



# Utilities Monthly Report

## September 2023

### **Gas Operations:**

#### ***Natural Gas Conversion***

All propane main lines are now converted to natural gas. Staff completed several new service connections with natural gas meters. The Utility Team will continue to adjust regulators and turn on natural gas as customers get ready for the conversion. The natural gas leak survey for the Hurricane and Arizona line has been completed.

### **Sewer Operations:**

#### ***Sewer Lagoons***

Staff continue to discharge the effluent from the sewer ponds onto the field. We will start cleaning the sewer main lines for the year as part of the federal Capacity Management, Operations and Maintenance (CMOM) requirements.

Pump #1 at the Lift Station failed and the power to the pump shut off automatically. The pump was plugged, and the check valve was full of rags and plastic pipe shards. The pump was pulled and replaced with a new one to get the Lift Station up and running again. The pump will be repaired and placed back in our supply storage for future back-up in the event of another emergency.



### ***Sewer Headworks Project***

Aardvark Underground Inc. installed the temporary sewer bypass for the Headworks project on September 6<sup>th</sup>. They excavated the headworks building, finished the concrete structure for the headworks screen, and installed over ½ of the replacement 24" sewer line needed to meet future flows. Landmark Engineering did soil testing and compaction testing on the project. The construction on the Sewer Headworks building is nearly 40% completed.

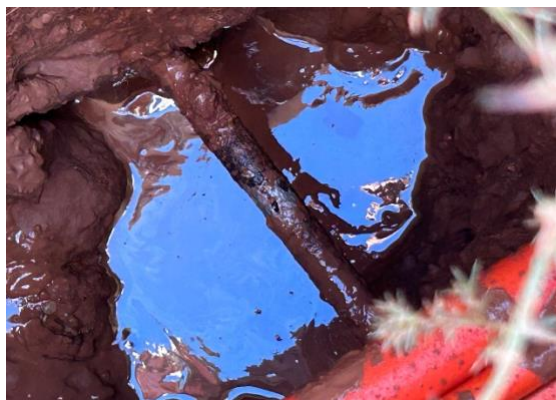






## **Water Operations:**

Water restrictions have been removed and hydrant meters are rented out for construction use again. A copper water service line failed on Laurantzen Street and was replaced with poly pipe. The last storm event on September 13<sup>th</sup> washed out several sections of road exposing the spring line piping in Maxwell Park. Crews spent several days back filling under pipes and rebuilding the roadway. The Utility Team is continuing to repair the damage caused by all the erosion.







### ***Well 17 Drilling***

Cluff drilling continues to work on replacement Well 17. The last few feet of well casing need to be installed, well cleaning of the screen and running a pump capacity test. Early air lift pumping estimate is the well may produce about 100 gallons per minute (gpm) or almost 150,000 gallons per day (gpd).

### **Grants and Administration:**

The Lead and Copper Rule inventory is currently under way and the consultant will provide the community with GPS/GIS mapping inventory sheets for filed use by staff using their tablets. We estimate about 33% or less of the inventory will be needed for a physical inspection. By the Lead and Copper Rule, if service lines were installed in the late 1900's and early 2000's City specifications were in place and may be used to verify the material installed is not lead.



State Revolving funds are available for painting of storage tanks and other water related projects. Staff are exploring the application process and the amount of possible grant versus loan in the funding opportunity.

Supervisory Controls and Data Acquisition (SCADA), or electronic remote controls, for wells, water treatment plant, tank levels, gas, alarms for sewer lift stations and sewer treatment are old and in dire need of replacement. We have had small failures and the entire SCADA system has been inspected and cannot be “fixed”. The recommendation is to replace the entire SCADA system at an estimated cost of \$275,000.00. The cost is eligible for partial funding through state revolving funds and possible state and federal grants.

The Water Project, funded by the Mohave County Grant from American Recovery Plan Act (ARPA), design is underway and well drilling locations and aquifers are being investigated for the best water quality and quantity.

We are finishing the Water Master Plan and Impact Fee Analysis with Sunrise and are anticipating having the final data for Board and Council review the end of October of 2023.

The Water Rate Study, Final Draft, will be finished and available for review and comment in October of 2023. The Rate Study is being conducted by Rural Community Assistance Corporation (RCAC) with the full cost being covered by the United States Department of Agriculture – Rural Development (USDA-RD).

A Water Resiliency Grant is available through the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) with no requirement for local participation. Staff are exploring the options open to us for applying for this grant.