



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

➤ **New Items**

• **Legislation**

- Resolution 2022-068: A resolution authorizing and directing the City Administrator to execute a contract with Verdantas, LLC to perform the necessary treatment process analysis, as required by the EPA, for the expected expansion at the Water Reclamation Facility.
 - The first step to the necessary WRF expansion is to increase the amount that the EPA will allow us to discharge to the Licking River via the discharge permit
 - The EPA requires several things to be analyzed as a part of this process. Those studies include, but are not limited to expected increase in loadings, alternative options to the treatment process, cost analysis and efficiency analyses.
 - Using the City-wide RFQ submittals, the Utility Department has selected Verdantas as the preferred firm to complete this process
 - This concept will be presented to the Utility Committee on July 18

• **New Operational Updates**

- Turn Offs
 - Turn Offs are scheduled for July 20
- Jefferson Street Waterline Project
 - The milling and roadway base repairs are complete. Paving has been scheduled for July 14, 15 and 18
 - Following that a final walkthrough for the project will occur
- 2" Waterline Upgrade Project
 - This project began on July 11 and is being done in a manner to utilize the Main Street closure for the street fair to make the connections along Main Street

- This project will eliminate three dead ends in the distribution system and upsize the water mains in the area for proper flow and fire protection
- WRF Expansion
 - The first step in a plant expansion is to increase the permit amount of discharge allowed by the OEPA discharge permit. This process requires several studies to be completed including increased loadings, increased flows and alternative treatment options to name a few
 - Verdantas has offered a quote not to exceed \$35,000 to complete the studies required by the OEPA. That is represented by Resolution 2022-068 on tonight's agenda.
- Leaks
 - A leak has been found on Forest View Court
 - The leak is scheduled to be repaired on July 18
 - A leak on the 2" water main along Poplar was discovered while working on the new waterline project
 - That leak was repaired on July 13
- SR 310 Interconnect
 - The Interconnect is scheduled to be completed on July 14th
 - A valve failed while attempting to install the SR 310 Interconnect. That valve was replaced on July 14th
 - Because of the valve failure, what was originally to be a water disruption to 7 customers became a disruption to 168 customers
 - The service area swap will not take place for a few more months to allow SWL time to try and replace the water meter equipment
 - A letter has been sent to all of the customers who will become customers of the District. That letter describes the timeline, the need to coordinate with the District on changing the water meters out, and the fact that Pataskala billing is two months in the rear

➤ 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 Operations
 - The micro organism treatment that we have been using to destroy the Parvicella outbreak is working
 - We are also looking to set up a course with OTCO that will cover Parvicella identification, prevention and removal
 - This course will be provided free of charge and will get us insight by a micro organism specialist on our specific issue
- 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.
 - This should take place in October
- 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
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- 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
 - The Bid opening for the sewer lining project is scheduled for July 19 at 11 am
 - This project will begin in the River Forest Area. Depending on cost, funding, and scheduling issues, it is possible that some of the Oakmeadow Drive Area will be done following River Forest
- 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
- **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.
 - Turn Offs
 - Turn Offs are scheduled for July 20
 - 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 completing that upgrade
- **Director**
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- 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
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- Annual reports
 - I have finished the annual Utility and WRF reports, highlighting the department's activities from 2021
 - These reports are not required by the EPA, rather are meant for informational purposes
 - They are posted on the city website

Respectfully submitted,

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

Chris Sharrock
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