

At last week's City Council meeting, BG Consultants (Water Project Engineers) gave the council an update on the Water Project. A Town Hall meeting is being planned for September, so we are providing this informal update to keep everyone informed.

Within the Water Project there are two portions working at the same time, the Water Tower and the Water Distribution.

As everyone can see, the tower is erected, painted and appears ready to be filled with water. These contractors were blessed with forgiving weather and were able to complete the construction ahead of schedule. The electricians have been on site and installing the electrical components. The grading and fencing is scheduled for late in June and beginning of July.

Meanwhile, on the Water Distribution side, there is still a process to get lines from La Cygne to our tower so our tower can be filled with water. That process will take longer than it did for construction of the tower. As of now, the plans for laying lines are complete and have been submitted to KDHE for approval. There are a few easement releases to be completed in July. Once KDHE approves the plans, all the final documents will be submitted to USDA-RD (Rural Development) and they will issue an authorization to bid out the project.

Once the USDA-RD authorizes the city to put the project out to bid, we expect to have water in the tower in 4-5 months. That timeframe includes advertising the project for bids, choosing the contractor, assuring contracts and bonds are in place, building the lines and filling the tower. Once a contractor has been chosen, we will hold a town hall meeting so the citizens can ask questions of the contractors, engineers, and council.

Update: Since I started this update last week, we already have an update. We are pleased to announce KDHE approved the design and issued the authorization to construct! It will all now be sent to USDA-RD for authorization to bid out the project.