

STREETS/PARKS:

The Street crew is preparing to make a stormwater improvement on Brush Creek Road. During the last couple of years during flooding events, Brush Creek Road at the eastern city limits has experienced overtopping of the road and major erosion as a result. We are finally going to replace the current 36" culvert with a new 60" culvert to prevent this issue. Due to the size of the culvert and the width of the road, we will not be able to install without closing the road. We are planning to have the road closed for two to three days, beginning March 7th. We will be utilizing our electronic sign at the site to inform drivers of the closure ahead of time.

We finally received a letter from ArDot regarding the Klenc/412 traffic light. They have completed the environmental study and produced an easement document for a small piece of land that we will need to acquire for additional right-of-way.

WATER/SEWER:

On Monday, February 27th, Garver engineers along with city staff met with the contractor of the 412 water line project for a pre-construction conference. At this time, Goodwin & Goodwin is planning to begin construction on April 17th. The contract time for this project is approximately one year.

You may have heard that there have been some major changes at Washington Water Authority. For the most part, these changes are for the better as far as Tontitown is concerned. When the new Washington County Judge, Patrick Deakins took office, he also appointed a new board to WWA. The new Chairman of the board is Mick Wagner. Mr. Wagner has already helped us out by changing the plumbing permits and inspections in the city limits. Previously, any plumbing within our city limits, that was served by WWA had to be permitted and inspected by WWA. We can now sell permits and provide inspection to all construction in Tontitown. Mr. Wagner is also pursuing the process to allow Tontitown to acquire WWA water lines in our city limits and possibly beyond. This is what I meant when I stated most of these changes are for the better. Although we have talked about acquiring the service area in our city limits for years, it will be a costly endeavor. There will be much more discussion regarding the service area in the near future.

I would like to remind you again of the upcoming water and sewer projects. First of all, we have three sewer projects that are included in the bond. Those projects are for S. Pianalto, Klenc Road and Highway 412 West. The additional projects that we need to complete include Wildcat Creek water line, which was intended to be included in the bond. However, the 412 water line took up all of those funds. We do however have the materials to construct that project and will be bidding the installation soon. Two small water projects that we will construct with our own crew, on S. Barrington and Pine Lane. We will only have to pay for the materials on these. The major project that we need to construct that is not currently funded is the one-million-gallon storage tank at a cost of approximately four million dollars. As I mentioned previously, we will need to finance at least half of the cost of this project. The other water project, the cost of which is unknown at this point is the Highway 112 widening. With all of these projects slated, it is hard to imagine how we will be able to fund the WWA acquisition.