

Public Works Monthly Report

To: Honorable Mayor, Council Members, City Administrator

From: Jason VanAusdall, Director of Public Works

Re: Public Works Report for the Month of May, 2014

Significant Events

We have just taken the plows off of the dump trucks this week! If you remember, we had a 3-4" snow storm the 1st week of May last year.. We were caught off guard and had to re=install the plows.. We had 400 ton of salt left over from our salt storage facility this year. This was beneficial to the city, as many cities ran completely out of salt. We will replenish our supply in the next few months and be ready for next winter. (This seems wrong to talk about winter!!)

The parks are looking good, new seed is growing and the Dog Park opened 2 weeks early because of the great timing of the rain vs. seed. The Dog Park is seeing more and more people every month! What a great use of the property!!

We had Mike Anderson retire this month after 36 years of service to the city! We will deeply miss Mike, and thank him very much for all the hard work and dedication to the city.

Our summer helpers will be starting in a few weeks, when they are home from College. We could sure use them now!! With sanitary sewers to run, intakes to build, mowing every week. The list keeps growing.

The purchase of the new Administration Building at 1145 66thS^t will mean some new jobs for PW to take on: mowing, plowing, maintenance, etc. We will also assist in the demo of walls, to make room for the renovation of the building. This is a great use of a building that had been for sale for quite a while. The Public Safety Building (old City Hall), will also be getting some mild renovation to make space for PD & FD.

Charlene Butz & I have recently completed our ROW Tree Inventory for the city. This was a very rewarding project to complete. We found out that there are only 52 Ash trees located in our ROW. This is a very reasonable number of trees to handle. I will be talking about this in detail with the council to get direction on treatments/removals of these trees.

We have had time to go out to raise 4 sewer lids up to grade this spring. These were covered by 4' of soil, and in need of being raised for potential service. These came to my attention when we had a Grease Trap Issue on 73rd Street this winter, in the middle of a storm.

MDA pulled out as the sponsor for the WHAMM run this year. So, we had to scramble to make this run happen. My wife, Alicia, stepped in as Race Coordinator. Replay Parks Foundation will be the Non-Profit to fill the shoes of MDA. I have spoken at council about this cause, and have very high hopes of building a playground in DSM this summer/fall for those kids in need. I hope to see many of you out there this year for the event and to get some pancakes.

**Thank You,
Jason VanAusdall
Public Works Director**