



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 being worked on by Hull
 - A design meeting took place on April 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
 - 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
 - The upgrade was re-nominated to the OEPA for next year's financial assistance program should the review process by the OEPA take longer than anticipated, causing the loan award date to be pushed into 2020
 - The OEPA financial manager assigned to the loan is retiring and will be handing the review over to a new manager
 - The rep reviewing our loan application for the environmental planning review has also left the agency. We now have two new people reviewing our application. I do not believe it will be possible to meet the December

2019 award date. We will probably be more likely to meet a March 2020 award date

- An RFP was advertised in the Newark Advocate on November 10th and 17th for the construction bidding, administration and observation. It was also posted on the City Website
 - Submittals were due by 11 am on Dec 5
 - Hull & Associates have been selected as the lowest cost and best services
 - We have informed the OEPA about our selection of Hull for the construction admin portion of the upgrade. The delay in this selection has moved the loan award date to April of 2020
- Continuous Monitoring
 - We have purchased the required equipment to meet the continuous monitoring requirements. Installation is anticipated to happen at the beginning of 2020
 - Continuously monitoring these parameters (even though they are not required by our permit) would qualify us for a staffing reduction of up to 15 hours a week (currently we are required to staff the WRF for 40 hours a week)
- Lagoon Draining
 - The WRF upgrade project will require the plant to be taken offline and the lagoon system to be used during the construction.
 - In anticipation of the WRF upgrade project, we have submitted a plan to drain the lagoons so that significant capacity will be available in the spring during the upgrade to the OEPA
 - Once the plan is approved by the OEPA, draining of the lagoons will begin and will continue at a slow pace throughout the winter months
 - The OEPA is aware of the lagoon draining plan and has no issue with it at this time
- **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 plant’s routine maintenance
 - 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, wasted “dilution water” and the man-hours associated with it, should the costs of construction and sewer service from the District warrant it
 - Surveying of the wastewater lines at WTP2 and the District’s sanitary main was conducted on Dec 5
 - Sampling of the wastewater generated during the water treatment process is underway to have an accurate breakdown of the contaminants in the wastewater and their concentrations
- **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.
 - Lift Station Fencing
 - We are scheduling installation of the lift station fencing with Trudeau’s Fencing Company, as was approved by Resolution 2019-066
 - This work was anticipated to be completed in December, but due to previous commitments and the holiday season, it is now anticipated to be completed in January
 - 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
 - Valve Exercising
 - The systems team is continuing the annual valve exercising program
 - This process involves an employee traveling to each and every main valve in the Distribution system, locating said valve, closing the valve completely and finally re-opening the valve completely
 - Valve exercising keeps our valves in good operating condition and prevents them from seizing up. It also minimizes the chances that the valves will fail when needed in an emergency situation
 - The goal of the Utility Department is to exercise half of the distribution system every year
 - Beechwood Trails Water Towers
 - A representative from SUEZ took paint samples to be analyzed by their lab as well as performed an “adhesion test”
 - These tests are being done free of charge in order to better understand the condition of the exterior coatings on the water towers so that an efficient prioritization of coating replacement can be developed
- **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.
 - Meter Reading
 - Monthly meter reading was conducted on Dec 30
 - Electronic Service Orders
 - Stephanie Tallman is looking into the possibility of a program that is compatible with our current billing system that can generate service orders electronically instead of the paper heavy process that we use now

- Training
 - Stephanie Tallman is training Danielle McGee on aspects of the Billing Manager duties so that Danielle is able to serve as a backup in Stephanie's absence
 - Danielle is taking to this training and extra responsibility exceptionally well
- **Training**
 - Class 1 Water Supply License
 - Trent Howell and John Burr both passed the OEPA Water Supply 1 Exam on Dec 20
 - Trent will have his Water Supply 1 License as soon as the OEPA is done with their review process
 - John will be an Operator in Training until December of 2020 when he will have registered enough time in the water supply field to qualify for his actual license
 - Class 3 Water Supply License
 - Ryan Brown is currently taking the American Water College Class 3 Water Supply correspondence course
 - Class 2 Wastewater Treatment License
 - I have begun the American Water College Class 2 Wastewater Treatment correspondence course
- **Director**
 - Water and Sewer Contract
 - 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
 - A resolution was passed at the Special Council Meeting on Friday September 6 approving a contract between the City and the District
 - The District has reviewed this contract and has suggested some changes be made. Talks regarding those changes are still ongoing.
 - On October 8, The District passed a version of the contract that has different language in it when compared to the version passed by Council
 - Representatives from the City and the District have begun discussions again to try and resolve the differences between the two entities in light of new personnel involved

- The first of these meetings was held on Dec 10 and was mostly used as a chance to make sure that all personnel are up to speed on where we are with the discussions
 - There will be follow up meetings scheduled in the near future to continue the discussion between the two parties
- Construction Projects
 - 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.
 - 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
 - Scott Fulton and I have drafted the necessary language to ensure that these concerns are addressed. This language was reviewed by Brian Zets and was presented to the Utility Committee on Oct 21
 - The language was accepted by the Utility Committee and presented to the developer. The developer has no issue with any of the language and will include it in its entirety on all plans
 - Heron Manor
 - Reviewed plans for the Heron Manor development
- 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
 - GPD Group is currently working on creating a scope and price for services to be reviewed by the department
 - GPD group has provided a scope and price for their services. This proposal was presented to the Utility Committee at the meeting on November 18
 - GPD Group was selected for this project and was approved by Resolution 2019-078

- GPD group has been given our library of CCTV videos for the collection system and has begun using this data to help determine the source and corrective actions for the I&I corrective action plan
- 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 and focuses on practice exercises of the Water Contingency Plan
 - Each month, a different member of the department will lead this training
- End of Year Financing
 - Working with the Finance Department to finish the end of year process
- End of Year Reports
 - Beginning the process of the End of Year Reports for the OEPA, the ODNR and for the public's information
 - These reports are: Sanitary Sewer Overflow, Well Withdrawal Report, Annual Sludge Report, Annual Utility Report, Annual Water Reclamation Facility Report and the Consumer Confidence Report

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