

Water Break (558)

January 8th,2011

Date of Report: January 18th,2011

On January 8th,11, at 5:30 am, unit 558 paged me out on surface running water. After investigating it and the amount of water loss, I determined that this was a possible water main problem. I called out Pick Steam to help with the determination and to help with possibly water control. Four homes were being flooded out. RTL and Kavanaugh was called in to help. Kavanaugh for pumping water out of yards.

A hole was dug where the water was bubbling out of the ground only to find out that a cavity was formed under ground and the actual break was behind unit 437 and 558. Fences and decks along with willows and trees had to be cut down for equipment access.

A back hoe was brought in to dig and also had another pumper in to control the water so it would not flow into yards. Pumps were also used. After breaking ground the city vacuum truck was brought in but with all this equipment we could not control the volume of water that was spilling. By this time it was late in the evening. I called the city to have the water shut off but Richard at the city was concerned about freezing our water mains and only throttled back the flow. This did not help us. I had Kavanaugh with two trucks pumping all night till Sunday morning when I called Brian Cole, City person on call). Water was shut off within 30 minutes and we then could proceed with containing the water and to perform the repair.

The problem occurred when the service line to 558 blew out of the main. Speaking with the owner at 439, he told me that sometime in the early hours of the morning he heard a load bang which was probably when the line blew off. I am suspecting that there was an existing leak at that service for quite sometime before blowing out but did not surface until the large voluum of water exited the main.

A new service saddle was installed and sevice to 558 was re-instated. The yards at 437 and 439 still require some clean-up and landscaping but will have to wait till spring when the ground is thawed. Because of the large cavity that was formed, I am suspecting that ground levels will drop.

There are four homes which took the brunt of the water (554-556-558 and 560) I have not had any problems with any of these units with the exception of 560 which has

