

STREETS/PARKS:

Beginning Monday, July 18th, our tree trimming contractor will complete trimming on Reed Valley Road. After finishing at that site, they will move to South Barrington Rd. I ask again, please be considerate of workers in the road. Not just the tree trimming contractor, but our own water, sewer and street crews as well.

Last week our new Planning staff, the Mayor and I had an opportunity to meet with Highway Commissioner Phillip Taldo. During a phone conversation, I inquired about the status of highway projects that will affect Tontitown. He offered to come visit with us in person. Mr. Taldo assured us that his main focus is on three projects. Those projects are; Highway 112 widening, the 612 Springdale bypass and the airport access road. First of all, the 112 widening project will begin with the section from Don Tyson Parkway to Highway 412, with major improvements to the 412/112 intersection. The projected cost of this section is \$20-\$30 million dollars. Estimated let date for the construction of this section is scheduled for late 2024 or early 2025. However, relocation of utilities will have to begin in 2023. This is important to us because we have water lines that will have to be moved outside of the new right-of-way. We can expect ArDot to pay for moving the Lines that exist inside the current right-of-way, but not any upgrades in size. Lines that are outside the current right-of-way, that will have to be moved outside of the new right-of-way will have to be funded completely by the City. I have instructed our engineers to begin immediately working on plans to determine the needs and estimated cost to relocate these utilities.

The two other major projects for ArDot, Springdale Northern Bypass (612) and the airport access road will have a similar time frame for the eastern portion, from 112 to the airport access. Right-of-way acquisition and utility relocation are estimated to be complete late in 2023. Construction should begin mid to late 2024. The total cost for the complete 6.5-mile bypass from 112 to 412 is estimated at \$125-\$150 million. Right-of-way acquisition for the airport access road is estimated to be completed late 2023 and utility relocation late in 2024. The cost of this four-mile section is estimated at \$100-\$125 million. Finally, Mr. Taldo assured us that the department is working on the design for the Klenc/412 Traffic signal. I will follow up on that project soon.

WATER/SEWER:

The Public Works Department experienced an act of vandalism last Tuesday, July 12th in the late hours of the night. Two persons were recorded on our security cameras throwing rocks over the fence at vehicles. The windshield was broken in our John Deere tractor; rear windows in two trucks and a windshield in one. A couple of vehicles also sustained damage from rocks hitting the body causing dents in tailgates and other areas. Tontitown P.D. is investigating.