

**TO: Mayor Rogin and Members of the Board of Trustees**  
**FROM: Aaron Caplan, Director of Utilities & Engineering**  
**DATE: 16 May 2022**  
**ITEM: Utility Update**

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ORDINANCE  
 MOTION / RESOLUTION  
 INFORMATION

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### **Capital Improvement Projects**

The Lyons Valley Townhomes project has begun the blasting portion of their excavating work. They have set aside Tuesdays – Thursdays from 10 AM to 3 PM until the end of July. There will usually only be 1 or 2 blasts a week. They do have to call in and advise a set list of contacts including the Fire Dept. 30 minutes before each blast. The Fire Dept. has also advised they are not allowed to blast on red flag warning days.

They are still working out the details to determine when they might start on the public infrastructure, water, sewer, roads, etc. The Town has not received all the required documents for the individual building permits and is waiting on one more set of documents so the two-week review time can begin. They are also still working through details to dedicate the required water rights to the Town and have not paid the building permit fees. Once these three items are completed, they need to meet the fire safety requirements that the fire department has for a building permit to be issued. Usually, a developer puts in the infrastructure first so that there are water lines and fire hydrants, and roads capable of withstanding the weight of a fire engine. Summit is discussing options to put in a temporary road in the hopes to start building individual homes prior to having the usual full infrastructure in place.

Longmont’s pump station project, the large excavation on Railroad Ave. across from the fire station, is experiencing materials delays as is most of the construction industry. The excavation for the pump station is done and the concrete for the pump station is being poured. They have implemented temporary piping for the Lyons Ditch lateral that provides water to three property owners that back up to this property. The Lyons Ditch was turned on last week and the temporary installation appears to be working well for the homeowners. The electric lines along Railroad Avenue from 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave. to the fire station should be reconnected as of Monday. Work is scheduled for Friday, May 13<sup>th</sup> as I write this to complete the reconnection of our electric lines underground.

### **Wastewater**

Between the work last fall and this spring we have cleaned and videoed 75% of the Town sewer system. We are now reviewing the video and the areas of concern that have been listed to prioritize the next areas to be worked on.

One of the capital improvement projects that was budgeted for 2022 is to add new blowers at the wastewater treatment facility (WWTF). The new blowers pump more air into the wastewater which helps increase the plant’s organic loading capacity. When the Town applied to extend the sewer system out to the Eastern Corridor one of the requirements was to increase the organic loading capacity at the WWTF. The State allowed the expansion to proceed after we

submitted plans that showed how we would increase the organic loading, with the addition of new larger blowers.

There is a complex trail of issues that have prevented this project from starting. The most recent one comes from the Town changing its permit with the state. The new permit has a lower limit of Arsenic allowed in the wastewater effluent. The plan to increase the organic loading capacity now shows it could go over this new lower limit of Arsenic if the Eastern Corridor reached its maximum build-out. It met the previous limit. The State advised that we could go back to our engineer who developed the plan and have them relook/redesign with this new Arsenic limit in place. They also advised that our new permit was being looked at this spring and is expected to be reissued with a higher allowable level of Arsenic than our current plan would meet. Staff has been attending the monthly state meetings to get updates on the change in our permit. We were last advised the state might have an update early this summer.

In addition to this state restriction on moving forward, we have the ongoing litigation with Honeywell that has shown there are a number of issues at the WWTF that could involve a much larger project being done. Staff is planning to hold a meeting with the engineers that developed the original plan, our wastewater operator, and the engineers involved with Honeywell litigation to determine our next step forward.

## **Water**

We are developing the Request for Proposals (RFP) to replace the next large Pressure Reducing Valve (PRV) in the water system. Lyons Water comes through a Pump Station out East that pumps water under high pressure up to the million-gallon water tank out on Apple Valley Rd. When that reaches its full level the pumps out east turn off and gravity pressurizes the system at the same high-pressure level until the tank reaches a low-level mark that triggers the pumps to turn on again.

There are five large pressure-reducing valves in town and two new valves installed out East as part of the Eastern Corridor Utilities project. These valves reduce the pressure from the high-pressure line running through town and provide more standard water pressure to various parts of town. The five valves in town were all underwater during the flood. We began by trying to have maintenance done on the valves. This did not make a difference. Last year we replaced the PRV that was having the most issues and causing low water pressure in a portion of town. The new valve did immediately improve the water pressure and after the old valve was taken apart it was found to be packed full of silicone that probably came from all of the emergency repairs after the flood.

The next PRV scheduled is located at 2<sup>nd</sup> and Railroad Ave. and Evans. It is a larger valve that will probably require removing the 6'x6' concrete vault lid. We have budgeted \$40,000 for this project.

## **Electric**

We have undergrounded two blocks of the electric line so far this year as parts of the Longs Peak Water and Sewer project and Longmont's Pump Station Project along Railroad Ave. The Moss Rock Hotel project has asked about undergrounding the electric lines at Broadway and 4<sup>th</sup>. This is a congested area and a bit of a larger project. We are working on the design and construction requirements to underground electricity in this area. We are also upgrading the monitoring capabilities at our electric substation.

## **Stormwater**

We budgeted \$25,000 for the design of a storm drainage system along 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave North of Main St. Based on various factors, including the road deterioration, the location in town, and the lack of any existing stormwater infrastructure this was determined to be the next stormwater project.