

City of Thorne Bay Thorne
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DEPARTMENT REPORT

Subject: Monthly Department Report

Department: Water & Sewer
Utility

Supervisor: Sam Sawyer, Level II
Water

Employees: Willy Jennings

Date: Dec, 2020

A Departmental Overview The Water/Sewer Department is administered by Sam Sawyer, Level II Water Operator. The Supervisor(s) and staff are responsible for the operation and maintenance of the City's four core sanitation services: Water Treatment, Water Distribution, Sewage Collection, and Sewer Treatment. Duties include maintenance, minor and major schedule and unscheduled repairs throughout all four systems, monthly reporting to the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation as required, direct sampling as scheduled for water quality and wastewater effluent quality compliance, implementation of a preventative maintenance schedule, construction of new water distribution mains and residential /commercial service connections and wastewater collection mains and residential/commercial service connections.

**Water/Sewer Activities for
Dec, 2020:**

For December of 2020, the water department will be taking care of our usual daily duties/monthly testing and will be assisting CBC Construction with digging up existing water valves located in the middle of sandy beach road. The state has concluded that we must dig up these existing valves and take one of them completely out so there is no longer a raw water line source hooked up to our treated water line. In the past, this valve was installed so that in case of a fire, we had the ability to supply town with raw water so the fire department had plenty of water to fight fire with. However, the State of Alaska is worried about raw water seeping through the butterfly valve and making it into our treated water line. I want the council to know I understand their worry, but believe it's minimal. I don't agree with their decision to take out this valve as it serves as a last resort to help fight fire in case our main water supply tank is depleted and having enough water to fight a fire is one of my top priorities. The state teaches this in their very own classes. Also, each month we test our water from predetermined locations set forth by the state to ensure there is no chance for any type of fecal bacteria or virus in our water mains. I will add that we have never failed one of these tests and have always had a free chlorine residual above the minimum requirement. Nevertheless, we will do what the state has deemed fit and help in any way we can to get the job done with CBC. This project will start on December 15th and is planned to be completed by December 20th. During this time the sandy beach road highway will be closed and the bypass road will serve as a detour until we are done working on the valves. If you have any questions or concerns please call or email me.

Sam Sawyer
Water Department Supervisor
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