

**Memorandum
City Manager's Office**



DATE: August 20, 2010
TO: Mayor and City Commission
FROM: Robert V. Belleman
City Manager
RE: General Information Memo

August 23, 2010 Finance/Policy Committee Meeting

There will be a special Finance/Policy Committee meeting on August 23, 2010 at 6:30 p.m. in Room 306 dedicated to an Executive Session with Tim Ferrand, Special Legal Counsel, to review and discuss legal matters involving the Sewer Fund.

STATUS REPORT OF CITY PROJECTS/PROGRAMS

ELECTRIC

Revenues:

- July revenues are \$109,000 more than budgeted due to warm weather.

Power Supply:

- New EPA rules for Reciprocating Internal Combustion Engines (RICE) may add major new costs to diesel generating facilities (stay tuned).
- Staff working with ACES on semi-annual portfolio analysis model.

Generation:

- Local generating facilities have been running regularly this summer to meet peak power needs and save money over spot market purchased power.

Distribution Operations:

- Crews should be finished with work on the Center Avenue Streetscape in next few weeks.
- Several new services at the following subdivisions: Crossroads, Brookside, and Willow Creek.

- Trouble Truck staff continues training on GIS laptop software for locating underground and troubleshooting the distribution system.
- Crews are converting overhead to underground in area near new YMCA, new medical building on Washington and new construction at Salvation Army.
- Decorative wall for new Saginaw Substation supported by RiversEdge Development Corporation. Estimated cost of \$287,000 is significantly more than budgeted.

Marketing:

- Staff is working on updates to the utility website including new sections and information.
- Another automobile manufacturer has taken note of the utility's electric vehicle charging stations. Staff is working on possible photo shoot and charging station upgrade to meet developing standards.

WASTEWATER

Crews applied just over 200 tons of asphalt repairing road cuts caused by sewer repairs. Construction crew worked at the following locations:

- Midland and Walnut – Installed new catch basin
- Hart and Williams – Installed new basin
- 2216 7th – Installed new basin
- 300 Cornell – Installed new basin and lead
- 1220 Fitzhugh – Installed new basin
- Farragut and Woodside – Repaired basin
- Linn and Hart – Installed new basin
- Salzburg and Wenona – Repaired sewer at cave-in site
- 1110 S. Henry – Repaired sewer at cave-in site
- 310 S. Chilson – Repaired sewer at cave-in site
- 38th and Michigan – Repaired sewer at cave-in site
- 213 S. Warner – Repaired sewer at cave-in site
- 210 S. Erie – Repaired sewer at cave-in site

Flush crew 224 cleaning storm sewers in the Nebobish and Green Street areas. Flush crew 257 cleaning combination sewers in the 28th and VanBuren Street area. Camera crew 225 worked on projects throughout the city.

The City's Storm Water Pollution Prevention Initiatives (SWPPI) has been submitted to the MDNRE as required by the City's storm water permit. The SWPPI is a plan that is designed and then implemented with the purpose of reducing to the maximum extent possible the discharge of pollutants to the

surface waters of the State. The SWPPI is intended to be a detailed commitment as to the specific actions which the City of Bay City will implement to meet both the goals and objectives of the watershed management plan and the specific requirements of its NPDES Permit.

Some of the items in the SWPPI include:

- Training City staff with regards to storm water pollution issues such as illicit discharge monitoring and good house keeping practices.
- Evaluation of current new development and significant redevelopment standards (including for example the ordinances, site development standards, master plans, and zoning) and make recommendations for improvements to prevent or minimize the impacts on water quality. Make appropriate ordinance changes as required by August of 2011.
- Map and verify all storm water sewers and outlets.

ACCOUNTING

The *Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting* has been awarded to the City of Bay City by the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) for its comprehensive annual financial report (CAFR) for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2009. The Certificate of Achievement is the highest form of recognition in the area of governmental accounting and financial reporting, and its attainment represents a significant accomplishment by a government and its management. This is the fourth consecutive year that the City has received this award.

Invoicing System Update:

One of the responsibilities of the Accounting staff is to invoice external entities for services provided by the City, damage to City property, collection of certain fees, and other miscellaneous items. During the timeframe of July 1 through 31, 2010, 95 miscellaneous invoices totaling \$155,946.75 and 90 parking permit invoices totaling \$40,877.25 were sent out. We received payment on 53 miscellaneous invoices (both new and outstanding), 63 parking permits, 1 weed cut and 272 rental registrations in the combined amount of \$146,026.21.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

GM Announcement - GM announced a huge investment in Bay City on August 18th: **\$20 Million** investment with 15 new jobs. This is a big win for the community. Staff continues to hear directly from GM that the City Commission action in 2007 to award GM a 50-year 100% personal property tax abatement is a key consideration in their investment decisions. Within the last 12-months, GM has invested \$62.5 million into the Bay City plant and created or retained 113 jobs.



Economic Development Projects- Brandow

Uptown at RiversEdge – The EPA grant funded clean up of the gravel “parking lot” along Saginaw Street (directly across from the new “Y”) was substantially completed this week. The contractor, Kessler Environmental Contracting, removed approximately 2,742 tons of contaminated soils. Kessler backfilled the area with clean sand and completed the project by placing 608 tons of crushed concrete to create a six inch gravel cap over the entire area.

