“Pipe Installation Project Resumed”

The ground has thawed out enough for work to resume on the City of Norfolk new water main project southwest of Norfolk. This week contractors with the project were focusing their efforts on laying the pipe underneath two high pressure gas lines. The gas pipes run north and south under Omaha Avenue near 25th Street. A 36 inch casing was placed around the new 24 inch water main before it was placed crosswise underneath the gas pipes at a depth of nine feet.

Mark Dolechek, Assistant Engineer for the City of Norfolk, said the water main pipe is usually laid at a depth of five feet. Penro Construction of Pender, Nebraska is the company contracted to install the pipe. “The contractors have been waiting for the frost to go out of the ground to start laying pipe again. It’s been working well for the last few weeks and after they get under the gas pipes, they should be able to lay about 500 feet of pipe per day,” Dolechek said.

When completed, the water pipeline will carry water four miles from the City of Norfolk West Water Treatment Plant to near 14th and Monroe Avenue. Work began last fall on the $2.7 million project. The new line will provide additional capacity and serve as a redundant line in the event that the existing line from the plant has a break or needs work.

It’s expected that the project will be completed by July 1.