TO: **Mayor and Town Council**

FROM: **Frank Spitzer, Utilities Supervisor**

DATE: **August 13, 2024**

SUBJECT: **Utilities Report**

Purpose: Provide the Mayor and Town Council with an update on the Town's Water and Sewer System for July/August 2024.

Background/Discussion: As well as maintaining daily operations and maintenance, the Utility Department are currently working on the following:

1). An estimate from Modutank headquartered in New York was received for under $300,000 for a 216,000 gallon equalization basin for the WWTP. The tank can be built on site in a week to provide much needed flow surge protection for the plant which is easily overloaded during heavy rain events such as we just had with tropical storm Debby. This can cause solids to be released from the plant resulting in DEQ violations and a negative environmental impact on our receiving stream as has happened in the past. This basin would allow a portion of the heavy influent flow to be diverted into the EQ basin to keep the flow going into the plant at a manageable level and then treated when flows subside. In addition to the basin, blowers and pumps would need to be added to complete the project. Federal grant funds have been discussed as funding for the project.

2). We are in the beginning stages of work of the Lead Service Line Survey project. Now that CHA has been selected to head the project, we anticipate September to be a busy month in trying to get caught up to meet the October deadline.

3). To protect the Town's drought impacted water supply, it was decided to initiate mandatory water restrictions per the Town Code. According to the Utility Staff, response has been very favorable with a noticeable reduction in well run times giving the wells ample time to recover. The recent heavy rains have also helped to rejuvenate well levels slightly. While still not at normal water levels, these actions have made the drought more manageable.

4). Proposals for enhanced security measures are being received to include a new perimeter fence at the Park Place Water Treatment Facility, a new automatic gate at the WWTP and upgrades to the Town's existing camera system. A presentation is expected at the next council meeting.

5). Work has begun at the Park Place Water Treatment Facility. So far, the old filter media has been removed, the underdrains cleaned and replaced, the inside of the filters have been treated for any rust areas, new piping and flow meters are being installed and new filter media is being installed. We are waiting on Valley Well Drilling to treat the well and install a new pump so we can begin viewing flowrates and making adjustments to the flow going into the filters.

6). Five (5) telephone poles along East Broad Way have been relocated without incident to prepare for the upcoming sidewalk and streetscapes improvement project. The pole at the corner of E Broad Way and S. Loudoun St will not be relocated due to the discovery of an existing well. This corner power pole does not need to be relocated for the streetscapes improvements design. This well is not part of the Town's potable water source. The details for the proper abandonment of this existing well will be discussed at the next council meeting.