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FALL 2023

Your Community News

Village of Clinton • Canal Fulton • Lawrence Township

VILLAGE OF CLINTON



This year, Trick or Treat will take place from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Tuesday, October 31st. Residents wishing to participate, are asked to turn on their front porch light, during those hours. Please be extra careful, while driving through the Village during this time. Slow down and watch out for the Trick or Treaters running through the Village.

Christmas at the Harter House



Diane Gunter and the Historical Society, will be hosting a Christmas Open House on Sunday, December 10, from 2-4. Last year, was the first Harter Christmas Open House. The house was beautifully decorated by Diane Gunter and her small team of elves. This year, Diane is asking for volunteers to sponsor a room. She would like to encourage families or individuals to pick a theme, be creative, gather your decorations and have fun. Contact Diane Gunter at 330-605-5699 to find out what rooms are available and make arrangements to get your room decorated. If you don't have the decorations, however, still have the desire to sponsor a

room; Diane may be able to help you with that. Just give her a call. All rooms need to be completed by Sunday, November 26th.

As they do every year, the members of Historical Society will be putting together Holiday Cheer Baskets. The baskets will be distributed in mid-December. If you know of someone who could use some Holiday Cheer; please contact Lorraine Moore (330-906-3059) by December 1, 2023.



7871 Main Street Clinton, OH 44216
330-882-4782

Office Hours:
Tues., Thur., Fri. 9 AM - 1 PM
www.clintonoh.gov

Mayor: Bud McDaniel, mayor@clintonoh.gov

Council Meetings: 1st and 3rd Tuesday, Monthly 7:00 PM

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Kent Goch, President, kgoch@clintonoh.gov
Ellen Conroy, econroy@clintonoh.gov
Marissa Gensimore, mgensimore@clintonoh.gov
Janice Godwin, clintonoh.gov
Lewis Rash, lrash@clintonoh.gov
Matt Steiner, msteiner@clintonoh.gov

Secretary: Sue Mayberry, admin@clintonoh.gov
Street Supt.: Kevin White, street@clintonoh.gov
Fiscal Officer: Leah Weirick, fiscal@clintonoh.gov
Fire Chief: Wayne Conroy, cfd400@clintonohfire.gov
Zoning Inspector: Jeff Ferjutz, 330-417-2298, zoning@clintonoh.gov

A MESSAGE FROM

Mayor William (Bud) McDaniel



Maybe it is just me do all of you wish summer wouldn't end? Even though we had a nice long, hot summer, the mosquitos did hold off until we had several rainy days. We knew this would end and although winter is just around the corner, there are some good memories. If you live in the city, there is always something to do. We are offered Akron Zoo tickets every year and I hope that most residents had a chance to take advantage of a free trip to the zoo. For our small town, you just finished two great events, Applefest and the run to the wall at the veterans park.

Now what is coming up that will keep us going throughout the fall and winter? Clinton has enjoyed our Halloween night on Halloween for several years and it has been well received. This year is on a Tuesday night between 6 and 8 pm. Come downtown as I and many people on council and our fire department will be handing out candy or some sort of treat. Right around the corner on November 11th at the Ohio Veterans Memorial Park, we will have our candlelight vigil from 5 till 6:30 pm. Thanksgiving is only a few weeks away from that, then the next Saturday on December 2nd at the OVMP is our annual tree lighting at 5 pm. Then a few weeks later will be the wreaths across America on the 16th of December in which wreaths will then don our wall that are placed by many volunteers. Next thing you know is that it is Christmas then New Year's Day.

As you can see, there is a lot to do in a small town. I guess that is why I enjoy this village so much. If you are between events, there is a lot to see at the OVMP, or you can visit one of our parks, or hike on the towpath trail. Please, enjoy your winter before it also passes too quickly.



FROM THE DESK OF Fire Chief Wayne Conroy

This has been a busy and exciting summer for Clinton Fire Department. We received a couple of different grants, the big one was from the Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG). This grant was for over \$500,000 and is much needed for smaller departments like ours to be able to keep current with fire-related needs.

As we get into the fall months, please be aware that the village of Clinton follows EPA guidelines when it comes to open burns. Open burns shall be kept to clean dry wood, this means that leaves and yard waste shall not be burned at any point during the yard and come the fall months there is a burn ban in effect where nothing shall be burned. For more information, please visit epa.ohio.gov/static/Portals/47/facts/openburn.pdf

During the villages trick or treat we will have fire trucks going around the village with lights on, our intent in doing this is to try and control vehicle speed on our roads. These trucks will not be handing out candy, if anyone would like a treat, please stop by the Main Street station.

We still have a few smoke alarms available to residents who would like one. Feel free to stop by the Cleveland-Massillon Rd. station to pick one up while supplies last.



SANTA CLAUS IS COMING TO TOWN, Sunday, December 3, 2023! He will ride through the Village in a Clinton Fire Truck, arriving a Village Hall at 2:00 p. m. Residents are invited to bring their youngsters to visit with Santa. Each child will receive a book and an ornament. The Historical Society will provide cookies and cocoa. Come out and make some treasured memories with you loved ones.

PLEASE VISIT WWW.CLINTONOH.GOV FOR FURTHER INFORMATION



From the desk of
Mayor Joseph Schultz
Free Will

We have all heard the expression; freedom isn't free. Our freedom is largely due to the sacrifice of hundreds of thousands of men and women who lived the scripture of John 15: Man hath known no greater love than this; that a man lay down his life for a friend. You'll be reading this about a month prior to Veterans' Day. And, I want to take a moment to honor all of you who were and are willing to sacrifice your life to give me the freedom I enjoy. Our freedom comes with a responsibility to participate in our democratic process to vote for or against people and issues. Prior to Veterans' Day we will be called upon to exercise our "Free Will" on November 8th. I want to encourage each and every one of you to take part and vote. God created us to be free and to have the free will to make decisions. I thank God that we live in a country that has a Constitution which grants us some incredible rights such as voting for our elected officials and free speech. A lot of really good things have happened in Canal Fulton over the last eight years and I give all of the praise to God. And I thank you for giving me the opportunity to be a part of it.

From the desk of
City Manager Dan Bucher, Jr.

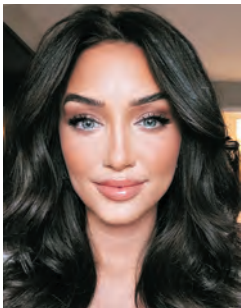


It is hard to believe that it's already October! By the time you read this article, (I wrote this in mid-September) most of our projects are being completed for the year. The downtown crosswalks have been upgraded, the light poles have been replaced, and traffic poles, hitching posts and street signs has been changed from brown to black. Halloween decorations are up as we get ready for several weekends of events, including the Hatfield Fall Fest and the Haunted Canal Boat rides. October is shaping up to be a fun month here in Canal Fulton!

I know I'm really skipping ahead here, but I've been thinking about Thanksgiving lately. I've usually used my newsletter space to discuss all of the personnel changes that we seem to constantly deal with, as well as the long list of projects that we are trying to complete. But I wanted to talk briefly about what I am thankful for in this community. First and foremost, I am thankful for my staff. Being such a small city, our budget does not afford us the flexibility to hire a large staff. Those that do work here are required to wear several hats, and do work that generally would not fall in their job descriptions. Everyone here, from our police and fire, to streets, utilities, parks, and even the administrative staff at city hall, is willing to step up and help with whatever is necessary to make our city prosper. I am also thankful for all of the business owners. Having a historic downtown district comes with its own set of challenges. Many people enjoy visiting historic areas, but a town needs great businesses in order to draw tourists in. Canal Fulton has come a long way in the past 5 years with some great additions to our businesses. Many of the business owners have come together and embraced the sense of community that is needed, helping put on events and working together for the benefit of everyone. When a local government and the private sector work together, great things can happen. I am excited to be a part of continuing to build this relationship.

My next article will look ahead to all of the projects we intend to complete in 2024. In the meantime, I hope everyone has a safe fall and winter. As always, if there is anything you need from city hall, my door is always open.

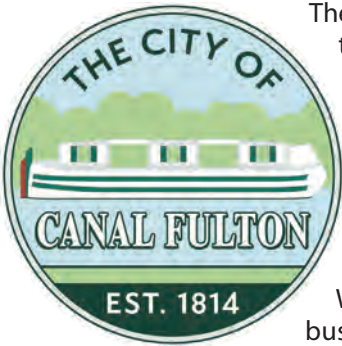
From the desk of
Economic Development Director Alyssa Bettis



Welcoming New Businesses to Canal Fulton!

As the season transitions into fall and winter, Canal Fulton continues to thrive with the addition of exciting new businesses to our community. These new establishments are not only bringing fresh energy but also contributing to the economic growth of our town.

We are delighted to welcome a range of new businesses to Canal Fulton, each adding their unique touch to our vibrant community. These businesses, including Almost Heaven Ice Cream, Warehouse on the Canal, Bright Bubble Tea and More, WanderLust Boutique, Cast Iron Bar and Grille, Helm's Game Legacies, and many more in the works, are helping to shape a diverse and dynamic business landscape.



The arrival of these new ventures speaks to the appeal and potential of our community. Each business represents a commitment to the growth and development of Canal Fulton, with entrepreneurs and visionaries recognizing the positive environment we offer for their endeavors.

We invite you to support these new businesses and experience the innovative offerings they bring to our community. By shopping local and patronizing these establishments, you help foster a thriving economy and ensure the continued success of Canal Fulton.

As we move into a new season, let's embrace these exciting additions to our local business scene. Stay tuned for more updates on the progress of these establishments, and be sure to explore the many unique offerings they bring to our beloved Canal Fulton.

Together, let's continue to make Canal Fulton a thriving and prosperous place for everyone.

Greetings from the **Zoning Dept.**

Fall Cleanup: A Poem

*As autumn arrives and leaves change their hue,
The air gets cooler, and school's back in view.*

*But here's a concern we should all address,
Yards full of leaves and branches can be a mess.*

*But don't fret yet, friends, I've got a plan in store,
To help our city look clean like never before.*

*For just twenty-five dollars, you can obtain,
A Yard-Waste Pass at City Hall to ease the strain.*

*The Yard Waste Drop-off is a place you can go,
To dispose of your clippings, with ease, you should know.*

*Come on down, every neighbor, from street to street,
Let's keep our city lovely and clean, so neat.*

*This fall, when leaves fall, like nature's art,
Our leaf pickup service will play its part.*

*In mid-October, this service starts anew,
For you and your neighbors, we're here to help you.*

*Rake up those leaves and place them by the curb,
We'll pick them up carefully, no need to disturb.*

*In this changing season, with colors so bright,
Let's ensure our city looks just right!*

For questions, comments, or concerns, give us a call at 330-854-0590, or email us at: zoning@cityofcanalfulton-oh.gov.

UPCOMING EVENTS

OCT 26
11:30 AM

October Networking Luncheon

NOV 16
11:30 AM

November Networking Luncheon

DEC 7
5:00PM

Christmas Party!

STAY CONNECTED

Scan QR Code for easy registration and a full list of upcoming events!

CANALFULTONCHAMBER.WILDAPRICOT.ORG



Leaf Pick Up

We are pleased to announce that leaf pick-up season is approaching, and our dedicated team will soon be collecting leaves throughout the city. Starting in mid-October, you can expect our leaf pick-up service to commence.

As the vibrant autumn foliage begins to adorn our streets, we kindly request you to rake your leaves to the edge of your property, keeping them clear of sidewalks and roadways. This will ensure a smooth and efficient leaf collection process while maintaining safety for pedestrians and motorists.

Please note that only leaves will be collected during this program. We kindly request that you refrain from including other yard waste or debris in the leaf piles. This will enable our team to effectively manage the collection and recycling of leaves to benefit our community.

Keep an eye out for further updates and specific dates regarding leaf pick-up in your neighborhood. We appreciate your cooperation in helping to keep our city clean.

Gary Hosking, Service Director
servdir@cityofcanalfulton-oh.gov



Team Photo at North Canton Hoover Park Celebration by Marc Biss

FULTON MULES VINTAGE BASE BALL CLUB

On Saturday, July 8, during the Old Canal Days Festival the Fulton Mules Vintage Base Ball Club demonstrated the game of base ball as it was played in the 1860s and the height of the Ohio Canal Era. A visiting club from Smithville, the Stars, came to town and played a nine inning contest. The Fulton Mules won by a total of 19 tallies to 2 for the Stars.

The following day the Mules held another demonstration New York Rules of Baseball at the Hoover Park Celebration in North Canton, playing an interclub match where the “Old” Mules squared off against the “Younger” members of the club. The Old timers were victorious by a score of 13 to 8.

Vintage Base Ball is a historical demonstration of the game of base ball that attempts to educate and entertain the spectators on the history of the game and how it was played using the rules and customs from various historic eras.

The Fulton Mules conclude their season on Oct 7th playing at Historic League Park in Cleveland for the Temple Cup. Look for the Mules next year as they celebrate their 30th season since forming as an extension of historic programing by the Canal Fulton Heritage Society. Please visit their Facebook page at: facebook.com/CanalFultonMules



The Santa Project

The Santa project hosted by Luke19 has been giving children Christmas for over 8 years in the Canal Fulton area. The families are interviewed, and the children receive a want, a need, and an outfit to return to school. We love to have community partners and volunteers.

Nov. 11: Tags are available. Each tag represents a need, want or clothing for a family member. We will have tags available at locations in the community. If you are a business, church, organization or individual that would like to offer tags to your customers, family, or friends, please contact Jackie at Luke19org@gmail.com. If you don't like to shop we understand, you can still sponsor a child and let our shoppers do the work. Go to www.luke19.org/donations.html to make a donation for a child's gift.

DEC. 8: All gifts are to be returned to SS Philip and James UNWRAPPED with the tag attached securely. SS Philip and James graciously allows use of the school gym for the Santa Project.

DEC. 9: Sorting Day at SS Philip and James school gym 532 High St.- begins at 8:30 am. We need volunteers to setup tables and begin the sorting of the hundreds of gifts. Students may help until all the gifts are sorted.

DEC. 10: Wrapping Day - Volunteers are needed to wrap all the gifts. Wrapping begins at 11am and lunch is provided. The day ends when all gifts are wrapped. You can volunteer all day or just an hour we appreciate all help. We do ask that no children from the Northwest or RG Drage school districts assist as we wish to keep our families anonymous.

DEC. 16: Family Pick up Day - Volunteers are needed at 7am to setup tables, sort the wrapped gifts, sort and bag all the food. Pickup begins promptly at 10 am. Children can help until 9:45 am.

The Canal Fulton area, businesses, churches, organizations and community members have been amazing and generous contributors these past 8 years. We are truly grateful and blessed by your on going support.

Canal Fulton's
Twelve Days of Christmas
2023

- 1. Dec. 1st, 8th: Wreath making
- 2. Dec 2nd: Ornament making (during Christmas on the Canal)
- 3. Dec. 2nd Gingerbread house/mini Christmas tree contest (during Christmas on the Canal)
- 4. Dec. 2nd: Christmas light parade
- 5. Dec. 2nd: Canal Fulton Christmas Tree Lighting
- 6. Dec. 3rd: Parade of homes
- 7. Home and Business decorating contest
- 8. Dec. 10th: A Sweet Stroll Down Candy Cane Lane
- 9. Community Gift Collection
- 10. Community Meal Preparation
- 11. Community Gift Wrapping
- 12. Dec. 28th: Roller Skating Party, 6-8:00pm

For More Details Follow the QR Code

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at **9am!**

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Trustee Talk: From Trustee Keith Blowers

Financials, Levies and Taxes

I hope everyone had a wonderful summer! Fall is my favorite time of year, but it also comes with some unpleasant side effects like cold weather, rain, and tax levies. Unfortunately, all of these are unavoidable. The township needs your support to provide necessary services to residents. As we have mentioned before, for those in the township, we are the sole provider of local police, fire, EMS, township road, and zoning services.

The attached chart shows our collective property tax revenues which represent the majority of the total budget.

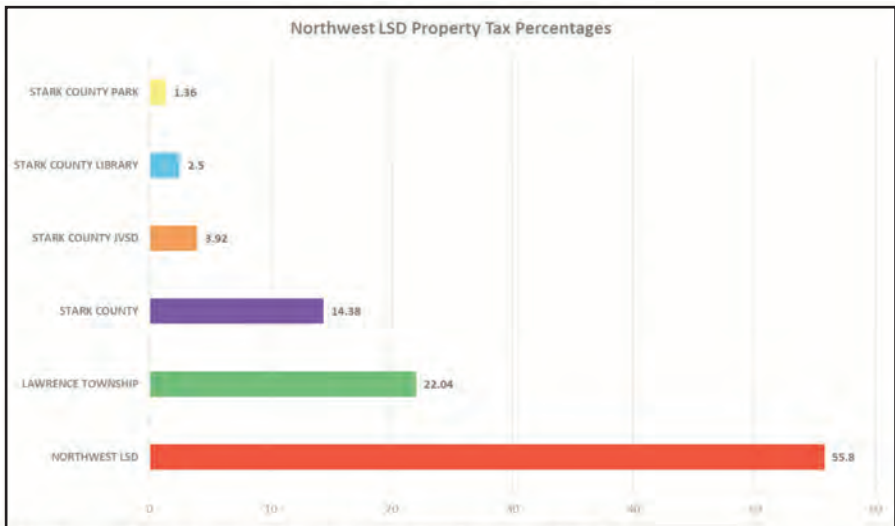
- The exploded slices represent levy funds that are up for replacement in November.
- Combined, they represent 28% of the tax revenue.
- They include two fire levies (1.5 mill combined), one police levy (1.5 mill) and our sole remaining road levy (1 mill)
- We are also asking again to pass a new levy to replace the one that previously expired in 2021.
- 1 mill is worth \$35.00 yearly per \$100,000.00 of property valuation.
- Combined, in total, we are asking for 5.65 mills which would cost \$197.75 per year per \$100,000.00 of valuation. You are currently paying \$110.61 (effective rate), the expired levy cost \$49.00, which leaves an increase of \$38.14 (See replacement vs. renewal section).

If you want more specific details, there is a levy facts sheet on our website www.lawrencetwp-oh.org.

The bottom line is that Lawrence Township is a great community full of hardworking people. We are very aware of the economic pressure every household is feeling right now and nobody wants to pay more taxes. However, these are services we all NEED. These levies are paying the salaries of people that live and work HERE in our community. Plowing our streets, keeping us safe, and answering the call when you need help. I strongly encourage you to support our community come November 7th. I am always available to answer any questions. Call me at 330-854-3830 or kblowers@lawrencetwp-oh.org.

Replacement vs Renewal Levy
The township decided to replace, rather than renew the levies that are on the ballot. When a levy is placed on the ballot the township sets the millage based on the amount of money it would like to generate. Over the lifespan of the levy the effective millage decreases as valuations increase since the levy can't collect more than that original amount. Property owners pay at the effective rate rather than the original mill rate as valuations increase. A renewal would collect the same amount of dollars as when the levy was first passed and is paid at the effective rate; a replacement uses the same terms and conditions as the current levy but updates the amount to the current valuation.

Why do we need this increase? We all understand that everything gets more expensive over time, and the township is not exempt. Items we need most like fuel, road materials, salt, truck maintenance, uniforms and gear, and EMS and fire equipment have all increased in price significantly. In addition, our personnel costs, including wages and insurance, increase over time. We need our revenues to increase with the valuations in order to keep up with rising costs.



Tuslaw numbers only vary slightly and can be found on our website

General Levy Facts
For those who are not familiar, I want to share a few quick general levy facts. Ohio townships are solely funded through property tax levies and have no ability to tax income like schools or cities. Lawrence Township receives approximately 22 cents for every \$1.00 a property owner pays in property tax to the County. The 22 cents is further divided by district (General, Police, Road, Road & Bridge and Fire) according to the levies. Levies are attached to a certain fund and only permitted to be used for the purposes stated on the ballot. We cannot transfer funds between departments aside from the general fund. In Lawrence Township, salaries, fuel, equipment, and materials represent the overwhelming majority of the expenditures. The trustees work closely with our fiscal officer to do our due diligence in order to prevent any wasteful spending. Our tax budget was passed at the August 7th meeting and is available for review by residents.

continued on next page

Lawrence Township Tax Budget (2023 Estimated)



Upcoming 2023 Trustee Meetings

Generally, regular meetings of the Board are set for the first and third Mondays of each month (subject to holiday adjustment), beginning at 4:30 p.m. for executive sessions, as authorized. Such executive sessions to conclude no later than 5:30 p.m.; with the public session to then commence at 5:30 p.m. at each regular meeting.

October 2	5:30 p.m.
October 16	5:30 p.m.
November 6	5:30 p.m.
November 20	5:30 p.m.
December 4	5:30 p.m.
December 18	5:30 p.m.

SERVING LAWRENCE TOWNSHIP

ADMINISTRATIVE HOURS: Monday 8 a.m. - 6 p.m. | Tues - Thurs. 8 a.m. - 3 p.m. | Closed Friday
Email: info@lawrencetwp-oh.org

Keith Blowers, President (Liaison for the Fire & Park Departments)	330-904-9319 kblowers@lawrencetwp-oh.org
Sean Roseman, Vice President (Liaison for the Road Department)	330-353-4349 sroseman@lawrencetwp-oh.org
Douglas Swartz, Trustee (Liaison for the Police Department)	330-705-1457 dswartz@lawrencetwp-oh.org
Cindy Meismer, Fiscal Officer	330-854-3830 cmeismer@lawrencetwp-oh.org
Frank Melito, Zoning Inspector	330-854-7118 fmelito@lawrencetwp-oh.org
Kristin Letham, Admin. Assistant	330-854-3830 k letham@lawrencetwp-oh.org
Marita Simon, Fiscal Assistant	330-854-3830 msimon@lawrencetwp-oh.org
Lawrence Township Road Garage	330-854-3494 msibila@lawrencetwp-oh.org
Lawrence Township Police Dept.	330-854-2096 Non-Emergency
Lawrence Township Fire Dept.	330-854-6755 Non-Emergency
North Lawrence Vol. Fire Dept.	330-832-6347 Non-Emergency

Financials, Levies and Taxes (continued)

ROAD DISTRICT TAX LEVY

As we come into fall, and election time, it is important to discuss our road department and why the upcoming tax levies are so important. Our Road Department currently maintains 57 miles of roadway.

What does our Road Department do?

- Road Maintenance - patching, paving and resurfacing roads, snow and ice removal
- Tree Removal - from roadways during storms, road sightline obstructions, and tree trimming along roadways
- Road Culverts and Catch Basins - clean out, repair, and replacement
- Mowing Roadsides - keep roads free of obstructions and sightline clearance
- Ditching and Berming - keep the water flowing off the roadway
- Vehicle Maintenance - servicing and repairs to equipment
- Road Signs - replacing signs that have been damaged or stolen, including stop signs, road signs and street signs
- Guardrail Repair

Prior to 2022, our road district was funded by two tax levies, one of which expired. We are asking for a replacement of the sole remaining road levy, as well as a “new” levy to replace the one that expired in 2021. Below is an outline of road district expenditures from 2021 and 2022.

Road District Expenditures	2022	2021	Difference
Personnel	\$ 96,909	\$ 110,526	
Capital	\$ -	\$ 71,700	
Material	\$ 65,349	\$ 164,869	
Supplies & Equipment	\$ 45,987	\$ 66,881	
Total	\$ 208,245	\$ 413,977	\$ (205,732)

While budget cuts can be good fiscally, in this case it is hurting the service provided to residents. The reduction in material purchases represents a reduction in repairs and resurfacing done to our roadways. No capital spending means our trucks, plows, and mowers are not being replaced. We currently have two plow/salt trucks that are over ten years old and will need to be replaced soon. Even if we purchased now, a replacement would take two years to receive. Previously, we had four road department employees, now we have three. This means each plow route in the winter takes five hours, approximately three hours to salt only. This only gets longer in the event of illness or other issues. This has an impact on everyone who lives or travels through our township in the winter.

Our township roads are chip and seal; they will continue to wear and deteriorate if they are not resurfaced on a regular schedule. We should be resurfacing a minimum of 12 miles per year to keep our roads in good shape. This process requires our road crews to repair any bad spots or holes prior to resurfacing. Given current restraints we made necessary repairs but have not resurfaced a single mile of road in 2022 or 2023. Below is a chart that represents just a few common items needed by the road department and the increase in cost.

	2021	2022	Increase
Resurfacing Cost/mile	\$ 14,996	\$ 23,177	55%
#8 Gravel (per ton)	\$ 13	\$ 22	69%
MC-3000 (tar/gal)	\$ 3	\$ 5	54%
Slag (per ton)	\$ 40	\$ 57	43%

Without levy funding, we will continue to fall further and further behind leading to deteriorating roads, equipment, and the end result is deteriorating service to our residents. We hope you will consider this information when you head to the polls come November 7th. As always, any of the trustees or our fiscal officer are available to discuss any questions or concerns, please feel free to reach out.



Trustee Talk:
From Trustee
Sean Roseman

Lawrence Township Park

Well, yet another year has flown by again, and what an exciting year 2023 has been for the township. Last year the township asked the community for suggestions on what to use the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds for. Most of the suggestions were to invest in Lawrence Township Park. So, the trustees have updated the playground equipment, and added a large asphalt parking lot that was once a grass field. Only the base asphalt was installed so later it can be chip and sealed or a finish layer of asphalt can be installed. The final major project for the park will be the addition of restrooms that will be added to the existing pavilion. The new restrooms will be heated and will be open the hours of the park. Until becoming a trustee, I had no idea how much the park and walking path were used. There are not too many times you drive by without seeing someone using the park; and, that is why we believe investing these funds, that we normally would not have, in making the park a better place for families to enjoy. Again, these improvements are not being funded by your county real estate taxes.

Lawrence Township Levies

Now, let’s talk about taxes. Please don’t forget to exercise your right to vote on November 2nd. The township has several levies on the ballot this fall. These are the same levies and millage that were approved five years ago. Yes, nobody likes the word “taxes,” but this is how this great township is funded. We are very fortunate to have all the great services that the township has, and it does cost money to have these.

LAWRENCE TOWNSHIP TRICK-OR-TREAT



Tuesday, October 31 • 6 p.m. - 8 p.m.



ADDRESS
SIGNS
FOR SALE

Seconds count in an emergency. The Northwest Firefighter’s Association, in cooperation with the Lawrence Township Administrative Office, has green reflective blank signs and house numbers for sale. You will receive one blank sign and enough numbers for both sides of the sign. Please pay with cash or check only. No credit or debit cards will be accepted.

Prices are as follows:
Numbers & Plaque: \$30.00
Numbers Only: \$ 1.00 (pack of two)
Plaque Only: \$ 25.00

Please visit the Administrative Office to purchase:

5828 Manchester Avenue NW
Monday: 8am - 6pm
Tuesday - Thursday: 8am - 3pm

info@lawrencetwp-oh.org
(330) 854-3830



LAWRENCE TOWNSHIP

POLICE DEPARTMENT NEWS

Chief Dave Brown • 330-854-2096

In the election in November of 2019, there was a levy on the ballot for the police department. It was a new levy to convert us from a department that was full/part time, to a completely full-time department. The main reason, at the time, was we were losing good part-time officers to other departments who were hiring full-time. We knew if we didn't do something, we would lose more good officers. The levy was on the ballot and our residents approved the new levy! In mid-January of 2020, we promoted our four part-time officers to full-time and have maintained our full-time status since. It is time that our levy is going to expire. It will expire in December of 2024.

A few weeks ago, the township trustees approved to place the levy on the November 2023 ballot to replace the one approved in 2019. This replacement is not a new levy but will bring it up to current values. I know levies are confusing, they are to me as well. In the simplest way I can explain it since I am not an expert, a tax levy costs a homeowner \$35.00 per year per \$100,000.00 of value. As new homes are built, people pay a little bit less, and I mean a little, since it is spread across each property in the township. The \$35.00 is reduced slightly and over the four years may have been reduced by a couple dollars. A replacement levy returns the cost to \$35.00 per year, per \$100,000.00 of value. Although this is not a new levy, it will generate additional dollars as new homes have been built and is based on current property values. ***This levy is important to the police department as it will allow us to continue to operate as a completely full-time department.***



SOME EXCITING NEWS!

We have added a drug and tracking police K9 to our ranks. We would like to introduce Noa. Noa is a 1-year-old Belgian Malinois who is full of energy and who loves to play with her Kong and tennis balls. Noa and her handler, Patrolman Patterson began training in the beginning of September and are excited to patrol the township together. We look forward to having Noa at some community events, so you have a chance to meet her!

Noa was purchased with money collected from drug fines, seized drug money and donations from local organizations and residents. We were able to get Noa, the training and all equipment to start this project with zero levy dollars!

We hope to have your support again in November and that you had an enjoyable summer!

CONSUMERS National Bank WE DO IT ALL



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Cell: 330-620-5843

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NMLS 574703

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ZONING DEPT

**Zoning Inspector
Frank Melito**
330-854-7118



Fence Regulations

Lawrence Township does not require a permit to construct a fence; however, we do have regulations regarding the fence placement on your lot, as well as height restrictions. In any residential district, your fence may be a maximum of six feet tall in the side and rear yard, and a maximum of four feet in the front yard. (Note: your front yard begins at the building line of your house.) You can install a fence directly on your property line; however, we suggest that you move it in a few inches.

It is not always necessary to get a survey to install the fence. Our zoning office can provide an aerial map of your property showing property lines and usually that will help ensure the fence is installed in the correct place, however it could require a survey and the township cannot survey the property for you. Also, always be careful not to install the fence in the road Right-of-Way. Our zoning office can also help to identify the Right-of-Way before you plan your fence. As with any deck, shed, pool or home addition project, it is always a good idea to call our zoning office for some helpful information to ensure a successful project.

Additionally, whether you're planting a tree, shrub, or garden, installing a mailbox, or building a fence or deck, contacting OHIO811 before you dig protects your home and your family. Call 811 Before You Dig | OHIO811.



Did You Know?

Americans typically refer to this time of year as "fall," while the British use the word "autumn". Both terms date back to the 16th century but before that it was called "harvest". Fall was called harvest because of the harvest moon that occurs when the full moon is closest to the autumn equinox. Before man-made lighting, this moonlight was essential to a prosperous harvest.

Stark Soil & Water
Upcoming Program



Wildflower Seed Collection
October 21st (1:00 p.m.) at 16146 Daniel St. NE, Minerva

Assist staff with collection of seeds from a variety of flowering plants. Participants will learn how to collect and process seeds for future planting and can take some seeds home. Wear sturdy shoes and long pants.

Register by calling Huston-Brumbaugh Nature Center at 330-823-7487



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LAWRENCE TOWNSHIP

FIRE DEPARTMENT NEWS

Chief Shawn Yerian • 330-854-2456



LTFD Levy FAQ

What services does the Lawrence Township Fire Department provide?

Lawrence Township is an all-hazards emergency response fire department. The fire department's core functions are fire suppression, emergency medical response, hazardous materials response, fire prevention, and education. Fire department members respond to all significant events, such as ice storms, snowstorms, major electrical outages, floods, and any other emergency needs from homeowners in the community. Members of the fire department do much more than respond to emergencies. Other programs offered by the fire department include child passenger safety restraint installations, babysitting classes, smoke alarm installs, CPR and defibrillator training, and fire extinguisher training.

How busy is the Lawrence Township Fire Dept?

Lawrence Township Fire Department has seen a 105% increase in calls in 10 years. (2012: 876 incidents, 2022: 1,795 incidents)

How much does an ambulance cost?

New ambulances have increased by 45% in 11 years. In 2012, we purchased an ambulance for \$174,973; today, the same ambulance purchase was \$254,000.

Is the Mill Value the same everywhere?

No, the value of a mill is different for each community based on property values. For example, Lawrence Township 1 mill only produces approximately \$252,000 versus Canton Townships approx. \$417,000, Perry Township's approx. \$730,000, and Plain Township's approx. \$1,700,000.

Does the Fire Department use volunteers?

No, unfortunately, the use of volunteer firefighters stopped years ago. The State of Ohio has seen fewer volunteer firefighters due to a lack of interest, training requirements, and time constraints. We currently utilize part-time and paid-per-call staff.

How is the fire department staffed?

We strive to staff four (4) part-time EMTs a day.

How many full-time members do you have?

We have one (1) full-time member responsible for fire inspections and administrative duties.

How many fire levies does the Township have?

We have five (5) fire levies that support our fire department.

When did the last levy increase pass?

Fire District Fund					
Date Voted	Levy Years	Type	New	Voted Millage	Total Tax Est.
11/2/2021	2022 - 2026	Renewal	2012	0.50	\$ 78,291
11/6/2018	2019-2023	Replacement	2019	0.50	\$ 100,739
11/6/2018	2019-2023	Replacement	2019	1.00	\$ 201,478
11/2/2021	2021-2025	Renewal	2011	0.50	\$ 78,291
11/2/2021	2021-2025	Renewal	2011	1.90	\$ 297,504
Totals				4.40	\$ 756,303

Are there other funding sources for the fire department?

Yes, the fire department "soft bills" for EMS calls.

What is Soft Billing?

Soft billing occurs when the patient's insurance company is billed for services, the fire department accepts whatever the insurance carrier pays, and our agency writes off the bill's balance. The soft billing occurs for township residents only. Non-residents are charged the full amount for services regardless of the insurance coverage.

Do insurance companies pay the full amount charged for service?

Almost all insurance companies, including Medicare/Medicaid, will only pay a contracted amount; the balance is the patient's responsibility. For example, the cost of ambulance care/transport is \$900, and insurance is only contracted to pay \$400; the balance is the insured's responsibility.

How much is this levy request for?

Lawrence Township is seeking a replacement for:

Fire District Fund					
Date Voted	Levy Years	Type	New	Voted Millage	Total Tax Est.
11/6/2018	2019-2023	Replacement	2019	0.50	\$ 100,739
11/6/2018	2019-2023	Replacement	2019	1.00	\$ 201,478
Totals				1.50	\$ 302,217

What is the Effective Rate and increase?

	Current	New	Increase
	Effective	Effective	Effective
Voted Millage	Rate	Rate	Rate
0.50	\$ 13.83	\$ 17.50	\$ 3.67
1.00	\$ 27.65	\$ 35.00	\$ 7.35
1.50	\$ 41.48	\$ 52.50	\$ 11.02

What will the increase in funding provide?

This funding would maintain our current daily staffing levels across operations and administration. Our current staff wages are constantly being adjusted to address the competitiveness with other agencies to achieve workforce retention. The Department is also facing an ageing fleet of vehicles.

Is the fire department experiencing an increased demand for services?

Yes, the demand for service increases for a variety of reasons. The need to be more diverse in services rendered/called for, an aging community, heavier traveled roads, and specific community demands are all factors that affect calls for service.

If there was something that was not addressed that you would like to know or want further information about, please contact me by phone at 330-854-2456 or by email at: firechief@lawrencetwp-oh.org.

You can also stop by the station at 1165 Locust St. South in Canal Fulton.



North Lawrence Fire Dept. Updates



What's Happening

- The NLFD has recently hired 5 new members which have begun their ride time and new hire requirements along with attending fire and EMT school.
- The NLFD recently held a multi-department training consisting of Rapid Intervention Team (RIT) and Firefighter Self Rescue.
- The NLFD continues to see an increase in call volume.



Fundraising

We would like to thank everyone that supported us with our past fundraisers! From our sponsors to the attendees, we could not have done it without you and we look forward to many more next year! Donation Letter: You may have received a donation letter from us in the mail. We utilize municipal marketing to send these letters out every year. By performing mail-in donations we are able to purchase and/or replace apparatus and equipment. This year's goal (2024) is to replace our 2001 Chevy Suburban (Truck 6). Truck 6 serves many purposes for us such as getting members to training and school to responding to countless emergency calls.



Bingo!

We still hold bingo every Friday and Sunday! Doors open at 4:00pm, Early bird bingo at 6:00 pm and regular bingo at 6:15 pm.

The NLFD is hiring!

Education provided and paid for!

Volunteer/PRN/Part time spots available!

12 & 24 hour shifts!



As we enter the fall and winter season, please make sure your chimneys have been properly serviced and cleaned. Also ensure that space heaters are working to factory standards and do not hold any recalls. Do not plug space heaters into extension cords or surge protectors. And, it should go without saying, PLEASE check your smoke detector and CO alarm batteries!

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LAWRENCE TOWNSHIP



ROAD DEPT.

Superintendent: Mark Sibila
330-854-3494

FALL AND WINTER REMINDERS

Where did summer go? I can't believe fall is here and before long winter will come snarling and howling into the picture.

Leaf Pickup: There will be no leaf pickup in the township this fall.

Mailboxes: Check now for rotten posts and make sure the box is screwed on tight. If snow coming off the plow hits your mailbox and knocks it over, we are not responsible for replacing it.

Christmas Tree Pickup: There will be no Christmas Tree pickup in the township this winter.

Basketball Hoops, Etc.: Please remove all basketball hoops, etc. from the roads, especially in the cul-de-sacs. This enables the snowplows to maneuver properly to clear the snow and salt the pavement.

When Will the Township Plow My Street? The township has approximately 58 miles of roads. Roads are plowed giving priority to main roads, followed by secondary roads, then dead-end roads and cu-de-sacks.

Salting Roads: In an average snowfall of two to four inches, it takes four hours for our crew to spread the first application of salt on all township roads. That first application of salt is crucial to prevent the snow from bonding to the pavement.

Plowing, Snow Less Than Six Inches: Snows with accumulations of less than six inches should allow the crew to plow every street within eight hours after the storm has ended, providing there is no wind involved that would cause drifting snow.

Plowing, Snow Six Inches or More: With a storm of six inches or more, it usually takes eight hours after the storm has ended to get through every street. During a very heavy snowfall, snowplows may need to be rerouted from secondary roads repeatedly to concentrate on keeping the main roads open. This can cause delays. Wind again is a factor; with wind you could go out every three to four hours to plow drifting snow. Equipment breakdowns should also be taken into consideration as no matter how well we have taken care of our equipment, problems can and do occur.

Missed Streets: If your street has not been plowed after the period of time indicated above, please call the Township Road Department and leave a message as we will probably not be in our office or call the administrative office or any of your trustees. These numbers are all listed in this newsletter.

Why Does My Driveway Get Plowed Back In? We make every effort to clear roads and storm drains to prevent icing conditions if remaining snow melts and refreezes. Snowplows are angled to the right. You can help by shoveling snow to the right of your driveway or into your yard. It's the best way to minimize the amount of snow that may get plowed back into your driveway.

A Few Additional Safety Tips

We can clear the roads faster and better with your help. The following information may make your travel during severe weather safer.

- Do not tailgate snowplows! Stay at least two car lengths behind. Never cut between a caravan of plows clearing the highway.
- During ice storms, beware of possible power outages affecting traffic signals, downed tree limbs and other debris.
- Beware of "black ice" where roads may appear to be wet but are actually glazed with ice.
- Keep in mind that bridges, ramps, overpasses, and roads in low-lying areas tend to freeze first.
- If possible, stay off roads during inclement weather. If you must go out, take caution and allow plenty of extra time and braking distance.
- Let someone know your travel plans and tell them you will call when you arrive.

Have a Safe & Happy Fall and Winter!



DID YOU KNOW?

Lawrence Township has an Emergency Snow Resolution (Resolution 99-364) in place that limits or prohibits residents from parking on township streets or highways when a snow emergency has been declared. A snow emergency will be declared only when two or more inches of snow has fallen within an hour. This order will be issued when the regional forecast for the weather indicates several days of heavy snow. It will be posted on our website and Facebook.

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