

Public Service Department

MONTHLY REPORT

July 2017

Professionalism Integrity Be inReliability ed. Quality Pride

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DEPARTMENT HIGHLIGHTS July 2017

Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) Quarterly Meeting

The director attended a meeting with ODOT to discuss the city's traffic signal innerconnect project which is funded through federal highway transportation dollars. New Albany is responsible to cover expenses related to engineering, right-of-way acquisition and construction inspections. ODOT funding will pay for interconnecting the city's twenty two (22) signalized intersections using fiber-optic cable. These meetings are held quarterly to ensure the project schedule is maintained.

City Forester Interviews

The advertising and evaluation process for the newly created position of City Forester has resulted in three strong candidates for consideration. The second phase of interviewing will consist of a tour of the public service department facility along with a field exercise to test the applicants knowledge and communication skills related to tree identification, disease detection and tree care. The final phase of review will include completion of a questionnaire and interview with the city manager.

United Steel Workers Union

Negotiations for a new labor agreement began in November 2016 and concluded in July 2017 with results of a tentative contract. Both parties must obtain sign-off approvel from their respective governing bodies. The agreement between the United Steel Workers (representing the public service department maintenance staff) and the City of New Albany covers conditions for employment such as wages, health insurance, paid time off and grievance procedures.

Professional Development

Supervisors Steve Kidwell, Dennis Munsey, Doug Wittman and Brian Strayer attended a city sponsored Ohio University Executive Education Program session entitled <u>Big Picture Thinking</u>, which is one of a nine session program regarding leadership and supervision.

On July 10th, seasonal employees, Tyler Ashcraft, Ryan Leppert, Nick Cote, Ian Hurst, Kenny Berry, Garrett Berry, Brady Jackson and Colin Ryan participated in the Good Housekeeping training provided by Franklin Soil Water Conservation District to educate seasonal staff on stormwater best management practices.

PROJECT PLANNING UPDATES July 2017

Haines Ditch Improvements

In an effort to alleviate flooding and provide for public safety New Albany City Council, in 2016, approved funding for a stream cleanup project for a portion of Haines Ditch, a tributary of the Blacklick Creek, within the city. Vegetation overgrowth and stream bed siltation of Haines Ditch has caused widespread roadway flooding of Central College Road and Jug Street.

Haines Ditch flows generally north to south and is located on both private property and road right-of-way within various jurisdictions, including the City of New Albany as well as Licking and Franklin Counties. The stretch running between Evans Road and Central College Road includes approximately six private property owners, whose cooperation will be needed to make the necessary improvements within this specific area.

The city has contracted with the Franklin County Engineers Office to complete the stream restoration work which has been divided into two phases. Phase one was completed in the fall of 2016 and included portions of Haines Ditch which runs west of Evans Road onto Abercrombie and Fitch property. Phase two will begin this fall and runs from Evans Road to Central College Road to the north.

CITY CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS July 2017

Johnstown Rd. & Greensward/Lampton Roundabout

- Construction contract was awarded to N.M. Savko & Sons at a bid price of \$1,528,988.
- Work includes storm sewers, curbs, street lighting, roundabout traffic intersection and landscaping.
- Construction schedule is June 2017 to Dec. 2017.

A view looking west at the partially completed roundabout center median.

2017 City Street Improvement Project

- The construction contract was awarded to Decker Construction at a bid price of \$530,855.
- Work includes ADA curb ramp improvements, pavement overlay, curb repair and crack sealing.
- Construction schedule is May 2017 to August 2017.



ADA ramps and public walks were improved at the Fodor Rd. H.S. entrance.

Smith's Mill Road Microsurfacing Project

- Using ODOT Cooperative Purchasing Program the construction contract was awarded to the Strawser Construction Company at a price of \$187,865.
- Work includes the application of microsurface treatment to Smith's Mill Road from Kitzmiller Road to Beech Road.
- Work was performed in June 2017.



New striping was installed to complete the Smith's Mill Rd. Microsurfacing Project.

PUBLIC SERVICE PROJECTS July 2017

Last year, the public service department organized the installation of a large ceiling fan for the garage to improve worker comfort during summer and winter months. Annual inspection and maintenance of the fan is recommended for optimal performance and longevity. Therefore, crews adjusted the support wires and cleaned the moving parts to ensure good continued operation.

Typically each summer, the NACC pedestrian tunnel running under US 62-Johnstown Road just south of Fenway Road gets repainted to cover graffiti and redress the concrete sidewalls. This year four seasonal employees and two crew members worked in tandem on this clean up project which turned out nice.

Roadside mowing includes cutting grass along the edge of the roadways to the ditch line or the city right of way line. Trimming the grass and vegetation around guardrails, bridges and traffic signs is also part of maintaining these natural areas. The city utilizes both city crews and landscape contractors to keep the grass and vegetation along city streets and rural roads maintained.

Maintenance Worker Nick Cichanowicz used the city's backhoe to clean the roadside ditch on Beech Road to improve drainage for several properties experiencing localized flooding. The city reserved a call from the landowner after several major rain events caused flooding on the their property. Crews discovered that the roadside drainage ditch was silted in with mud and debris preventing positive water flow.



Crew member Shaun Bush tightened fan support wires and cleaned away dust.



Seasonal and full-time crews repaint the sidewalls of the pedestrian tunnel under US 62-Johnstown Road.



City crews mow the SR 161 roadsides and center median.



A portion of the Beech Road ditch was cleaned to improve drainage.

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REQUESTS FOR SERVICE STATISTICS July 2017





SEASONAL STATISTICS July 2017



