

Police and Fire Resident Services

The Amberley Village Police/Fire Department provides personalized and professional services to its residents over and above its core function of managing 24-hour operations to actively pursue the safety and security of our community. Residents may request any of the services listed below by contacting the Police/Fire Department at 531-2040.



Vacation House Checks	Officers perform checks on Village residences when the occupants are on vacation or away for an extended period of time.
Fingerprinting	Officers complete fingerprint cards for Village residents on Mondays from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m.
Vehicle I.D. Stickers	Issued by the department to residents of the Village. Residents may stop by the department 24 hours a day to request a sticker for their vehicle.
Home Inspections	The Crime Prevention Officer will come to Village homes to conduct a security inspection to assist residents with prevention tips and measures for home security.
CPR	Classes are taught by Village firefighters and are available to residents by request.
Child Safety Seat Installation & Inspection	Officers certified in child car seat safety will conduct a safety check of a resident's child safety seat and provide instructions on proper installation.

Obsolete In-Car Cruiser Cameras Replaced

The Village's Police/Fire Department has been utilizing in-car cruiser camera technology for approximately 10 years. The ability to capture and document a traffic stop and encounters with criminal activity can provide video and audio evidence to substantiate the circumstances surrounding a case. Additionally, the video can be utilized for real-life, scenario based training as well as assurance that department policies and standard procedures are being followed.

In October 2014, the Police/Fire Committee recommended and Council approved the replacement of 3 obsolete in-car cameras for police vehicles, including a server, for a total cost of \$24,190. The new camera technology provides high-definition video and high-fidelity audio along with the ability to record the prisoner area in the back seat of the cruiser. As technology has greatly changed over the last ten years, the new system includes technology that allows for wireless transfer of video data and multiple video file formats which will aid in portability when used in court.



As a Nationally Accredited Police Department, the Village is pleased to continue the use of this technology for the safety of its officers and the general public.

Gas & Electric Aggregation Program Savings

Amberley Village currently offers discounted energy rates for residents through its gas and electric aggregation programs. During 2014, Village residents and businesses saved \$54,191 on electric bills and \$41,234 on natural gas bills when compared to Duke Energy's Price-to-Compare rate. If you are with another supplier and would like to switch to the Village's aggregation programs, contact IGS Energy at 1-800-280-4474 (8 am – 8 pm weekdays) to sign up. There are no additional fees associated with the Village's aggregation programs, but before you switch you should check with your existing supplier for related cancellation fees.

Electric Aggregation Rate
\$0.0576/kWh Fixed
(offer ends 10/2017)

Natural Gas Aggregation Rate
\$5.28/ccf Fixed
(offer ends 10/2017)

Community Calendar

Council Meeting

WHEN: April 13 at 6:30 p.m.
WHERE: Council Chambers, Amberley Village Municipal Building

Arbor Day & Earth Day Celebration

WHEN: April 22 at 6 p.m.
WHERE: Starts at brick plaza in front of Amberley Village Municipal Building
Residents are invited to attend tree planting, proclamation presentation & more!

Environmental Stewardship Committee

WHEN: April 27 at 7 p.m.
WHERE: Community Room, Amberley Village Municipal Building

Amberley Village Municipal Building
7149 Ridge Road
Cincinnati, OH 45237
(513) 531-8675
www.amberleyvillage.org



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One Stop Drop Recycle Day – March 29

WHEN: March 29, 2015 from 12-4 p.m.
WHERE: Amberley Green, 7801 Ridge Road

Residents can drive through to drop off electronics, paper for confidential shredding, and gently used kitchen items like pots, pans, and utensils (packaged for transporting (boxed, padded). For additional details, visit www.amberleyvillage.org and check out the News section for the event flyer.

Amberley Village 75th Anniversary Celebration – Save the Date!

WHEN: August 16 at TBA
WHERE: Amberley Village Municipal Building

August 16 has been selected for the Village's 75th Anniversary celebration. Planning is underway to make this a memorable event for Village residents. Follow the Village's monthly E-News to find out about event details as they develop and test your knowledge about the Village with fun history trivia questions each month.

Interested in volunteering? Contact Mayor Muehling at www.amberleyvillage.org and click on Contact Us.



Increased Focus on Pedestrian Safety

The Village has taken notable steps to improve pedestrian safety. A mid-block crosswalk on Section Road near Farm Acres contains proper signage for motorists and pedestrians including a stenciled Ped Xing painted on the street. A pedestrian crossing or crosswalk is a place designated for pedestrians to cross a road where they can be seen by motorists and where they can cross most safely across the flow of vehicular traffic. Reflective spinners have also been installed at this location to bring attention to the crosswalk.

In addition, "radar enforced" signs are being installed on speed limit signs posts to remind residents of the speed limit in the Village. Another sign being installed in more prevalent pedestrian areas reads "pedestrians walk facing traffic". Pavement markings and signs have also been added on Elbrook near the school. The Village has also ordered an additional digital speed sign capable of measuring speed and accumulating data. This will become another tool for the Police Department to utilize to educate motorists on slowing down and about pedestrian safety. Increasing pedestrian mobility, access and safety is a priority of the Village.

As announced in the Village's February E-News, there was an unfortunate vehicle-pedestrian accident at Section and Elbrook. The driver in this case struck the pedestrian crossing in the crosswalk. The pedestrian was wearing a reflective belt and crossing at the appropriate time. This accident highlights the importance of staying alert and avoiding all distractions while driving or walking.

The Health, Education & Welfare Committee plans to continue meeting on pedestrian safety to identify additional areas for safety improvements that will help increase awareness to safety on Village roadways. The Committee encourages residents to attend its public meetings and provide input as it continues its discussion on pedestrian safety. To sign up to receive meeting notices in advance, visit www.amberleyvillage.org and click on Subscriptions.



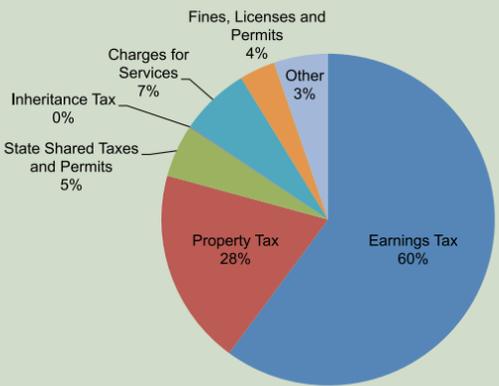
One Stop Drop Recycle Day
March 29, 2015 from 12-4 p.m.
Amberley Green, 7801 Ridge

2014 Year-End Financial Summary

The Village continued its initiatives to contain costs in 2014. The Village's cost savings efforts, additional revenue sources, expenditure containment and control measures and government collaboration have all contributed to the Village improving its financial position and remaining debt free. With knowledge that the Village faces \$13 million of future capital needs over the next several years, our investment in our streets, infrastructure and equipment replacement is crucial in our delivery of services to residents. The Village continues to focus on our General Fund since it is a critical component to the financial stability of the Village and continues to be a key financial indicator in evaluating our financial strength. Here is where the Village received its revenue in 2014 and where your tax money was spent.

General Fund Revenue 2014 Total = \$5,047,726

General fund revenues come from a variety of sources. The largest source is the earnings tax, which grew by 6½% last year after factoring out a one-time payment. The second largest revenue source is the property tax which increased by 2½% over 2013. While once a significant source of revenue, averaging between \$800,000 and \$1 million per year, the inheritance tax has been eliminated. A new revenue source to the Village this year was from the Joint Economic Development Zone created with Sycamore Township that generated \$91,736.

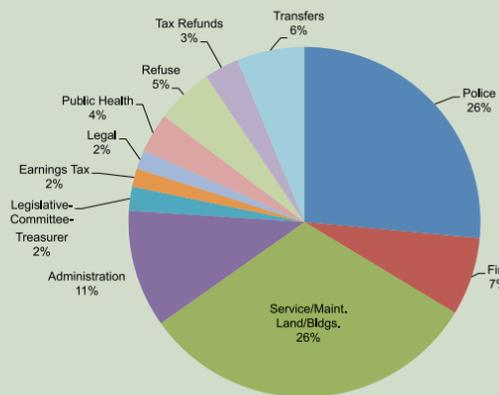


Revenue Source	Amount
Earnings Tax	\$3,034,504
Property Tax	966,407
State Shared Taxes and Permits	259,054
Inheritance Tax	4,233
Charges for Services	342,854
Fines, Licenses and Permits	174,772
Miscellaneous	265,902
TOTAL REVENUE	\$5,047,726

General Fund Expenses 2014 Total = \$3,920,658

The General Fund is the most strained account of the Village since it funds services that have no revenue source. \$1 million was paid from the General Fund for police services which received 60% of its funding from the police levy. Other services include fire protection, snow/ice control, emergency medical services, brush and leaf collection, right-of-way and Amberley Green mowing, public health and traffic signal operation.

Expense Type	Amount
Police	\$1,038,056
Fire	282,273
Service/Maint./Land/Bldgs.	1,235,532
Administration	425,608
Legislative/Court/Treasurer	86,461
Earnings Tax	66,209
Legal	68,494
Public Health	142,618
Refuse	206,796
Tax Refunds	124,683
Transfers	243,928
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$3,920,658



2015 Budget

Village Council approved the 2015 Budget on December 8 stretching taxpayer dollars through a number of strategies that have been implemented the last few years. This year's budget, like 2014, is a sustainable budget where the ongoing revenues support the ongoing expenditures. The 2015 budget includes our existing revenue streams, like the earnings and property taxes, which are showing continued signs of stabilization and growth, as they did in 2014. It also includes a new revenue stream from an arrangement with Sycamore Township called a Joint Economic Development Zone (JEDZ).

The Village is continuing cost containment initiatives aimed at saving taxpayer dollars by jointly purchasing services and commodities with other nearby communities. That leverages economies of scale and takes advantage of the favorable bidding environment. Through prudent management and responsible

leadership, the Village developed the budget with the intent to continue the high level of services to which residents have become accustomed. Staffing levels stayed the same as in 2014, which is 2 less police positions, 2 less police supervisory positions and 1 less position in the maintenance department than 3 years ago.

The Village must continue to be vigilant in identifying opportunities to contain expenses in order to continue the highest level of service in these financially challenging times. Highlights of some of the items included in the 2015 Budget:

- 2 replacement Police vehicles
- 2 additional license plate readers
- 2 replacement in-car camera systems
- Recording equipment for dispatch 911
- Hydrants for Aracoma waterline replacement project

- Self-contained breathing apparatus and cascade filling system
- Software for mayor's court
- Salt purchases, storage bin repair
- \$400,000 street program
- \$350,000 total capital budget
- Contracted right-of-way and Amberley Green mowing
- Limited tree removal at Amberley Green

The 2015 Budget maintains Village services and continues the Village's austere approach to budget management. The Village has withstood the challenging economy since the beginning of the recession by keeping expenses under tight control. Village departments have once again responded remarkably to the challenge of preparing sound and controlled budgets.

Listing Agreement for Portions of North Site Property

The Village entered into an exclusive listing agreement with Jones Lang LaSalle for a portion of the North Site, excluding the Maintenance Facility and the radio tower site. As part of the agreement, Jones Lang LaSalle will establish financial objectives for the property and develop a marketing plan.

This is consistent with the Long Range Planning Committee's recommendations, which were adopted by Council in 2011, to engage the assistance of outside professionals and pursue the leasing/sale of the North Site. The Land Development Committee has been working since 2013 rezoning the property and then embarking on a mission to further their knowledge of the North Site and its potential, by meeting with various real estate professionals for their insights and opinions about the property. The Committee concluded that having the Village Maintenance Facility at the current location is very valuable to the Village but the residual land may be marketable to other business interests.



2015 Road Repair Projects

The Village's 2015 infrastructure repair projects are currently in the planning and engineering stages. The Village receives approximately \$200,000 in gas tax and license plate fees for its Street Fund however, those revenues are inadequate to fund a healthy street repair program. Hence, the Village subsidizes from its General Fund. In 2015, the Village expects to transfer \$200,000 from the General Fund to the Street Fund in order to fund a \$400,000 street program to make necessary repairs.

In February, the Streets, Public Utilities & Sewers Committee recommended moving forward with the final engineering and bidding of the 2015 Road Program. Village staff selected several streets to be repaved utilizing the Village Engineer's Street Rating Report, the Village's road inventory and by performing visual inspections. The extent of the program will be determined by the 2015 budget and actual contractor bids.

The proposed 2015 Road Program is a combination of replacement of deteriorated curbing, asphalt base repairs and the paving of entire streets to include Fair Oaks Drive (south of Section Road), Fair Oaks Lane, Hudson Parkway (Lakeview to Esther Drive), Royal Oak Court and Laurel Oak Lane. Alternate projects consist of repairs to deteriorated curbing on Twigwood Lane and Arborcrest Drive and asphalt patching on Ridge Road north of Section Road.

ODNR Releases Dam from Regulations

In 2014, Council approved modifications to the existing dam on the Amberley Green property in response to mandatory regulations ordered by the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) to be completed by January 2015. The project began in August 2014 and was completed last October. The dam modification included lowering the height of the dam, replacement of the primary spillway and control structure, plunge pool, and emergency spillway.



Available remedial options for the Village included scenarios that ranged in costs in excess of \$1 million dollars for the reconstruction scenario to \$340,000 for the modification scenario. The project was completed by Ford Development in the amount of \$338,670 which were funds allocated from the Storm Water Fund.

The Village submitted documentation of the dam modifications to ODNR for review and in January this year received notification from ODNR that the dam structure will no longer be regulated.

First Segment of Storm Water Infrastructure Assessment Complete

The first of four segments to televise the Village's storm water infrastructure was completed in late December and covered approximately 24,500 feet of pipe in several neighborhoods or one-fourth of the Village in the north end. The contract was performed by SWS Environmental.

The televising method reveals blockages from debris, shows cracks and breaks as well as deterioration of a pipe. The evaluation of the condition of the Village's storm water pipes will help prioritize future repairs managed through the storm water utility and plan ahead of road projects. While the Village's Maintenance Department cleans and inspects the storm water man holes and catch basins annually, the Village does not own the equipment to inspect the pipes. Staff is in the process of identifying the second segment of pipes to be inspected during 2015.

