

Top stories in this newsletter



Sewer main project



Water Bill Assistance



Curious about Grants?



Saying Goodbye

PUBLIC WORKS COMPLETES IN-HOUSE SEWER MAIN REPLACEMENT

This fall, the City of Livingston’s Public Works Department completed an all in-house sewer main replacement project from design through construction. The project consisted of an approximate 100-foot stretch of sewer main in an alley between South L and South M Streets was upsized from a 4-inch sewer service with three connections to a full sized 8-inch sewer main to meet current standards outlined by the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ).

The City has the qualified staff and skilled crew to complete small designs in-house, saving thousands of dollars on consulting and contractor costs. With the aging infrastructure in Livingston, it is exciting to have the ability to complete important maintenance projects on the City’s water and sewer system in-house. This saves money for much larger scale projects similar to the Downtown Capital Improvements projects and the 5th Street Railroad Crossing Sewer Upsize project.



Excavating for new pipe



Ryan preparing the corner



Installing the new pipe



Grouting the new line



New 8-Inch Insulated Main

CITY WINS GOVERNMENT FINANCE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION AWARD

For the 10th year in a row, the U.S. Government Finance Officers Association has awarded the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting to the City of Livingston, for its annual comprehensive financial report for fiscal year ending June 30, 2020.

The report was judged by an impartial panel and found to meet the high standards of the program, which includes demonstrating a spirit of “full disclosure” and communicates its financial story clearly. The certificate of Achievement is the highest form of recognition in government accounting, and its attainment represents a significant accomplishment by the government and its management.

NEW- LOW INCOME HOME WATER BILL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM



This October, the State of Montana, Department of Public Health and Human Services, announced a new program aimed at helping low income Montanans with their water bills. The Low Income Home Water Assistance Program (LIHWAP) administered by HRDC, helps eligible homeowners and renters prevent shutoffs and accruing arrearages.

Applicants must meet the household’s gross income and resource requirements. Some may qualify automatically if they have received Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) or Social Security Income (SSI) benefits. The program runs October 1– April 30.

To learn more about eligibility call the local Livingston HRDC Office at (406) 333-2537 or apply on line at <https://thehrdc.org/energy-assistance/water-bill-assistance/>

SAYING GOODBYE Fire Chief Ken MacInnes has also announced his retirement from Livingston Fire & Rescue after 40+ year career in EMS services.



MacInnes spent 14 years with the Lethbridge Fire and Rescue (LFR) as a firefighter and EMT, swift water technician, ice rescue technician and rescue diver. In 1995 he moved to Texas and he joined the Addison Fire Department. There he obtained his paramedics license and spent another 18 years in Texas obtaining a Bachelor's degree in Fire Administration, Master's of Science degree in Executive Fire Service Leadership. MacInnes holds certifications as a Fire Officer IV, Master Firefighter, Master Aircraft Rescue Firefighter, Master Instructor, Field Examiner and Safety Officer before moving to Livingston. His last day will be December 31, 2021.

Livingston Police Sergeant Michael LaBaty has also retired from Livingston Police Department after a 30+ year career in Law Enforcement. Michael's last day was November 5, 2021. (No photo was available)

Mike and Ken's retirements are our loss, but a well-deserved respite for them.

GRANTS The City of Livingston is always pursuing grant funding for programs, infrastructure and capital improvements. The last two years has seen many grant opportunities available and awarded for the residents of Livingston. Since 2020, almost \$550,000 in grant funds have been received – this does NOT include the infrastructure specific funding available through the American Recovery Plan Act funds.

While there is no shortage of needs in our community, grants are often designated for very specific types of projects. Most of the grants awarded, especially through ARPA, are for infrastructure only and are even further restricted to projects in specific areas like water and sewer that are shovel-ready with completed pre-engineering and committed matching funds available. The efforts of the City to have current foundational engineering documents has allowed us to take advantage of many of these opportunities.

The City also works collaboratively with community partners to apply for grants on behalf of organizations who need a sponsor applicant, usually a local government, in order to be eligible. We have recently partnered with Neighborhood Works for a planning grant that was approved for funding in the amount of \$15,000. This will offset costs of preliminary engineering design for sewer improvements in the View Vista neighborhood.

Currently, the City has over 4.2 million dollars in applications pending decisions with varied state, federal and local funders. Here is a list of funded grants in the last 12 months or so and how they benefit the community!

2020-2021				
Funder	Amount Awarded	Project	Status	Grant Goal / Area
CDBG-MCEP	320,000	Sewer Connection - Civic Center	Awarded - Project Underway	Construction project to remove aged septic system at Civic Center and Parks and connect all to the City sewer system.
MUCFA	25,000	Hazardous Tree Removal/Replacement	Awarded - Project Underway	Removes hazardous trees and replaces them with diversified native species trees.
USDA - RD	22,500	I&I Study	Project Complete	Provided funding for completing the I&I Study
CDBG - Planning	50,000	Comprehensive Impact Fee Study	Project Complete	Provided funding for completion of updated Impact Fee Study.
MBCC	12,145	K9 Retirement/Replacement	Project Complete	Paid entire replacement cost and training for our new K9 Officer Rhino
MBCC - COVID	72,500	Safety Equipment First Responders	Project Complete	Provided power cots, PPE, safety equipment and training for First Responders during COVID
DNRC Tree Grant	5,000	Power Line Mitigation	Project Complete	Removed dangerous limbs around power lines
DNRC - Tree Grant	5,000	Updated Tree Inventory	Awarded - Project Underway	Provides update to 8 year old plan - Ash update

HONORING OUR ACTIVE SERVICE MEMBERS

The City would like to take a few minutes to honor and show appreciation for our Police Officer Hunter Grunhurd, who is actively serving in the military and awaiting deployment. We thank you for your bravery and your service to our country!

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