



City of Pataskala Utility Department Chris Sharrock, Utility Director

➤ Utility Department Updates

• Key Items

- COVID-19 Wastewater Sampling
 - The month of March sample results saw a significant increase in virus counts at the WRF, as was discussed at the last council meeting. The Licking County Health Department later verified that they did indeed see an increase in confirmed cases that lined up with that sampling period.
 - Following that two-week period, the counts at the WRF have dropped to a point similar to last fall
 - The data seems to confirm the testing results as a early warning of the COVID infection rate in our area
 - No immediate action is suggested from the LCHD
 - The department, along with the administration, is working very closely with LCHD regarding these sampling results
- WRF Upgrade
 - The concrete work on the Splitter Boxes is nearly completed
 - The electrical conduit is mostly installed
 - The wires still need to be pulled through that conduit
 - The VFD's for the two influent lift stations to the WRF are scheduled for installation/ programming/ start up in Mid April
 - The Jet Aeration system is still scheduled for startup during the last week of April
 - Odor Complaints
 - With the temperatures fluctuating, we received a few customer complaints about the odor of the lagoons
 - In total we received 5 complaints
 - All complaints were located in the River Forest/ Redwood/ Pataskala Ridge area
 - The odors were no where near what they were before the aeration equipment was installed
- Leaks
 - No Comment

- Hydrants Hit
 - We had a hydrant hit at Mimosa Drive and SR 310
 - This will have to be dug up and replaced
 - The accident was a hit and run
 - We had a hydrant hit at Hazlewood Drive and SR 310
 - This was a DUI
 - The hydrant broke as designed and can be repaired with a simple traffic ring kit
 - Middleground Sanitary Sewer
 - The possibility for this sewer to be accepted by the City will not come to fruition
 - Well 8 at WTP1
 - The work needed to repair Well 8 is complete and the production is again where it should be
 - WTP2 well cleaning program
 - One of the two wells has been cleaned already at WTP2
 - The check valve for that well was found to have failed and was replaced
 - Once two bacteria samples come back clear, we will return that well to service and begin the cleaning of the other well at WTP2
 - Meter Reading
 - We conducted meter reading on Apr 1
 - We will monitor meters that failed to read as that was a problem last month
 - Meters that fail to read will be replaced. Most of them are due to battery life coming to an end
 - Biosolids
 - The spring 2021 land application of our biosolids product will be occurring sometime in the next few weeks, dependent upon weather and farmer preference
- **Legislation**
 - I respectfully request that these ordinances remain on the table while the details get worked out with the Utility Committee
 - Ordinances
 - Ordinance 2021-4384
 - An ordinance to amend section 925.01(Water Regulations) Rule 1, Rule 4, and Rule 15
 - These proposed changes to the codified ordinances are intended to bring the ordinance language in line with our operational practices

- Ordinance 2021-4385
 - An ordinance to amend section 921.02 by adding language to specifically identify the property owner as the individual/entity to be invoiced
 - This proposed change to the codified ordinances is intended to bring the ordinance language in line with our operational practices

• **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 is underway
 - We are holding our mixed liquor solution in the digesters 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
 - Construction on multiple aspects of the project continues
 - The backup chemical feed building foundation has been poured and the building is set
 - The extension of the concrete walls in the Oxidation Ditch are complete
 - The concrete work on the Splitter Boxes is nearly completed
 - The electrical conduit is mostly installed
 - The wires still need to be pulled through that conduit
 - The VFD’s for the two influent lift stations to the WRF are scheduled for installation/ programming/ start up in Mid April
 - The Jet Aeration system is still scheduled for startup during the last week of April
 - Odor Complaints
 - With the temperatures fluctuating, we received a few customer complaints about the odor of the lagoons
 - In total we received 5 complaints
 - All complaints were in the River Forest/ Redwood/ Pataskala Ridge area
 - The odors were nowhere near what they were before the aeration equipment was installed
- COVID-19 Wastewater Testing

- He found a hole in the pitless adapter and some failed gaskets
 - The work will require some excavation to replace the pitless adapter
 - They have provided a quote for \$21,814 to make the necessary repairs
 - Mount arrived on January 27 to perform the necessary repairs
 - The work needed to repair Well 8 is complete and the production is again where it should be
 - WTP2 well cleaning program
 - One of the two wells has been cleaned already at WTP2
 - The check valve for that well was found to have failed and was replaced
 - Once two bacteria samples come back clear, we will return that well to service and begin the cleaning of the other well at WTP2
 - Strontium
 - The strontium levels in our waste stream at WTP2 continues to sporadically fluctuate, making permit compliance difficult
 - We have increased our sampling process to try to identify when, where, and why the strontium spikes at random intervals
 - In the meantime, we are using a holding tank/ dilution water system to reduce the concentration levels to within our permit restrictions.
- **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
 - If 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.

- The Systems Team has resumed our Valve Exercising Program
 - This program forces us to fully open and then fully close all 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.
 - Leaks
 - No Comment
 - Hydrants Hit
 - We had a hydrant hit at Mimosa Drive and SR 310
 - This will have to be dug up and replaced as the hydrant did not break off as designed
 - The accident was a hit and run situation
 - We had a hydrant hit at Hazlewood Drive and SR 310
 - This was a DUI situation
 - The hydrant broke as designed and can be repaired with a simple traffic ring kit
- **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
 - We conducted meter reading on Apr 1
 - We will monitor meters that failed to read as that was a problem last month
 - Meters that fail to read will be replaced. Most of them are due to battery life coming to an end
- **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
 - Submitted comments on 12-29-20
 - Those comments included a reminder that a standby generator is required at the Settlement Lift Station before they can begin Phase 3 building construction
- Bryn Mar Crossing
 - I have reviewed the construction plans and submitted my comments to the planning and zoning department
 - Following their resubmittal, I submitted additional comments to the planning and zoning department
- Scenic View Estates
 - Plans in for review
- New Vehicles
 - The two new trucks ordered by the department for 2020 are on a delay due to the COVID-19 situation
 - One of the two trucks was delivered on October 30, the other is expected soon
- 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
- SR 310 Interconnect
 - Southwest Licking and the City of Pataskala have agreed to utilize the design engineering services of Hull Inc. for the SR 310 Interconnect
 - This is the interconnect agreed to in the current Water and Sewer Agreement between the two entities
 - This project is being completely funded by an escrow account contributed to equally by both entities
 - Surveying is complete and the design is underway
- Regulatory Reports
 - CCR (Consumer Confidence Report)
 - I have begun work on the CCR for 2020. This report is due to the OEPA by July 1
- Middleground Sanitary Sewer

- The possibility for this sewer to be accepted by the City will not come to fruition

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "C. Sharrock", enclosed in a light blue rectangular box.

Chris Sharrock
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