Presented by
Mayor John M. Stanforth
January 3rd, 2019
A Message from Mayor John M. Stanforth

We have completed another successful year. I am proud of all our department heads for continuing the valuable service they provide to our citizens while husbanding the taxpayers’ money. We will continue to give the citizens the service they deserve.

2018 did not disappoint and I can think of many highlights. We carried the momentum of a successful previous year and continued keeping our word; providing services, paving streets, and continuing our work with code enforcement. 2018 proved to be another record year in residential paving, so much so that we paved the majority of the Denver neighborhood and added the Southridge neighborhood, a year ahead of schedule. As with the success of the previous years’ paving projects, it could not have been completed without the additional tax revenue the citizens entrusted us with.

The year ahead is a planning year as we undertake the engineering of Rombach Avenue paving project. Planning is already underway as we work with ODOT and our engineers to obtain even more grant funds for traffic signal replacements. Our goal is to upgrade the traffic signals to radar controlled. This large scale project will have many moving parts, as the Water Department will work ahead of the paving project to replace a 4 inch water line running from The Romabach/Fife Ave point across from the Wilmington College to J.W. Denver Williams Park. From our estimates, this line is an original, dating 100 years old.

Rick Schaffer, Water Treatment Plant Superintendent, continues to lead the way as we navigate our contract dispute with the Army Corps of Engineers. With the help of ODNR, we hope to resolve this soon. In the midst of a lot of changes, the department has maintained quality water while completing numerous projects, like restoring the pump house at the reservoirs and adding the EPA recommended Source Water Protection Program. 2019 looks to be full of changes and planning. Council approved the contract for automatic metering and these upgrades will soon be underway. Engineering is continuing for the plant upgrade and the fluoridation program.

Under the leadership of Superintendent Mike Crowe and with the dedicated staff, the landfill continues to operate well within the OEPA guidelines. The waste and recycling automation program continues to go smoothly, as well as the much expanded cardboard recycling program. 2019 rings in with the purchase of a new compactor. The recent purchase of a used compactor had less longevity than hoped and the replacement is on order. We intend to begin the financing portion of the westward expansion in this year and will work with council to complete.

The Wastewater and Sewer Department continued to upgrade the interior and exterior of the aging facility. The department will complete the purchase of a new lateral launch camera system to view laterals per OEPA’s requirements. The work Harry McVey, Wastewater and Sewer Superintendent, and his department does not go unnoticed. They are all working diligently to complete a new Master Plan, another grueling OEPA requirement.
A Message from Mayor John M. Stanforth

The M&R Department, often known as the Service Department, did just that this year. The service provided to the community was exceptional, with striping of streets and curbs to the green thumb they provided to the downtown hanging flower baskets. With the management of that program, citizens got to enjoy the flower baskets until the end of September this year, an additional six weeks of bloom. Also with the help of the M&R department, and several volunteers, one of my proudest accomplishments on 2018 is the ninety trees that were planted within the city. The year finished with heavy rain and ice storms, causing a large amount of limb cleanup and severely delaying leaf pickup but the department continues this work.

With continued federal and state grant funding, Wilmington Transit Department, safely completed the transport of over 150,000 passengers, over 50% qualifying as elderly or disabled. I continue to be in awe of the success of this program and the generosity of council and the community to continue to provide the grant matching funds. The department completed the first attempt at the much anticipated automated dispatch. It was not successful but Tony Morris, Superintendent, and his staff are working with ODOT to utilize a different software that will meet the changes in technology but also allow the department to meet our customers expectations.

Our Fire Department enjoyed the delivery of the first capital equipment purchase in ten years with the delivery of a new squad. We have budgeted the purchase of an additional squad for 2019 and this is a nice start to replacing the department’s aging fleet. We are very proud to be awarded the funding for three fire fighters through the FEMA SAFER grant, though we have struggled with recruitment in a very competitive field statewide. We look to the addition of a full-time firefighter/paramedic to each shift and look forward to introducing the new hires to the community.

Wilmington Police Department and Dispatch continue to be effectively operated under the leadership of Chief Weyand. We continue to maintain an exceptionally trained and skilled police force and are very proud our Dispatch maintains advanced life saving credentials. After an exciting and successful career, Karson retired and on behalf of the community, we thank him for his dedicated service. In 2019, the department will implement a new computer aided dispatch system that will aid in the efficiency of the operation. It’s a large project to undertake and are confident in the success.

Our city parks continue to serve the community under the leadership of Superintendent Jermaine Isaac. His expanded sports programs have proved to be successful and the splash pad very popular. The park is continuing into 2019 with the successful campaign to replace the Castle Park.

2018 has been an exciting and successful year. I want to thank every employee who continues to go above and beyond and find ways to serve the community. Your dedication is matched only by my appreciation for you.
It has been another busy year in the City of Wilmington Building & Zoning Department. Here is the breakdown:

The number of permits issued and fees collected for the year are the highest this department has on record since 1997. We issued 466 total permits. The number of residential permits decreased slightly from 221 to 220 but the number of commercial permits nearly doubled increasing 87.3% over last year.

Total valuation for construction work increased four times over the 2017 amount to $2,1248,656. Residential valuations increased slightly while the biggest increase was on the commercial side. Permit fees collected totaled $345,890.68. Permit fees are a combination of flat and calculated charges based on the area of the work.

In 2018, seventeen new structures were built. Of those seventeen structures, eleven were new single-family homes. These homes were constructed in the Timber Glen, Buckeye Hills and Crown Point subdivisions. This keeps pace with the increase in new residential construction that started in 2016.

As for building department inspections, 523 building and electrical inspections were completed. 150 inspections were for electrical work and the remaining 373 covered building, mechanical, and fire work. The fire department began using a new software this year that allows the building department to access their schedule and share building information, improving communication between departments.

Some of the commercial projects that were completed this year:

- Expansion at the Wilmington Christian Academy
- A new greenhouse for Bright Farms
- A new greenhouse for Ancient Roots
- A new storage building at Davids Drive Store & Lock
- A new location for Shoe Sensation
- Remodel of former eye doctor’s office for Laney’s Cake & Bakery

There were also some smaller notable remodels and changes completed: Wilmington Medical Associates, Wilmington Library entrance, and the seating reconfiguration at the Murphy Theater.

Works in progress include a new dialysis center, renovation of buildings at the airpark, a new building for First State Bank, renovations at Kroger to include at Starbucks and Little Clinic, Dealertrack expanding into existing warehouse space, new silos at Timbertech, and a remodel for a new coffee shop.
Building & Zoning Department

Design Review Board/Board of Zoning Appeals

The following is a breakdown of all building permits issued by purpose in 2018:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Construction Purpose</th>
<th>Permit Tally</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>New Single Family Home</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Multifamily Homes</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expand Residential Home</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Repair/Remodel Residential Home</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deck/Porch</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Commercial Building</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expand Commercial Building</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Repair/Remodel Commercial Building</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Industrialized Unit</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Outbuilding</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expand Outbuilding</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Repair/Remodel Outbuilding</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Utility</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>80</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The remaining 386 permits issued were for electrical, mechanical, fire suppression and alarm work, signs, demolition, and certificates of occupancy.

Board of Zoning Appeals

The Board of Zoning Appeals hears requests from applicants pursuing variances to the Zoning Code, conditional use requests, and appeals from code enforcement orders. The Board met nine times this year and heard requests regarding signage, setback requirements, conditional uses, parking lot requirements, and an appeal of a code enforcement order. The Board approved 3 conditional uses and 9 requests for variance. The Board denied 1 variance request and 1 appeal of a code enforcement order.

Design Review Board

The Design Review Board meets to review requests for Certificates of Appropriateness for any exterior changes to properties that lie within the Downtown Historic District. The Board met four times this year and issued ten Certificates of Appropriateness. The Board also assisted the City of Hillsboro Design Review Board with a request regarding one of their historic properties.
Building & Zoning Department

Code Enforcement

The City of Wilmington Building and Zoning Department accepts complaints regarding violations of the City’s Property Maintenance and Zoning Codes. Our Code Enforcement Official, Mark Wiswell, investigates the complaints.

The number of complaints reported increased this year from 446 to 549. Those 549 complaints involved 436 properties. Sixteen of the complaints resulted in no actionable violation being found. The remaining 533 complaints resulted in 590 violations being found. Here is a breakdown of all property maintenance complaints received:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Violation Reporter/Found</th>
<th>Tally</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unsafe Structures and Equipment (also demo orders, vacant structures)</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General—(Exterior &amp; Interior Property Areas, Exterm.)</td>
<td>94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mechanical &amp; Electrical Requirements</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plumbing Facilities &amp; Fixture Requirements</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire Safety Requirements</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weeds &amp; Grass</td>
<td>302</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Litter</td>
<td>99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Codified Ordinances—(Right-of-way obstructions, dead trees, Recreational Vehicle Parking, etc.)</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zoning Ordinances (Permitted Use, Accessory Structures, etc.)</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sign Regulations</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Currently, 505 violations are listed as closed or resolved with 101 others being open. Most of those violations that are open are in various stages of the code enforcement process. Twenty-six properties are currently classified as non-compliant.

Violations of the zoning and property maintenance codes are addressed by issuing a formal violation notice and working with the property owner to bring their property into compliance within a specified time frame. If property owners are not compliant, they may be brought before the Court. Thirteen properties were turned over for prosecution this year.

Submitted by:
Michelle Horner, Administrative Assistant
Building and Zoning Department
As the year comes to a close, we are favored with the ability to review our accomplishments and set goals for the impending New Year. The theme we revisited again and again was a system of safety. We were encouraged to achieve additional results when we learned that we had received an award from the Bureau of Worker’s compensation for significantly reducing the amount of injuries we had in 2017 via the review of policy and implementation of best practices.

In 2018 our mission was that we endeavor to provide a diverse, safe and engaging environment that encourages a healthy work/life balance. We reignited the employee safety committee, a collaborative council of department heads that reviews our current practices and does its best to anticipate possible threats. In anticipation of these challenges our committee created a schedule for educating and practicing appropriate measures for crisis drill. All of our departments have had specific crisis event training via the office of Homeland Security, completed a safety audit through the Ohio Bureau of Workers’ Compensation (BWC), and have completed basic safety acknowledgements during our Safety Week courses.

Our HR department has moved forward with acquiring and better utilizing of software new and old. Through our partnership with The BWC we are able to assign safety course to our new staff members or continuing education that can be completed online (saving time and travel). The software MSDonline allows all of our employees to research in real time, in their office or on location, the different chemicals and their composites. It is a helpful tool that helps to evaluate the possible dangers of working with a chemical while keeping us in compliance. The City will continue to be progressive in its use of technology, educational opportunities, safety measures and health and wellness management to provide resources that supports its employees.

A portion of safety begins within each employee i.e. their physical health, work/life balance and tools to carry out that mission. Our partnership with Horan and Greater Tomorrow Health lead us to create our Wellness Fair. The fair is an annual opportunity for employees to receive a baseline review of their health – A1C, cholesterol, glucose, BMI were some of the categories measured. The City invested in Real Appeal – a transformational weight loss program, supporting the Parks & Recreation department’s outdoor adult fitness equipment area, and promoting our Employee Assistance Program through Impact Solutions.

The City of Wilmington’s Human Resource Department undertakings include any practical measures that will generate a well-balanced employee are welcomed. HR will always seek holistic approach to creating healthy, happy, and safe employees.

Submitted by:
Jeanne Pope, Director
Kelvin Gaines,
Administrative Assistant
Human Resources Department
Sugar Grove Cemetery

The year 2018 marked the City’s second full year of the important task of providing cemetery services for the community. City staff successfully performed the majority of cemetery operations in-house for the first time since the City’s acquisition of the grounds in April 2015. This included all of the mowing and weed-eating, grounds and facility maintenance, burials, and foundation work. Continuing to hone processes for the maintenance and care of the Sugar Grove Cemetery grounds continues to be a primary focus for the City.

Statistics

There were 72 total interments at Sugar Grove Cemetery in 2018. Of these, 27 were cremations and 45 were full burials. Additionally, 78 grave spaces were purchased during the year.

Equipped for Success

In order to bring operations in-house, Sugar Grove Cemetery made a sizeable investment in equipment and supplies this year. The cemetery acquired a mini-excavator, monument lifting equipment, restoration materials, a concrete mixer, mowers, weed-eaters, chain saws, and other hand tools. Additionally, the cemetery purchased a 15’ x 15’ tent with chairs set-up that is now available for rental during funeral services.

The City is in the process of building a pole barn on the cemetery grounds to house the new equipment and provide a good workshop space for cemetery maintenance tasks. The new building should be completed early in 2019.

Grounds Maintenance

Mother Nature provided Sugar Grove Cemetery with many challenges during 2018. Several mature trees succumbed to storms in April and again in November during a major ice event. Unfortunately, along with the fallen limbs and trees, there was damage to older headstones, especially in Section 6. Grave monuments do not belong to the City. They are considered private property, as they are selected and purchased by individuals. Therefore, monument repair is technically the responsibility of the families of the deceased. This, however, becomes a significant challenge when dealing with the older grave monuments purchased by family members who may no longer be in the area. The City is currently evaluating the damaged stones to determine the best course of action for repair.

When the City assumed responsibility of Sugar Grove in 2015, the bridges within the cemetery automatically became part of the City’s bridge inventory and are subject to the same inspection standards as any city asset. Upon inspection by the State, three of the four bridges in the cemetery were closed to vehicle traffic. Two of these bridges were repaired in early summer 2018, underwent re-inspection, and are now reopened for vehicle traffic. The third bridge will be repaired as part of an upcoming grant program.

Another project in the cemetery this year was the clearing of the brush along the bike path and Lytle Creek. Both of these areas were overgrown by honeysuckle and other invasive species of plants. Removing the overgrowth provides an unobstructed view of the bike trail and enhances pedestrian safety in this area. Brush clearing will be an ongoing project, with a second phase slated to commence in spring 2019.

An access path connecting the Luther Warren Peace Path to the cemetery grounds paths is currently under construction. This back entrance to the cemetery is simply an enhancement of an already existing footpath at the northwest corner of Section 10. The goal is to provide a safer, more accessible transition from the cemetery grounds to the bike/pedestrian trail.

Soldier’s Point underwent maintenance again in 2018. In order to preserve the major restoration project from 2016, the stones in this section were cleaned and sealed. The cannons were also given a facelift. In the past, the Clinton County Commissioners have contributed toward the upkeep of the veteran sections of the cemetery.
Sugar Grove Cemetery

City staff poured foundations for 48 grave monuments and set 4 government markers during 2018. Workers also repaired the concrete footers (or foundations) of 4 monuments during the year. Over time, shifting foundations can cause headstones to lean and sometimes topple over. In these cases, the monuments are removed and cleaned (usually by an outside monument company). The City workers remove the old concrete footer, prepare the footer hole by digging and setting wooden forms, and then pour a new foundation. After the concrete hardens, the forms are removed, and the monument company is able to come and reset the original stone.

Volunteerism

Hats off to our many volunteers who helped with the maintenance and upkeep of Sugar Grove Cemetery this year. The Garden Club sponsors and maintains flower beds in the cemetery. The beds are located directly inside the front gates and are updated seasonally. Local Boy Scouts troops came in and replace the Veterans’ flags prior to Memorial Day. Countless individuals throughout the year assist with maintenance as they tend to their families’ plots and gravestones. In the fall of 2018, freshman from Wilmington College again came to the cemetery for a work day. These students helped raise corner lot markers and staged the brush cleared from the bike path for chipping. The cemetery also utilizes the community service workers who help weed-eat and pick up trash through the year. The City of Wilmington is grateful to all the volunteers who help keep Sugar Grove beautiful throughout the year.

Technology

Sugar Grove Cemetery staff continue to work on the digital mapping software project. The City has a contract with the CIMS Cemetery Software Information to map and provide a database shell for the cemetery records. When fully operational, the public will have online access to a searchable burials database as well as maps of the cemetery to the grave level.

Land Acquisition

Sugar Grove Cemetery was fortunate to have the opportunity to acquire additional land adjacent to the eastern edge of the cemetery in 2018. The 0.44 acres is next to Section 5, and the City is in process of creating a development plan for the new grounds.

Upcoming Improvements

The City of Wilmington applied for and was awarded grant money through the Municipal Bridge Program for the repair of the main bridge across Lytle Creek at Sugar Grove Cemetery. This bridge was originally constructed by the Champion Bridge Company and has been identified as a historical structure. Therefore, special considerations must be given toward restoration and preservation of the bridge. This year has been spent working with the Ohio Department of Transportation on design scenarios that both preserve the historic nature of the bridge yet meet current standards for vehicle travel. The City has a tentative construction schedule of late 2019. The Municipal Bridge Program, in conjunction with Toll Revenue Credit, will fund the rehabilitation of the Champion Bridge at 95%, up to a maximum of $233,035.

Looking Ahead

Building off of strides made in 2018, the City’s primary focus for Sugar Grove Cemetery in 2019 will be continued attention to fine-tuning grounds maintenance issues and making headway in the records database and mapping project. The City of Wilmington is honored to be the caretaker of the beautiful Sugar Grove Cemetery, and we look forward to continuing provide quality cemetery services to the community in 2019.

Submitted by:
Brian Shidaker, Director
Public Service and Safety Department
Fire Department

2018 In Review

In 2018 the fire department made 530 fire calls and 3229 EMS calls. This number is consistent with 2017 in which we made 523 fire calls and 3402 EMS calls. We made our first capital purchase in 10 years when we procured a new 2018 Life Line ambulance. This ambulance will be “Rescue 1” and will replace the 2002 ambulance previously responding as “Rescue 1”. We look forward to the possible purchase of another new ambulance in 2019 to replace our 2007 ambulance currently running as “Rescue 2”.

We were able to replace all of our portable oxygen bottles in 2018 and started a new tagging system as recommended by the Board of Pharmacy for oxygen and drugs. This system will allow us to better track the use, fill, and replacement of items we use on a daily basis at the Fire Department.

We responded to one very high dollar loss fire, Bennett Realty, in September. Several other fires throughout the year also brought us unique challenges. When fighting large fires, we rely on mutual aid from many different volunteer departments in Clinton County and in turn, we also provide assistance to those agencies when needed.

We have ordered a 2019 Dodge Durango to be used as the Fire Chief’s vehicle which will replace the current 2005 Ford Explorer. This vehicle should be in service by the end of February 2019.

Six of our firefighters assist with fire inspections. Our department conducts new business inspections, re-inspections (when needed), foster care inspections, plans review, occupancy inspections, yearly inspections, violation complaint inspections, as well as legal and illegal burn investigations. Our dedicated staff continues to train throughout the year at various classes and meetings, as well as online.

We continue to collect, through soft billing, money for EMS calls, mostly from insurance companies. Since we began this billing in 2003, we have taken in over 8 million dollars. This has gone back into the city’s general fund.

In the community, we have partnered with National Fire Safety Committee and through generous donations from businesses and individuals, we have been able to bring exciting fire prevention and safety information to our local elementary school children.

We interact with the public on many occasions throughout the year in a relaxed atmosphere. The department, while not always at an emergency, participates in events such as Cardboard City, Trunk-or-Treat, football games, parades, the Clinton County Farmers Market, and Third Friday events downtown. The opportunity to interact with the community is vital to our operation. These interactions often result in trust, friendship, and a stronger community when we feel comfortable around each other. We have found that some of the best information is disseminated in simple conversations with our citizens.

While we are sad to see him go, Lieutenant Ed Myers left our department in November to take the position of Deputy Chief in Goshen. He takes with him 19 years of experience and leaves a void in our department that we strive to fill. Thank you for your service, Ed.

2019 brings an excitement with it as we look to hire personnel, promote within, and work toward the future.

Submitted by:
Andy Mason, Chief
Fire Department
The state of the Wilmington Transit System continues to be solid. Ridership for the calendar year 2018 has surpassed 2017’s total of 145,000 passengers (Actual) by 8,500 rides! The Wilmington Transit System continues to grow yearly. The Wilmington Transit System has a current request submitted for two additional vehicles to ensure that we can adjust to the increased volumes and support our customers. In 2019, we will be receiving four (4) new Modified Mini-vans (MMV) which should get us caught up to our required vehicle turn-in mileage. This also cuts maintenance and fuel cost.

In 2018, approximately 50% of the total rides were provided to the Elderly and Disabled. Our main goals continue to be maintaining fares at the same level and making safety the highest priority for our passengers. Equally important is our striving to keep Wilmington’s matching funds contribution at the lowest possible level.

Many seniors, people with disabilities and the underprivileged rely on this service to help them maintain their independence and well being, using the service for medical appointments, food shopping, work transportation, etc. Wilmington Transit System also benefits from a Elderly and Disabled Grant program that is awarded on a yearly basis.

Vehicle maintenance is critical to maintain a safe and efficient service to our many riders. Our staff at Wilmington Transit continues to maintain our vehicles according to the requirements of the ODOT maintenance plan that is consistent throughout the state, this practice has prevented high dollar maintenance repairs that have been experienced in the past years.

Our Transit drivers are to be commended for their continued dedication to providing Wilmington Transit System riders, with exceptional customer service. They all contribute greatly to our cost containment efforts!

We thank them for their service and commitment to their jobs!

Submitted by:
Tony Morris, Director
Public Transportation Department
The Maintenance & Repair Department presently consist of nine employees; seven maintenance crew members, one mechanic, and a superintendent.

**Duties of the Maintenance & Repair Department are:**

- Repair and reconstruct streets and alleys
- Asphalt paving
- Plow and salt city streets and right of ways during inclement weather
- Mowing of city right of ways, city properties, and delinquent properties
- Painting of traffic control lines and markings
- Removal of trees in the city right of way and on city properties
- Installation and maintenance traffic signals
- Leaf collection
- Maintenance of city owned vehicles and equipment
- Transport and set up mobile sound stage
- Traffic control for events and festivals
- Install, repair, and maintain street signs
- Install, repair, and maintain guardrail
- Inspections on roadway construction projects

The Maintenance and Repair Department set the mobile sound stage up 4 times and blocked streets off 44 times for various festivals and parades. The crews spent 2 weeks cutting up and chipping trees after an early season ice storm. We extend our thanks to the Sanitation Department, who also assisted with the storm clean up. Our crews spent 12 days spent trimming trees in the city right of way in preparation for leaf pick up and the snow removal. We removed 2320 cubic yards of leaves, and used 150 gallons of paint in the downtown area and surrounding sub divisions.

The department spend $4000.00 on sign replacement, due to accidents and reflectivity requirements, this cost is slightly lower due to the fact we purchased a sign shop and now have the ability make signs in house. Our pothole patcher was used for 90 days using 50 ton of #9 stone and 692 gallons of emulsion to preserve and extend the life of the asphalt on various streets. We used 100 tons of hot mix asphalt to repair various streets.

Our crews mowed 176 abandoned or delinquent properties and also mowed the roadside ditches and various city right-of-ways. The crew assisted with the new “Honor Our Veterans” program by installing 95 new veteran banners, as well as changing the seasonal banners for the Banana Split Festival, Clinton County Fair, Murphy Theatre 100th Anniversary, Holidazzle, 3rd Friday Party at the Mural, and Christmas and lighted garland. Additionally, a new concrete floor was installed in the salt shed. Our department assisted in the planting of 80 new trees on Lowes Drive and the crew maintained the hanging flower baskets in the downtown area for 6 months, using over 17,000 gallons of water. We assisted the Sanitation department with the automated refuse and recycling container. In 2019 we will obtain a cycled out handicap van from the Transit Department to convert to a safety van. This addition to the department will allow for safer and more efficient closure of lanes and roads.

**Submitted By:**
Jerry D. Runk Jr., Superintendent
Maintenance and Repair Department
Parks and Recreation Department

Our parks continue to move in the right direction and continuously improve our amenities and user experiences. The park system includes the J.W. Denver Williams Jr. Memorial Park, David Williams Memorial Park, Galvin Park, Southeast Community Park, Point Park, the Lytle Creek Nature Preserve, the Luther Warren Peace Path, the 4-C Bicentennial Trail, the tennis courts located at Wilmington High School, Xidas Park and Stuckey Farm Park.

The park got a new look in 2018. We introduced our new logo and tag line which gives our park system a more modern look. Feedback has been great and we look forward to expanding our marketing and branding efforts in the near future.

J. W. Denver Williams Memorial Park added an Outdoor Adult Fitness area. This new park amenity allows users to workout outdoors for free. Many users have already been using this area on a regular basis. Be on the lookout for Boot Camp Classes with Vital Fitness in 2019!

Our Castle Park II Playground Project campaign was also launched in 2018. We will be replacing the current Wooden Castle Playground with a new design with composite material. This new playground will have the “best of the old and best of the new” playground equipment for children of all age to enjoy. We hope to have the new playground built by mid June 2019.

Main Street Wilmington, The Murphy Theater and Wilmington College Student Leadership Executive Board partnered with the park again this year to provide our community with a “Hometown Halloween” event which included Trunk or Treat at the park. It was a huge success serving over 800 people. Youth and their families were able to enjoy free candy, games, prizes, popcorn and a movie. Thank you to all of the companies that provided trunks and candy for the event.

Athletics

Thanks to all of our coaches and volunteers who take their time to help out our youth. 2018 was another successful year for Wilmington Parks and Recreation. This year we started flag football for the first time. We had our first adult co-ed soccer league. We upgraded our youth sports shirts to professional team logos. Though the weather this past year didn’t always cooperate we were able to complete each season on time.

Youth Basketball
Our NBA logos were a huge hit for our participants. We had 109 participants from 3-6 grade. Thom Townsley promoting the Indiana Pacers did a great job running a clinic for all of our rec participants. Season was a huge success; coaches did a great job focusing on fundamentals.

Youth Spring Soccer
Spring Soccer at times felt more like winter. With the cold and rain all season long the kids did a great job of performing despite the elements. We had 275 participants this year from K-8 grade. Our two oldest age groups came down to last day to determine league champions.

Youth Baseball/Softball/T-Ball
The weather once again didn’t cooperate. For the first time in 5 years we had at least one rainout game every week. There were 400 participants ages 5-14. With opening day cancelled in mid-May we decide to have an end of season event. All 400 participants played with many events going on. Special thanks to Wilmington Fire Department for providing water and hot dogs to all participants. Rotary Club provided their dunk tank giving kids opportunity to dunk park employees.

Youth Flag Football
Our first time having flag football couldn’t have been more successful. With 35 participants in grades K-3. Kids had a great time learning the game. Each player had to run or catch a pass for each team in every game. We look forward to continuing to improve this program.
Youth Fall Soccer
We finished off our calendar year with fall soccer. Changing a few rules at each age group really improved play. 200 participants performed very well, with each league being very competitive.

Youth Sponsors
We would like to thank our league sponsors. Beacon Orthopaedics and Sports Medicine, Wilmington Inn, and Wilmington Hurricane Youth Football. We also greatly appreciate all of the local business that support our youth programs through our banner program.

Adult Sports
Volleyball This year we had two leagues, Monday night recreation and Thursday night competitive. The changes in league structure helped out both leagues. With 15 teams total in both leagues. Both leagues were very competitive with each league having separate league and tournament champion. Soccer in its first year of existence this league had 4 teams. We expect the numbers to grow thanks to the positive feedback we have received. Games were highly contested each night. Pickleball on Tuesdays and Thursdays with volunteer instructor Cathy Fay continues to grow each year. We averaged over 10 adults playing on a consistent basis on both nights. Thank you to Cathy for helping us grow this fun sport and we look forward to possibly forming leagues in the future.

Volunteers
Great things are happening in our community and the park is happy to be a part of it. The community continues to show that they value our park system and the quality of life a thriving park system can bring. Continued resourcefulness with regard to utilizing volunteers, creating alliances and partnerships, and securing sponsorships and grants will be the key to our continued progress.

Key 2018 partners have included the Clinton County Master Garden Volunteers, Wilmington Garden Club, Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Ohio Division of Wildlife, Clinton County Foundation, Wilmington Baseball Association, Wilmington College, Laurel Oaks Career Center, Kiwanis, Rotary Clubs, Wilmington Inn, HealthFirst for Clinton County, Wilmington Tree Commission, Clinton County Skatepark Association, Main Street Wilmington, Clinton County Visitors Bureau and many others.

Looking Forward
Here are the BIG things coming in 2019:

- Construction of Castle Park II Playground at J. W. Denver Williams Memorial Park
- New shade & seating at the Splashpad & Concrete Skatepark
- Construction of recreational trails along Lytle Creek Greenway Phase 1 Project

Thanks to the hard work and generosity of many, we continue to grow and improve our park assets. We must be determined in our resolve to care for the park legacy that was formally begun with the 1950 dedication of the J. W. Denver Williams, Jr. Memorial Park and to continue to improve the facilities and natural resources in our care.

These are your parks - let us know how you would like to get involved. Parks do indeed build community!

Submitted by:
Jermaine Isaac, Director
Parks and Recreation Department
Police Department

Calls for service for the year were 18,290. This year we had a large number of theft offenses where people have gone through cars or hit sheds off of alleys. We found ourselves in several foot pursuits with suspects involved in those thefts. Our detective side has been busy with sex offense cases and drug cases. We arrested one for a shooting incident on Hawley Avenue, charged one with phone-in threats to a local business, and had numerous charges against another for impersonating an officer. Detective Baker completed one more additional wire case.

We have been rather busy most of the year with a large variety of calls. Our overdose calls are down considerably. We continued to partner with Solutions to have case workers here on station and to ride with the officers. This helps to de-escalate issues and provide a better solution. We also partnered with the Clinton County Sheriff’s Office to combine our SWAT teams. This will aid with manpower and sharing of equipment.

In 2018, Ptl. Codey Juillerat was the recipient of the Officer of the Year Award. He continues to work hard for our department and the community. Ptl. Darcie Mayberry was recognized as our crime fighter of the year for her endless pursuit of criminals. My thanks to Ptl. Codey Juillerat and Ptl. Darcie Mayberry for a job well done. I would also like to recognize Ptl. James Smithson for his sixth straight year with perfect attendance.

We’ve been very busy in the community this year. We had our third National Night Out event at the city park. This year we had Med Flight in attendance, which was well received. We partnered with the Clinton County Sheriff’s Office and the Wilmington Fire Department for this event. We also held safety days at the Banana Split Festival, Senior Center, Walmart, Ahresty, Clinton County Farmer’s Market and at the Quaker Apartments. We also conducted one medication disposal day where over 20 pounds of pills were collected from local residents. Our medication disposal box that is located in our lobby has collected a little over 181 pounds of pills left for destruction. One of the biggest calls for out reach has been active shooter training. Sgt. Cravens and Sgt. Fithen have instructed several in-services this year. We have performed an active shooter in-service for the city employees and conducted an active shooter drill in the Municipal Building. We also conducted additional active shooter trainings at Wilmington High School and the Christian Academy, where we partnered with the Sheriff’s Office.

In 2018 we have been busy with training and in-services for our Officers. In total, we have logged 1,800 hours of training and in-services, including firearms, Taser, unarmed self-defense, and driving. Sgt. Fithen, Sgt. Rager, Sgt. Martin, Sgt. Cravens, Ptl. Gibson, Ptl. Mitchell, Ptl. Binkley, and Ptl. Juillerat have conducted all the in-services for our agency this year and have done an exceptionally well.

This year, WPD exceeded 1,300 arrests. We had 1,017 physical arrests and filed another 277 charges that were served as summons. We have 24 use-of-force incidents for the year and when you deduct red dot compliance or when we point a firearm, we only used force to effect an arrest 20 times. This equates to 1.9 % of the time that force is used. While there is no national standard or record keeping, this is exceptionally low and is attributable to the Officer’s ability to resolve issues by de-escalation. This year capped off another great year of fine work by the men and women of Wilmington Police Department.
Communications Department

This year has been very busy for our Communications Center. In 2017, we dispatched 17,429 calls for police service, 3,359 calls for Wilmington EMS, 548 calls for Wilmington FD, 193 Blanchester fire runs, 96 Sabina fire runs, and 579 Sabina EMS runs. Our dispatchers handled just over 5,922 calls for 911 services.

My thanks to our excellent communications staff. Each year brings different challenges with mandates or types of calls. This year we started the process to get dispatch certified though the Ohio Collaborative. This follows a 2016 Governor Kasich’s committee on police reform. Many of the mandates we were already doing. Our dispatch has been trained in emergency medical dispatch for years so we have been ahead of the curve with this new standard. We have been short two communications officers most of the year. My thanks to our staff for their hard work.

Each year our dispatchers enter warrants, protection orders, and stolen items. This year we exceeded 1,400 warrants entered and maintained over the year. These records are maintained each year by Becky Myers and I can’t thank her enough.

This year we selected Becky Myers as our Communications Officer of the Year. She has done an excellent job for us and has done a wonderful job in handling some serious incidents. I also want to thank Robin Cassell for perfect attendance. This is her fifth year earning such distinction.

Submitted By:
Duane Weyand, Chief
Police & Communications Department
Sanitation Department

Refuse Collection Services
The City of Wilmington operates residential and commercial solid waste collection services. The city refuse collection crews put in a lot of effort to provide good, reliable and cost-effective trash removal service for the residents and businesses. This is a daily service which covers over 4000 residential and over 400 commercial customers each week.

This service is provided five days a week, 52 weeks a year with a very slight interruption due to holidays and weather. The Sanitation Department also collects yard waste and tree branches, along with large item pick up. The Refuse Crews assist in many other daily functions of the Sanitation Department such as facilities maintenance, equipment maintenance, landfill operations and customer service requests.

Dumpster Rental
The Sanitation Department continues a very successful dumpster rental program for our commercial customers. The department now rents over 300 commercial dumpsters that provide a high quality and convenient service. This department also services and maintains these dumpsters in-house. In addition, our welding shop provides dumpster repair, replacement for private owners, and other special fabricating.

The department has been renting out large dumpsters to individuals for clean-ups. This service has been well-received and provides another source of revenue to the department. Our welding shop can be used by all the city departments and is very well-equipped to handle almost any project.

In 2013, we acquired an abandoned building from the Wastewater Department known as the union hall to move our welding shop into. Currently this building is also utilized for the storage of the curbside recycling “blue bins” and other equipment.

The Collections Department consists of the following equipment:

- One (1) 27-yard high compaction (Roto-Pac) automated refuse truck
- Two (2) 25-yard high-compaction refuse trucks
- Two (2) 20-yard high compaction recycling trucks
- One (1) 31-yard high compaction (Loadmaster) automated recycle truck
- Two (2) single axle dump trucks
- Three (3) service pickup trucks
- One (1) sport utility vehicle
Sanitation Department

Composting

The Sanitation Department operates an OEPA-approved Class 4 compost facility for the area residents. The compost collection service is provided free of charge to City of Wilmington residents. There is a cubic yardage charge for Wilmington and all Clinton County residents who wish to bring bulk compost to the facility for tipping. We also accept commercial contractors’ yard waste.

Each day the route truck collects the yard waste bags or residents may bring in their yard waste. Accumulated brush, leaves, grass clippings and tree branches are ground into mulch. Over 4,000 cubic yards of mulch was generated this past year. Maintenance & Repair Department also uses this compost facility for disposal of their yearly leaf collection.

Curbside Recycling

In 2017, the Sanitation department applied for a $250,000 Ohio EPA Community Development Grant and was awarded. The funds were used to purchase a fully automated recycling truck, trailer for recycling metal, and 65 Gallon carts with lids for Wilmington residents. The program rolled out in March of this year and we currently have approximately 3,500 residents actively recycling.

It is our desire to continue providing curbside recycling at no cost to Wilmington residents. In order to accomplish this goal, the Sanitation Department has expanded its cardboard and metal recycling program to help offset the cost associated with recycling. The revenue created by these two programs payed for approximately half of the recycling expenses in 2018. Curbside recycling does not create revenue for the Sanitation department, but as we endeavor to preserve our Landfill and protect the environment for future generations, it is a much needed resource. The department will continue looking for avenues to balance the costs associated with the program.

Cardboard Recycling

In the early summer of 2015, the department adopted a bulk corrugated cardboard drop-off site. This was an effort to capture excess cardboard from going into the landfill as a result of the Clinton County Solid Waste District shutting down their cardboard drop-off. With promotional help from local citizens, and an old cardboard baler that was repurposed at our facility, we are successfully recycling the material. There is a slight revenue stream with the material as it can be sold on the open market for a (per ton) amount.

In 2018, in addition to our two cardboard drop off sites for residents, we built and rented 9 cardboard dumpsters to Wilmington businesses and the Wilmington City School system. With workers provided by the Clinton County Community Corrections and Clinton County Job and Family Services, we recycled approximately 67 tons or 140 bales of cardboard in 2018 that were sold for approximately $88.00 per ton.
Sanitation Department

Landfill Department

In 2016, the city started cell construction of the final phase in the vertical expansion. Construction was completed in October and filling began in November. This last cell (phase 5) has approximately two years of air space left. In February 2016 a proposed West Expansion report was presented to Council including drawings, siting criteria, and financial planning. We are now nearing completion of the designing stages of a 24 acre expansion, adding an additional 40 years of air space. We anticipate receiving the permit to install in September of 2018 and begin construction in spring of 2019.

Landfill Operations

The City Landfill is licensed by the Ohio EPA to accept up to 195 tons of waste per day. The city-operated collection service generates on average 30 tons per day. Other miscellaneous daily waste generates approximately 86 tons, for an average total daily disposal of 116-150 tons.

Department Employees

This department currently operates with fifteen fulltime employees, 52 weeks a year, five days a week. Employees are cross trained on all equipment and able to perform all duties in both collections and Landfill operations. Included in those fifteen employees is a full time mechanic that is able to do much of our needed maintenance and repairs, saving the sanitation Department thousands of dollars in labor thought the year.

In 2018, our Chief Operator of Landfill operations received training from SWANA (Solid Waste Association Of North America), tested and received his MOLO (Manager of Landfill Operations Certification); he is a working supervisor working in cooperation with the Superintendent (MOLO certified as well) to ensure the Landfill is operating in compliance with all EPA regulations at all times.

Other Miscellaneous Information

In 2017, the Sanitation Department began giving the Landfill a facelift. We redesigned the entire surface water runoff system. We dug all new ditches, built headwalls, repaired and replaced bad pipes, and added devices like berms, membrane liners, and check dams to prevent erosion and protect Lytle creek.

Additionally, the access road was widened and paved with asphalt chips to reduce mud and dust. We began construction of a preliminary cap around the perimeter slope of the Landfill. The cap consists of 2’ of compacted clay and top soil, then grass seed and straw blankets; we hope to complete this project and have a nice stand of grass in spring 2019, giving the facility a much nicer appearance for our residence.

Submitted by:
Mike Crowe, Superintendent
Sanitation Department
Wastewater/Stormwater Department

We treated 1,126 million gallons of residential, commercial and industrial wastewater with an average flow of 3.085 million gallons per day (MGD). Removal rates of 97.7% for carbonaceous biochemical oxygen demand, 98.9% for total suspended solids, and 97.1% for ammonia have been achieved consistently through the treatment plant.

Starting April 26, 2018, we began adding ferric chloride for phosphorus reduction. We averaged 0.70 mg/l had no problem consistently meeting our new phosphorus limit of 1.0 mg/l, which we are required to achieve compliance by October 31, 2018. No later than July 1, 2030 we have to achieve the wasteload allocation of 0.913 kg/day or 0.08 mg/l. This will require a major plant upgrade in order to meet the limit of 0.08 mg/l that is presently required by the OEPA. Over 230 total dry tons of sludge was removed from the Wastewater Treatment Plant between March 1, and December 15, 2018. This sludge was applied to farm ground as fertilizer.

The City of Wilmington’s “Storm Water Management Program” has been renewed, as required by Ohio EPA. A recent audit by OEPA has helped to reveal even more areas of need within the City’s approach to storm water management/protection. Although simplified in its approach, the requirements of the plan will continue to take more and more time, effort and capital to implement. Several Ordinance changes have already been implemented. More changes are still in the planning stages.

The Wastewater Department continues to place a high importance on safety. We believe the City’s greatest assets are its’ employees and the citizen they serve, and we are committed to protecting the health and well-being of all.

We applied for and received two grants in 2016 from the Ohio Public Works Commission (OPWC) with the aid of Ohio Valley Environmental Engineering, Inc. These grants paid for 69% of estimated cost and the City was responsible for the remaining 31%. Both projects were completed in 2018.

The first OPWC grant was replacing 1,700 feet of sanitary sewer (SS) on the north end of town and upsizing the existing line from a 10 and 12 in. to a 15-in. line at a cost of $595,100. This included replacing and upsizing 900 feet of SS that was installed in 1936. All 1,700 feet of SS was installed and in operation in 2017. The contractor came back in early spring and completed restoration. The second OPWC grant was replacing our ultra-violet light (UV) disinfection system at the WWTP which cost $427,000. We put this in operation on April 26, 2018.

The operation of the pretreatment program continues to be successful. The occurrence of upset, interference, or pass-through violations is almost nonexistent. Multiple industrial wastewater effluent samplings and facility inspections are conducted each year. This year, we purchased a new portable sampler to replace an aging unit, and ensure reliable sampling during these events. We are also currently in the process of reviewing and revising our sewer use ordinance so that we may continue to successfully implement and enforce all aspects of the city’s pretreatment program and satisfy requirements set forth by the Ohio EPA.

We have begun a process to select an engineering firm to complete a comprehensive Wastewater System Master Plan. We have received RFQ’s from four well qualified engineering firms and have interviewed all four firms.

Laboratory

The Wastewater Laboratory provides qualitative and quantitative data for use in complying with our EPA permit requirements and for use in decision making. To be valuable, the data must accurately describe the characteristics and concentration of constituents in the plant samples. Our lab employs a comprehensive QC/QA program designed to provide validation of our results.

Decisions based on process changes, plant modifications, or the construction of a new facility will be based upon the lab generated results. The financial implications of such decisions dictate that extreme care is utilized in our testing. We have received the highest ratings in the annual Federal DMRQA audit.
Wastewater/Stormwater Department

Maintenance
The maintenance and sewer crew employees were busy maintaining the operation and management of the sanitary and storm water collection systems, which consist of 76.8 miles of sanitary and over 100 miles of storm sewers, thirteen lift stations, over 2,000 manholes, over 2,400 catch basins, driveway approaches, sidewalks, and curb replacements, and the following:

- Purchased new Hobbs Reel Rain sludge irrigation sprayer to replace 30 year old unit.
- Purchased new chain, rakes, drive sprockets and head shaft, bearings for catenary bar
- Purchased new Kubota 60in zero turn mower
- Purchased new Wilo EMU TR-60 mixer for sludge holding tank
- Purchased new Flygt 10hp submersible pump for plant lift station

- Installed new Trojan 3000 Plus ultraviolet disinfection system
- Installed new soft start on Contact Blower #1
- Installed all new brushes on both Secondary Clarifiers Algae Sweep System
- Installed 600ft of electric wire from Screen and Grit building MCC room to Storm flow tanks cross collector.
- Installed new SEW Eurodrive motor cross collector #3.
- Installed new Duro-last roof on front half of Administration building, Duro-last roof on Main Lift Station at airport, and new Duro-last roof on Screen and Grit building.
- Installed new LED lighting throughout Administration interior and exterior, exterior of Screen and Grit Building –
- Installed new commercial steam dishwasher in lab, new water purification system, new ammonia meter in lab for sample testing, new seal on lab oven door, and new seal and door latch/lock on autoclave in lab.
- Installed 66 ft. of STS ranging from 3-in. to 15-in.
- Installed 50 ft. of 6-in. french drain at 298 N. High St.

- Replaced various wear items on Gorman Rupp pumps in plant and throughout city in lift stations including: Impellers, wear plates, mechanical seals etc.
- Replaced head wall at 470 Brooke Blvd, four manhole castings and lids, seven sidewalk/alley/driveway approaches, and 570 sq. ft. of sidewalk.
- Replaced 23 catch basins (CB).
- Replaced 40 ft. of 4-in. lateral at 375 Curtis, 15 ft. of 4-in. lateral at 305 Curtis, 25 ft. of 4-in. lateral and 6 ft. of 8-in. main at 264 S. Wall St, 10 ft. of 4-in. lateral at 84 N. Nelson Ave, 20 ft. of 4-in. lateral at 600 Hiatt Ave, and 175 ft. of 6-in. storm sewer (STS) at 249 N. Walnut St
- Replaced 13 ft. of 12-in. STS at 84 N. Nelson Ave.
- Replaced 410 ft. of apron (driveway approaches).
- Replaced 326 ft. of curb on city streets.

- We received DP&L rebates for using energy efficient lighting.
- Painted interior of Administration building including offices, lab, sample prep, bathrooms, break-room/conference room.
- Poured 332 sq. ft. of concrete pad around catch basins and concrete collars around eight manholes and catch basins.
- Five broken pipe repairs ranging from 6-in. to 18-in.
- Cleaned 146,511 ft. of SS and televised 27,171 ft. of SS
- 1,492 OUPS tickets processed
- 38 sewer Inspections
- Street sweeper removed 1,190 cubic yards of debris.

Submitted by:
Harry J. McVey, Superintendent
Wastewater/Stormwater Department
**Water Department**

Through the dedicated efforts of the water department staff, the City of Wilmington provided water that exceeded state and federal standards throughout 2018. At the same time, City Council and the Administration have shown a commitment to ensuring the department will be able to continue supplying adequate quantities of high quality water in the future.

Contracts were signed in 2018 with Utility Service Company/Suez to refurbish and maintain the City’s four water towers. All the towers will be fully restored inside and out by 2024. In addition, each tower will be inspected annually and any new issues will be addressed promptly. Water towers can last 100 years or longer if properly maintained. These contracts will help preserve the investment made in the towers, which range from 22 to 37 years old. In 2018, the exteriors of the towers located at the Fairgrounds and the Water Plant were recoated.

Another example of the City’s investment in the water system being protected was through the purchase of equipment to exercise valves on water mains. The valves are important in the event of a main break, so that the damaged pipe can be isolated and as few customers as possible are affected during the repair. When valves are exercised, it keeps them in working order. About 160 of the approximately 700 valves in the system were exercised in 2018. The goal is to exercise all valves using a three-year cycle. In addition, four new valves were installed on the north side of town, again to minimize the effects of a water main break.

The battle against harmful algal blooms continues. Over much of the summer, there were several small blooms that produced algal toxins in both the primary source, Caesar Creek Lake, and the back-up, the City-owned reservoirs at Burtonville. Despite the repeated blooms, the algal toxin levels remained at very low, acceptable levels at all times in 2018. New tools were brought on to help with the battle. A solar-powered ultrasonic algae control device was installed on Reservoir #1 on a trial basis. The unit sends out ultrasonic waves that destroy key cells in the algae and leads to the death of the organism. Meanwhile, Reservoir #2 continued to receive chemical treatment, historically used to keep the algae from proliferating.

The reservoir with the ultrasonic unit had no more algae than the reservoir the received the chemical treatments. The outcome convinced the City to buy a second ultrasonic unit for the other reservoir for use beginning in 2019 instead of chemical treatment. Based on Wilmington’s experience, many other cities across Ohio are considering the use of ultrasonic technology for algae control. Also, an EPA grant was used for equipment to continually monitor the water coming from Caesar Creek Lake.

The City is fortunate to have two water sources. When an issue, like a harmful algal bloom, occurs at Caesar Creek Lake, the reservoirs are put into service. As the occurrence of harmful algal blooms increases across the region, the reliability of the reservoirs becomes paramount.

Repairs were completed along the shoreline of Reservoir #2 in early 2018, allowing the reservoirs to be filled to capacity for the first time in at least 10 years. The City can now rely on the reservoirs, if needed, for at least six months if Caesar Creek Lake became unusable. The supply from the reservoirs could be used continually for an indefinite period as long as normal precipitation is received.

Additional work is planned to fortify the infrastructure associated with the reservoirs, which date back to 1945. Using an interest-free loan from the Ohio Public Works Commission, construction is expected in 2019 and 2020 to ensure that the reservoirs are a reliable backup source at all times.
Water Department

At the recommendation of the Ohio EPA, City Council authorized to creation of the position of Source Water Protection Coordinator. Travis Luncan hit the ground running when he came on board in August, seeking partners in both the public and private sectors to help improve the quality of the water entering Caesar Creek Lake and the reservoirs. In coordination with other staff, he also closely monitors the water in both sources, looking for signs of a harmful algal bloom or other contamination, so the water department can respond proactively, before a problem threatens the water supply.

A significant disruption of water service occurred on Route 730 southwest of the city in February when the water main collapsed where it crosses an unnamed tributary of Lytle Creek between Beechgrove and Worthington roads. An emergency connection with Western Water Company was used to keep water flowing to customers while 500 feet of new line was bored under the creek.

In September, about 380 feet of waterline was replaced on North Walnut Street south of Birdsall Street after a series of circumstances compromised the old line. Over the course of the year, the distribution crew also repaired 10 other water main and service line breaks.

While the City’s water treatment process protects customers from the effects of lead service lines, Ohio EPA is requiring the removal of lead lines in certain circumstances. The City instituted a policy to aid property owners in the replacement, and City crew installed 14 replacement service lines in 2018. Plans are well underway for work at the water treatment plant to ensure it continues to provide safe, abundant water. Using no-interest and low-interest EPA financing, construction is expected to begin in late 2019. The work will include:

- A new tank for the removal of algal toxins
- Improvements in the safety and reliability of the disinfection process
- Installation of a fluoride feed system
- A new bulk water station
- Computer and security improvements

As 2018 was coming to a close, negotiations were wrapping up on contracts to modernize the water metering and utility billing system. Meter reading will be automated, giving customers the ability to monitor their water usage continuously on computers and mobile devices. Customers’ account information will also be available on line, in addition to bill payment and various notifications. Watch for announcements in the coming months as the new system is installed.

The current water department staff includes:

Adam Simpson, Water Plant Chief Operator
Chris Reiley, Distribution Crew Leader
Larry Fisher, Plant Maintenance
Rob Moorhead, Plant Maintenance
Jeff Hawk, Professional Operator
Zack Denely, Professional Operator
Howard Lunsford, Professional Operator/Lab Tech.
Dale Achtermann, Professional Operator
Aaron Collins, Professional Operator
Jack Kilburn, Professional Operator
Travis Luncan, Source Water Protection Coordinator
Josh Snell, Distribution Maintenance
Mark Rohmor, Distribution Maintenance
Nick Sandlin, Distribution Maintenance
Josh Smith, Customer Service Representative
Russ Fair, Utility Billing Supervisor
Joyce Straw, Utility Billing Clerk
Beth Magee, Utility Billing Clerk
Kelly Hopkins, Meter Reader
Courtney Gregg, Meter Reader

Submitted by:
Rick Schaffer, Superintendent
Water Department
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<tr>
<th>Department</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Phone</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mayor’s Office</td>
<td>2nd Floor, 69 N. South Street</td>
<td>(937)-382-5458</td>
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<td>Human Resources</td>
<td>2nd Floor, 69 N. South Street</td>
<td>(937)-382-9094</td>
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<td>Building &amp; Zoning</td>
<td>2nd Floor, 69 N. South Street</td>
<td>(937)-382-5134</td>
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<td>Sugar Grove Cemetery Office</td>
<td>2nd Floor, 69 N. South Street</td>
<td>(937)-382-2059</td>
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<td>Fire Department</td>
<td>46 E. Sugartree Street, 69 N.</td>
<td>(937)-382-2244</td>
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<td>Transportation Department</td>
<td>South Street, 69 N. South Street</td>
<td>(937)-382-7961</td>
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<td>M &amp; R Department</td>
<td>494 S. Nelson Avenue, 69 N.</td>
<td>(937)-382-6339</td>
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<td>Parks &amp; Rec Department</td>
<td>South Street, 69 N. South Street</td>
<td>(937)-382-4781</td>
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<td>Police Department</td>
<td>1st Floor, 69 N. South Street</td>
<td>(937)-382-3822</td>
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<td>Sanitation Department</td>
<td>397 S. Nelson Avenue, 69 N.</td>
<td>(937)-382-6474</td>
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<td>WW/Sewer Department</td>
<td>475 S. Nelson Avenue, 69 N.</td>
<td>(937)-382-2413</td>
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<tr>
<td>Water Department</td>
<td>1142 Prairie Avenue, 69 N.</td>
<td>(937)-382-3614</td>
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City of Wilmington, Ohio—State of the City 2018

Photos provided by John Garrison, Ryan Powell, Amy Miller, and Annen Vance
City of Wilmington, Ohio—State of the City 2018
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