



City of Pataskala Utility Department Chris Sharrock, Utility Director

➤ Utility Department Updates

• Key Items

- WRF Upgrade
 - The Aeration Equipment for the lagoon treatment system was installed on November 3 and 4
 - Installing these aerators stirred up the lagoons again, causing another odor issue
 - The lagoons should settle out over the next week and adjust to the aeration equipment, providing for both better water treatment and better odor control
 - We have not received any complaints after November 17 regarding the odor
 - Our samples are coming back slightly less than ideal, but better than before the aeration equipment was installed
 - Our EPA compliance rep has been kept up to date with this entire process and has offered praise for the efforts we are making during this upgrade to provide the best wastewater treatment possible
 - COVID-19 delay
 - The lead electrician on the project tested positive for COVID-19 and had to quarantine
 - Kirk Bros has moved the schedule around to accommodate the electrician's quarantine while maintaining progress on the project
 - Our inspector from Hull also tested positive for COVID-19 and had to quarantine
 - This positive case did not affect the work flow of the project
 - No City employees were in a situation that caused them to be considered a "close contact"
- Sterling Theater AC Project
 - This project is now complete

- The project completed \$5,000 under budget and was completely funded through a grant from the state
- Leaks
 - 51 Atkinson
 - There was a circular crack in the cast water main on Nov 30
 - The repair was made under pressure, so no water service was interrupted to the customers
 - 827 Corylus Drive
 - There is a hole in the copper service line
 - The line was replaced with plastic from the corp stop to the curb stop on Dec 2
- Well 8
 - Mount Drilling came out to diagnose why well 8 at WTP1 is producing less than it used to
 - He found a hole in the pitless adapter and some failed gaskets
 - The work will require some excavation to replace the pitless adapter
 - He is working on a quote to make the necessary repairs
- WTP1 Iron Filter 3
 - There is a leak in the fill pipe for Iron Filter 3 at WTP1 where the pipe enters the concrete wall of the building
 - IFM is putting together a quote to make the necessary repairs
 - We are still able to use the two remaining Iron Filters at this water plant
- Buckeye Bulletin Pataskala Article
 - The Buckeye Bulletin is a quarterly magazine created by OWEA and sent across the state to wastewater professionals
 - In the 4th quarter edition for 2020, the Pataskala WRF made the cover photo and Pataskala's participation in the COVID-19 wastewater sampling program received a full page article
 - A copy of the cover photo and the article are attached to this council report

• **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 Construction for the WRF Upgrade project has begun
 - A tentative schedule was updated by Kirk Brothers for this project. Key timelines are as follows:
 - Mobilization- November
 - Underground Piping- December
 - Splitter Box- November through February
 - Chem Feed- December through February
 - Oxidation Ditch- October through February
 - This is the timeframe that the plant process will be bypassed to the lagoon based system
 - Punch List- March through April
- We are holding our mixed liquor solution in the digesters in order to keep the “bugs” alive during the upgrade construction
 - This solution will be used as a starter colony to bring the plant back online after the upgrade is complete
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 - No City employees were in a situation that caused them to be considered a “close contact”
 - 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 first round of sampling began the week of Oct 12
 - We will collect two samples a week as a part of this program
 - The results of the COVID-19 wastewater testing is currently being posted to the Ohio Corona Virus dashboard found here:
 - <https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/dashboards/wastewater>
- **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, Well 8
 - Well 8 at WTP1 is not producing the same amount of flow that it usually does
 - Money for this diagnosis/ repair will come from the pump replacement line already in the 2020 budget
 - Mount Drilling came out to diagnose why well 8 at WTP1 is producing less than it used to
 - He found a hole in the pitless adapter and some failed gaskets
 - The work will require some excavation to replace the pitless adapter
 - He is working on a quote to make the necessary repairs
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- We are still able to use the two remaining Iron Filters at this water plant

- **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.

- COVID-19 procedures

- The systems team returned to a full schedule on May 18
 - In the event that a service order is requested that would require one of our technicians to enter a residence, we will make every attempt possible to walk the resident through our procedures over the phone. If this will not suffice, our technicians will respond in person. They will wear a mask and gloves the entire time that they are in the residence.
 - We will reserve the right to reschedule the service order should the customer display symptoms of COVID-19
 - We have 2 no contact thermometers. We will take the temperature of any customers requesting that we enter a residence. If their temperature is above 99.9 degrees, we will reschedule the service order.
 - These measures will continue to be in effect until further notice.

- Jefferson Street Waterline Project

- The Design phase of the Jefferson Street Waterline Project is underway by Hull and Associates Inc.
 - This design is being completed in anticipation of submitting the project to OPWC for funding assistance during the construction phase
 - All existing Utilities have been located and the actual design of the new water line has begun
- The OPWC application was submitted on November 5 for review

- Valve Exercising Program

- The Systems Team has resumed our Valve Exercising Program

- This program forces us to fully open and then fully close all of our water valves in the system
 - This program will cause some valves to fail during operation. These valves will need to be replaced on an emergency basis. Finding and removing valves that are ready to fail is the intent of this program.
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- **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
 - Meter Reading took place on Dec 1
- **Director**
 - Construction Projects
 - Heron Manor
 - Reviewed plans for the Heron Manor development
 - A requirement was made to install a full size generator for the Settlement Lift Station after the completion of phase 3. Due to some phasing changes, we will require the generator to be installed after the completion of the first 63 lots
 - Currently reviewing plans for phase 3
 - Heritage Town Center Phase 2
 - Reviewed Plans and submitted comments
 - Attended a pre-construction meeting on May 14
 - Bryn Mar Crossing
 - I have reviewed the construction plans and submitted my comments to the planning and zoning department

- I & I water
 - The EPA has included a requirement to develop and implement a plan to address the I&I water getting into the collections system. This plan is required to be submitted to the OEPA by Feb 1, 2021
 - 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
 - This information will be tied to a GIS map outlining the areas of expected I&I
 - GPD group came out and installed two rain gauges and eight flow meters at strategic locations throughout our system on April 30. These devices will collect data for approximately two months
 - These devices were retrieved by GPD group and the data is currently being analyzed
 - Preliminary results show good data. We had a long stretch of dry weather, accented by three large storm events. This gives us a good base (dry weather) and a good representation of the I&I water (storm events)
 - A voluntary Sump Pump Survey was sent out to all of our customers asking if they have a sump pump and gutters that tie in to the sanitary system
 - This was a small part of the I&I study requirements placed on the department by the OEPA as a part of our NPDES permit
 - Part I, C; section 1, A, i. – *A complete evaluation of inflow contributions from individual residences including sump pumps*
 - The participation rate for this survey was extremely high
 - We received 640 responses
 - 283 of these responses were in the areas under investigation in our I&I study
 - The full results of the I&I study will be provided to me after the January 1 holiday for review
 - The results will go to the EPA February 1
- New Vehicles

- The two new trucks ordered by the department for this year are on a delay due to the COVID-19 situation
 - One of the two trucks was delivered on October 30, the other is expected by the end of the year.
- 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 includes practice exercises of the Water Contingency Plan
 - Each month, a different member of the department will lead this training
- Sterling Theater AC Project
 - This project is now complete
 - The project completed \$5,000 under budget and was completely funded through a grant from the state
- Interconnect with SWL
 - Conversations with SWL about a possible interconnect that would allow us to sell excess water to SWL so that they can then sell that water to Jefferson Water and Sewer District have been taking place
- Buckeye Bulletin Pataskala Article
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Respectfully submitted,

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