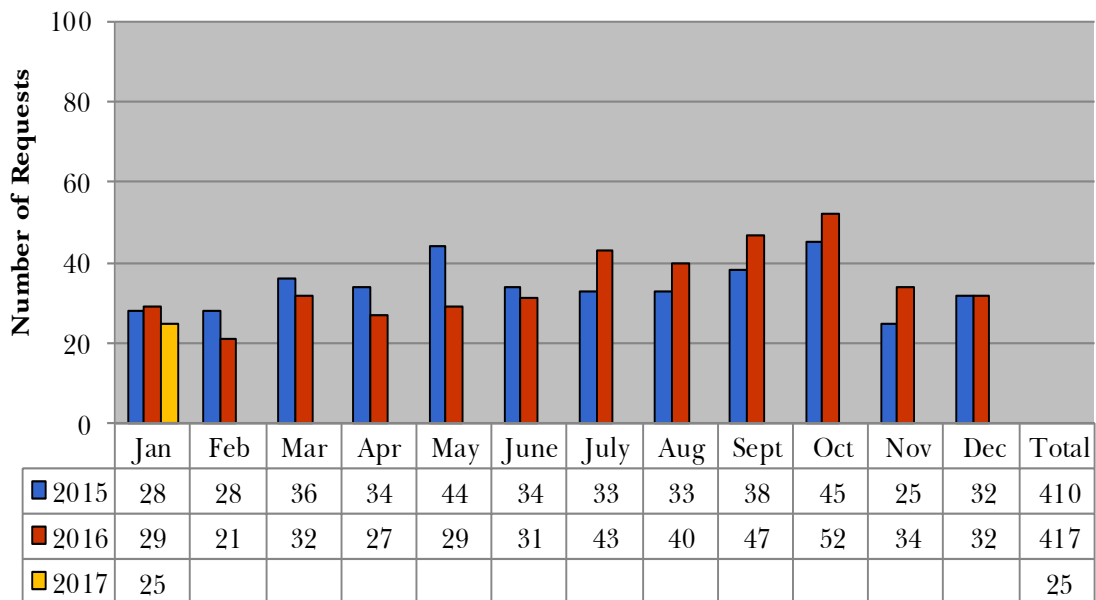


A replacement snow plow truck was recently added to the department fleet.

Community Requests



Staff Requests



SEASONAL STATISTICS

January 2017

