

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

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MONTHLY REPORT

April 2020

This spring has been a challenge for the Ayer DPW due to the COVID 19 pandemic. However, we developed an operations plan that allowed us to continue to provide essential services (drinking water treatment and supply, wastewater collection and treatment, transfer station operation and road maintenance), while still protecting the health of our employees. A critical component of our operation is that we are required to have licensed operators for our water and wastewater systems. The concern was the potential to have to quarantine all of the operators, so we implemented a rotating shift to minimize this issue. In addition, with the technology that we have implemented at the DPW, we can perform system monitoring, issuing work orders, remote water meter reading and billing and alarm response while social distancing.

This monthly report will highlight some of our construction project going on around Town.

Main Street Paving – The DPW repaved Main Street from Columbia Street to Park Street. The existing pavement was badly deteriorated and the new pavement smooths out the potholes and trench patches. In addition, the DPW purchased and installed new American Flags on Main Street.



Ayer DPW Highway Garage- The DPW completed construction of the new Highway storage garage and moved equipment, supplies and vehicles into the building.



Grove Pond PFAS Treatment System – The Grove Pond Wellfield Treatment Facility is progressing and the treatment vessels have been installed and are being piped. There is still electrical, HVAC, painting and control work, we are anticipating completion later this summer.



Spectacle Pond Water Treatment Plant – The design for the Spectacle Pond PFAS Water Treatment Plant is approximately 60% complete with bidding anticipated in June. This project is somewhat more complex than the Grove Pond PFAS treatment due to wetland / endangered species habitat and the

need to relocate the existing well to make room for the building. We recently we awarded MassDEP SRF Funding (low interest loan) for this project.

High Street Water and Storm Drain Upgrade – The DPW design and bid a water main ad storm drain upgrade project on High Street. The project is nearing completion and we are planning to repave the street next spring.

Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade – The DPW is in the middle of a phased capital improvement project for Ayer's wastewater treatment plant. The second phase of the upgrade project is under construction and includes improvements to the grit removal system, HVAC improvements and control upgrades.



Sewer System Pipe and Manhole Rehabilitation – Ayer's sewers are over 75 years old and have many leaks. In April, we completed the Phase 1 of the sewer repair to reduce the inflow and infiltration of rainwater and groundwater into the Town sewer.



Recreation Department Garage Construction – The Ayer DPW is providing construction management and oversight for the Parks Department Garage under construction at Pirone Park. The project is nearing completion.

Oak Ridge Rain Garden – To correct some localized drainage issues on Oak Ridge Drive, the DPW constructed a small rain garden along the road. Low Impact Development (LID) techniques are recommended for small drainage projects and we are construction various LID systems to determine the effectiveness.