

2025 Annual Sanitation Report

Monthly DMR's, Annual CMAR, Land/ Characteristic Report, Optimization Report, Quarterly Nitrogen Report, Environmental Fees, as well as outfall testing for new discharge permit along with PFAS testing of sludge. All were completed and submitted to DNR on time and approved.

Operators license was renewed in May of 2025. 18 hours of CEC's over the next three years are needed to re-certify in 2028.

Plant operations have been functioning as usual with no major breakdowns in 2025. Replacement of wear shoes in clarifiers #1,2. Due to wear of the plates on the bottom of the clarifier tanks, the shoes will probably need to be reversed in 2026. I have done the work doing this and there is about 10 hours of total labor involved. Lift station #1 raw sewage pump was replaced in January.

The utility currently has 7 approved sites for sludge application, though only 3/4 have been used actively. One site has seasonal limitations and two have been idle for a few years.

Bytec continues to serve the village for sludge disposal. We have a three year contract with them which will expire in 2027. Stepped hauling costs of around \$2,000 each year with contract. Bytec also was hired in August to remove grit/debris from oxidation ditch #1. Many years of build-up from the bottom of the tank. The intent is that oxidation ditch #2 will be cleaned in 2026.

The application for the 2025 discharge permit was completed and submitted to the DNR in April. The new 5 year discharge permit was to be renewed by October 2025 but due to DNR backlog, September of 2026 is the time frame. Within the new permit, we should anticipate another day of regular sampling each week and other operational tests which will lead to added costs for 2027 budget cycle.

Daily plant operations continue as usual. The facility seems to be in good structural condition with regular maintenance done as needed. Overall equipment is in good working condition with pumps being replaced as wear affects them. Though still operational, the concern with some of the equipment is the ability to find replacement parts due to age. We continue to work with B&M Technical for most of the service work as needed and annual calibrations etc. The utilities emergency generator did fail during the summer of 2024 and no longer operational based on B&M's evaluation. The existing unit is 40 years old and technically undersized for the complete operations of the plant and an upgrade would be recommended and needed to be able to provide for emergency services. This upgrade should happen as a part of the lift station project.

MSA completed a lift station evaluation and proposal for replacement of existing facility in May 2024. The proposal was based on improvements to current operational processes, building structure, and safety of the existing facility as well as evaluating the existing sanitary main entering the facility to the first sanitary interceptor. MSA provided the village with estimated costs to upgrade facility and professional recommendations. Since then, Strand was hired in 2025 to complete another evaluation of the facility and a new design was approved with plans for building/screening upgrades to be completed near 2028.

The daily removal of phosphorus continues to be a balancing act. Meeting the daily concentration and loading limits set by the DNR thru biological and chemical removal while balancing costs and weather related changes is ongoing. The utility will be faced with other challenges in 2026 and beyond with

potential PFAS testing of sludge and effluent as well. If the utility finds issues, potential sources will need to be located. Additional costs for testing should be expected in 2027 as well.

Overall, 2025 was a year where upgrades and maintenance continued to take place while meeting the necessary limits set forth by the DNR for discharging. The operating budget currently has met its limit and ability to operate efficiently due to various cost increases over the past few years such as salaries, auditing, sludge and phosphorus removal, and equipment repair costs. With an aging facility/infrastructure and ongoing permit requirements, we need to make sure we continue to be proactive in meeting the permit limits and addressing the future needs of the treatment facility both short term and long. Potential short and long term projects include:

- 1) Lining projects on 2nd street, consider 1134 l.f. between Center and Market Streets, 1200 l.f. within easement areas on W. 5th and 4th street.
- 2) Upgrades to Scada monitoring system to include operations to be monitored via the computer and cell phone for daily reviews/checks.
- 3) Review of Park and Lawrence Street collection system and upgrades.
- 4) Jet Truck upgrade.
- 5) Complete Lift Station #1 upgrade and re-location of screening system.

As noted, some of the above projects will be significant capital improvement projects and costs if addressed, both short and long term.

If there are any questions regarding any of the above topics, please feel free to reach out. Thanks

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