

## **Utilities Department Status Report for Nov. 2023 (covering Oct. 2023)**

PROJECT/CATEGORY	STATUS
WTP	Nothing to report.
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West Fork of the Eno Reservoir	The reservoir is around 46.5 feet. Phase II normal pool is 53 feet.
	Inspections were completed on Lake Ben Johnson and WFER dams by our consultant and the water quality ponds. Recommendations were mainly maintenance related and clearing of growth in critical areas.
Water Restrictions	We are on Stage <b>2</b> low flow water withdraw restrictions as of Sunday September 21. Withdraw from the Eno is limited to 1.36 mgd unless the town releases more to make up the difference. Our minimum release requirement is 1.0 cfs but we have been releasing between over <b>6</b> cfs due to additional demand and low flow in the Eno. Without rain, we may be to Stage 3 restrictions soon and we may need to consider a proclamation for voluntary water restrictions for customers to conserve.
Pumping Stations	Progressing with emergency Cemetery pumping station repairs (broken check valve and leaning control panel board).
Developments	Settlements with Forest Ridge and Fiori Hill regarding water and sewer defects are being negotiated.
	We have invoiced Collins Ridge developer for two proffers in the amount of \$115,000. One is for flow monitoring. The other is a participatory share in our water main interconnects project which benefitted the development. That project was completed a few years ago. The developer still has not paid and has not responded to inquiries about payment.
	Changes to utilities ordinances are being made to address some of the development issues presented to the board in September and also due to recently passed legislation. See 11/13 agenda packet.
Fiber Installs	Permits are being issued to Google for in-town work. Hydrant tampering by fiber contractors has slowed. Over \$50,000 in fees and penalties have been levied.
Staffing	A utility technician is pending a start date after accepting an offer. We still have a locator and mechanic supervisor. Four people will be interviewed for the supervisor position.
	Lucas Cates obtained his C-Distribution certification and Curtis Watkins obtained his B-Surface certification.

	The engineering team attended the NC One Water conference to earn continuing education and to network.
Backflow Code	Hope to bring forth to BOC in December along with reimbursement recommendation.
Flow Monitoring	We are gearing up to insert flow monitors in our outfalls to monitor capacity.
McAdams Road Watermain	We have received both the state permit and DOT encroachment. Will prepare bid dates and customer notices.
Funding	Still working on grant paperwork to receive awards.
Water and Sewer Advisory Committee (WSAC) Activities	There is one out of town member vacancy that is being solicited. Another will be open after December. WSAC is working on a change in format to the paper bill that will detail more of the rate calculation.