



Public Service Department

MONTHLY REPORT

September 2020

Professionalism

Integrity

Reliability

Quality

Pride

Inside This Issue:

Department Highlights	2
Project Updates	3
Construction Projects	4
Public Service Projects	5
Requests for Service Statistics	6
Seasonal Statistics	7
New Albany Smart Ride	8

Maintenance Worker Position Openings

The service department currently has two openings for the position of maintenance worker. After advertising the position in May, 17 applications were received and of which 6 applicants were given remote screener interviews. Five applicants were then selected for full one-hour interviews which took place at the public service department. Successful candidates will be identified and interviewed by the city manager in October with the hope that two finalists will be recommended for hire in early November. The screening and full one-hour interviews were conducted by the city's human resource officer, public service director, and maintenance supervisors.

New Albany Service Facility Solar PV Feasibility

The public service director met with Ron Gajoch with RJG & Associates for a proposal to conduct a structural analysis of the service facility building. The evaluation will determine if the building metal roof trusses is capable of safely supporting solar panels. Utilizing the south facing garage roof, approximately 470 solar panel units are proposed to be installed over 13,376 square feet of area. The estimated cost of the solar project is \$240,000. The savings on electric usage after 25 years is calculated to be \$402,000 with a project payback period is 16.4 years. The structural report is expected to be finished in October.

Quarterly New Albany Storm Water Meeting

City staff along with representatives from EP Ferris, Franklin Soil and Water Conservation District (FSWCD), and Follow the River Environmental meet quarterly to review the status of city stormwater initiatives to stay in compliance with EPA water quality rules. Topics of discussion this past quarter include: the city's Rose Run Park stormwater features, promotional planning on rain garden cost share and community backyards programs, Pollution Prevention/Good House-keeping training for staff and sharing information on the changes to the EPA General Permit requirements for the next five year permit cycle. The next meeting is planned for December 3rd via a Zoom meeting.

Professional Development

Recently, Forestry Specialist Chase Loughman took the Tree Risk Assessment Qualification (TRAQ) course and passed the final examination. Sponsored by the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) the TRAQ program focuses on a standardized and systematic way of assessing tree risk. This knowledge helps to make more informed decisions about managing city trees by prioritizing what needs to be done and looking at the tree from an objective standpoint. The training also provides an understanding on how to identify issues that cause tree failure, as well as ways to efficiently survey a forest for risks.

City Streetlight LED Conversion Project is Complete

In 2017, as an organizational goal the service department evaluated the utilization of green technologies for converting city streetlights to LED style fixtures emphasizing efficiency, effectiveness and sustainability. As a phased project over a three year period the city inventoried and converted all 1273 streetlights to LED style fixtures. The life expectancy of LED fixtures is approximately ten to fifteen years versus standard designed bulbs which lasts only two to three years. The city is expected to save approximately one million dollars over a twenty year period on the cost of labor, equipment and energy consumption of the new LED streetlights.

City council approved the streetlight LED conversions as a city capital project and appropriated \$130,000 per year over a three year period for completion. Service department crews began the project in spring of 2018 working in the residential areas of the community. The most labor intense and expensive part of the project was the replacement of the luminaire fixtures for the 30 foot tall streetlights in the city's New Albany International Business Park. Simple light bulb replacement was not possible due to the light fixture design. This final phase of the project was just completed in September with a total of 376 streetlight fixtures being removed and replaced with new luminaires.

The city invested a total of \$261,270 in capital funds for material costs involving the LED conversion project, while receiving an energy reduction rebate from the local power companies for \$55,740. After the city's return on investment of 6.82 years, the city will see continual savings of \$42,356 per year on energy consumption.

2020 City Sidewalk Improvement Project

- Decker Construction was the low bid contractor for performing sidewalk replacement as part of the city street improvement project at a cost of \$134,886.96.
- The Hampsted Village neighborhood is the area planned for improvement work.
- Sidewalk improvements began in July and wrapped up in August.



Newly upgraded ADA ramps at
Grate Park Drive and Gilg Street.

2020 City Street Improvement Project

- The low bidder for the construction contract is Decker Construction at a base bid price of \$856,221.97.
- Work includes ADA curb ramp improvements, pavement overlay, curb repair and crack sealing.
- September work included striping improvements.



Repaved Johnstown Road south of
Central College Road

Service Facility Garage Expansion Project

- The R.W. Setterlin Building Company was the low bid contractor with a bid of \$1,564,246.13.
- The project expands the garage space for trucks and equipment by 10,000 square feet.
- Final work wrapped up in August.



Full north facing view of the
Service Garage Addition.

Street Catch Basin Repair

Maintenance Workers Carl McNeal and Jerry Smith work together to repair two broken street catch basin frames. Using a partner saw, they made square cuts in the pavement to better remove the asphalt that surrounds the heavy metal frames. Once the new frame was placed, then concrete was poured to secure the catch basin in. The final step included placement of hot mix asphalt and the use of a plate compactor to level the new asphalt with the road surface. Prior to performing any digging or excavation the Ohio Utilities Protection Service (OUPS) was notified.



Crews perform catch basin repair on New Albany Road East.

Transplanting an Oak Street Tree

City Forester Marylou Bohannon worked with crew members Nick McPherson, Chase Loughman and Carl McNeal to transplant an oak street tree to the ground at the public service department. The existing tree was in the way of new sidewalk on Walton Parkway. The oak tree required special precautions to move it safely. Hydro excavating was performed to remove the dirt from the roots and the grapple trailer was used to carefully lift the tree from the ground. Consistent watering will help to overcome transplant shock and better establish root growth.



Forestry crew remove an oak tree, in the way of construction, for replanting.

Sidewalk Repair on Johnstown Road

Maintenance workers Carl McNeal and Curtis Reed worked with acting Operations Manager Steve Kidwell to remove and replace two sections of uneven sidewalk panels on the west side of Johnstown Road just south of Keswick Drive. The city received several complaints from residents regarding the settlement of the sidewalk which created a tripping hazard for pedestrians. While the repair of the sidewalk panels was the responsibility of the New Albany Country Club HOA, the city offered to assist them with the needy repair.



Service crews replace two bad sidewalk panels on Johnstown Road.

Plain Township Fire Department Rescue Training

In summer and winter each year the Plain Township Fire Department utilizes the pond located at the public service facility for training exercises and emergency rescue practice. First responders immerse themselves in the water and utilize an inflatable boat to perform rescue procedures. A pulley system is set up from opposite sides of the pond to pull the boat to shore, assisting in the rescue efforts.



PTFD conducted rescue training at the Service Facility Pond.

REQUESTS FOR SERVICE STATISTICS Public Service September 2020





