



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

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➤ **New Items**

• **New Operational Updates**

- Resolution 2023-014
  - A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT WITH FLUIDYNE CORPORATION FOR THE PURCHASE OF TWO 30 HORSEPOWER BLOWERS AT THE WATER RECLAMTION FACILITY.
    - This resolution is to order the blowers identified by the equipment manufacturer (Fluidyne) to correct the deficiencies from the WRF Upgrade project
    - Fluidyne has provided a quote of \$123,950.00 to purchase the blowers and there VFD's
      - There is a 20-24 week delivery time expected for the blowers. It is imperative to get them on order as soon as possible so that we can properly treat the wastewater in accordance with our EPA permit
      - If approved, the blowers will be ordered on Feb 7 and I will notify the OEPA about there purchase and expected delivery date
    - I plan to have installation provided by Kirk Brothers as a change order to the original upgrade contract. That will come to council as a resolution for consideration at a future date
- WRF Expansion
  - Until the WRF permit is expanded, we will not be able to provide sewer service for any additional significant development projects within the Pataskala Utility Department sewer service area
    - This excludes developments who are already in the process

- Turn Offs
  - Turn offs for non-payment were conducted on Jan 24
- Meter Reading
  - Meter reading was conducted on Feb 1
- Leaks
  - Service lines were replaced at 166 Lookout lane and 181 Township Road
    - These were leaks that were temporarily fixed during the cold weather event around Christmas last year. For the safety of the crews, the minimum repair necessary was done at that time
      - The work done this month was to fully replace the service lines at these addresses
- Settlement Lift Station Generator
  - All aspects of the generator installation have been completed, including the start up training for the department members
- Sewer Lining Project
  - Both phases of the sewer lining project are underway. The contractor has been very responsive to customer questions and concerns
- PRV Training
  - Trent Howell coordinated training on our three large neighborhood PRV's
  - None of the current staff were with us the last time this training took place. It was an excellent training session
- EPA Lab certification
  - Joe Cormican was certified by the EPA to conduct chlorine and hardness tests at our water treatment plant lab
- Well 7
  - The motor for Well 7 failed. It was replaced by our contractor on Jan 31 and returned to service on Feb 3 following proper disinfection and testing

➤ **Ongoing Items**

• **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 acquisition of the equipment as well as its design and installation could take several months. On May 1, the EPA's limits at our WRF will become more stringent for the warmer months. To ensure that the equipment can be acquired and installed as quickly as possible, we will be requesting an emergency for the supplemental to waive the three-reading requirement. We will be requesting the emergency with the goal of avoiding permit violations when the limits change on May 1 that could result in fines or findings and orders from the EPA.
  - The equipment and the installation will be acquired through the same companies that did the original WRF upgrade work. Because we did the bidding/ RFQ process at that time, we will not need to do another one now. We will be treating this as a change order to the original contract.
    - A resolution to approve this contract change order will also come to council as soon as possible.
- 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.
  - The repair crew came out on Jan 11 to analyze the leak and see if repairs can be made. That analysis was not yet completed at the time of this report. Updates will be provided to council at a later date
- EPA Lab certification
  - Joe Cormican was certified by the EPA to conduct chlorine and hardness tests at our water treatment plant lab
- Well 7
  - The motor for Well 7 failed. It was replaced by our contractor on Jan 31 and returned to service on Feb 3 following proper disinfection and testing

· **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.
- Settlement Lift Station Generator
  - All aspects of the generator installation have been completed, including the start up training for the department members
- Leaks
  - Service lines were replaced at 166 Lookout lane and 181 Township Road
    - These were leaks that were temporarily fixed during the cold weather event around Christmas last year. For the safety of the crews, the minimum repair necessary was done at that time
      - The work done this month was to fully replace the service lines at these addresses
- Creek Rd L/S
  - 30% design delivered
    - Comments returned to Strand and implemented.

- Sewer Slip lining
    - Both phases of the sewer lining project are underway. The contractor has been very responsive to customer questions and concerns
    - This phase of the project is expected to last about a month, weather permitting
    - The contractor is notifying each resident whose sewer line connects to the portion of the main being lined at least 24 hours in advance to the work taking place
      - While the lining is occurring, we are encouraging residents to limit their usage as the liner will temporarily block their sewer line connection. Once the liner is installed, an opening is cut to return service to each connection. This work all takes place on the same day, limiting the inconvenience to our customers. This is explained in the notice provided by the contractor.
    - As a reminder, this work is being partially paid for by two grants. One through HB 168 and one through OPWC.
      - The grants total \$500,000 and the local share is \$250,000 coming from our Sewer Capital Improvements Fund
  - SCADA Prop Study
    - The study on the effectiveness of our SCADA radio system is complete. J&K Communications is currently reviewing the data in order to make a proposal for us to upgrade that outdated system
  - PRV Training
    - Trent Howell coordinated training on our three large neighborhood PRV's
    - None of the current staff were with us the last time this training took place. It was an excellent training session
- **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 were conducted on Jan 24

- Meter Reading
  - Meter reading was conducted on Feb 1
- New Billing System Software
  - The training for the new billing system software is in full swing. The new system is very different from the old but is identical to the finance system that we use in all other aspects of the Administration. This should streamline the Utility Billing to Finance Department interactions. We still have an anticipated “go live” date of April 2023

• **Director**

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    - I plan to have installation provided by Kirk Brothers as a change order to the original upgrade contract. That will come to council as a resolution for consideration at a future date
- WRF Expansion
  - Until the WRF permit is expanded, we will not be able to provide sewer service for any additional significant development projects within the Pataskala Utility Department sewer service area
    - This excludes developments who are already in the process
  - The process to apply for an expanded permit at the WRF is still ongoing. The EPA has stated that they are conducting a study on the receiving waters and will not be able to review any

applications until that study is complete. They have stated that the study should be completed by Feb 13.

- Discussions with SWLCWSD about the State 208 Plan requirements are ongoing.
  - The State 208 Plan requires us to discuss regionalization with SWLCWSD and to provide a letter documenting that discussion and an agreement on the requested expansion from Pataskala before any permit expansion can be granted. At this point, SWLCWSD has concerns about the increased flow numbers that we are seeking.
    - Discussions with the EPA on how to navigate the State 208 Plan are ongoing.
  - It is important to note that until the permit is expanded, we are very near the point of denying service to new development in our service area.
- Service Provider Swap
  - SWLCWSD has installed their equipment in the houses that will be a part of the service provider swap.
    - As a reminder, this swap affects the Highland Hills, Scotland Ridge and Highland Estates customers.
  - The change over is scheduled to take place on Feb 9. Residents have been informed of this date and the billing process that will occur because of the swap.
    - Beginning Feb 10, all usage by these customers will be billed by SWLCWSD.
  - Working with C.J Gilcher and the staff of the SWLCWSD on this project has been great.
- 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
- OPWC application
  - The application for the standby generator project was submitted the first week of November.

Respectfully submitted,

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

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