



Council Report
City of Pataskala Utility Department
Chris Sharrock, Utility Director

➤ **Utility Department Updates**

• **New Items**

- WRF Upgrade
 - The 10 hp aspirators and the electrical equipment associated with it was shipped on Oct 12. We are waiting on Kirk Brothers quote to install and the availability in their schedule. The 2 larger 58 hp jet aeration pumps are on order, however there is no delivery date as they are on backorder.
- Water Plant 1 Well 5
 - Well 5 at WTP1 began producing less than normal. We had Mount Drilling come out and diagnose. The pitless adapter has corroded and is leaking. The pump is being cleaned and analyzed. Mount is working on quotes for the necessary repairs.
 - After analyzing the pump, it has been determined that it should be replaced. I am currently looking for funding within the existing budget. The quote and funding mechanism will be presented to the Utility Committee on Oct 25
 - The well is dirty and needs cleaned. Fortunately, this well is part of the Well Cleaning Program proposed in the 2022 budget.
 - We are still able to meet production needs with our other wells still in service
- Turn Offs
 - Turn Offs for non-payment will take place on October 19.
- Leaks
 - 405 Alonzo Palmer
 - The copper service line at this address developed a leak. Crews replaced the service line from the corp-stop to the curb-stop with plastic on October 8
- Settlement Lift Station Generator
 - As a part of Phase 3 in Heron Manor, a standby generator for that area's lift station is to be installed

- The contractor has installed all necessary components except for the generator itself. The generator has been on back-order since late February. Once it arrives, the contractor will finish the installation
 - Jefferson Street Waterline Project
 - The bid opening for the Jefferson Street Waterline Project will take place on Oct 15. After reviewing the bids internally, we will take the preferred bid to the Utility Committee and then to Council
 - Billing Manager
 - Danielle McGee has been promoted to the Utility Billing Manager position effective October 18
 - Danielle was serving as the Acting Billing Manager and has done an exceptional job. She demonstrated a work ethic, motivation level, and willingness to learn that earned her this promotion
 - The Utility Billing Clerk position is currently advertised and will remain open until noon on Nov 12
 - EPA Lead and Copper Rule Changes
 - The EPA has increased the requirements for the Lead and Copper Rule. These requirements need to be completed by the end of 2024
 - I am still reading about what all will be required, but the most time-consuming portion will be an inventory of private service line material
 - This requirement will mean that a staff member must enter every house and document with pictures the private service line material, which will require a very large amount of manhours
- **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 10 hp aspirators and the electrical equipment associated with it was shipped on Oct 12. We are waiting on Kirk Brothers quote to install and the availability in their schedule. The 2 larger 58 hp jet aeration pumps are on order, however there is no delivery date as they are on backorder.
 - 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 results of the COVID-19 wastewater testing are currently being posted to the Ohio Corona Virus dashboard found here:
 - <https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/dashboards/wastewater>
- The Utility Department will continue to participate in this program as long as it continues to be fully funded by the State

- **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 Iron Filter 2
 - There is a small leak somewhere along the bottom of one of the iron filter tanks at WTP1. Repair will require removal and replacement of the filter media, structural repairs, and recoating of the filter tank surface.
 - We will attempt to make it through until next year's budget cycle before making this repair. That schedule could be expedited by a catastrophic failure.
- Water Plant 1 Well 5
 - Well 5 at WTP1 began producing less than normal. We had Mount Drilling come out and diagnose. The pitless adapter has corroded and is leaking. The pump is being cleaned and analyzed. Mount is working on quotes for the necessary repairs.
 - After analyzing the pump, it has been determined that it should be replaced. I am currently looking for funding within the existing budget. The quote and funding mechanism will be presented to the Utility Committee on Oct 25
 - The well is dirty and needs cleaned. Fortunately, this well is part of the Well Cleaning Program proposed in the 2022 budget.
 - We are still able to meet production needs with our other wells still in service

• **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.

▪ Jefferson Street Waterline Project

- The OPWC application was submitted on November 5 for review
 - The Jefferson Street Waterline Project has been selected by the State for funding assistance
 - The City will receive \$259,882 in grant money for the Jefferson Street Water Line Project
 - This project will include a complete resurfacing of Jefferson Street and Depot Street from Main St to Township Road
- The bid opening for the Jefferson Street Waterline Project will take place on Oct 15. After reviewing the bids internally, we will take the preferred bid to the Utility Committee and then to Council

▪ Settlement Lift Station Generator

- As a part of Phase 3 in Heron Manor, a standby generator for that area's lift station is to be installed
 - The contractor has installed all necessary components except for the generator itself. The generator has been on back-order since late February. Once it arrives, the contractor will finish the installation

▪ Creek Road Lift Station

- We are currently advertising a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for design services of the Creek Road Lift Station Upgrade Project
- The RFQ expires at noon on October 29. Qualifications will be evaluated by the administration and ranked. At that point, cost negotiations will commence with the highest ranked firm. If an agreement cannot be made, we will move on to negotiating with the second ranked firm, and so on until an agreement can be made.
 - That agreement would then come to council for approval

▪ Leaks

- 405 Alonzo Palmer
 - The copper service line at this address developed a leak. Crews replaced the service line from the corp-stop to the curb-stop with plastic on October 8

- **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.
- Turn Offs
 - Turn Offs for non-payment will take place on October 19.
- Billing Manager
 - Danielle McGee has been promoted to the Utility Billing Manager position effective October 18
 - Danielle was serving as the Acting Billing Manager and has done an exceptional job. She demonstrated a work ethic, motivation level, and willingness to learn that earned her this promotion
 - The Utility Billing Clerk position is currently advertised and will remain open until noon on Nov 12

- **Director**

- 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
 - Each month, a different member of the department will lead this training
- SR 310 Interconnect
 - The material availability and costs resulted in an extension of the quote deadline to September 10
 - We received zero quotes for this project by the deadline. The two reasons given were either too busy right now or fears about receiving materials in a timely manner
 - In response to this feedback, we extended the time to complete the project from 150 days to 210 days. We also moved the quote deadline back to Oct 8th at noon. This decision was made in conjunction with the water district.
- HB 168
 - The Utility Department has applied for funding of the I & I Reduction Project through HB 168. This project is expected to occur

in 2022 and involves slip lining the sewer mains in the River Forest area

- Budget
 - Working closely with the Finance Director and the City Administrator on the budget process for 2022
- Old Town Hall
 - The color closest to the brick façade of the Old Town Hall was selected for the AC ductwork paint job. That project is to be completed before the end of the October
 - The back-room renovations (the old prisoner holding area) are underway. That project is also expected to be completed before the end of October

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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