

STREETS/PARKS:

To recap 2022 in the Street Department, I would like to remind everyone of the projects we accomplished. In June, the City completed an overlay of S. Pianalto. This project was the result of a State Aid Street Grant through ArDot. The grant provided \$300,000.00 worth of labor and materials. As the time for construction got close, we were told we would need to contribute an additional \$71,727 to complete the full 1-1/2 miles from Hwy. 412 to Kelly Road: Council approved. A paving project for North Ardemagni Road finally came to fruition. This short 1000' project was paid out of street funds at a cost of \$108,874. Several small projects, including right-of-way trimming, final Fletcher payment and storm cleanup added up to another \$228,000 spent out of City Street funds. Also completed in 2022 was the Bushy Creek Hazard Mitigation Project. This project was to improve drainage through the Barrington Heights subdivision. A 75/25 grant received from the Arkansas Department of Emergency Management provided \$217,200 toward this project. The City contributed the remaining 25% or \$72,400 to complete the \$289,600 project.

In total, \$998,669 in grants and City funds were spent on Streets and Storm Drainage in 2022.

WATER/SEWER:

Here are a few growth figures for the 2022 calendar year. We began January 2022 with a total of 2,131 water meters. At the end of the year, our total reached 2,413. That is an increase of 282 meters or 13.23%. Using the Health Department's calculation of 2.4 residents per meter, gives us a retail population of 5,791. At the beginning of 2022, we had 1,215 customers on sanitary sewer; By the end of the year, the number of sewer customers increased to 1,482. This is an increase of 267 customers or 21.98%. To break down the increase of water meters, commercial increased from 279 to 288 or 3.23%, while the residential increased from 1,737 to 2,004, or 15.37%.

Looking ahead to 2023, there are going to be some challenges. As I mentioned in previous meetings, the Water portion of the bond funds is already spent or committed. However, there are more water projects that need to be constructed. Most importantly, the Wildcat Creek water line. We have already purchased the material for this project, there is just no money in the bond fund to construct it. In the next couple of months, I will be letting that project out to bid, with plans to pay for it with reserve funds. If the bids come in too high, we may have to try to construct this line and a couple of other small lines with our own water and sewer crew. I do not want to spend too much out of reserve, as we also have the new water tank in the near future plans. The tank project, if constructed today, would cost \$4 million. There are no grant funds available for this type of project.