



City of Pataskala Utility Department Chris Sharrock, Utility Director

➤ Utility Department Updates

• 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
 - Design currently being worked on by Hull
 - 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
 - Surveying took place on May 13
 - Design completion and PTI submittal to the EPA was completed on July 12
 - The construction loan application paperwork has begun with an estimate being used for the cost until the bidding process occurs to keep the process moving forward
 - Meeting with Hull, Prime and City Staff on 7-29 to discuss changes/ additions needed in the design
 - These included a safety shower in the phosphorous reduction chemical feed room, concrete sidewalk around Oxidation Ditch to allow for pump transfer to a level surface for easy loading onto a truck, and some adjustments for operational preferences
 - The upgrade was re-nominated to the OEPA for next years financial assistance program should the review process by the

OEPA take longer than anticipated, possibly causing the loan award date to be pushed into 2020

- The month of August is the only time when a re-nomination is possible, so we took this measure as a safeguard against having to start the process all over should the award date be pushed to 2020
- The OEPA financial manager assigned to the loan is retiring and will be handing the review over to a new manager
 - She has assured us that they will still move forward with the intent to have the loan awarded in 2019

• **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.
- Painting
 - Operators are continuing the process of painting the pipes inside of WTP1 as part of the routine maintenance
- Lead and Copper Program
 - The City has consistent lead measurements of zero and copper measurements well below the established action level. Based on this information, we have requested that our lead and copper monitoring program be changed from annual to triennial
- WTP2 wastewater
 - We are currently looking into the cost involved to take the wastewater generated during the water treatment process at WTP2 to the District
 - This would allow us to eliminate an entire permit and all the sampling, monitoring and man-hours associated with it, should the costs of construction and sewer service from the District warrant it

• **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.

- Sinkhole
 - A sinkhole has started to form at 319 Pataskala Ridge Drive. This is near an area where two sewer laterals connect to the sewer main.
 - FEECORP is scheduled for Aug 29 to use a camera to visually inspect the sewer main looking for signs of failure either in the main or where the laterals connect to the main.
 - Decisions will be made on what, if anything, the department needs to do to rectify the situation after the camera work is completed
- Lift Station Fencing
 - The Lift Station Fencing project has a budget of \$30,000 for 2019
 - Trent Howell received several quotes for fencing at the River Forest and Sugar Mill lift stations
 - Able Fencing- \$13,114
 - Trudeau Fencing- \$11,466.21
 - Arrow Fencing- \$9,660
 - Arrow Fencing will be set up in our finance system and be awarded the project
- SL-RAT
 - The systems team is continuing to use the SL-RAT system to inspect the sanitary sewer mains for blockages
 - This system uses sound waves sent from one manhole and received at the downstream manhole to determine how clear the line is between them
 - This will allow the department to quickly inspect sewer lines and decide which lines need thoroughly cleaned and which lines do not
- **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.

- The billing team has moved to 430 S Main St
 - The billing team was able to move into the new building and begin providing service again in 2 days. All late fees for the month of August will be waved to accommodate any inconvenience the move may have caused the customers

- **Training**

- Class 1 Water Supply License
 - Trent Howell, John Burr and Connor Johnson have all signed up for the OTCO Class 1 Water Course. Classes are every Monday for 14 weeks starting on September 9

- **Director**

- Rate Structure
 - A letter from the Director and a FAQ page have been added to the City website explaining the new rate structure
 - A brief note has been added to the bills and will remain on the bills until after the customers see the new rate structure in the bill due in March 2020.
 - Every other month between now and then, the letter from the Director will be included with the bills to the customers
- Fanin & Deagle
 - There have been discussions of possible service areas to trade between the City and the District that would allow the City to serve Fanin & Deagle for both water and sanitary services while allowing the District to serve several locations currently in the City's service area
 - These discussions are still ongoing
- Construction
 - Scenic View Estates
 - The City has reviewed multiple approaches to providing sanitary service to this property. The developer wishes to install a private force main system. The Department is weary of the potential for the OEPA to require the City to assume responsibility for this system in the future, should the HOA/ private parties fail to maintain it.
 - Complete Private pumping and piping system

- OEPA pointed out several concerns for the City with this type of system
 - Private pumping system in the yard of each house pumping to a public force main
 - OEPA pointed out several concerns for the City with this type of system
 - Lastly, private pumping system inside the residence leading to a public force main
 - OEPA would not consider the pumps a part of the collections system and operationally they would not affect the City's responsibility
 - Discussions took place at the Utility Committee meeting on July 31 regarding any and all concerns with allowing this type of grinder pump system
 - The proposed safeguards from the Committee to the developer regarding the force main system are not feasible due to OEPA/ Licking County Health Department regulations. Another committee meeting will be held to discuss different safeguards that could be required to protect the interests of the City.
 - The Utility Committee created a list of concerns that they would like to see addressed in order for the pressurized sewer system to be acceptable
 - This list was presented to the Contractor on Aug 30
- Heron Manor
 - I am requiring a water line connection to Broad St at the proposed site to add a second feed point to the area
 - I am requiring a standby generator be added to the Settlement Lift Station as part of this project
 - I have agreed to allow the delay of the generator installation until after the completion of phase 3
- Construction Specifications and Drawings
 - A review was done to update our Construction Specs and Drawings so that they will reflect our current standards
 - Hull is currently updating
- I & I water
 - The EPA has included a requirement to develop and implement a plan to address our I & I water getting into the collections system

- I have advertised the RFQ for the design of a plan and the eventual implementation of that plan at a pace decided by available budget beginning on June 2 and June 9 in the Advocate and posted the request on the City Website
 - 6 Submittals were received by the deadline of June 21 at 4pm. A panel of staff members will review the submittals and will select a firm to begin price negotiations with in the following weeks
 - Strand Associates Inc. was selected
 - The City and Strand were unable to come to an agreement on a price. In accordance with the ORC, we have contacted our second highest ranked firm, GPD Group, to begin the price negotiating process with them.
 - GPD Group is currently working on creating a scope and price for services to be reviewed by the department
- Safety Program
 - Monthly Safety Talks are being conducted by the superintendents
 - As a part of the monthly safety talks, the plant and systems superintendents intend to conduct one “hands on” training covering a different operational aspect each month
- Backflow Prevention Taskforce
 - The taskforce held a meeting on July 15
 - An add on to our billing program allows for the tracking of the backflow device inspections in our system
 - John Burr will begin updating the system after the move to the Old Town Hall is complete
 - Next meeting scheduled for September 9
- Old Town Hall
 - The renovation of the Old Town Hall is going well.
 - There are still a few items to have finished up by the contractor, all work should be completed by Aug 30
 - The systems team has moved their operation center to the back area of the Old Town Hall
 - This allows for a much less crowded environment at the water plant where they were stationed before

- The systems team now has their own space, which is greatly appreciated
- NPDES Permit
 - The comment period for the NPDES Permit at the WRF has been extended to August 30
 - This comment period is a chance for the City to work with the OEPA to make changes to the permit so that a final copy of the permit that is reasonable and acceptable to both parties can be developed
 - I sent the response for the draft permit to the OEPA on behalf of council on Aug 20. Still waiting on the OEPA response

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