

## **Holyoke city workers staying busy this spring**

Written by Kyle Arnoldy

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City workers have been busy the past few weeks dealing with snow and preparing for the spring and summer, reported City Superintendent Mark Brown at the March 5 City Council meeting.

Snow caused the most work as city workers removed it from the streets by the semi-load. Board member Scott Murray commented that he had heard citizens praise the efforts of the city to remove snow. Murray also commended Brown and his crews for their work.

Brown also mentioned that crack filling season is almost here. The city has purchased a semi-load of sealant that should last for the next 2-3 years.

The city has also recently purchased 2,000 gallons of jet fuel in preparation for any jet traffic in the area.

### **Pool boiler room faces more problems**

During the Feb. 19 meeting, Brown had reported that there was a problem with the intake manifold in a boiler at the pool. During last week's meeting he updated the board members that more problems had been discovered with the boiler. Once the cracked intake manifold had been fixed, the boiler was still not functioning because of a faulty pump. Parts have since been ordered.

While working on the boiler, a roof leak was also discovered in the boiler room. Brown believes the problem most likely occurred during the installation of the boiler. Several holes were made in the ceiling during the installation and all but one were filled.

The boiler warranty does not cover the problem as it was human error that caused the leak.

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Wern Air Inc. out of Denver was responsible for installing the boiler. They are also off the hook as far as a warranty because it has been over a year since the installation. Brown plans to reach out to them to see if there is some sort of compromise they could reach where each party partially pays for the repairs.

### **Reports from city officials**

Brown informed the board that he is still waiting to get feedback on the second draft of the layout for the possible animal shelter. Brown had submitted the plans to the state Feb. 4, but has not received word if the changes made to the plans would make the shelter up-to-date with state standards.

He also noted that the pumping station west of town has raised some concerns.

When the fire flow was tested, water pressure on the west side of town dropped substantially. This should not be a problem as long as the fire flow is only used on fires.

Police Chief Doug Bergstrom reported that from Feb. 14-27 there were 50 calls for service, six warnings and one report written up.

He also informed the board that after many weeks of searching for someone to fill the open code enforcement position, someone will more than likely be hired before the month's end. Three people were interviewed for the position Thursday, Feb. 28. Of the three, only one has moved on to the polygraph and psyche evaluation stage of the hiring process.

City Clerk/treasurer Kathy Olofson informed the board that Scott Szabo has finished the

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in-house portion of the audit. He will report his findings back to the board toward the end of April.

Olofson also noted that the city has received the annual franchise fee check from Source Gas for \$13,064.82 and the third and fourth quarter franchise fee checks from PC Telcom for \$3,704.63.

Although the final number has yet to be determined, Olofson stated that she will be sending a grant to the State Historical Fund to redo brickwork at the Heginbotham Library.

Building Restoration Specialties Inc. out of Denver has put in a bid for \$92,995. Holyoke would be responsible to match at least 25 percent of the project.

### **Other business**

In other business March 5, the city council:

—agreed that it shall be the policy of the City of Holyoke that any new construction and renovation, remodeling or alteration of existing multi-family dwellings and/or motels or hotels be inspected at the owner's expense pursuant to applicable adopted codes.

—appointed Teresa Mailander to serve a five-year term on the Library Board.

—approved the travel request for officer Larry Drake to attend D.A.R.E. training in Aurora in April.

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—agreed to send six city employees to the Flagger Certification Workshop for CDOT certification in Holyoke April 2.

—agreed to type up two duplicate checks to replace misplaced checks at the Holyoke Marketplace from December.

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