



City of Pataskala Utility Department
Chris Sharrock, Utility Director

➤ **Utility Department Updates**

• **Ordinance**

- Ordinance 2019-4340
 - This Ordinance is to amend section 925.01 rule 8, rule 9, rule 11 and rule 15 of the codified ordinances of the City of Pataskala
 - Some of the existing language needs to be updated to reflect the current billing cycle lengths and to match the General Fees found in section 929.09 “General Fee Schedule”
 - Rule 9 will have the department’s “Landlord Policy” added to the codified ordinances
 - Rule 15 will have a \$1,000 fine for unauthorized operation of city owned valves/ hydrants, with the exception of fire fighters or first responders, added to the codified ordinances

• **Biosolids program**

- The Spring land application process was completed utilizing Agri-Sludge in less than one week
 - The paperwork for this process is currently being completed by Agri-Sludge. It will then be handed over to the Department to be added to the Annual Sludge Report for the year
- There was a small complaint from the Mr. Sutherland about the amount of straw material found in the product
 - This straw is the result of the straw bales used to form a retaining wall to allow us to stack the product higher and thus increase our storage space. These bales break down and become incorporated in the product over the six month time period and make applying the product to the field difficult
 - The department will be ordering concrete “New Jersey” barriers to use in the future. They will be able to hold back more product by weight and will never break down into

the product. They will also be much easier to use and move than the straw bale system

- **Staffing**

- 79 applications were received for the Billing Clerk Position
 - All applications were reviewed by the PBR at a special meeting on April 10
 - 6 applications were rejected by the PBR
 - 6 interviews were conducted
 - Danielle McGee was the unanimous choice for the position
 - Danielle has cleared all pre-employment screening and will report to work for the Utility Department on 5-13. At this point the Department will be back to full staffing levels

- **Water Reclamation Facility**

- WRF Upgrade
 - Design Loan agreement and Exhibit have been issued by the OEPA. Funds to be made available on March 28
 - A design meeting took place on 4-29 between Hull, Prime, Fluidyne and the Department
 - Questions about the need for blowers to use on the Jet Aerations system were answered
 - Oxidation Ditch walls to be increased in size, adding more capacity to the Oxidation Ditch
- RAS pump
 - The department does not have a backup RAS pump at the WRF. A Flygt Concertor pump is sought to replace the primary pump, moving that pump to the backup role
 - Concertor pumps have variable flow control, anti-clog design and produce more flow with the same HP as traditional pumps
 - We are currently in the process of getting multiple quotes for the pump and installation

- **Water Treatment Plants**

- Staging area for Southwest Licking Refugee Road Waterline Project

- SWL reached out to see if we had any items to be completed as part of the punch list
 - Requested trash clean up and some grading issues be done
 - Clean up completed, notified SWL that area is acceptable
 - Painting
 - Operators are beginning the process of painting the pipes inside of WTP1 as part of the routine maintenance
 - Iron Filter at WTP1
 - The motor for the aeration step of one of the iron filters at WTP1 is kicking out. Motor was found to be bad and was replaced, however the breaker continues to kick out. Diagnosis of wiring underway to identify the additional problem
 - Eric has been monitoring iron levels every day since the problem began and there is no effect on the iron levels in our filtered water

- **Distribution and Collection System**
 - Creek Road Lift Station
 - Buckeye Pumps has completed the rebuild of our lift station pump and it was delivered on 4-19
 - Duke's Root Control
 - The root control process used by the city to treat the sewer mains in trouble areas throughout old town is being scheduled
 - This process involves a root killing foam being added to the sewer mains. It comes with a 3 year no backage due to root infiltration guarantee
 - We have been using this process since 2013 with great success
 - Mill Street Waterline Project
 - This is a continuation of a project started last year. It is to abandon a trouble section of old 6" water main on Mill St between Main and Jefferson.
 - The water main has been looped in to an existing 8" water main in the same area.
 - Five water services have been transferred from the old 6" water main to the new 8" water main.

- The abandoned fire hydrant has been removed and all yard restorations have been given to Quality Landscaping to complete this project
 - Creek Road Waterline Project
 - The areas dug last year for the Creek Road Waterline Project have settled significantly
 - Wilcox Construction will be sending out their landscaper to correct the issues
 - Leaks
 - 144 Broad St
 - The bolts on the watch valve to the hydrant at 144 Broad St corroded to the point of failure resulting in an emergency repair being done the evening of 4-24
 - 399 S Main St
 - The service line was replaced with a poly line due to a hole that developed in the existing copper on 4-15
 - The new tap from the water main on Main St was not used. It would have required re-routing the plumbing inside the building and creating a new penetration point in the flagstone and mortar foundation wall. I decided against this costly and risky process and opted to replace the old service line coming from Wood St at the rear of the property instead.
 - 187 Middleground
 - A saddle failed at 187 Middleground and was repaired on 4-19
 - 79 Blacks Road
 - The service line was replaced with a poly line due to a hole that developed in the existing copper on 5-1
 - Power Wash SE Tower
 - I have begun the process of gathering quotes to power wash the SE Tower
 - The previous director had planned to power wash one of the BWT towers this year, but I have decided against this in light of the fact that the BWT towers will need to be repainted in the next year or so.
- **Billing Team**
 - Continued efforts in regards to providing excellent customer service

- It should be noted that Stephanie Tallman is picking up the slack while the billing clerk position is open and she is doing an outstanding job
 - Stephanie Tallman was quoted in a publication about the benefits of one of the systems we use in our billing process
 - This recognition shows a small amount of the respect she has earned with her peers in the Utility Billing community
- **Training**
 - Superintendents
 - Stephanie Tallman has signed up for the Customer Service Value Leadership Training given by SGR in New Albany on July 25
 - Ryan Brown, Trent Howell and Chris Sharrock will be attending the 2019 OWEA Technical Conference in Huron from June 24-27
 - Plant and Systems Teams
 - Trent Howell has coordinated an excavation safety class to be given on May 7 in Council Chambers for both the Utility and Public Service departments
- **Director**
 - Rate Structure
 - Discussions are ongoing regarding the best way to move forward with a rate increase
 - A document summarizing this process has been included with tonight's council packet
 - Fanin & Deagle
 - Talks continue with the District on a cooperative way to provide temporary water service to Fanin & Deagle
 - Attended an oral hearing on the motion to continue with the City Administrator on 5-1
 - I have completed the annual water Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) for 2018
 - This report explains the water treatment process and test results from the previous year
 - This report is due to the EPA in July
 - A copy was reviewed and approved by the EPA on March 27
 - This report is available on the city's website
 - A posting was made to the city's facebook page
 - The URL for the CCR will be included on the bills for the next two cycles
 - Construction Specifications and Drawings

- A review was done to update our Construction Specs and Drawings so that they will reflect our current standards
- I & I water
 - The EPA has implied that they will require a plan to address our I & I water getting into the collections system
 - I will be advertising a request for qualifications to address the I & I plan
- Safety Program
 - Safety Talks are being conducted by the superintendents
 - All field employees are receiving new hardhats. We have reiterated the policy of reflective vests and hardhats when at an active excavation job site
- Backflow Prevention Taskforce
 - The next taskforce meeting is scheduled for May 20

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