

# THE BLUE LETTER

## OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER



333 James E. Bohanan Drive • Vandalia, OH 45377 • (937) 898-5891

March 5, 2021

Honorable Mayor & Esteemed City Councilmembers:

I apologize ahead of time for all of the links to videos in this letter. This week, we dominated video as a public communication medium. In fact, if you are having a rough day and need improving, I suggest that you tune-in and watch Chief Follick reading *The Cat in the Hat* to Demmitt Elementary School students from the apparatus bay at HQ: <https://bit.ly/3odJ5zp>. It just makes my day!

This was my first week as a Vandalia resident and it feels **good to be home**. Early this week, ACM Holloway and I met face-to-face with our friends at Xerion Advanced Battery Corporation along with Julie Sullivan of the Dayton Development Coalition to discuss positive developments at 250 Northwoods Boulevard. In addition, I got to know some of our community partners at the Chamber of Commerce First Friday Coffee event in the Community Room of the Justice Center. There, I learned that Crime Prevention Officer Andy Wehner spent 63 consecutive days on a submerged submarine – without coming up once for sunlight or fresh air. I want to take this opportunity to thank him for his service to and sacrifice for the United States of America over multiple tours of duty. Thank you to all of our public servants who wore the uniform in the name of freedom for our compatriots. God Bless America.

Please consider reviewing the updates below and the enclosed attachments.

- 1. Commercial Truck Traffic:** On Thursday, March 4, 2021, the Ohio Department of Transportation announced that its contractor will close the Interstate 70 eastbound ramp to Interstate 75 northbound on Monday, March 15<sup>th</sup> through Monday, May 17<sup>th</sup> for safety improvements. The official detour will direct I-70 eastbound traffic to State Route 202 to I-70 westbound to I-75 northbound. This closure will likely result in increased commercial truck traffic through the City as vehicles cut through town via Airport Access to National Rd. Next week, Chief Althouse and I are meeting to discuss increased commercial vehicle patrols at the onset. During the past two weeks, Police Officers made 10 traffic stops on commercial motor vehicles for violations. The majority of these stops occurred on National Rd.
- 2. Closure of BR Mulch:** On March 29, BR Mulch in Tipp City will close its doors indefinitely. This is the facility where the City deposits leaves, brush, and yard waste. Closure of the facility is of special concern to the City as no facilities in town possess an Environmental Protection Agency permit that allows for collection of these materials. Our team is working to expediently identify an alternative. In the meantime, we will work to advise residents they are able to bring brush and yard waste to the City's large item pickup at the Public Works Facility on the second Saturday of each month (March – November) from 8:00 am – 2:00 pm. In addition, we will remind residents

that they have the option of bundling brush and bagging yard waste before placing it at the curb for Rumpke to collect on their normal trash collection day.

3. **Potholes:** The City is in the pothole eradication business across its ~215 lane miles. The freezing, thawing, and rain caused them to advance. Our Public Works crews have deployed a counter-offensive by performing temporary repairs with cold patch. The asphalt plants are tentatively scheduled to open on April 1<sup>st</sup>. At that time, we will work to make permanent repairs with hot-mix asphalt. Here is video that we shared on social media this week about our pothole repairs: <https://bit.ly/3qqwfc4>.
4. **State of the City:** Communications Manager Rich Hopkins is working tirelessly on finalizing the State of the City video for the Chamber of Commerce's Annual Meeting. The meeting will be held virtually via Zoom on Tuesday, March 9<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 am. I will share a link to the meeting so that you may pre-register once the Chamber issues it. We will upload the video to our City YouTube channel and other accounts following the meeting.
5. **Foxfire Construction:** The developer for the next phase of the Foxfire Subdivision has obtained permission to access the development from Poe Ave (pictured on right). The entrance aligns with Frisco Lane. It should be noted that the developer will still need to use the existing roadways at times; however, this is a big win for our residents and was a great directive from City Council. In compliance with federal and state regulations relating to Indiana Bat habitat, the developer will conduct clearing of the land prior to April 1.
6. **TikTok:** The City is now on TikTok. This is going to help us communicate with high schoolers and residents in their 20s. Our first video is on the Fire Division conducting ice rescue training: <https://rb.gy/miwvwyv>. #followus #likeus
7. **Incode Financial Management Software:** Our friendly team in the Finance Department is working tirelessly with Tyler Technologies in an effort to convert and configure data as we migrate our financial management software. Our tentative target date to **go-live** is April 5<sup>th</sup>.
8. **Mobile Crisis Officer:** Mobile Crisis Officer Michael Spirk has been working with the Police Division since Spring 2020. South Community Inc., a mental-health facility, assigned him to coordinate a pilot program focusing on assisting Vandalia residents with mental health and substance abuse issues. By all accounts, MCO Spirk has done a wonderful job assisting officers with mental health calls and developing VPD's CIT program. I was fortunate to attend his going away party at VPD this week as he has accepted a position with the Federal Bureau of Investigation. VPD is working with South Community Inc. to backfill his position. You may recall that the City recently received positive press in the Dayton Daily News regarding our mobile crisis response efforts: <https://bit.ly/3omyXV3>.



9. **VRC @ 20:** The Vandalia Recreation Center will be 20 years old on April 8<sup>th</sup>. Due to COVID-19, there will not be one big event. Our team is developing some creative ideas for celebrating this occasion with the community. I will provide more details as the date draws nearer.
10. **National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP):** I am so proud to report to you that this week, Chief Althouse spoke with Rev. Dr. David Fox of the Dayton NAACP. Dr. Fox expressed his appreciation to the VPD for the way our Police Officers handled a large disorderly group of teens at Scene 75 in January. Dr. Fox reported that he heard from several minority community members that officers responded and respectfully controlled the crowd. VPD received mutual aid from several neighboring departments. Congratulations to our team of law enforcement professionals for *being the brand*. Your actions are so loud.

Please contact me directly with comments and questions. Have a great weekend!

Your Partner in Service,



Dan Wendt  
City Manager

**Attachments:**

1. Information Update – ACM Holloway – March 4, 2021;
2. Information Update – Director Leiter – March 4, 2021;
3. Information Update – Chief Follick – March 4, 2021;
4. Information Update – HR Manager Dewberry – March 4, 2021;
5. Information Update – Director Clark – March 4, 2021;
6. Information Update – Chief Althouse – March 4, 2021; and
7. Information Update – Director Cron – March 4, 2021.

To: Dan Wendt, City Manager  
From: Amber Holloway, Assistant City Manager  
Date: March 3, 2021  
Subject: Information Update



- I attended the Annual Economic Update webinar hosted by the Dayton Development Coalition on Friday February 19.
- You, Rich, Kurt and I attended the meeting with Kolar Design regarding the City's rebranding project.
- I participated in a meeting with Trusscore (formerly MSW Plastics), the Dayton Development Coalition and Montgomery County to meet two of Trusscore's new team members.
- I attended the February Local Economic Development Officials meeting.
- David attended the 2021 Miami Valley Climate Change Seminar. Topics of discussion included: reduction in harmful emissions, advancing energy efficiency, and strengthening community resilience and livability.
- I participated in Ohio Sunshine Law Training on Wednesday February 24.
- I attended a virtual meeting between Montgomery County Solid Waste District and Trusscore to learn more about recycling opportunities for the plastics company.
- Rob Cron and I held a meeting with Eric Sauer of Five Rivers MetroParks and LJB to discuss the Vandalia Bikeway Connector Project.
- I met with Montgomery County and the Dayton Development Coalition to review business retention visit priorities for 2021.
- On Monday March 1:
  - You, David Marlow and I met to review 3 pending public hearing items
  - You, Shannetta, Bridgette, and I participated in a conference call with Clemans Nelson to discuss the compensation and benefits study.

- o You, Chief Follick, Ted Baker, and I met with Julie Sullivan (DDC) and representatives from Xerion Advanced Battery. This was a positive meeting and we look forward to Xerion establishing themselves in the building at 250 Northwoods Boulevard.
- You, Steve Clark, Jeff Kreill and I met to discuss ways we can enhance sponsorship opportunities for our Park.

**Communications Update:**

- The VB Chamber of Commerce State of the City event is March 9<sup>th</sup>. The event will be held remotely via Zoom. Rich is working to prepare the video.
- The Recreation Center will be celebrating its 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary next month. We will be working on video content to commemorate the occasion. If anyone has any special memories at the VRC that they would like to share, please reach out.

## *Information Update*

**To:** Dan Wendt, City Manager

**From:** Bridgette Leiter, Director of Finance

**Date:** March 4, 2021

**Re:** Information Update - Period Ending March 5, 2021

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1. I attended a regularly scheduled council workshop and meeting. Finance did not have any items on either the council workshop or meeting agendas.
2. YTD February 28, 2021, overall Income tax revenue is up 2.79% (\$77,544) from 2020. Withholding tax is up YTD 1.12% (\$26,651); individual tax down YTD 11.31% (\$28,904); Business net profit tax up YTD 59.14% (\$79,798). The amount of income tax revenue budgeted for 2021 is \$16,995,000. The amount collected YTD was \$2,858,348. Therefore, the amount collected to date (17%) in 2021 is exactly where we should be to date based on the budgeted amount.
3. I participated in a meet and greet with several MVRMA members via Zoom to discuss the new methods and procedures of submitting claims with the new processing company, Gallagher Bassett.
4. I met with the City's bond counsel, Andy Brossart (Bradley Payne) and Chris Franzmann (Squire Patton Boggs) to review the City's current debt portfolio and discuss future projects and various financing options.
5. I taped a segment on general income tax information for Focus Vandalia.
6. Finance staff continues to provide the necessary information to the Auditor of State's Office regarding the 2020 audits for the City of Vandalia, Tri-Cities and NAWA.
7. Work has begun in preparation of the 2020 CAFR.
8. Finance staff have been busy working with representatives from Tyler Tech to continue the process of data configuration and conversion. A target date to "go live" has been set for April 5<sup>th</sup>.



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## DIVISION OF FIRE INFORMATION UPDATE

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**TO:** DANIEL WENDT, CITY MANAGER  
**FROM:** CHAD FOLLIICK, FIRE CHIEF  
**DATE:** 3/4/2021  
**SUBJECT:** INFORMATION UPDATE – PERIOD ENDING MARCH 5, 2021

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1. The Division of Fire wishes to thank State Farm Agent, Cameron Titlow for his generous donation of 42 smoke alarms. The donation will allow the Division of fire, during home safety checks, to provide smoke detectors if needed to residents.
2. On February 21, crews responded with Tipp City to a rollover accident on southbound I-75. 3 people were transported with nonlife-threatening injuries and traffic was down to one lane for several hours for cleanup and investigation.
3. February 23, the areas of Ronald, Helke, and Stonequarry roads, were affected by a power outage. The outage lasted approx. 6-8 hours while DP&L worked to make repairs to damaged equipment. Residents were notified via Hyper Reach and Social Media of the outage.
4. Due to the previously stated outage, The Division of Fire took to social media to remind residents that might be using generators as a means of emergency power, of a few safety tips. Such as, generator exhaust contains carbon monoxide that can be deadly when used indoors. The Division of Fire encouraged residents that have any questions or concerns to contact the Fire Prevention Bureau for assistance.
5. Station 3 gas/electric shut offs progressed this past week and should be completed at the street for demolition. The Division of Fire expects demolition of the building to happen quickly. Until that time, the crews have continued to get as much forcible entry and ventilation training, they can out of the building before it is gone.



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## DIVISION OF FIRE INFORMATION UPDATE

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- The trainings at station 3 have been possible since lifting a few of our COVID restrictions. Crews have been able to participate with in person trainings, and again, make use of station 3 before the building is demolished.
6. The Fire Prevention Bureau is noticing an increase in outreach programs requests and inquiries. The Bureau is working with each organization or person to safely and effectively offer our programs and handle community needs.
- CRRC Jacobs is organizing a task force consisting of DES, Fire, Police, and Health Departments to assist in identifying unsafe structures and working towards re-occupancy and clean up.
  - CRRC Jacobs is also coordinating resources for medical and ambulatory needs of residents beyond typical emergency responses by utilizing the new referral process with operational personnel.
  - Fire Marshal Eckert is working with DES on increased workflow of building, sprinkler, and fire alarm projects for plan review and commissioning tests.
7. The Division of Fire's certified CPR instructors have been working with the Police Department the last few weeks to get their staff CPR certified for the year. All certifications for this year should be complete by mid-March.

**To:** Dan Wendt, City Manager  
**From:** Shannetta Dewberry, HR Manager  
**Date:** March 4, 2021  
**Subject:** Information Update



## **HUMAN RESOURCES UPDATES**

### **HR Recruiting/Hiring**

- **Maintenance Tech P&R** – We have identified a candidate. That individual is progressing through the hiring process.
- **Public Safety Specialist** – Second round interviews were conducted this week.
- **Police Lieutenant** – First round interviews were held last week, and candidates are going through the practical assessment this week.
- **Police Officer**- This position closed on 2/22/21. A Civil Service meeting was conducted on Wednesday, 3/3/21 to confirm candidates on the Police Officer Provisional Eligibility List. Interviews will be conducted in the upcoming weeks.
- **Assistant Finance Director** – Resumes for this position will be accepted through 3/12/21.

### **Employee Service Awards**

- The Employee Service Awards will take place on **Friday, March 26<sup>th</sup> from 11:30am – 1pm** at Celebration's Banquet Center.
- We will be recognizing (23) employees for their dedication and outstanding years of service.
- Due to COVID, attendance will be limited to the employee plus one guest, Directors/Direct Supervisors, City Manager's Office, and Councilmembers. However, this event will be live-streamed via Zoom. A link will be sent in the next few weeks to view this event.

**As always, please continue to stay safe and healthy!!**



## Department of Parks & Recreation Information Update

**To:** Dan Wendt, City Manager  
**From:** Steve Clark, Director of Parks & Recreation  
**Date:** 3/4/2021  
**Re:** Information Update – Period ending March 4, 2021

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### **RECREATION CENTER**

- o Staff is making 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration plans for the VRC. Thursday, April 8 will mark the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the opening of the facility. Alicia is working with Rich Hopkins to create a video to share on social media and the website. We are excited to celebrate this occasion with the community.
- o Compass Electronic Solutions has contacted Administrative Manager Sharon Hamby concerning Corporate Memberships. They are looking to purchase 7-10 dual memberships with group fitness classes added to the membership.
- o IT performed an update to our RecTrac software program this past weekend. The update was necessary to fix any reported issues to the parent company, Vermont Systems. The update was not major, but even little changes can create user confusion and frustration due to screens changing or a process changing.
- o The Buy One Get One Free 10-visit Punch Card promotion ended on February 28. It was well received as we sold 88 total punch cards for a total of \$3,147 in sales.
- o The VRC Aquatic Center will be closed Monday, March 8 through Wednesday, March 10 so maintenance staff can perform several necessary maintenance projects. This information has been shared on social media as well as with members through emails and in person at the VRC.
- o Metronet is sponsoring a Luck of the Irish raffle at the VRC. Each time members visits the VRC between now and March 17 their name will be entered into the raffle, so the more you visit the better chance of winning. Staff will draw a winner on March 17.
- o Kids Night Out will take place at the VRC on Friday, March 5. This monthly program is sold out for March with 23 kids registered to attend.
- o Aaron Messenger is promoting a monthly photo challenge activity entitled Pic-N-Park. Residents are encouraged to upload pictures of themselves, a family member or friend participating in recreation/leisure in the featured park of the month. The featured park in March is Seger Park. Winners will be selected each month and will receive a gift card to the VRC.

### **RECREATION/ATHLETICS DIVISION**

- o The 2020 Vandalia Corporate Challenge Kick-Off Social will be held on Friday, April 9 at 11:30am at the VRC. The 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Corporate Challenge will be held the week of June 6-11. We will continue to review any updated COVID-19 protocols and guidelines as they are released and make necessary adjustments to the overall event as needed.
- o The Optimist Youth Basketball program finished the season on February 27. The program ended up being a great success despite the many challenges created by the COVID-19 pandemic. John Myers did an

outstanding job coordinating and directing the program with special kudos to the coaches, parents and players for their willingness to adjust to the new guidelines and protocols. A total of 113 kids participated.

- o Youth Baseball/Softball registration has really picked up over the past week as we went from 180 to 328 total registrations over this span of time. We will continue to accept registration through March 15.
- o John Myers and Jeff Kreill are working with Miami Valley CTC Sport Marketing students again this year on a special project. Student have been tasked with organizing an Esports League and a Youth Park Advisory Board plan to present to our staff for consideration.
- o Jeff Kreill is working with SwimSafe on developing a model for the operation of Cassel Hills Pool for this summer. We are anticipating updated guidelines related to swimming pools and outdoor activities that will determine which model of operation we will be using.

### **GOLF DIVISION**

- o The golf course opened for play on March 2 with walking only conditions. On March 3 the course was open for play with carts and we had a total of 40 golfers for the day. Ben reports he received a number of compliments on the new carts. The weather for the next week should allow for some increased play as well. We are anticipating the GPS feature to be installed on carts in the coming weeks.
- o Building Maintenance staff completed interior and exterior cleaning projects at the Clubhouse and also replaced carpet squares as needed in the lower level area of the building.
- o Marty cut down a dying tree along the #8 fairway. Maintenance staff is gearing up for play and will look to bring on seasonal staff in the coming weeks.
- o Assistant Golf Pro Marc Vechazone has officially resigned from his role at the golf course. Ben has started the process to fill this position.

### **FACILITY MAINTENANCE DIVISION**

- o The top candidate for the Maintenance Technician position has been identified and is in the background and physical portion of the hiring process. We are anticipating a start date the week of March 22.
- o Boiler and plumbing issues at the Municipal Building have created a few cool mornings in the building. A delay in the delivery of parts has led to operating on one of the two boilers. The colder nights have been a factor in the single boiler shutting off and creating less than desirable temperatures on several mornings. Parts are due in this week.
- o Park Maintenance staff is in the process of laying out spring soccer fields for Butler United Soccer Club usage at the Sports Complex and Helke Park. They plan to have the layout complete and ready for painting of lines next week.
- o Once field conditions permit maintenance staff plan to get on the ball fields to perform spring preparation work. The high school and middle school softball teams play their home games at the Sports Complex and begin play in mid-March.
- o We borrowed the Public Works bucket truck for flag pole repairs at the Recreation Center and for exterior light replacement at the Justice Center.

### **SENIOR CITIZENS CENTER**

- o Current membership at the Senior Center is at 367, which is down from the normal 668 members pre-COVID. Many members that have not renewed their membership are either card player members or travel program members as both of these popular programs are on hold due to COVID-19 guidelines.
- o Toni currently has 29 sponsors that are actively involved at the Senior Center. They are sponsoring programs and activities such as bingo, lunch and learns, dessert and learns, exercise classes, movies, birthday celebrations, entertainment, educational presentations and ice cream socials.

# Information Update



To: Dan Wendt  
City Manager

From: Kurt E. Althouse  
Chief of Police

Date: March 4, 2021

Subject: Information Update Ending March 5, 2021

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1. During the past two weeks, VPD officers made 10 traffic stops on commercial motor vehicles for traffic violations. These stops resulted in one traffic citation, six written warnings and two verbal warnings while working 20 additional enforcement hours. Seventy-nine percent of the stops occurred on National Road.
2. CPO Andrew Wehner began working with Demmitt and Helke Elementary Schools for the annual Safety Patrol Skate Party. This is an opportunity for the school safety students who assist other students with safely going to and from school every day to be rewarded for their efforts. Officer Wehner attended Demmitt and Helke Elementary schools where he read a Dr. Seuss book to the students in celebration of Dr Seuss' birthday.
3. We are now accepting applications for the 2021 Citizens Police Academy through March 11. The CPA is tentatively scheduled to begin on March 25 and last eight weeks on Thursday evenings.
4. Ofc Wehner represented the Division at the funeral of ODNR Officer Lagore who lost his life in the line of duty while responding to a drowning incident in southern Ohio.
5. Detectives charged a 29-year-old Dayton man with felony violation of a protection order after he sent text messages to and left a voicemail with the protected person.
6. CIS personnel invited Chief Investigator Smoot from the Montgomery County Prosecutor's Office to VPD to give a presentation of Financial Crimes. Chief Investigator Smoot provided many tips and tools to enhance financial crimes investigations.
7. Mobile Crisis Officer, Michael Spirk, has been working with VPD since the Spring of 2020. He was assigned by South Community Inc., a mental-health facility, to coordinate a pilot program focusing on assisting Vandalia citizens with mental health and substance abuse issues. Michael has done a wonderful job assisting officers with mental health calls and developing VPD's CIT program. Michael recently took a position with the FBI. VPD is working with South Community Inc. on finding his replacement. Michael's last day with VPD was Thursday, March 4. He will be missed and we wish him much success with the FBI.

8. Detectives charged a 56-year-old Dayton man with felonious assault. The charge stems from an incident where the man injured his girlfriend with a knife during an argument while at a local motel.
9. SSM Kanzari and all the Public Safety Specialists attended a virtual conference titled "Be the Difference" presented by the Denise Amber Lee Foundation over the past couple of weeks. On January 17, 2008, Denise Amber Lee was abducted from her home in Florida, raped and murdered. During the investigation, several failures were identified in the 9-1-1 system and their response. Denise's husband founded the Denise Amber Lee Foundation whose purpose is to change 9-1-1 and educate telecommunicators across the country. Some of the seminars observed during the conference were on human trafficking, dispatching during civil unrest, respecting those you protect, and being "the difference."
10. On March 3, Public Safety Specialist Deborah Wright attended a virtual class on Cultural Diversity for Telecommunicators presented by the Public Safety Group.
11. In response to an incident that occurred at the intersection of Dellsing Avenue and W. National Road on February 22, where shots were fired, an arrest warrant for several felony charges has been issued for an 18-year-old male suspect currently at large.
12. On Tuesday, I met with you, Chief Follick, and HR Manager Shannetta Dewberry to discuss Civil Service Commission processes for hiring and employment.
13. On March 3 & 4, Lt. Swafford, you and I interviewed four applicants for our two open public safety specialist positions. Applicants passing the interview will move to the CVSA truth verification process next week.
14. Six candidates participated in the first interview for the police lieutenant process on February 24 and all passed. Five candidates participated in an assessment center process hosted at the Justice Center by the Kettering Group on March 4.
15. On Thursday, I attended the monthly meeting with Superintendent O'Leary and Chief Porter from Butler Twp. PD to discuss school and community safety issues involving the school district.



## **Public Works & DES Information Update**

**To:** Dan Wendt, City Manager  
**From:** Rob Cron, Director of Public Service  
**Date:** March 4, 2021  
**Re:** **Information Update for February 20 – March 5, 2021**

### **Public Works**

Thank you for attending our department meeting and joining us for breakfast. As a part of the meeting we reviewed our snow and ice operations over the past few weeks. We also discussed what we did well and things we can do to improve. Overall our operation went very well, especially with a lot of new personnel and this being their first large snow event.

The weather has played havoc on several of our streets. With the freezing, thawing, the snow melting, and the rain, potholes and failed section have showed up throughout the City. Crews have been busy making temporary repairs with a cold patch to these areas. Much time has been spent on Helke Road. Asphalt plants are tentatively scheduled to open until April 1<sup>st</sup>. Once they open we will make the permanent repairs with hot mix asphalt.

Crew repaired one watermain break in the 300 block of Helke Road. Repairs were also made to two fire hydrants.

Tri Cities Wastewater Authorities assisted us in cleaning roots out of sanitary sewer main on Halifax Drive.

Crews have also been walking areas where our sanitary sewer mains are located, in back yards and wooded areas, to inspect manholes and make sure they are clear from any debris and flowing properly.

We have taken delivery of the two pieces of equipment that were recently purchased for our paving and patching operations: The Road Widening Paving Box and the John Deere Compact Track Loader. Representatives were here from John Deere for training on the Loader.

Steve Nickels, Bridgette Leiter, David Heckler. you and I participated in the zoom meeting with members of the Board, Finance Committee and Tech Committee from Tipp City and Huber Heights regarding the ongoing negotiations between Tri Cities Wastewater Authority and Veolia for the operation and maintenance of the Sanitary Sewer Treatment Plant. Veolia's contract is set to expire at the end of this year. I also participated in a negotiations meeting with our team and Veolia as well.

Crews performed three burials at Poplar Hill Cemetery during this period. All three were on the same day so it was a busy place last Friday at Polar Hill Cemetery

Steve Nickels and I attended the monthly NAWA Technical Committee meeting on March 3rd.

We have been notified by BR Mulch that they will be closing their facility permanently on March 29<sup>th</sup>. We have contracted with BR Mulch over the past several years for the disposal of our leaf collection, brush and yard waste. Our residents have also been able to use their facility as part of our contract. We are currently exploring other options for this service. Residents can take their brush and yard waste to Montgomery County for a fee or they can bundle their brush and bag their yard waste and place it out with their trash for Rumpke to pick it up.

### **Development & Engineering Services**

With the change in weather this past week projects have become active again. The contractor at the Chipotle site has completed all the watermain and sanitary sewer relocation work and the footer has been poured for the building.

The contractor for the Redwood Development has moved back in. Most, if not all, of the clearing work has been completed. They have begun the dirt moving operation for building the new roadway.

I was contacted by the developer for the next phase of the Foxfire Subdivision. The good news is that he was able to obtain permission from one of the property owners on Poe Avenue to use their property for construction access to the site. They intend to be moving equipment in soon to begin the clearing of the trees. They only have until April 1<sup>st</sup> to perform the clearing due to Federal and State requirement regarding the Indian Bat habitat.

Work on the US40 Widening project has also resumed. They are making final tie ins to complete the watermain relocation work. The watermain being relocated is

owned by the City of Dayton. The roadway work is expected to begin in the next couple weeks.

We are working on our tentative list of streets for resurfacing this year. The recent events may cause us to amend the list as we reevaluate some of the streets after winter.

Ted Baker, Chris Mastrino and Jason Eckert met with representatives from Heraeus and their design team to work thru their fire alarm and sprinkler designs. They have challenges as they integrate their legacy building with the new addition. They also have several areas of the buildings that contain hazardous chemicals which propose challenges of their own.

Staff from various departments continue to work with Xerion and Dayton Phoenix to identify and make repairs to their fire alarm system.

I had the privilege to speak at the Optimist Meeting last week to discuss our Snow & Ice Operations and went over upcoming projects in the City. They were very appreciative of our Public Works crew efforts during the recent snow events.

You and I met with Jeff Puthoff and Mitch Thobe from Choice One Engineering. They reached out to us just to introduce themselves as they serve as our City Engineer by contract.

We are all saddened by the recent passing of Chris Mastrino's father. Frank lived a very full and active life until the age of 90. Please keep Chris and his family in your thoughts and prayers during this difficult time.