

## GENERAL INFORMATION OCTOBER 2022

### Notable Items:

#### - Gas Regulator Station

- The Gas Regulator Station is expected to be replaced on November 14. The existing regulator station was beyond its reasonable life expectancy and Utilities staff often had to fabricate parts because replacement parts were no longer being made given how old the existing Regulator Station was. The City went out for bids multiple times with some bids being close to \$800,000. The contract was ultimately awarded to \$435,000. The new regulator station will ensure that Willcox residents have reliable and safe gas services.

What is a regulator station? The Willcox regulator station regulates the pressure of gas from the Kinder Morgan main pipe and reduces the pressure before the gas enters the smaller City lines and distribution systems.



- Willcox Emergency Operations Plan: We have begun working collaboratively with the Willcox Unified School District, Northern Cochise Community Hospital, and the Cochise County Sheriff's Department to update our emergency response plans for natural disasters, school shootings, hazardous spills and to improve communication between organizations. Meetings will occur bi-monthly until early January at which time more information will be shared with the public.

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- Willcox Foundation: Staff is creating a Willcox Foundation that will serve as an avenue for the public to donate to capital improvement projects and beautification efforts that benefit the community. The Willcox Foundation will be a 501(c)3 charitable foundation that accepts tax-deductible donations. More information will be available when the Foundation is brought to the City Council for approval.
- LED Lighting: Installation of new poles and lighting will occur on November 11 by Qualite Construction. SSVEC will be removing existing poles and digging holes for new poles as part of the City's in-kind contribution towards the Arizona State Parks Grant. A ribbon cutting will occur in early December.
- Permit Approvals: Stotz Equipment and Love's building permits are complete. The City has already received permitting fees for from both entities who are actively working on or towards construction. At the request of staff, Love's has begun reaching out to local contractors to participate.

### Upcoming Meetings and Agenda Items:

- November 17: City Council Meeting: Pool Contract/Annexation Ordinance/Grant Agreement for Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus' for Fire Department
- December 1: Swearing Ceremony for Newly Elected Councilmembers/Election of the Mayor and Vice-Mayor/Public Hearing and Ordinance for Cemetery Fees

### Upcoming Events:

- Elections Day – November 8
- Veterans Day – City Offices Closed November 10
- Veterans Day Parade – November 11
- Thanksgiving – City Offices Closed November 24

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Willcox City Manager, Caleb Blaschke

