

To: City of Bennet Clerk and City Council

New information
Olsson Action Item
City Action Item

Re: April 2025 City Engineering Report

Transportation Safety Action Plan

- **On hold until grant funding is unfrozen. Council to discuss at April meeting.**

Street Maintenance Plan

- Crack sealing: Complete.
- Asphalt emulsion seal coating: Complete.
 - Recommended every 3-5 years.
 - Benefits: Slows down oxidation and oil content loss, protects from petroleum damage.
 - Pavement Ages
 - Bennet Ridge (2007)
 - Apple Street (2019)
 - Rest (2017-2019?)
 - Madison, Garden, and Hackberry (2022) will be due in 2 years.

Street Improvements Plan

- Approximately \$80,000/year in the budget for street improvements/maintenance.
 - Recommend \$100,000 of street improvements for 2025 (\$20K carryover).
 - **Olsson will bring list of recommended projects and cost estimates to the May meeting and discuss moving forward.**
- Improvements identified:
 - Streets
 - West side of highway now that school construction is complete.
 - Drainage
 - Culvert at 480 Cottonwood Street, to eliminate the low point in the ditch.
 - Area inlet at SE corner of Garden & Van Buren.
 - Survey will be needed to design.
 - Ditch/driveway on east side of 385 Tyler Street. Gravel washes into street and resident drives. Discussed with owners of 370 Tyler at Street Improvements open house in 2021.
 - 3-4' of rock along north side of park with posts and cable.
 - Hazard and/or drainage issue at NW corner of park.

Water Main Extension Project

- Work is complete and water mains are active.
- Seeding/restoration to be completed in the spring.
 - **Punchlist inspection was held and grading/seeding should be completed soon.**

SCADA System Upgrades

- **Work is in progress with completion anticipated by end of April.**

Water Supply Analysis

- **Olsson to send email to RWD showing year over year usage to show that the measures implemented are working.**
- Water usage statistics:
 - Monthly Max: 5,400,000 gal.
 - Daily Max: 180,000 gal.
 - May Water Usage

- Monthly: 2,259,000 gal. (42% of capacity)
 - Ave. Daily: 75,300 gal. (42% of capacity)
 - Max. Daily: 99,000 gal. (55% of capacity)
 - 5 users over 20,000 gal. Highest was 27,000.
 - June Water Usage
 - Monthly: 2,906,000 gal. (54% of capacity)
 - Ave. Daily: 96,866 gal. (54% of capacity)
 - Max. Daily: 143,000 gal. (79% of capacity)
 - 2 users over 20,000 gal. Highest was 24,000.
 - July Water Usage
 - Monthly: 3,100,000 gal. (57% of capacity)
 - Ave. Daily: 100,000 gal. (57% of capacity)
 - Max. Daily: 144,000 gal. (79% of capacity)
 - 20 users over 20,000 gal. Highest was 43,000.
 - August Water Usage
 - Monthly: 3,484,000 gal. (65% of capacity)
 - Ave. Daily: 112,387 gal. (65% of capacity)
 - Max. Daily: 151,000 gal. (84% of capacity)
 - 20 users over 20,000 gal. Highest was 43,000.
 - September Water Usage
 - Monthly: 3,754,000 gal. (70% of capacity)
 - Ave. Daily: 125,133 gal. (70% of capacity)
 - Max. Daily: 140,000 gal. (78% of capacity)
 - 13 users over 20,000 gal. Highest was 53,000.
 - Year over year summary: Monthly usage was similar, max. daily usages were lower in 2024. Four new lawns were added as well. I would consider the water management/monitoring the city is doing to be a big success so far and will share the results with the RWD. 2023 usage numbers are below:

- May Water Usage
 - Monthly: 3,494,000 gal. (63% of capacity)
 - Ave. Daily: 112,709 gal. (63% of capacity)
 - Max. Daily: 157,665 gal. (88% of capacity)
 - June Water Usage
 - Monthly: 3,748,000 gal. (70% of capacity)
 - Ave. Daily: 124,933 gal. (70% of capacity)
 - Max. Daily: 170,000 gal. (95% of capacity)
 - July Water Usage
 - Monthly: 2,846,000 gal. (51% of capacity)
 - Ave. Daily: 91,806 gal. (51% of capacity)
 - Max. Daily: 170,000 gal. (95% of capacity)
 - August Water Usage (28 days only)
 - Monthly: 2,542,000 gal. (51% of capacity)
 - Ave. Daily: 90,785 gal. (51% of capacity)
 - Max. Daily: 100,000 gal. (56% of capacity)
- RWD met with village board on February 12th.
 - RWD has no short term plans for expansion of capacity. Long term plans include development of a new well.
 - Recommended irrigation restrictions to manage daily flows.
 - Ordinance on the agenda to raise fees for users above 20,000 gal/month.
 - **Tabled at the May/June meetings. City to revisit in 2025.**
- RWD met with planning commission on April 17th

- Stated that RWD has no ability to provide more water to the village. Recommended the village explore a well near Pella Road.
 - **Olsson to inquire about potential locations and put together a preliminary cost estimate for well exploration and installation and water mains from Pella Road to Bennet.**

Sewer Improvements/Rates

- Asbestos sewer lining/replacement.
 - Phase I lining work is complete. Pre- and post-lining videos have now been received.
 - **Olsson to review videos.**
 - Phase II lining and manhole rehab is complete.
 - **Olsson to review videos.**
- Olsson is keeping track of improvements completed on a sewer map.
- Sewer Cleaning: 39,800 LF of sewer mains to be cleaned on a rotating schedule.
 - **City to get pricing and determine schedule.**
- Lagoon Cleaning
 - **Olsson to review frequency of cleaning that is necessary.**
- SCADA System Improvements
 - Project is now underway. Contractor submitted shop drawings and Olsson has reviewed.

Miscellaneous

- **Olsson to provide recommendation on additional speed bumps on Garden and Hackberry.**
- **Olsson to provide recommendation on stop sign at Prairie Clover & Switchgrass intersection.**
- Street lights to be installed by NE City Utilities along Cottonwood and Tyler to fill in the gaps.
- **Olsson to recommend language for developer electrical responsibility in subdivision regs.**
- NDEE Needs Survey has been submitted for the 2024 cycle.
- Highway allocation is \$98 per capita, below the average of \$169 per capita.
 - Look into lane mile equation to see if widening makes sense.
 - **Olsson received info from state. Will run financial analysis.**
- Gravel road washouts:
 - 2 washouts on Cottonwood/Bennet. County to repair. Contacted 5/31.
 - **Repairs have not been performed. Olsson to follow up.**
 - Small washout above Tyler St. box culvert. Monitor. No action at this time.
- Street Shop: Project on hold due to potential of acquiring an existing building.
- Water Tower Park: No action until further notice.
- Daycare Facility
 - School has requested assistance with a daycare facility to help teacher retention.
 - City has asked SENDD to prepare a regional survey for interest in the facility.
 - Other communities have gone through a similar process. Some have a foundation managing the facility.

Development Reviews

- Elementary School: under construction.
- Cedar Brook: under construction.
- Cochrane Corner:
 - **Developer to submit updated construction documents once plat is approved.**
- Evergreen Place: under construction.
- 415 Fir Street: Coordinate with owner on parking and storage.
- **420 Garden Street: Discuss status of CUP. Update: Waiting for nice weather.**

- ***Olsson to provide punchlist of items to be resolved before escrow is released, such as storm sewer cleaning, ditch grading and seeding, low spots in pavement, etc.***

Code Updates

- Downtown Economic Development Plan (Dec-Jan)
 - City working with UNL Community and Regional Planning Program.
- Comp Plan (Marvin)
 - Scheduled for completion in Spring of 2024
- Subdivision Regulations
 - Olsson submitted templates from other communities for consideration.
 - ***City to decide on development fee schedule before next subdivision.***

Trails

- NDOT reached out to Olsson to discuss options to make pedestrian crossing at Dogwood Street safer across the highway. Olsson has followed up but not received a response. ***Will continue to follow up.***
- Potential Funding Sources:
 - State Funding
 - Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP)
 - Transportation Alternatives: General trail projects.
 - Safe Routes to School: School related trail projects.
 - This used to be a stand-alone program, but is now included as an eligible project type within TAP.
 - Recreational Trails Program: Recreational trail projects
 - This is different than the RTP through NE Game & Parks.
 - Funding window is currently closed. May be 2-5 years before a new funding notice is issued.
 - Recreational Trails Program (RTP)
 - Administered through NE Game & Parks, separate from TAP.
 - Federal Funding
 - Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A)
 - Rebuilding American Infrastructure Sustainably and Equitably (RAISE)

Tyler & Cottonwood Street Paving (info from 2021)

- Project Cost: \$1,250,000
 - \$95,000/year for 15 year bond at 1.75%
 - \$105,000/year for 15 year bond at 3.00%
- Current Levy Rates
 - Bennet: 0.304020
 - Adams: 0.475267
 - Hickman: 0.430992
 - Springfield: 0.500000
- Current village valuation: \$87.5 million
 - Project would require additional 0.11 village levy.
- Projected village valuation: \$103.1 million
 - After Evergreen Place, Cedar Brook, and Cochrane Corner.
 - Project would require additional 0.09 village levy.
- Cost of waiting:
 - Interest rate risk.
 - Material price increases.
- Benefit of waiting:

- Potential infrastructure bill funding.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve your community as the City Engineer.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Brian Schuele". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Brian" and last name "Schuele" clearly distinguishable.

Brian Schuele, PE