



Council Report
City of Pataskala Utility Department
Joe Peterson, Utility Director

➤ **New Items**

• **New Operational Updates**

- Leaks
 - On August 13th we replaced a faulty fire hydrant at 217 Shaleridge Dr.
- Water Billing
 - Shut offs for non-payment is scheduled for the 21st
 - “Invoice Cloud” software kickoff meeting was held July 26th with a go live target date of October 7th.
- BWT Tower Painting Project
 - Version has re-installed the Verizon antenna on the newly painted water tower in Beechwood Trails and service should have returned to normal.
- Creek Road Lift Station
 - Tree removal is completed. No site work scheduled for month of August.
- WRF
 - Blower start up began on the 6th and was completed on the 9th. Sample testing has shown improved results. We are currently working with the engineer and manufacturer to help mitigate the noise level after some complaints from neighbors.
- WTP1
 - We anticipate getting an exhibit soon from Structure Point for the Iron Filter replacement.

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
- COVID-19 Wastewater Testing
 - Pataskala Utility Department is participating in the COVID-19 wastewater testing program.
 - This program was originally created to find evidence of the COVID-19 virus in our wastewater stream.
 - It has now been expanded to also include evidence of the Influenza virus.
 - 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>
- WRF Upgrade
 - Blower start up began on the 6th and was completed on the 9th. Sample testing has shown improved results. We are currently working with the engineer and manufacturer to help mitigate the noise level after some complaints from neighbors.

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 of 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.
- WTP1
 - We anticipate getting an exhibit soon from Structure Point for the Iron Filter replacement.

• **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.
- Leaks
 - August 13th we replaced a faulty fire hydrant at 217 Shaleridge Dr.

• **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.
 - Shut offs for non-payment is scheduled for the 21st
 - "Invoice Cloud" software kickoff meeting was held July 26th with a go live target date of October 7th.

- **Director**

- WRF Expansion Design

- The concept for the WRF Expansion Design is to break it up into two phases: planning design and final design.
 - To fund the planning design phase of \$500,000, the Utility Department intends to spend \$50,000 out of the Capital Improvements Fund, and \$450,000 from a 0% interest DEFA Planning Loan.
- Once the planning design phase is complete, we will roll the planning loan into a 0% interest DEFA Design Loan for the final design services.
 - The amount of that loan will be determined in the planning design phase.
- Once the final design services are complete, we will roll the design loan into a low interest DEFA Construction Loan.
 - This concept will defer payments until after the construction is completed in late 2028 or early 2029.
 - This concept will also save us approximately \$8,000,000 in interest savings over the bonding concept that the budget was built on.

- Creek Road Force Main Upgrade Project update

- The preconstruction meeting for this project took place on February 21.
- Tree removal is completed and no site work is scheduled for the month of July.

- Beechwood Trails Verizon Antenna

- Verizon has re-installed the Verizon antenna on the newly painted water tower in Beechwood Trails and service should have returned to normal.

- 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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