

VILLAGE MANAGER'S REPORT
JANUARY 11, 2016 COUNCIL MEETING

Dear Mayor and Council Members:

Developments

The Planning Commission/ZBA met January 4 to review an application for the installation of solar panels on the front plane of a roof. The application was approved as submitted. The next meeting is February 1 and the filing deadline is January 12.

The Planning Commission/ZBA designated Rich Bardach to continue as Chair with Susan Rissover serving as Vice-Chair.

3 zoning approvals were issued in December: 1 deck, 1 shed, 1 interior remodel (bathrooms).

Property maintenance letters were issued for 1 pothole and 1 general state of the exterior.

Electric and Gas Aggregation

Eagle Energy, the Village's energy broker, has reported that Duke Energy has mailed refund notices to its customers as a result of a distribution rate lawsuit. Eagle Energy verified that, as a result of the settlement, customers are entitled to the refund, unless the customer received a settlement payment from Duke, whether or not the customer is part of an aggregation program. The postcards mailed by Duke Energy must be returned by customers, as directed on the mailer, by April 13 to initiate the refund.

2015 Savings for Village Residents and Businesses:

January – October Gas: \$25,546 Electric: \$111,834

Maintenance Department Activities

Streets and Right of Way

The Maintenance Department spent the month committed to finishing up the 2015 leaf season. During the month of December we had several rain storms, but have yet to receive any snow.

Other right of way details performed by the Maintenance Department:

- Pulled contractor signs from the Cross County Highway entrance, and the right of way along Galbraith, Section and Ridge Roads.
- Filled 18 potholes on Section and Kincaid roadways.
- Picked up 83 bags of trash on main roads on 5 different days.
- Removed speed bump signs and speed humps from Elbrook and Fairhaven streets.
- In the process of installing new “no parking” signs on side streets off Lamarque.

- Cleaned creeks and catch basins throughout Village on 3 different days due to several rain storms.

Facilities Maintenance and Repairs

- Cleaned and performed minor maintenance to Municipal Building, set up for and cleaned up after 7 events in the Community Room and Council Chambers including: Council Meeting, and Mayor’s Court.
- Met with contractor from Dalmatian Fire and had fire suppression systems checked.
- Checked water leaking from ballfield sprinkler valves and ordered parts and shut off valves.
- Repaired leaking toilet flush valves in lower men’s restroom.
- Removed “dumped” couches and book shelves from Amberley Green parking lot.

Equipment Maintenance

Maintenance crews performed inspections, cleaned and made minor repairs to all trucks and equipment. Crews also performed the weekly vehicle inspections.

Other equipment repairs:

- Started the cleaning, servicing and storage of the leaf equipment for next season.
- Installed new leaf air shoot on top of yellow ODB leaf machine in welding bay.
- Mounted slide in 300 gallon brine sprayer in pick-up truck and calibrated spray patterns of new unit.
- Cut and grinded down chipper box and painted to fit new stainless steel bodies of the newer trucks for brush season.
- Filled and checked the brine sprayer on truck 706.
- Worked on new replacement pick-up truck specifications.

Department Training

- Tony Chesney attended the Public Works Officials of Southwest Ohio luncheon/meeting in Montgomery.

Police Services

Tony Chesney assisted the police department with deer culling two different days.

Fire Services

Maintenance Department responded to 1 fire runs in the village. Fire fighters Josh Caudill and Jim Swader drove Engine 4 in the City of Hamilton for fire fighter Wolterman’s funeral.

Residential Services

Picked up 8 dead animals, 3 of which were deer. Brush service will resume in January.

Bulk Leaf Collection

Leaf collection services began for residents on October 19, 2015 and ended December 30, 2015. The crews collected 52.5 loads, totaling 1,050 cubic yards of leaves for the month of December.

The season concluded with collections totaling 240.50 loads and 4,801 cubic yards of leaves. The crews made 11 circuits throughout the Village this season.

Police Activity

During the month of December, the police department received 837 calls for service and 556 PSAP 911 calls and non-emergency calls. There were 55 citations issued for Mayor's Court last month, 2 were for Municipal Court. Vehicle accidents totaled 7 (1 claim was reported for personal injury) during the month. Officers made 24 arrests and issued 49 verbal warnings. Minor misdemeanor citations resulted in 5 drug offenses, and 2 open containers.

Fire Activity

During the month of December, there were 55 reports taken by the Fire Department. Of the 55 reports, while none were structure fires, activity included power lines down, service calls, fire training, lifting assistance, EMS, smoke detector alarms, carbon monoxide detector alarm, and fire inspections.

Meetings

I had lunch with Silverton Village Manager Tom Carroll.

Mayor Muething and I met with representatives of the Mayerson Group following up with questions that were submitted to teams interested in Amberley Green.

Wes Brown and I met with CT Consultants regarding their services.

Wes Brown and I met with Andy Meyer and Travis Miller of OKI regarding their Fiscal Impact Model.

Mayor Muething and I met with representatives of the Project Planning Group Consultants following up with questions that were submitted to teams interested in Amberley Green.

I attended the December 17 meeting of the Kenwood Southwest Joint Economic Development Zone (JEDZ).

Mayor Muething and I met with representatives of Great Traditions following up with questions that were submitted to teams interested in Amberley Green.

Wes Brown, CT Consultants and I met with representatives of the Hamilton County Engineer's Office regarding potential development and traffic related to the North Site.

The Land Development Committee met on December 22 with Dov Limited following up with questions that were submitted to teams interested in Amberley Green.

I attended the December 30 Land Development Committee regarding Amberley Green Letters of Interest/Teams.

The Police/Fire Committee met to consider the request for self-contained breathing apparatus and compressor and replacement police cruisers.

I attended the Finance Committee where the following items were on the agenda: November financials, audit authorization, unclaimed funds transfer and amending appropriations.

The Streets, Public Utilities and Sewers Committee met to consider truck replacements in the Maintenance Department.

Wes Brown and I met with Steve Mary of Stantec regarding Ridge Road traffic related to plans for a new school in the Reading Community School district.

One staff meeting was held since the last council meeting with Chief Wallace, Wes Brown, Tony Chesney, Patty Meiers, Nicole Browder, Anna Shaw, and Kathleen Harcourt. Topics included committee needs, next council agenda items, e-news articles, 2016 Budget items, Open Checkbook and OpenGov, letters of interest for AG, payday news items and staff changes.

Council Vacancy

Amberley Village is accepting resumes and letters of interest for a vacant Village Council seat. The vacancy is due to Council Member Bill Doering's resignation effective December 31, 2015 for personal reasons. This is an At-Large seat and can be filled by individuals within any Council District. Must have Village residency for a minimum of one full year. Submissions should explain your interest in the position and describe your experiences in business, non-profit, civic and/or community organizations as well as any involvement in Amberley activities/organizations. Council meets at least monthly on the second Monday of the month and committees meet as required to discuss business. You must have availability in the late afternoons for several committee meetings per month in addition to the regular monthly meeting. The deadline for submissions is 4:00 p.m. on Friday, January 15, 2016. Please send to the attention of Village Manager Scot Lahrmer at 7149 Ridge Road, Amberley Village, Ohio 45237 or email to slahrmer@amberleyvillage.org.

Planning Commission Vacancy

The Amberley Village Planning Commission/Board of Zoning Appeals is accepting resumes and letters of interest for a vacant board member seat. The vacancy is due to member Larry McGraw resigning effective December 31, 2015 for personal reasons. Village residency required. Submissions should explain your interest in the position and describe your experiences in business, non-profit, civic and/or community organizations as well as any involvement in Amberley activities/organizations. The Board meets monthly on the first Monday of the month at 7 p.m. as needed. The deadline for submissions is 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday, January 20, 2016. Please send to the attention of Village Manager Scot Lahrmer at 7149 Ridge Road, Amberley Village, Ohio 45237 or email to slahrmer@amberleyvillage.org.

Amberley Green

The Land Development Committee has recommended the village manager enter into negotiations with the Mayerson Group regarding partnering with the Village on Amberley Green. Village Council will consider this at Monday's meeting. Council has already received the original letters of interest submitted by the four teams but included in your packet are the responses to questions that were submitted to the teams. Three of the teams (Great Traditions, Dov Limited and Project Planning Group Consultants) provided written responses while the Mayerson Group did not.

Kenwood Southwest Joint Economic Development Zone (JEDZ)

The first fully functional year of collections for the JEDZ with Sycamore Township has generated the following collections and distributions:

<u>Period</u>	<u>Sycamore Township</u>	<u>Amberley</u>
Q4 2014	\$186,494.08	\$25,040.76
Q1 2015	292,996.44	39,411.23
Q2 2015	197,580.47	26,577.36
Q3 2015	<u>210,717.81</u>	<u>28,330.11</u>
	\$887,788.80	\$119,359.46

The total distributed in 2015 was \$1,007,148.26 compared to last year's total of \$773,720.34, an increase of 30%.

Miscellaneous

A Call Safe message was delivered to residents regarding the delay in waste and recycling pickup by Rumpke.

Deer culling concluded in December in French Park and the Amberley Green. A total of 39 deer were culled in 2015. Resolution 2012-52, established a policy directing the Police-Fire Department to coordinate a deer culling program to cull up to 50 deer annually.

The Village's engineering firm, CT Consultants, has submitted their fee schedule for 2016. There is not an increase in the 2016 fee schedule and rates have been flat since 2014. CT Consultants has continued, throughout its transformation from CDS Associates to CT Consultants, to provide a high standard of service in the performance of its contracts with the Village. The 2016 fee schedule reflects the continuation of their commitment to remain competitive.

The litigation process for the lawsuit filed by a resident regarding the police levy in 2013 has concluded. Initially, the Common Pleas Court granted judgment in favor of the Village and the claimant appealed. The Appeals Court ruled in the Village's favor and the claimant appealed it to the Ohio Supreme Court. Last month, the Ohio Supreme Court did not accept the appeal and no further appeal processes are available in this matter.

The dates for the 2016 council meetings were circulated to Council via email in early December. Council may reschedule a regularly scheduled meeting by motion at a regular meeting, if it so desires, to accommodate scheduling conflicts including holidays. A review of The Jewish Holiday Calendar shows that Shavuot falls on June 12-13 in the upcoming year.

Resident Roz Richards hosted a holiday luncheon for the employees and retirees.

A farewell lunch was held for Detective Jeff Norton who is retiring on January 8, 2016.

I have communicated with residents regarding street conditions, Call Safe messages, waste collection, vacant council and planning commission seats, property maintenance issues, leaf collection, Amberley Green, stop sign placement, deer culling and general complaints.

If you would like additional information or have questions, feel free to contact me.

Scot F. Lahrmer
Village Manager