

Public Works Report February 2024

Submitted by Phil Chick, Public Works Director

- Cost Estimates are being compiled for potential public works projects in FY 24-25.

Replacement of the city's SCADA (Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition) system for the water system is the top priority. The SCADA system has not been functional for a long time. This system is essential in the day-to-day operations of the city's water system – including the notification of alarms that require staff response. This project will have the largest effect on the budget, with a potential price of \$40 to \$200K depending on the technology chosen. After a year of experience at Wheeler, I feel that the city's system is very simple, and we should be able to be on the low end of this figure.

Other projects include paving portions of roads that were excavated for repairs in recent years and are still graveled. Estimates on parking space / crosswalk striping, as well as city hall exterior painting are also being prepared. City Staff will be determining what can be submitted in the FY 24-25 Budget for consideration by the Budget Committee this spring.

- After the emergencies the city has experienced in the past couple of months, we have recently joined ORWARN, the Oregon Water/Wastewater Response Network. Simply put, this is an organization of utilities helping utilities in times of need to maintain healthy communities during water emergencies. There is neither a cost to join, nor an obligation to render aid during incidents.
- Staff have been updating the City's Emergency Response Plan as part of the terms of our current loan agreement with USDA. This primarily involves updating contact information and the chain of command.
- Water Main Failure on January 17th:

The last several updates (SCADA, ORWARN, ERP) are all things related to the water main failure in the upper pressure zone that occurred the morning of January 17th.

Public Works received a call at 5:30 a.m. from someone who had no water pressure. Upon arriving to city hall, it was observed that there was only 2 feet in the Jarvis Reservoir and it was dropping rapidly. *It should be noted that a functioning SCADA system would have alleviated or prevented this problem outright.*

Staff were able to determine the location of the break rather quickly and Jiffy Construction arrived on the jiffy to help make the repair. Due to a complete loss of system pressure in the upper zone, the city was required to issue a boil water notice to homes affected in this zone until the tank capacity was restored and chlorine residuals could be taken in the system. Special thanks to Manzanita Emergency Manager, Dan Weitzel, and Tillamook County Emergency Manager, Randy Thorpe, for their assistance in helping to expeditiously get the notification out to people. Thanks also goes to Jaime Craig with the County Health Dept. for her guidance during the incident.

- The pile of rocks and debris that was deposited under the boat dock during the December flood was removed this month. Staff reinstalled the first dock finger that had to be removed prior to the removal of the material. Sopko Welding has completed the gangway repair and only has the piling bracket to complete. They will take a final measurement for that this week. Regardless of whether the gangway project is completed by then, public works staff would like to remove the Boom Log from the boat ramp by March 9th for the biannual bay cleanup that is happening that day. There generally are boats that are used during the cleanup to shuttle trash picked up at Lazarus Island and other areas, and it would be helpful if they could stage from the Wheeler boat ramp.
- Public Works met with Curt McLeod and Ed Hodges of Curran-McLeod Engineering at the restroom site recently. A concept drawing and cost estimate should be available to the council soon. CMI initially suggested designing the restroom exterior to complement the train depot, which they thought was very nice.

We are still waiting for a response from the Port of Tillamook Bay for finalization of a new property lease, which will enable the city to place the new restroom at the same location as it is now. **Public Works Recommendation:** This location is the best option for this facility, as it has the least impact on the viewshed and general flow of waterfront park.