2016 Chairman’s report

Introduction

- Good Evening. Welcome board members and Lower Township residents. Tonight, I'm going to be reading the Chairman’s Report for 2016. First, I’d just like to say congratulations to our new Mayor, Erik Simonsen and Deputy Mayor, Frank Sippel. The MUA has been working with the Lower Township Public Works as one, for the betterment of rate payers and tax payers. The following report will show you that we have had an extremely productive year. Here are our accomplishments:

Wissahickon Sewer Refurbishment.

- Replaced deteriorating 24 inch asbestos cement gravity sewer main. Move from East Side of Route 109 in the marsh to West Side of Route 109 in shoulder area of the road, allowing for maintenance and inspection access.

- 1813- L.F. 24 Inch Sewer Main Replacement
  - 10- New Manhole
  - 1-manhole reconstructs

- This line is a major trunk line conveying sewer from Diamond Beach, Schellengers Landing and the Tranquility section of Lower Township.

Cost $1,173,153.33

Schellengers Landing Sewer line Replacement.

- The sewer line along Schellengers landing road in front of The Lobster House and Cold Spring Fish Supply.

  Replaced:

  - 950 L.F. of 12 inch PVC Sewer Main
  - 12 Sanitary Sewer Connections
  - 5 Sanitary Sewer Manholes.
  - 390 Tons of Asphalt

  Total Cost $307,177.39  $602 below contract amount.

Villas East Phase 1

- The original contract was for 27,000 ft water main, 564 new water services and 41 New Fire Hydrants. The original construction budget was $3,248,100.00. Contract was awarded to Perna
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Finnigan Inc. of Vineland NJ in the amount of $2,687,285.00. The initial contract is complete. Two change orders have been approved to add the replacement of the water main on Rosanne Ave. and install services on Idaho, Iowa and Hudson Aves.

- Work is substantially complete on the original project, with Rosanne Ave. to begin in early March.

Refurbish Sewer Pump Station 20

- The MUA began the refurbishment of one of its 26 pump stations. The majority of the sewer pump stations were installed more than 35 years ago. Many of the pump stations contain original equipment which is past its designed useful life. Using LTMUA personnel and some subcontractors we were able to complete the refurbishment of Pump station at the Corner of Crawford Lane and Ibis Place. The total cost was $96,306.13. We budgeted $150,000 for each pump station. Using a combination of LTMUA personnel and some contractors we were able to save over $50,000 per pump station.

Systematic Replacement of Rolling Stock and Equipment

- We have continued the systematic replacement of rolling stock with the replacement of two utility service trucks and new lawnmower and utility trailer.

Replacement of Video Pipe Inspection System

- We have awarded a contract to Envirosite in the amount of $202,300.00 for the replacement of our Video Pipe Inspection system. The new system includes a color camera, crawler, lateral launcher, remote control pendants and a software system that will enable us to inspect and prepare reports documenting the condition of our sewer infrastructure.

Replacement and upgrade of SCAD System

- LTMUA has relied on a combination of copper telephone lines and radio telemetry to monitor the operations of the water distribution and sewer collections systems. This system is known as the SCADA or Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition System. In 2016 LTMUA awarded a multiple year contract Complete Control Services to provide process control and SCADA installation and maintenance. After much research we have begun to upgrade and replace portions of our old system with new equipment that allows for real time monitoring of our operations. By the end of 2017 we will be able to monitor and control all the components of our water distribution system. This will include real-time monitoring of chlorine residual, flow, tower levels and pressure. We will be able to adjust parameters, turn pumps on and off and monitor real time operations from a desktop or handheld device.

Future projects – studies.

- Villas East Phase 2
An application has been made to USDA for the financing for the second phase of the Villas East Extension. This project will entail the installation of water main, fire hydrants and approximately 450 water services on the east side of Bayshore Road south of Fulling Mill Road. Funding decisions are made in the second quarter of the year. We anticipate awarding a contract for construction during the third quarter of the year.

**Water Storage (Tower) 10 Year Capital Improvement Plan.**

A contract was awarded to CorrTech Inc. of Deep River CT, to evaluate our water storage system and prepare a 10 year capital improvement/maintenance plan complete with cost estimates. This is part of our Asset Management Plan to continue to update our assets and properly plan for the expenditures.

**Waste Water Plant Study**

LTMA has approved a proposal presented by our Engineer Remington Vernick, to perform an in-depth study on our Waste Water Treatment Plant. In addition to an energy audit that has been already started, we will be evaluating the condition and performance of all aspects of our waste water treatment plant. The study will result in 10 year capital improvement plan designed to increase energy efficiency and improve the general operating efficiency of the plant in removing pollutants and decreasing odors.

**Cost Accounting Study**

In conjunction with the other studies and evaluations being performed on our physical infrastructure, we are undertaking a detailed cost analysis to develop cost models for water distribution, waste water collection, wastewater treatment and residuals disposal. The combination of studies being undertaken this year will give us a clear and concise cost factors that we can use to properly develop a 10 year operation and improvement plan. By planning ahead we can continue to maintain stable rates.

Even with all of the necessary infrastructure improvements we have completed we have kept our rates stable for 2016.

In conclusion, I would like to thank the Lower Township MUA board and every MUA employee, especially Craig Loper and Mike Chapman as well as Gary Douglas from the Lower Township Public Works and his crew. Each MUA employee is critical to our success. We are looking forward to continuing this great work throughout 2017.