



Utilities Monthly Report

December 2023

Gas Operations:

Gas staff have been rebuilding the regulators at the Natural Gas Gate Station in Hildale.



(Colorado City Natural Gas Gate Station)



Sewer Operations:

The Utility Crew cleaned approximately 3,650 feet of sewer main line this month. The meter at the Sewer Lift Station serving Centennial Park was calibrated and is now working accurately. The SMART Cover has worked as hoped for providing pre-alarming for higher-than-normal flows in the Centennial Park sewer system and allowing staff to respond proactively to the increased flows at the Lift Station. The damaged pumps have been replaced and/or repaired and are all back in service.

Sewer Headworks Project

Aardvark Underground Inc. has completed the construction work on the Sewer Headworks project. The city staff are coordinating an equipment start-up and training on January 8th, 2024. Once the equipment and start-up are complete, the City will have a ribbon cutting ceremony for the project.





Water Operations:

The Water Treatment Plant is operating at optimum levels for removal of iron and other constituents. Colorado City/Mohave County and Hildale held a groundbreaking ceremony for the Mohave County, Arizona ARPA Grant Water Project for new Well #25 on December 20th, 2023 at the Water Treatment Plant. Mayor Ream and the guest of honor, Mohave County Board of Supervisors Chairman, Travis Lingenfelter participated in the groundbreaking and spoke about the project and funds. Council members from Colorado City, Hildale and the Utility Advisory Board were in attendance and participated in the groundbreaking.





Grants and Administration:

Staff are working on completing the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) permitting for the Academy Well and Well 17. During a site visit and routine sampling in November of the community wells, Utah DEQ informed us the two wells were not fully permitted and the communities will need to receive permits from the state agencies to use the wells for drinking water.

The Water Master Plan, Facilities Plan and the Impact Fee Study have been reviewed and recommended to the City and Town Councils for adoption.

The Rate Study, through the Rural Community Assistance Corporation (RCAC), is now substantially complete and will be available for discussion on the rate structure and timing of the increases in early 2024. The rate options will be discussed and reviewed by the Utility Advisory Board and further action will follow based on the comments and any follow-up work which may be requested. The project is being funded through the United States Department of Agriculture – Rural Development (USDA-RD)

Staff have been working on design and cost for the installation of a Booster Pump Station to eliminate the low-pressure zone in the southwest portion of Hildale. The consulting engineer is looking at the best options to place the booster pumps to provide the best location and have the greatest positive impact to the system by using hydraulic modeling. The booster pumps will allow construction of buildings and provide increased fire flows for the area.

Staff are working with the Water Infrastructure Finance Authority (WIFA) Loan/Grant, for the maintenance of the 600,000 (6K) gallon and 800,000 (8K) gallon tank. The 6K tank needs to be taken out of service and the inside cleaned, painted and placed back in service. The 8K tank needs cathodic protection installed and the exterior cleaned and painted.



Staff is working on energy efficiency programs for the wells and treatment plant by installing Variable Frequency Drives (VFD), the investigation includes finding grants for the purchase and installation of the VFD's.

Utilities staff are researching the conversion of the current gas and water meter reading system with an updated version that will provide better service and reliability. The current system, Badger Meter, has discontinued the gas meter portion of the sales and moved the reading platform to a cloud application using a third-party vendor, Amazon. Staff recommend moving to a generic reading system that can be used on all existing meters. The price for conversion and the reading devices would be significantly cheaper than making a change to another meter and reading company. Once the costs have been received, a presentation and recommendation will be provided to the Board and Councils.

Staff are continuing to work on the Water and Gas reports to show the use by each community and the non-revenue amount to account for all the uses of the water and gas from the system. They will be included in future reports and there will be a running amount for each fiscal year for comparison and reporting to the appropriate regulatory agencies.