



CITY OF WASHINGTON Council Report

December 13, 2024

ENGINEERING – Dennis Carr, Ross Fuller & Mike Genard

- Work has started for the new berm in Washington Park. The berm will detain water in larger storm water events which will help keep yards from flooding throughout the properties south of the park. The City, Township, and Stark Excavating have been hauling clay into the park for the majority of the week. Nearly 300 loads of clay have been delivered to the park. Stark has a dozer and excavator on-site that are used to move the dirt and build the berm. A new culvert has been installed. We have ordered another barrel section for the structure to ensure that it is at the correct elevation.
- The Nofsinger Realignment Project is nearly complete. The road is scheduled to open on Wednesday, December 18. Gensini has a few punch list items that they will be completing before the road opens. The new lights on RT 24 have been set to flash yellow for east and westbound traffic. Beacons will be placed on the new stop signs for east and westbound traffic on Cruger.
- The crosswalk pedestrian signals have been repaired on Centennial. These were damaged by a driver a few months ago but have finally been repaired. The lead time on some of the items that needed repaired were extremely long.
- IDOT will wait until the spring before continuing with the Traffic Signal and ADA upgrades as part of the Business 24 mill and overlay project.
- Tri County Regional Planning awarded Washington \$427,796.36 towards the resurfacing of S. Main Street. This was one of the four submittals council approved us making. We did not receive any funding for Lakeshore, Dallas, or N. Main. Staff will begin working on a timeline for getting this project designed and budgeted.

FINANCE – Joanie Baxter

- Additional follow up for two grant applications in the amount of \$125,000 and \$170,000 for the Evidence Building for submission to the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO).
- Training with ClearGov regarding new format for budgeting software for Capital and Operational Budgeting.
- Met with Todd from Mesirow concerning bonding opportunities.
- Ongoing discussion and review with Jon and Dennis in regard to the amphitheater project as related to proposed infrastructure.
- Payroll processing for December 6th payroll.
- Leadership training, anti-harassment training, and holiday party!
- Utility Billing (November 28 – December 13, 2024)
 - A total of 5,520 bills were processed for December, including 808 emailed bills (14.6%)
 - A total of 544 penalties were assessed for delinquent November bills
 - A total of 33 disconnects were processed for December, including 14 owing a balance, 16 with credit balances, and three with a zero balance
 - A total of 14 cutoffs were processed for October billing

- New accounts and account closings processed:
 - 14 ins
 - 13 outs
 - Leak detection through RNI and Sensus Analytics software – 51 leaks were caught and residents/businesses notified
 - There were 16 new residents in November
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HUMAN RESOURCES – *Maureen Chambers*

- Holiday Luncheon
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PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT – *Jon Oliphant & Joe Boyer*

- The December PZC meeting had one item: A zoning code text amendment to prohibit the allowance of cemeteries on properties that contain residential uses. The code currently grants the Council the ability to approve these by resolution following a public hearing held by the PZC. The PZC unanimously recommended approval and a first reading ordinance is scheduled for the December 16 Council meeting.
 - The annual TIF Joint Review Board meeting was held. The TIF annual report has been submitted to the IL Comptroller's office.
 - Staff met with the new Ameren Community Relations Coordinator to hear how the City and Ameren can work together on a variety of projects.
 - This month's Technical Working Group meeting included a presentation by a representative from the Women Business Development Center. The WBDC aims to support and accelerate business development and targets women, underserved communities, and veterans. It recently opened an office in Peoria.
 - The brewpub carpenters are completing the installation of outside siding. Both of the upstairs and downstairs bars are being installed. Much of the electrical switch gear equipment arrived and has been installed. Staff is anticipating that all work will be done within the next few weeks. Construction on both the 120 and 126 Walnut spaces figures to pick up pace soon as the brewpub work begins to wind down.
 - Staff received the official Notice of Award for the STBG Preservation project for the resurfacing of S. Main from the Square to Guth. It will be programmed for FY 27-28. The project received the full requested amount of about \$427,000 with the City responsible for 20% of the total project cost.
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PUBLIC SAFETY – *Chief McCoy & Deputy Chief Stevens*

- All new officers completed field training and are assigned to shifts with supervisors and coworkers assisting their further development.
- Completed preconstruction meeting with PJ Hoerr, including Chief McCoy, DC Stevens, Sherry Guimond, Joanie Baxter, Dennis Carr, and Jonathon Talman of Dewberry.
- PMEG completed a multi-month investigation, seizing about 2 pounds of controlled substances, a stolen handgun, and cash. This investigation touched Washington and other cities.
- PD responded to a report of a broken window at an apartment and discovered that accidental gunfire caused the damage, as well as damage inside the home. The responding officer identified a neighbor who was the source of the errant shot.
- Becky Harper responded to Illinois State Police's audit of our technical security for the LEADS (Law Enforcement Agency Data System). We expect confirmation of compliance from ISP shortly. IT360 has been helpful in maintaining our technical security compliance and will be implementing additional measures to keep law enforcement data secure in conjunction with Tazewell ETSB, which maintains our gateway to LEADS. Becky included Courtney Williams in the audit process, preparing for Courtney to take over LEADS agency coordinator duties.

- In 2024, WPD raised over \$5,000 for Special Olympics in 2024; thanks to Officer Mike Brown for coordinating fundraising throughout the year and to Washington residents for donations. Watch for the Polar Plunge fundraiser coming up to help us get a start of 2025.
 - Second shift patrol officers stopped a business burglary suspect (county jurisdiction business), recovering construction equipment and leading to the arrest of the perpetrator.
 - Patrol continuing concentrated patrol on neighborhood streets.
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PUBLIC WORKS – *Brian Rittenhouse*

- Staff is waiting on one component for the PLC panel before we start up Well #12. Once the component is installed, staff will work with Chris Ebert Co. to make sure everything is running smoothly during and after startup.
 - Staff applied a round of salt during our first snow event of the year.
 - Sewer jetting and televising for the Capacity Management Operation and Maintenance (CMOM) Program will take place over the next several months. Staff will be performing this yearly routine maintenance on sanitary sewers west of Legion Road.
 - Staff will also be performing stormwater outfall inspections over the next several months followed by any maintenance needed.
 - Staff is assisting with loading and hauling dirt for the Park District Berm Project.
 - Staff will coordinate the removal and installation of two new service lines on Lincoln Street and East Jefferson Street. These service lines have been identified as lead and galvanized requiring replacement, which is galvanized after lead. Staff will look to complete this work when the schools are on break. They will require one-block road closures for safety.
 - Staff is still working with our insurance company and a contractor on the Public Works Storage/Evidence Building. It is believed the damage is more extensive than originally thought. Council will be updated when staff knows more.
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