

TO: Mayor Rogin and Members of the Board of Trustees
FROM: Aaron Caplan, Engineering, Building & Utilities Director
DATE: 16 Mar 2023
ITEM: Utilities Update Memo

☐ ORDINANCE
☐ MOTION / RESOLUTION
☒ INFORMATION

The Town has completed its annual backflow and cross connection control report for the Colorado Dept. of Public Health & Environment (CDPHE) and its annual electric power industry report for the U.S. Energy Information Administration.

There was previously mention of funding to replace lead service lines. Lyons has started working on a water service line inventory, that is required of all water utilities by October 2024, to document what material every service line in Lyons is made of. We have started with any new construction where our inspectors have visually inspected service lines as they were placed in the ground. Any building permits that include work on or around a water service line will be tagged for a service line inspection to add information to the inventory. At the same time last year CDPHE reduced the Town's testing requirements for lead in its drinking water to test once every 3 years instead of annually because we have demonstrated such low lead concentrations 3 years in a row.

During talks with Poudre Valley REA regarding their lines in the Lyons Valley Townhome construction area, we brought up undergrounding their lines that run between the dog park and middle/high school where they provide power. While they do not have any budget for undergrounding lines, they were willing to put together a high level cost estimate. It will at least be something we can potentially negotiate with in the future.

For 2022 Lyons reduced utilities rate for qualified individuals had 45 accounts qualify for at least a portion of the year. These accounts saved \$4,019 in electric utility fees. The Lyons Emergency & Assistance Fund, LEAF, also helps those who come to them in need to pay their utility bills. LEAF paid \$4,525 in Town of Lyons electric bills in 2022 before any administrative costs.