



ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT


Michael G. Lewis
Director of Public Works / City Engineer

414/302-8360
414/302-8366 (Fax)

City Hall
7525 West Greenfield Avenue
West Allis, Wisconsin 53214

www.ci.west-allis.wi.us
mlewis@ci.west-allis.wi.us

MEMORANDUM

TO: Michael G. Lewis, City Engineer/Director of Public Works
FROM: Brian D. Block, Traffic & Utility Technician 
DATE: March 27, 2013
RE: Claim Against the City of West Allis by Gene Wagner Plumbing Co. Inc. for the repair of lateral at 1025 S. 57 St.

SUMMARY

The property owner of 1057 S. 57 St experienced a back-up of their lateral sewer into their basement. They hired Gene Wagner Plumbing who discovered an obstruction in the lateral under the sidewalk. Gene Wagner Plumbing excavated down to the lateral at the sanitary main under the sidewalk. Gene Wagner Plumbing broke out the lateral to investigate the obstruction. Gene Wagner Plumbing discovered tree roots obstructing the lateral and wye connection. They removed the roots and repaired the lateral.

FINDINGS & OBSERVATIONS

- Existing conditions and utilities in S. 57 St. at the address 1025 S. 57 St.

The pavement at 1025 S. 57 St. is a composite pavement of 7 in. thick concrete base with 3 in. hot mix asphalt surface. The pavement is center in a 60 ft. right of way. Both sides of the street have concrete sidewalks.

The existing City of West Allis underground utilities in S. 57 St. at the above-referenced address consists of the following:

UTILITY	YEAR INSTALLED	LOCATION
6 in. cast iron water main	1907	24 ft. west of east RoW line
15 in. clay sanitary sewer	1910	30 ft. west of east RoW line
8 in. clay sanitary sewer	1966	6 ft. east of west RoW line
60 in. concrete storm sewer	1966	22 ft. east of west RoW line

City records indicate that the existing sanitary sewer lateral at 1025 S. 57 St. is a 6 in. clay pipe installed in 1918

Note: S. 57 St. is scheduled on the 2013 Capital Improvement Projects as a reconstruct pavement with concrete pavement. Proposed underground improvements with this project include abandonment of the existing 8 in. sanitary sewer and replacement of the existing 15 in. sanitary sewer with a proposed 10 in

sanitary sewer. The lateral for 1025 S. 57 St is proposed to connect to the proposed 10 in. sewer that is to be installed at 30 ft. west of the east RoW line

- **Chronology**

Thursday, March 14, 2013

Gene Wagner Plumbing obtained excavation permit number 9656 to repair the sanitary lateral at 1025 S. 57 St.

Friday, March 15, 2013

Gene Wagner Plumbing excavated down to the connection to the main under the sidewalk at 1025 S. 57 St. Gene Wagner Plumbing broke open the lateral to investigate the blockage. They discovered massive roots had entered the lateral and wye connection through the joints in the lateral and including the joint at the wye. Gene Wagner Plumbing removed all the roots by hand pulling them out of the wye. Gene Wagner Plumbing replaced the section of lateral that was removed and backfilled with slurry. They placed a temporary asphalt surface in the sidewalk.

CONCLUSIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS

It is my opinion that the back-up of sewerage at 1025 S. 57 St. was that result of roots that had entered the lateral and wye connection on the city main through failed joints including the wye-lateral joint. I am recommending payment of \$3,098.84 to Gene Wagner Plumbing which is the amount of Gene Wagner Plumbing Invoice No. 79329 dated March 18, 2013 for their work performed in removal of roots from the city wye connection and repair of the lateral reconnection. I reviewed Invoice No. 79329 and found it to be accurate and reasonable.

cc (via email): Joseph Burch
 Michael Romens