



- On December 14, J.S. Hodge Gutters came to fix several issues with the downspouts on the Coldwater Branch. Principally, we had the downspouts lengthened in several spots to get water further away from the foundations. Some free warranty repairs were also done on other areas.

- Electrical work was done by F&M Electric in the Coldwater Branch on January 7th to replace some ballasts and do some other minor repairs. Two lights are out in the parking lot by Arnold's. I had changed the bulbs, with no avail. They examined the fixtures and found water and ice pooled throughout. They also said the poles are deteriorating and the light fixtures are getting to be in pretty bad shape. I can vouch for this, having been up there recently myself. I'll be getting some recommendations for replacing the parking lot side lamps. The park side lamps are in generally better shape, and the city is talking about pulling a number of them out, anyway, potentially, as part of 4-corners Park renovations that could happen soon.



- Electrical work was done in the Bronson Branch on January 7th by Ludwick Electric. Since Ludwick had replaced the ballasts on all the lights in the book stacks area of the library, odd things had been happening to the network hardware and other machines in the building. On the evening Jan. 6th I called Charter Cable out to investigate an Internet outage, and they found that electricity was backfeeding up the ground wire and interfering with their wires. First thing the next morning, Ludwick came to investigate. They found that when the media center addition was added nearly two years ago, the neutral and the ground wires had been switched on the breaker box with the circuits for the addition. They were astounded that this passed inspection.

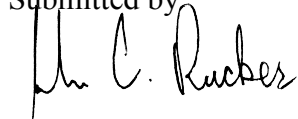
Ludwick posited that things must have been in some kind of equilibrium for the last two years, and changing out the ballasts a few weeks ago disrupted that equilibrium and caused these problems to start being noticeable. They fixed the situation, then Consumers Energy came out and put new wires from the pole to the building. Finally, Charter came back to replace their melted cable and got us up and running again with our Internet access.

I've been in contact with the owner of Brussee/Brady, who built the additions at Bronson (as well as the Union Twp. Branch, and work at the Coldwater Branch). They are a great company to work with, and even though it was a subcontractor who originally did this electrical work, if anything can be done I'm sure they'll take care of us. However, we are past the terms of the warranty coverage and there is no documentation to prove what happened when. I will followup on this and report back.

- In other building news, the City of Coldwater was not satisfied with the bids for the gutter repair from Brussee/Brady, who did the first phase of the project. They are seeking new bids and investigating grant opportunities and hope to have news for us by spring as to what will come next.

- I made the infrastructure upgrade on the public website live on December 18th. I'm still moving some old content over from the old photo gallery, as well as planning new features, pages, reorganization of a few bits. This project will continue to be ongoing for a while.
- I would like to call for a meeting of the technology committee to discuss this year's purchasing. Tech committee (whoever you may be after we pic committees), please don't leave Monday before we check our calendars and try to schedule a meeting. Thanks!

Submitted by

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John C. Rucker". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J" and "R".

John Rucker