



Memorandum

DATE: November 15, 2012

TO: Mayor Merkes

FROM: Mark Radtke, Director of Public Works *MR*

RE: Commendation for DPW Employees

In light of the difficulties the City faced upon being ordered to shut down two of our three leaf collection operations several weeks ago, I am pleased to inform you we are back on regular schedule with our curbside leaf collection service. When the State Patrol observed our leaf collection rigging and determined, for safety reasons, we could not continue operating our front loading equipment, the City was facing dire consequences if we couldn't discover a cost effective substitute collection method.

With the assistance and understanding of Sergeant Mark Abrahamson of the State Patrol, the guidance and foresight of Tim Jacobson and the creative and technical ability of several employees, the City was able to reinstate one of the leaf collection units in a matter of days and the other unit a few days later.

I was present at the meeting involving the State Patrol, Tim Jacobson and our mechanics and I was impressed with the collaborative approach, creative vision and expedient action of our employees in problem solving this predicament. When one views the modifications made to these two units it is apparent this was a heavy duty mechanical fabrication that was necessarily accomplished in a compressed period of time, thus returning the leaf collection service to a safer, yet effective, level of service.

The following employees should be commended for their role in restoring the leaf collection service in such a short period of time.

Tim Jacobson
Mark Harding
John Quella
Kevin Schmahl
John Van Zeeland
Travis McDonald

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