

Date: January 19, 2011

To: Mayor and Council Members

From: John Archocosky, Manager

RE: Monthly Activity Report

The past month has been relatively quiet, allowing the DPW to catch up on several routine activities which are typically put aside until this time of the year. Although we have not had a lot of snowfall, the roads have required daily sanding and salting as a result of the warmer days which produced a layer of ice during the recently passed holidays. So far, our sand and salt reserves have not been depleted beyond what is normal for this time of the year however, we are keeping watch on the stock piles to be certain we have sufficient amounts to last through the spring.

The engineering for both the water and sewer projects has been underway; therefore, the city crew has been assisting with the process by marking the location of our utilities within the proposed project area. As these projects are spread out throughout the city, this is a time consuming process for the water utility department. The water department has noted a significant drop in the requests of water "let runs" so far this year. In the past, there have been as many as 300 or more customers that have had to run water. As of this past week, there has only been a total of 44 and to date, there have been no reports of an actual frozen line. The lack of snowfall most often is attributed to the freezing lines, but the continuous improvements in the city's water system are obviously beginning to have a positive impact.

I'm pleased to report that after waiting for over 10 months, the city's new 4 wheel-drive snowplow truck was finally delivered last week. Although the RD loan/grant closing took place in November, the delivery was held up due to mechanical problems with the steering as a result of special equipment that was being installed. Now that the truck has arrived, additional work is required so the plow can be installed by our mechanic. Once that is completed, the truck will be placed into service as soon as possible. This truck was designed specifically to be able to handle the more hilly and difficult to plow areas throughout the city. It is the first of several that will need to be replaced over the next several years. Although the fleet is in relatively good mechanical condition, the next newest truck is over 10 years old with others dating back as much as 17 years. In addition to the new truck, we also purchased 3 new sanders to replace those that have past their useful life on the older trucks. A new plow was also secured as part of the recent purchase that will be mounted on the sidewalk sweeper. Once this has been completed, the crew will be able to use it on some of the more traveled sidewalks in town.

The Treasurer's and Clerk's offices have been busy with routine activities, including the winter tax collection, and the preparation of various "end of year" reports to the State and Federal Government.