



Council Report
City of Pataskala Utility Department
Chris Sharrock, Utility Director

➤ **New Items**

• **Legislation**

▪ Resolution

- 2022-064: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR, OR HIS DESIGNEE, TO ADVERTISE, RECEIVE, AND REVIEW BIDS FOR THE 2022 SEWER LINING PROJECT
 - The Utility Department is required by the EPA to reduce the amount of Inflow and Infiltration water entering our collection system. Sewer Lining is a way to seal up the leaking joints in our old clay pipes without having to dig the lines up
 - This Resolution is to put the 2022 Sewer Lining Project out to bid. This will be advertised in the paper on Jun 26 and July 3, with a bid opening date of July 19.
 - Following the bid opening, I anticipate bringing a resolution to council on Aug 1 for the contractor selected

• **New Operational Updates**

▪ Shut Offs

- Shut offs are scheduled for Jun 22

▪ Jefferson Street Waterline Project

- The service line transfers are mostly complete
- The next step is to connect the water mains along the side streets (Benton, George, Atkinson, Depot)
 - In order to complete this step, water will be shut off in the area while the connections are being made. A small group of houses will be the only area placed under a boil alert as we are not able to directionally flush that section

- This process will start once the contractor who will be used to install a line stop can get on site
 - These side street connections are expected to take about a week to complete. Following that the roadway will be milled down to prepare for resurfacing
- Leaks
 - 327 Shawnee Loop
 - A service line was found to be leaking at this addresses
 - The line for was replaced from corp stop to curb stop with a poly service line on June 10
- OEPA Intern tour
 - We provided a tour of WTP2 for a group of 12 interns with the OEPA on June 8
 - This was the first ground water plant that these interns had seen
 - The interns enjoyed the tour and the members of the OEPA were very appreciative
- HOA painting hydrants
 - The HOA for the Ravines at Hazlewood reached out to us about volunteering to paint the hydrants in their neighborhood
 - We provided the HOA with the proper paint and brushes to do that volunteer work
- Utility Billing Software Upgrade
 - It appears that a server upgrade is recommended to maximize the performance of the new software
 - We are in the process of initiating that upgrade
- SR 310 Interconnect
 - The Interconnect is now scheduled to be constructed during the month of July
 - Following construction, we will coordinate with SWLCWSD to select a good time to swap the service territories
 - A letter reminding those residents of the upcoming swap was sent out last month. Once a date has been selected for the territory swap, another letter will be sent out to inform those customers
 - Our billing is two months in the rear, meaning that the customers will still receive two bills from us following the territory swap
 - This information is included in the letters to the customers

➤ Ongoing Items

• Water Reclamation Facility

- Daily Operations
 - The operators maintain exceptional daily operations of the WRF, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. They consistently do an outstanding job of turning the City's wastewater into clean, safe water that is discharged into the South Fork of the Licking River
- WRF Foaming Issue
 - We are still experiencing a foaming issue at the WRF due to a specific type of parvicella
 - We have signed up for a micro-organism treatment program
 - The micro-organism will break down the fats, oils, and grease in the system. This is the food source that is allowing the parvicella to thrive.
 - We started this process on May 11. The program will last four months. We have reached out to other operators who have used this process. It is highly recommended
 - After three weeks of this process, we can see a slight reduction in the foam at the WRF
- WRF Copper
 - Following the WRF upgrade project, we have made steady improvements in our copper removal at the WRF leading to us finally meeting the copper permit level. Unfortunately, we experienced another high copper sample in May
 - We reached out to the OEPA Compliance Assistance team and were given the name of a chemical additive that will force the copper to settle out of the wastewater, thereby allowing us to consistently meet the copper limits again. We are in the process of ordering that chemical now
- COVID-19 Wastewater Testing
 - Pataskala Utility Department was selected to participate in the COVID-19 wastewater testing program
 - This program looks for the virus RNA in the waste stream, giving a more accurate and nearly real-time representation of the infection rate of the community that we serve
 - The results of the COVID-19 wastewater testing are currently being posted to the Ohio Corona Virus dashboard found here:

<https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/dashboards/wastewater>

- The Utility Department will continue to participate in this program as long as it continues to be fully funded by the State

- **Water Treatment Plants**

- Daily Operations

- The operators maintain exceptional daily operations of both Water Treatment Plants, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. They consistently do an outstanding job of providing the City's customers clean, safe water that meets or exceeds the requirements from the OEPA.

- Water Plant 1 Iron Filter 2

- There is a small leak somewhere along the bottom of one of the iron filter tanks at WTP1. Repair will require removal and replacement of the filter media, structural repairs, and recoating of the filter tank surface.

- Strontium

- During the OEPA WRF inspection, we discussed the Strontium limit on our NPDES for WTP2
 - Valero Energy Company conducted lengthy studies regarding strontium discharge
 - Those studies resulted in a change related to strontium discharge at the federal level
 - I have asked the OEPA consider the new information from that Valero study when renewing our NPDES in the hopes that our strontium concentration limit will be adjusted

- **Distribution and Collection System**

- Daily Operations

- The systems team maintains exceptional daily operations of the entire distribution and collections system, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. They consistently do an outstanding job of providing customer service to the residents, maintaining the city's infrastructure, and responding to emergencies of various types.

- Settlement Lift Station Generator

- As a part of Phase 3 in Heron Manor, a standby generator for that area's lift station is to be installed

- The contractor has installed all necessary components except for the generator itself. The generator has been on back-order since late February. Once it arrives, the contractor will finish the installation
- Leaks
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 - The next step is to connect the water mains along the side streets (Benton, George, Atkinson, Depot)
 - In order to complete this step, water will be shut off in the area while the connections are being made. A small group of houses will be the only area placed under a boil alert as we are not able to directionally flush that section
 - This process will start once the contractor who will be used to install a line stop can get on site
 - Theses side street connections are expected to take about a week to complete. Following that the roadway will be milled down to prepare for resurfacing
- Sewer Slip lining
 - The department applied to OPWC for a grant to help fund this project
 - Our project was recommended by District 17 to the State for funding
 - This project will be funded using \$250,000 from HB 168, \$250,000 from OPWC and \$250,000 from the Capital Improvement Fund
 - A Supplemental will come to council in the summer once the official notice of award arrives to add the \$250,000 from OPWC to the 2022 Budget
 - Verdantas is beginning work on the bid documents for this project
 - The project will go out to bid in June, with an anticipated award date of July, following the release of OPWC funding
- SCADA Prop Study
 - The study on the effectiveness of our SCADA radio system is complete. J&K Communications is currently reviewing the data in order to make a proposal for us to upgrade that outdated system

- HOA painting hydrants
 - The HOA for the Ravines at Hazlewood reached out to us about volunteering to paint the hydrants in their neighborhood
 - We provided the HOA with the proper paint and brushes to do that volunteer work
- **Billing Team**
 - Daily Operations
 - The billing team does an exceptional job of processing the payments for water and sewer service, scheduling the service work that needs done as well as providing excellent customer service 8 hours a day, 5 days a week.
 - Shut Offs
 - Shut offs are scheduled for Jun 22
 - Billing Software Upgrade
 - We have filled out preliminary information needed to transition to the new billing software. This transition is expected to be a six month process.
 - It appears that a server upgrade is recommended to maximize the performance of the new software
 - We are in the process of initiating that upgrade
- **Director**
 - Resolution
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- WRF Capacity
 - Verdantas is currently working on a very broad evaluation of what it might cost to expand our WRF
 - The current WRF capacity is almost used up and future growth is expected
 - Part of this evaluation is a comparison of expanding the existing plant with building an additional plant
- Safety Program
 - The department requires two safety meetings each month
 - One is done at the team level by the Superintendents covering general safety issues
 - The second is done with the entire staff
 - Each month, a different member of the department will lead this training
- Denison/ Poplar/ Willow Street Waterline Project
 - The bid opening for this project occurred on April 6
 - The lowest and best bid was provided by LAW General Contracting Inc.
 - The Pre-construction meeting is set for Jun 6
- SR 310 Interconnect
 - The pre-con for this project was held on February 8
 - Reps from both the Pataskala Utility Department and the Southwest Licking Community Water and Sewer District will be present
 - The Interconnect is now scheduled to be constructed during the month of July
 - Following construction, we will coordinate with SWLCWSD to select a good time to swap the service territories
 - A letter reminding those residents of the upcoming swap was sent out last month. Once a date has been selected for the territory swap, another letter will be sent out to inform those customers
 - Our billing is two months in the rear, meaning that the customers will still receive two bills from us following the territory swap
 - This information is included in the letters to the customers
- Annual reports
 - I will be working on the annual Utility and WRF reports in the month of June

- These reports are not required by the EPA. They are summaries of the previous year for both water and wastewater operations
- OEPA Intern tour
 - We provided a tour of WTP2 for a group of 12 interns with the OEPA on June 8
 - This was the first ground water plant that these interns had seen
 - The interns enjoyed the tour and the members of the OEPA were very appreciative

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "C. Sharrock", enclosed in a light blue rectangular box.

Chris Sharrock
Utility Director
csharrock@ci.pataskala.oh.us
(740) 927-4134