

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

#### New Items

# Legislation

- Ordinance
  - 2022-4415 Supplemental
    - The Utility portion of the supplemental is to cover the difference in cost for the SR 310 Interconnect from the amount budgeted
    - The winning bid that was approved by Resolution 2022-004 requires an additional \$28,000 to the escrow account
      - Half of that will come from SWL and the other half is included in this supplemental

# Operational Updates

- 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
  - Due to difficulties acquiring materials tied to the nation wide supply chain shortage, the project is not expected to occur until around June of 2022.
    - Once the project is complete, the trading of the designated service areas will occur.
- 2" Waterline Upsize Project
  - The Design for the 2" Waterline Upsize Project in the Denison/ Poplar/ Willow Street area is in the final review stages
    - This project will go out to bid, however if the best bid is a significant amount over our budget, we will not proceed and will put it out to bid again next year in the hopes that costs may come back down a little bit.

- Creek Road Lift Station
  - Negotiations of scope and price are coming to a close with Strand for this portion of the design phase.
    - I will take this discussion to the Utility Committee on Mar 7 with the hopes of then presenting to council as a whole
- Well Pump 7
  - Well 7 at WTP1 has been cleaned and has passed the necessary samples to return it to service. The return to service is scheduled for Feb 17
  - The only remaining well at WTP1 to be cleaned as a part of the well cleaning program is well 6
- Leaks
  - No Comment
- Turn Offs
  - Turn offs for non-payment are scheduled for Tuesday Feb 22
- Utility Billing Clerk
  - Teena's start date with us was delayed. She has been picking up on the job skills nicely. She will be at the February 22 meeting for an introduction to Council
- Old Town Hall
  - The tile installation in the backroom of the Old Town Hall is complete

#### 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 Upgrade
  - The center island aspirator equipment has been installed. The output issue has been corrected and the equipment is now working as it should
    - We are now able to hold the DO level where we thought we would be able to from the design of this project.
    - Within two days, observed a visible reduction in our Parvicella caused foam in the Oxidation Ditch

- The Operator Team is working to fine tune the new equipment.
   The only thing left after that is to install the larger Jet Mixing
   Pumps that are still on backorder with no delivery date available at this time
- 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: <a href="https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/dashboards/wastewater">https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/dashboards/wastewater</a>
  - 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.
- Well Pump 7
  - Well 7 at WTP1 has been cleaned and has passed the necessary samples to return it to service. The return to service is scheduled for Feb 17
  - The only remaining well at WTP1 to be cleaned as a part of the well cleaning program is well 6

## 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
  - No Comment
- Jefferson Street Waterline Project
  - The contractor expects to begin the project in early February and finish the project by June 1
  - Notices have been taped to the front door of every house supplied by the water line along Jefferson Street
    - We also contacted the mail, fire, trash, police and bus services as well as made a Facebook post for the general public

# 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 for non-payment are scheduled for Tuesday Feb 22
- Utility Billing Clerk
  - Teena's start date with us was delayed. She has been picking up on the job skills nicely. She will be at the February 22 meeting for an introduction to Council

## Director

#### Ordinance

- 2022-4413 An ordinance to create a new position of employment, Utility Service Technician, within the City of Pataskala
  - This legislation would create the Utility Service Technician position that was included in the 2022 Budget
  - This proposed staffing addition has already been reviewed by the PBR, the USW union, and the Utility Committee

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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

# OPWC Application

- An application for funding the Sewer Lining Project has been submitted to OPWC for consideration. This is the project identified by the I&I study, and will meet our permit requirement to reduce I&I water in the collection system
  - The size of phase 1 will depend on the amount of funding available. Currently, there is \$250,000 in the 2022 budget, \$250,000 was awarded as a grant from HB 168, and this application is for another \$250,000 grant.

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    - This project will go out to bid, however if the best bid is a significant amount over our budget, we will not proceed and will put it out to bid again next year in the hopes that costs may come back down a little bit.
- Utility Service Tech Position
  - The job description for the proposed Utility Service Tech position went before PBR on January 10. They approved the description with a 5-0 vote
    - This will be included on the Utility Committee agenda on January 24 for discussion
- SR 310 Interconnect
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Respectfully submitted,

Chris Sharrock Utility Director

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