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Public Services Committee
Councilman Fred Potter Chairman

2023 has been a challenging year for the water department. At the end of 2022, we lost our long-time water operator, Jim Groff. Jim left us to concentrate on a major upgrade at the Hilltown Water and Sewer Authority, of which he is the manager. We wish Jim well as he spearheads that project!

We hired KL Fulford Associates, headed by Ken Fulford to replace Jim. Ken employs several other PA DEP (Department of Environmental Protection) licensed water operators, so we always have coverage. Ken has a degree in chemistry and has worked as a chemist and PA DEP licensed operator. We welcome Ken and his team and expect they will be a major asset to the water department.

The December 2022 water samples showed minor exceedances in Arsenic and TCE (a degreasing chemical) for Borough Well 2. A notice was sent out (to summarize, there is no immediate health hazard) and we decided to switch water production to Well 3, a much deeper well. Testing of this water showed no TCE or other contaminants, but the incoming water had arsenic at about 16 PPB (parts per billion); the DEP limit is 10PPB. We have an arsenic treatment system at that well, but repairs were needed to the plumbing, and the arsenic removal medium needed to be changed before it could be used. We consulted with our Environmental engineer, Angelika Forndran of Cowan Associates, and began work on this project in March. We completed all repairs at the end of July and have put this well into service. This will eliminate the arsenic problem once and for all!

As for Well 2, we are starting a major overhaul of the plumbing and recharging the arsenic removal system. After repairs are complete, we will re-test the water and, if acceptable, begin to use this well part-time.

The last project in a very busy year is a pressure-regulated connection with Milford Township. We have emergency interconnects now, but the systems work at two different pressures. We have selected a pressure regulating valve between the systems and will install it next month pending DEP approval. This valve will allow either system to obtain water from the other system when required.

Fred Potter, Chair, Trumbauersville Public Services Committee
Mike George, Member Trumbauersville Public Services Committee
Steven Spor, Member, Trumbauersville Public Services Committee