



**Council Report**  
**City of Pataskala Utility Department**  
**Chris Sharrock, Assistant City**  
**Administrator**

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➤ **New Items**

• **New Operational Updates**

- Leaks
  - No comment
- Meter Reading
  - Meter Reading was conducted on April 2<sup>nd</sup>.
- BWT Tower Painting Project
  - Dublin Tech has been out to analyze the necessary work to complete their portion of this project.
  - Verizon plan to have their portion of this project completed the week of May 1<sup>st</sup>.
  - The tower is scheduled to be painted beginning May 15<sup>th</sup>.
    - This portion of the project will last two and a half months, weather permitting.
- New Utility Director
  - Joe Peterson, the new Utility Director, started on April 8<sup>th</sup> and is fitting in well with the department.
- Heavy Rain Event
  - A heavy rain event occurred on April 2<sup>nd</sup>.
    - Creek Road Lift Station had two pumps fail as a result.
      - We are gathering quotes to repair those pumps.
    - We had one water in basement occurrence at 174 S Main Street.
      - This water in basement event came out of an unfinished shower in the basement at this location.

## 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 for the 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 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.

- **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

- No comment

- Sewer Lining Project

- The sewer lining project is nearly completed. The project utilized OPWC and House Bill 168 funding to help complete the project.
      - Visu-sewer is getting organized to complete the last leg of 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.

- Meter Reading

- Meter Reading was conducted on April 2<sup>nd</sup>.

- **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 clearing for this project began the week of March 25<sup>th</sup>.
- Beechwood Trails Verizon Antenna
  - The Verizon Antennae that are located on top of BWT tower 2 will need to be removed for the tower painting project that is expected to take place in May of this year.
    - I met with Verizon on February 28<sup>th</sup> to establish a plan for their temporary tower installation while the tower is sandblasted and painted.
  - Verizon will reinstall their antennae after the tower painting job is completed.
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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.
- New Utility Director
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  - This water in basement event came out of an unfinished shower in the basement at this location.

Respectfully submitted,

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