June 3, 2024

On Tuesday or Wednesday of this week, we will be receiving our new backhoe. Ditching is one of Districts 1 and 2 main concerns especially going into this season. This backhoe was purchased with some of the ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) money we still have. It will be replacing a backhoe that we have had for over 20 years. It is a welcome site. We also purchased a 7' bush hog for all the lots over the lots. We will cut all lots, including town owned lots and private lots. We will bill all privately owned lots. We have purchased a Diesel Engine Zero Turn Mower. We are hoping that this mower will last more than a couple of years. While purchasing equipment needed for our Public Works Department, we bought a 48hp New Holland Tractor with a 110" Befco Finish Mower to mow the lots that zero turns are usually needed. This will take less time and less labor. We will be leasing a new 310 John Deere Backhoe from James River Equipment Company. It will be delivered in about 3 to 4 months as soon as it is built.

I have been talking with Duke Energy about the lighting project around town. They did tell me that someone called and stated that they worked with the town. He said they had not heard of the name they mentioned, because they only talked with Barabara Kornegay and me on this project. He said that they should have about a month or so before they should start. With Pike Engineering, they are saying about another month or so. They have gotten the paperwork back from DOT (Department of Transportation) and now they are waiting on the Utility Commission.

On our Maple St. Drainage Project, where AECOM is the engineer. They have received approval from NC Emergency Management to extend the project schedule and make some changes to the originally proposed design. We have initiated the required CSX plan review process and are planning a field meeting with the local CSX representative, which has been completed and we have also initiated a discussion with NCDOT (North Carolina Department of Transportation) about the encroachment into their ROW, which are still going on. The next steps include implementing our proposed changes into the plans and submitting them to both CSX and NCDOT.

We are ending our CDBG Sewer Project. We only have the punch list items left. Some of the items left are sewer laterals not completed, cleanouts not completed, asphalting cuts in the roads not patched, concrete repair work not completed, lay down yard needs to clean and dressed up and all manhole repairs need to be completed.