Town Manager’s Report to Mayor and Town Council

May 14, 2020

Work on Facades Project and Proposed Budget to Transfer Remaining Funds

You have in your budget packet a letter from me (though ably drafted by Mt Rogers PDC Project Manager Angela Wolfe) requesting remaining Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) funds be transferred into the Facades Project. There was approximately $24,881.19 left over from the Streetscape portion of the project.

The DHCD money remaining for the facades portion of the project was up to $140,000 (now approximately $115,382 with the first pay request executed) with the property owners matching up to $140,000. The Walberg Construction contract for the north side of the was $80,595 in DHCD money. By transferring the remaining money over will better allow the Town to complete the south side of Main Street, which we hope to bid out in early Summer. By doing the transfer, if approved by DHCD which we think it will be, that will up the DHCD contribution to $164,881.19.

To further elaborate on the requested $24,881.19 transfer, we are requesting $5,000 of that going to engineering for consultation and contract management. This money will go for the south side of the project. As you may remember the Town had to pay that amount for the engineering on the north side.

The work by Walberg is finishing up on the west side of the building at 121 East Main off the Town parking lot. In the near future we will ask D&D Construction to begin work on the Town sidewalk that was approved by council in March.

Biosolids Insurance Policy

We renewed our biosolids police with the Virginia Risk Management Association (VRSA) effective on April 1. I had sent the application in about six months earlier. The policy gives us liability protection for the sludge / biosolids we take from the sewer treatment plant. The coverage is through Alliant.
In the application package I had sent in we put additional sites in the Fox Valley area, in addition to the existing sites in Carlock Creek. The policy only listed the Carlock Creek sites. I called VRSA about that and they checked with Aliant. The Fox Valley sites will be included on the policy. The cost of the policy is $5,906.32. There was an addendum on the policy costing an additional $295.32 that I did not think it was practical to include.

**Grants Funding Received From Mt. Rogers PDC**

You have in your agenda package an April 23 letter from Deputy Director Brian Reed of Mt. Rogers PDC and a copy of a $23,975.60 check to the Town. The award was from the agency's Southwest Virginia Water and Wastewater Fund.

We applied for the grant in the summer of 2019, along with a grant for the Lyons Gap Water Line Replacement Project in the amount of $35,750. We were awarded both. That project will cost approximately $71,500 and we are planning to start the project this Fall. We are budgeting for the project and balance in 2020-21.

The check from Mt. Rogers was for pumps and motors at the Widener Spring Pump House. The pumps were installed in October of 2019 before the grant award was made in order to keep the pump station operational. Normally that would have been a problem in receiving grant funding, but because of the need, and the delay in announcements for the grant, we were able to receive funding anyway.

**Annual Drinking Water Report**

You have in your agenda packet a copy of the Annual Drinking Water Report. The Report lists our Mill Creek regional Water Treatment Plant jointly operated with the Washington County Service Authority (WCSCA). It also listed other sites that the WCSCA operates solely that citizens on the Town system could receive from when we are buying water from the WCSCA when the joint regional plant is not operating.

The report has to be published annually. If there are no issues with the water testing over the Maximum Contaminate Limit (MCL), or issues with timing of testing, then it can be published on the Town’s Web page or other social media. If there are violations I believe it has to be mailed to all water customers.

Respectfully Submitted,

John E. B. Clark, Jr.
Town Manager