



TOWN OF
HILLSBOROUGH

Utilities Department Status Report for Oct. 2024 (covering Sep. 2024)

PROJECT/ CATEGORY	STATUS
WTP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The new raw water pump is running well. There is no update from the vendor about when the other one will be reinstalled. ○ The Hasell St booster pump is running on one pump due to the other pump's shaft breaking. A standby system has been placed in case of issues with the remaining pump. This station is responsible for pushing water to our north pressure zone and storage tank. The rebuilt pump is not due back until late November. ○ WTP paving project is complete.
WWTP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ On September 25th, the secondary SCADA computer went down. After CITI picked it up and examined the computer, they found that the motherboard had cracked. ○ The Helene storm event did result in some significant influent flows, but not as bad a TS Debbie. On 9/17/24, 4.104 million gallons was treated. With TS Debbie, it was over 6 million gallons and there were sanitary sewer overflows along the incoming interceptors. ○ Our customer care subscription for the WIN-911 alarming software increased dramatically. It went from \$800 per year to \$1,450 per year. In 2014 it was only \$395. The software does have more features and capabilities, but we are not using them. ○ Every 5-years we replace the batteries in the uninterrupted power supplies/surge protectors that are in all the PLC panels. It takes 26 batteries at \$25.15 for a total of \$653.90. The project was completed in one day. ○ The first public tour was a success! There were four participants. They asked great questions, and all enjoyed the time together.
West Fork of the Eno Reservoir	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The reservoir is full and spilling.
Developments/ Other	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Invoicing of fees for Persimmon at Cates Creek have been sent. Developer has paid one of the many thus far. ○ Waterstone South was approved by the BOC. The Comet rezoning to multifamily from hotel and retail is still going through planning. Comments from our department will be in the packet when presented to the board. ○ McAdams Rd Water Main replacement is complete. ○ Collins Ridge James J. Freeland water main work has been constructed but an easement issue is holding up acceptance. Phase 1B permit documents are issued. They will need to blast and are awaiting materials. Phase 2 and POD D (apartments) is also in the pipeline and will result in several more homes in the coming year. ○ Work on our lead service line inventory is underway. There will be a public facing effort in the next month. The BOC received a presentation at its Sep. workshop. ○ The Adron F. Thompson facility will need to go to the Board of Adjustment for a setback variance. ○ Field work is beginning for both River and Starfield pumping stations. Negotiations with the property owner for Starfield booster station has been started. ○ Reports are in house for Hasell St. water tank and US70 water main awaiting review and comment. ○ Due to SB 166 passing, DEQ has restored the former Appendix B listing high hazards requiring backflow prevention. Staff will evaluate whether further changes to its cross-connection code are recommended. ○ A recent ruling on fluoride will have EPA reassessing acceptable recommended levels. The town will review any new recommendations and present to the board, if necessary, at that time, any suggested changes to its protocol. Currently, we are compliant with the limits and recommendations for

	<p>fluoridation from the NC DHHS and dental industry and have included fluoride in our treatment process for decades as well as report annually on levels as required.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Open Broadband, with whom we had an antenna space rental agreement with on our North Tank, has terminated the agreement as of Sept. 30, being outdriven by new fiber installations.
Staffing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A recommendation has been made to fill the administrative position. An offer is being prepared. ○ Utilities is fully staffed as of 10/7 when Rommel Pritchard starts with Lacy's team. ○ Intern Ben Powell had his last day with us on September 27. There is another intern starting soon and he goes by "Pickles." ○ Joey Smith obtained his biological operator 3 certification. He will be reclassified to the Operator 2 position. ○ Tyler Freeman moved to Illinois in August. He is working under a remote work schedule until the end of the year. ○ Justin Parker of our collection and distribution team was in a serious accident in his personal vehicle and is at home recovering. He will be out 6 to 8 weeks. But he is doing very well. ○ The Utilities Director is on intermittent FMLA to assist her husband with a new cancer diagnosis. During times of extended absence, she will designate key contacts in her stead, but generally will be on E-mail, regardless. ○ At least two utilities staff members would like to head to western NC to assist in restoration efforts. ○ A utility inspector position will be posted, and one position reclassified to a Construction Manager position. ○ Staff assisted with a private pumping station force main situation over the weekend near the Sheetz/Aldi/dealership parcel. An invoice will be sent for the cost of assistance in controlling continued sewage spillage.
Water and Sewer Advisory Committee (WSAC) Activities	<p>Two out of town vacancies are open and there have been no applicants in the past several months. WSAC is scheduled for 10/3 and generally will receive general updates. WSAC's routine work has generally been accomplished and there are discussions underway whether to transition to an ad hoc committee.</p>