

To: Village Board, All Committee Members, and Others
From: John M. Walther, Administrator
Date: December 18, 2020
Re: Weekly Update



Police Department

The Jackson Police Department served a search warrant on Friday, December 11th at a residence in the Village. An adult male was taken into custody and multiple items of suspected child pornography were located. Charges are pending at the Washington County District Attorney's Office. We were assisted at the scene by the Wisconsin Department of Justice – Division of Criminal Investigation.

Officer Gerke attended the drive-through Santa event on Sunday evening at the East Side Mart. The event was well-attended. Thank you to the Kruepke family for hosting the event.

On December 13, 2020, the Wisconsin Law Enforcement Accreditation Group (WILEAG) unanimously awarded Core Verified Status to the Village of Jackson Police Department. The Core Standards verification program is a version of accreditation for smaller agencies that requires strict compliance with 49 law enforcement standards. The Core Standards verification requires the Jackson Police Department to have peer-reviewed policies and to demonstrate compliance with those policies on an annual basis. The Core Standards designation can only be achieved when the agency is following best practices in all areas of operations such as evidence storage and collection, handling public records, hiring, etc. "This designation confirms that we are following best practices for law enforcement agencies in the State of Wisconsin. This award belongs to the officers and staff members of the Jackson Police Department that work hard every day to keep Jackson safe. This was a three-year process to show compliance with all standards and I'm very proud of my staff for the great work they do." – Chief Vossekul

In 2010, Jackson became the first Washington County agency, and the smallest in Wisconsin, to earn a three-year WILEAG accreditation, which covered ninety-three standards. According to the chief, the core standards program is more manageable for smaller agencies. The core standards focus on key federal and state statutory mandates; requirements arising from case law; inherent issues related to high-risk law enforcement operations; and sensitive areas involving community relations. The Jackson Police Department previously received the three-year Core Standards Verification in 2014 and 2017.

On Tuesday evening at 9:41, a passer-by reported a woman lying in a snowbank by the roundabout on Main Street at USH 45. An officer located the 88-year-old woman who was injured and disoriented. Jackson Rescue responded and transported her to a local hospital.

Fire Department

There were twenty-one medical and four fire calls this week, including two alarms, a motor vehicle crash with injuries near the intersection of Main Street and Jackson Drive, and a sprinkler flow (a dry system that was charged into the attic) at Forest View Manor. We released the pressure and reset the alarms.

There was an officers meeting Monday evening to prepare for the next year, coordinating activities of the department. Sunday night we did a public relations event at the drive through Santa at East side Mart. It was great seeing all the families come out for the festivities.

Joint Parks and Recreation

Congratulations to the Serio Family (#7 on the map) for winning the annual Holiday House Decorating Contest in Jackson. Thank you to everyone who participated, voted, and were able to enjoy this year's fun. Thank you to Schreiber Foods and Jimmy's for sponsoring the event. The Trahan Family (#2 on the map) took second place and the Kunstek Family (#5 on the map) placed third.

Wednesday, the Friends group received an award for Hero of the Month from Joe Schulteis of Allied Realty Group, LLC. Special thanks to the Friends for all their hard work and dedication.

Thursday was the Village Holiday and Recognition luncheon at the Community Center (following social distancing and COVID-19 guidelines). Residents are fortunate to have such a wonderful team to serve them! Happy Retirement to Dan Rathke – Water Utility Supervisor and John Walther – Administrator. Best Wishes to Kyle Henning of the Jackson Police Department. Welcome to Jennifer Keller – Incoming Village Administrator and to Mike Trevarthen and Dominic Gutierrez of the Jackson Police Department.

The Fitness Center at the JACC will be closed until December 29th to install the new flooring.

Thanks to the wonderful employees at Wisconsin Pharmacal for sponsoring several of our early learning families that really need the help this year.

Sadly, Monte Carlo Night has officially been canceled.

JACC Holiday Hours: The Jackson Area Community Center will be closed Thursday, December 24, Friday, December 25, Thursday, December 31, and Friday, January 1 in observance of the Holidays.

The Park and Rec Department and the Friends Group wish all of our business friends and patrons a safe and happy Holiday Season with a brighter 2021.

Building Inspection

Permit submittals remained seasonally low this week. Inspection volume was again heavy with several commercial inspections being completed.

Occupancy was issued to Urban Myst Alternatives located on Industrial Drive behind Jimmy's Restaurant.

The Police Chief and I met with a business owner relocating to the Village. The purpose of the meeting was to gain a clear understanding of their business operation and to address some initial concerns regarding their assembly operation. We welcome them to the Village.

Staff participated in commercial building code training on Thursday. The training was provided at no cost to members of the local Building Inspectors Association and provided continuing education credits necessary to maintain various credentials.

Pre-pour inspections were completed for the police administration area and other smaller rooms at the Municipal Complex site. Roofing is mostly completed on Buildings A and B. They have now moved to Building D.

Public Works

The Jackson Water Utility has completed meter testing for the year. Most utilities are requesting time extensions for meter changeouts and testing processes from the Public Service Commission. Even with the pandemic the Jackson Water Utility found a way to complete the program in a timely matter. Data entry for meters, valves, and hydrants continues. LW Allen has begun the SCADA System upgrade project for wells and booster station communication. Midwest Fiber is making the final internet connection at the Blue Water Tower for the meter reading system. Digger's Hotline locates have slowed down with the first snow fall.

The Street & Parks Department: Tree trimming continued this week. Plow blade maintenance and repair after the plowing and salting operation from the weekend. Only one mailbox was damaged during the plowing operation. A new generator has been installed at the Village Hall. A switch was installed for the card reader at the yard waste site now that the site has closed for the season. It will reopen April 1st, or when weather permits. Properties owners are being notified to not plow across roadways. Please keep all snow on your side of street. The Georgetown Drive box culvert was cleaned last Friday to prevent flooding in the intersection of Ridgeway and Georgetown Drives. The drainage ditch to the south will need to be cleaned out yet for the water to flow properly.

At the WWTP: The wait continues for the repair parts for the waste gas burner. The permanent plumbing connection is being made in the control building. Maintenance is being done on the lawn mowers and trailer. The alum pump is now functioning for the phosphorous removal pilot study.

The Village of Jackson has signed a new 5-year contract with GFL (Green for Life) for curbside collection of trash and recycling. Please watch the village website and the mail for the new collection schedule. If you have a broken container, please call the Public Works office at 262-677-0707 for a replacement.

Treasurer

The Village received an additional payment of \$12,400 from the Routes to Recovery COVID-19 grant program. This money came from the remaining pool of unused allocated funds.

The Village's new auditing firm, Sitzberger & Co. will be on-site next week observing some of our procedures in preparation for the 2020 audit. They will mainly be focusing on payroll, accounts payable, and receipting of payments.

Staff has been busy processing tax payments and pet licenses. Just a reminder that all pet licenses need to be renewed by January 1st and the first installment or full amount of tax bills are due by January 31st.