

Water is an essential element of our daily lives, yet we often take it for granted until a crisis forces us to recognize its importance. The tragic events in Flint, Michigan, served as a stark reminder of the vital role clean and safe water plays in our communities. In 2020, the City of Gibbon, took a proactive step to ensure the well-being of its residents by embarking on a comprehensive water study. The results of this study, guided by the City Engineers and water department staff, not only shed light on the city's water infrastructure needs but also set the stage for improved water quality and future growth. In this post, we will explore the highlights of Gibbon's water plan and its potential to secure a brighter future for the community.

### **A Brief History of Water Quality:**

In 2014, Gibbon made a significant decision to reroute its wells, redirecting them to pump water into a single transmission main. This strategic move combined the output of all five wells on the north side of town into one entry point at the city's 1-million-gallon reservoir, conveniently located on the same side. This foresight was crucial, as it anticipated that water treatment might become necessary in the future.

### **A Vision for the Future:**

Fast forward to 2020, and the city found itself at a crossroads. The water infrastructure is aging, the community is growing, and the need for safe, high-quality water has never been more apparent. This led to the city's decision to conduct a comprehensive water study, laying the foundation for a roadmap into the future.

### **Water Quality:**

One of the primary concerns addressed by the water study was the quality of water at the tap. Gibbon residents rightfully expect water that is not only safe to drink but also pleasant to use. The city recognized the importance of safeguarding the water quality, and its proactive approach is a testament to its commitment to residents' well-being. The water quality is safe and well within the limits set by the state.

### **Exploring New Water Sources:**

To ensure a sustainable water supply for the growing community, the City of Gibbon is actively exploring a new water source located to the north of town, signaling its dedication to the long-term welfare of its residents. Initial water samples from this source have shown promise, hinting at the possibility of a reliable and high-quality water supply.

### **Test Wells at the Golf Course:**

The city is taking cautious steps to verify the water quality of this new source. This fall, we plan to install a few test wells at the Golf Course, strategically chosen sites for assessing the water quality. These tests will provide valuable data to ensure that the new water source meets the stringent quality standards the city is committed to delivering.

### **Conclusion:**

Gibbon's water plan demonstrates a proactive approach to addressing the essential issue of clean and safe water. The city's commitment to water quality and its foresight in water infrastructure planning not only ensures the well-being of current residents but also paves the way for future growth and prosperity.