



Council Report
City of Pataskala Utility Department
Trent Howell, Utility Director

➤ **New Items**

• **New Operational Updates**

- RFQ for the WRF Capacity Expansion Project
 - There were three firms that submitted to the RFQ for the WRF Capacity Expansion Project.
 - Review and Scoring of the three firms will take January 17th. A decision will be made at that point to interview as part of the final selection process of a firm for the project.
- RFP for Construction Administration and Construction Inspection for the Creek Road Force Main Upgrade Project
 - Review of the four RFPs that were submitted for the CA and CI portion of the Creek Road Force Main Upgrade Project has been completed.
 - Low bid for the RFP was submitted by Strand Associates at \$259,000.00.
 - The Utility Department recommends that the Council pass resolution 2024-015 to enter into a contract with Strand Associates to complete the Construction Administration and the Construction Inspection for the Creek Road Force Main Upgrade Project.
- Utility Service Tech open position
 - All three applicants were approved by the PBR board to be interviewed.
 - All three interviews have been set up for 1-19-24.
 - I will update you at the council meeting 1-22-24 on the status of the position.
- Leaks
 - 1060 Legacy, replaced water service line.
 - 433 Eleazor Wolcott, replaced water service line.
- Shutoffs
 - Shutoffs will take place January 22nd.

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
 - Blowers have been delivered.
 - Design for the blowers has been completed.
 - Currently waiting on contractor to start site work.
- 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 with 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 the council at a later date.

- **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.

- Leak

- 1060 Legacy, replaced water service line.
- 433 Eleazor Wolcott, replaced water service line.

- Sewer Lining Project

- The sewer lining project has been completed. The project utilized OPWC and House Bill 168 funding to help complete the project.
- Visu Sewer and United Survey contractors for this project, both did a great job and have been great to work with.

- SCADA Prop Study

- The study on the effectiveness of our SCADA radio system is complete. J&K Communications is currently reviewing the data to make a proposal for us to upgrade that outdated system.

- Fire Hydrant Painting

- I received an email from Iva O'Ryan with Licking Hights High School. Iva supervises a community service project for the school, organizing kids to paint fire hydrants for the Utility Department. This project has been running for a few years, and is working very well. The Utility Department is very grateful for all the time and effort that Iva and the students put into this project.

- **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.

- Shutoffs
 - Shutoffs will take place January 22nd.

- **Director**

- 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 permit expansion request was submitted to the EPA on May 19th.
 - We expect there to be a 6-month review period by the
 - EPA.
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- 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.

Respectfully submitted,

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