

MEMORANDUM

To: Mayor and Board of Aldermen

From: Barry Webb, Interim Town Manager

Re: Weekly Report

Date: April 29, 2016

NOTICE OF VIOLATION

In last week's report, it was noted that the Town had received a Notice of Violation (NOV) from the NC Division of Water Resources regarding a required water sampling not being reported to Water Resources within the required timeframe. Our Water Plant Superintendent has gotten some clarification on the issuance of the NOV, and I wanted to pass that information on to you. The issue involved certain samples for the first quarter of the year. Our staff's understanding was that these samples were simply to be obtained something during that quarter, but it turned out that there was a specific month and week in which they were to be obtained. This timing had apparently been referenced in a document that our Superintendent did not have, but he has since obtained a copy. Therefore, the samples that he took in March should have been taken in February, which resulted in the NOV. It did turn out that the public notice requirement referenced in the NOV can be handled through an insert in the annual water quality report distributed to all of our customers as opposed to us having to distribute individual notices.

PROJECT UPDATES

Last Friday, Bill Trudnak, Johnny Denton, and I met with staff from the NCDOT division office in Shelby regarding the two CMAQ programs submitted by the Town for sidewalk construction projects in the vicinity of Gaston College. We asked for this meeting to be sure that both NCDOT and our staff and engineer had a common understanding of where these projects stood and the steps we needed to take to move these forward. As you know, the initial project was submitted to and approved by NCDOT in 2013 but later was proposed for modification due to higher than expected cost figures. The revised project called for sidewalk to be constructed along the north side of Highway 279 from Walgreens to the intersection of Gaston College Access Road and along the western side of US 321-B from McDonald's to the northern end of the Post Office property. The modification went through the MPO for approval in late 2015 and should have been forwarded to NCDOT, but the staff in Shelby was not aware of the revised submission. We have verified that NCDOT in Raleigh did receive the amended request, but we have not yet received a formal approval notice. We anticipate this project being carried out during the upcoming budget year.

The second CMAQ program was also submitted to and approved by NCDOT-Raleigh in the latter part of 2015. That project calls for sidewalk along the southern side of NC 279 from the Gaston College Access Road to the Gaston County Park and Citizens Resource Center. Initial engineering for this project should begin during the upcoming 2016-2017 budget year, with construction likely to occur during the 2017-2018 budget year.

Earlier this week, Bill and I met with representatives of the City of Gastonia about the proposed sewer interconnect project for which a Gaston County township grant of \$300,000 was recently approved. As discussed at Tuesday's Board work session. Gastonia will go back and revisit the initial cost estimate for the

project, as the current economic uptick has resulted in higher bids on recent projects. There are also certain parts of the proposed project agreement between Gastonia and Dallas for which Gastonia will provide additional clarification in response to questions we raised at that meeting. As noted at Tuesday's work session, one option for us to consider is having all of our waste treated by Gastonia rather than simply constructing an emergency interconnect. Should we choose to go that route, Gastonia committed to cover the full cost of the sewer interconnect, and it would also provide considerable savings in several sectors of our proposed 2016-2017 budget. We will certainly be analyzing this option more closely going forward. Lastly, we have received the draft contract for the Town Hall Parking Lot Improvements project and anticipate having that on the Board's May 10th meeting agenda for approval.

UPCOMING EVENTS

As you are aware, the Dallas' Employee Appreciation Day event that was scheduled for 3:00 p.m. tomorrow has been postponed due to the weather forecast. Information on plans for an alternative event will be forthcoming.

As far as we know, the event to honor Vietnam era veterans at Gaston Memorial Park mentioned in last week's report will still be held tomorrow morning. Beverly Huddle, the event organizer who specifically invited elected officials to come and participate, asked that those attending arrive by 9:30 a.m. in order to sign in and be assigned seating. Should you need to contact her with any questions concerning this event, her email address is beverly@srp-theagency.com and her mobile phone number is 704-913-8092.