

{ SEQ CHAPTER \h \r 1} **NORTH RIDGEVILLE CITY COUNCIL
FINANCE COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF MEETINGS HELD
NOVEMBER 21, 2024, AND NOVEMBER 22, 2024**

{ SEQ CHAPTER \h \r 1}To Order – Monday, November 21, 2024 (Day 1):

Chairman Martin DeVries called the meeting to order at 9:13 a.m. in Council Chambers at North Ridgeville City Hall, 7307 Avon Belden Road.

Pledge of Allegiance:

Led by Chairman DeVries.

Attendance:

In attendance were Committee members Clifford Winkel, Bruce Abens, and Chairman Martin DeVries.

{Clerk notes: The individuals who presented during the budget session are named individually or by the department within the section that was being presented.}

Also in attendance were Mayor Kevin Corcoran, Finance Director April Wilkerson, Assistant Finance Director Fabrice Dongo, Assistant Clerk of Council Fijabi Gallam, Councilman Eric Shaffer, Council President Jason Jacobs, Councilwoman Georgia Awig, and Councilwoman Holly Swenk.

{Clerk notes: There are certain parts in the meeting where the audio was unclear or hard to hear due to technical issues with the mics or distance from the mics.}

Minutes:

Chairman DeVries asked for any corrections to the minutes dated November 14, 2023, November 15, 2023, and November 16, 2023. No discussion was offered. The minutes stand approved as submitted.

2025 Budget Discussion:

Chairman DeVries stated the meeting's purpose was to provide an overview of the proposed 2025 budget. He asked Finance Director Wilkerson to begin her presentation.

Finance Director Wilkerson explained that the committee would receive the Budget Binder Review and presentations from specific departments over the two-day meeting. Ms. Wilkerson went over the planning of the Budget Binder and what City Council would expect. The 2025 Budget Binder was organized by department and then by its divisions. It would allow the City to maintain a strong financial position.

Mayor Corcoran noted and clarified that some housing figures are slightly skewed. Specifically, the senior low-income housing project, which receives all its permits at once, is considered a single project. The approach, however, treats it more like a commercial project rather than residential. This explains the noticeable increase, nearly all of which is attributed to that project. The development involves 52 units, and while the overall difference is slightly higher, the data remains.

Councilman Shaffer inquired about the meaning of "liquidity" for an operating entity.

Director Wilkerson explained that in this context, liquidity refers to our ability to pay—the access to resources, should another pandemic occur. It means having enough liquid cash available without needing to borrow.

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City of North Ridgeville Fire Department– Fire Chief John Reese

Auditor Wilkerson directed City Council to Page 55 of the 2025 Budget Binder and introduced the Fire Department budget. Director Wilkerson explained that the Fire Levy Fund is classified as property and intergovernmental revenue.:

- The 2023 actuals compared to the 2024 year-end estimate show a decrease of half a percent.
- The budget for 2024 includes a 1% increase over the 2024 budget.
- The intergovernmental revenue, which includes rollbacks originating from the state of Ohio, is projected to be 2.6% higher in the 2024 year-end estimate than in 2023.
- Between 2024's budget and 2025, there is a predicted decrease of 2.8%.
- Director Wilkerson noted that the 2024 budget appears to be lower than expected, so adjustments were made, and they will monitor how that turns out.
- The second fund supporting the fire department is the paramedic levy, which is funded by property and intergovernmental income.
- For the 2023 to 2024 year, the estimates are as follows:
 - Property taxes decrease by 4%.
 - Intergovernmental revenue is expected to increase by 2.6%.
- The 2025 budget, compared to 2024, is projected to be 1.6% higher in property taxes.
- Property taxes are down by approximately 6.5%, based on actual estimated amounts.
- Regarding the fire pension fund, which is used to support pension expenses at year-end, property tax revenue is projected to decrease slightly by 0.5% and intergovernmental revenue for 2023 actual versus 2024 estimates is 2.9%.
 - There is an anticipated 1% increase in property tax for this fund.
 - Intergovernmental revenue is expected to rise by 2.2%.
- Finally, for the ambulance fund, which generates charges for ambulance transport services:
 - The 2023 year-end actuals versus 2024 estimates show an increase of 15.7%.
 - Interest income is also up.
 - The 2024 budget, compared to the 2025 budget, is projected to increase by 25.7%.

Fire Chief John Reese provided major highlights for the Fire Department's 2024 budget and what is being planned for the 2025 budget. There weren't any major changes. *PowerPoint presentation attached to the minutes.*

- The ambulance fund remains active, with the number of calls consistently increasing over the past year. This growth in calls is expected to continue for the foreseeable future.
- The fire general fund has increased slightly compared to last year, primarily due to fighting expenses.
- Highlighted the ongoing growth and financial aspects of the department.
- Old Foam Causing Cancer - All of the Fire Chiefs in Lorain County approved a new foam after testing at the Fire Chiefs Academy, which is now being distributed across the county. The Fire Chiefs in the county purchased large quantities for strategic incidents, such as derailments or tanker accidents. Several foam buckets are available per truck, and pre-

loaded tanks are ready for use. Fire Chief Reese is replacing old foam with new foam and purchasing more as needed.

Fire Apparatus Condition and Lifespan:

- Chief Reese said the Department's vehicles are generally in good shape. The oldest truck, a 2011 model, is 14 years old; trucks usually last about 20 years. A ladder truck retired after 15 years due to deterioration.
- The current ladder truck, bought in 2019 for around \$1.5 million, is the most expensive piece of gear. To protect it, the exposure is limited to roads, train tracks, and harsh conditions. Chief Reese noted that with proper care, trucks can last longer. Most fire engines are approximately 14 years old and can last an additional six years if properly maintained. As trucks age, maintenance costs rise, averaging \$5,000 to \$20,000 annually. The department performs yearly tire and brake checks, but overall costs are increasing.

City Garage Equipment and Vehicle Maintenance:

- Funding was requested for 2024 to support equipment needs.
- Chief Reese requested \$4,300 for city garage equipment, including trailers; the amount increased to \$6,900 due to rising costs.
- Vehicle maintenance requests went from \$16,000 to \$29,000 due to varying yearly needs. A key issue was the ladder truck's monitor—a remote-controlled nozzle for elevated fire streams used primarily for fire suppression, rather than rescues. It malfunctioned, requiring several service visits. Chief Reese was dissatisfied with the repairs and negotiations, as costs still stood at \$16,000.

Station One Facility Maintenance:

- Station One is now six years old, and wear is beginning to show, especially in carpeting throughout the building.
- Chief Reese plans to replace carpeting over two years to manage costs, starting with the front and rear entranceways and the upstairs day room.
- The classroom, which is used for voting, will be addressed the following year due to heavier foot traffic.
- NFPA guidelines discourage excessive carpeting, especially in dormitories, but some is necessary for sound control.
- Chief Reese aims to use commercial tile that can be easily replaced, helping maintain the building's appearance and potentially extending its lifespan to 100 years.

Department Photos:

- Department photos were last taken in 2016, with 17 new employees since then. Chief Reese stressed the importance of updated photos for records and media, especially when employees retire or are involved in public matters. The City funds photo sessions for individual and group shots across all shifts. Employees can buy their photos.

County Technical Rescue Truck and Contract:

- Chief Reese collaborated with the County for 3–4 years to acquire a new rescue truck, replacing an over-20-year-old one. Previous trailers were overloaded and unsafe.
- The department uses grants and a County contract for rescue, water rescue, and hazardous materials work. Seven team members meet staffing needs.
- The 2025 contract costs 37 cents per resident, funding these services. Chief Reese stated that the County utilized COVID-19 relief funds and savings to purchase a new vehicle, trailer, and semi-truck, which are expected to last 30–40 years. The trailer, equipped with AWS, supports emergency medical operations, such as mass vaccinations.
- He noted the Department contributes annually to a County contract, which slightly

increases each year, serving as 'insurance' for hazardous materials, rescues, and larger incidents that exceed their capacity.

- The county has responded to collapsed houses and crashes, enabling quick assistance to city crews.

Transition to Battery-Powered Equipment:

- Chief Reese mentioned switching to battery tools and equipment.
- Gas generators are expensive, with failed units costing over \$25,000 to replace.
- New vehicles have LED lighting and Milwaukee B batteries, matching older gas models' power.
- Benefits include eliminating gasoline, reducing maintenance, and charging at the dock. The main cost is battery replacement, which is significantly cheaper than maintaining gas engines.

Firehouse 2 Condition:

- Chief Reese confirmed Firehouse 2 is in excellent condition, with no issues and functioning perfectly. He stressed ongoing maintenance, like painting and repairs, to keep it in top shape.

Staffing Challenges:

- Chief Reese acknowledged staffing issues shared by many. As housing grows, calls and workload increase. The Department runs with three crews, but staffing is tight, requiring mutual aid about 60 times last year.
- Chief Reese noted that neighboring Departments like Avon and Westlake face similar problems, and mutual aid is reciprocal.
- Fire Chief Reese stated that the department currently has 36 line personnel, consisting of firefighters and officers assigned to ambulances and fire trucks.
- Each of the three shifts includes 12 personnel: one captain, three lieutenants, and eight firefighters. Administrative staff, including the Chief and Assistant Chiefs, are not included in this count.
- Chief Reese emphasized that nine personnel per day is the minimum staffing level he is comfortable with, and the Department often operates at that threshold.
- The Department runs three companies daily; on the morning of the meeting, all three were out on calls, requiring additional personnel to be called in—a situation becoming increasingly common.
- The Department allows three personnel off per day for various types of leave (vacation, holidays, Kelly days, personal time).
- Chief Reese noted that the Department is among the most efficient in the region regarding personnel-to-leave ratios.
- Time off is highly valued and selected by seniority, making it competitive among staff.
- Daily, one officer (captain or lieutenant) and two firefighters may be off; any additional absences (e.g., injury, FMLA, suspension, retirement) result in automatic overtime.
- Chief Reese highlighted recent unexpected retirements that contributed to increased overtime needs.
- A growing issue is newer personnel's reluctance to work overtime, complicating shift coverage during absences.
- The Department started mandating overtime on November 1, 2024, requiring personnel to stay when needed. Chief Reese expects more mandatory overtime, especially on holidays, due to ongoing staffing shortages.
- Overtime costs have risen over five years, linked to FMLA, sick leave, injuries, and retirements.
- Two retirements are upcoming—January and April—adding strain. Chief Reese, down two

- staff members, aims to fill these roles before year-end to reduce overtime.
- Chief Reese observed that the younger staff are less inclined to work overtime, while middle-aged and senior personnel face burnout from heavy workloads.
 - In 2023, the Department logged nearly 14,000 overtime hours, with some staff working little or none and others shouldering most of the load. Call volume has steadily grown over the past decade, closely following residential growth..
 - Chief Reese projected the department will likely exceed 6,000 calls annually soon.
 - Four personnel, two retired and two retiring by April 1, 2025, accounted for 31% of 2023 overtime. A younger employee contributed 11%. Chief Reese highlighted the challenge of losing these active overtime contributors.
 - Chief Reese noted that one younger firefighter is working double shifts because he's single, healthy, and motivated, but this isn't sustainable.
 - Chief Reese expressed concern about the increasing difficulty in finding personnel for overtime, calling it a looming dilemma.
 - Proposed a staffing model to address overtime while considering the City's financial constraints. He recommended hiring three more personnel to maintain minimum staffing and reduce overtime. The plan is to schedule 10 personnel daily instead of nine, allowing for one unfilled absence without overtime. This will increase shifts from 12 to 13 staff, with three staff members off per day. This could cut overtime costs by half of the current \$575,000. He noted this would tighten time-off scheduling and may not be popular, but he stressed its necessity.
 - Although the cost of three new hires would exceed \$300,000, Chief Reese believes the reduction in overtime could offset a significant portion of that expense.
 - Chief Reese said the proposal brings the Department closer to needing a fourth crew, as the city has no fire protection when all three squads are on EMS calls. It relies on mutual aid from Avon or Westlake, which only provides three responders. He stressed this isn't sustainable for a growing city of over 36,000 residents.
 - There are risks of operating below minimum staffing.
 - When asked about potential early retirements, he stated there are no known plans but acknowledged that unexpected retirements have occurred recently, catching leadership off guard.
 - Chief Reese said no further retirements are expected in 2026 unless due to burnout, dissatisfaction, or unforeseen events like winning the lottery. He plans to work at least another year or two before retirement.
 - Four positions are open; six candidates are being background checked with police assistance. Chief Reese expects four to be hired after their background checks and training.

Ambulance Deliveries and Future Planning:

- Two ambulances are scheduled for delivery in late January and early February, with inspections on January 8, 2025. The Department waited over two years for one and nearly two for the other. A third is planned for 2026, with Chief Reese advising early order due to 2–3 year delays.
- Orders don't require upfront payment, only securing a spot. One ambulance with nearly 200,000 miles is being replaced. Chief Reese said delays were caused by city orders and staffing shortages, not COVID supply issues.

Chairman DeVries asked whether the committee members and City Council members had any questions.

Councilman Winkel asked if everything Chief Reese requested was in the 2025 Budget.

Director Wilkerson explained that everything the Chief requested is included in the budget except for the three additional staff members.

Councilwoman Swenk asked for clarification on the 13 shifts allocated for fire stations one or two.

Chief Reese explained the 13-person shift would cover both fire stations. Currently, with 12 per shift, nine are on duty daily—six at Station One, three at Station Two. If all six at Station One are on a call, no one may be available for walk-ins, leaving only administrative staff. Though rare, such cases happen, like individuals with chest pain coming directly instead of calling 911.

Councilwoman Swenk expressed strong support for increasing fire department staffing, recognizing firefighters as the backbone of the city and essential to public safety.

Chief Reese reiterated the need for additional staffing in fire inspections, noting that the Assistant Fire Chief remains the Department's only fire inspector. With a large new school under construction, the Assistant Fire Chief is expected to spend significant time on-site, potentially requiring a temporary office there. Building inspectors have also expressed concern about the time commitment required at the school site. Although the need for additional inspection staff remains, the department has prioritized other staffing needs due to limited resources. Chief Reese acknowledged Mike's heavy workload and dedication, noting that he is often only seen briefly at the beginning and end of the day due to his demanding schedule.

Councilman Shaffer asked for the definition of the roles of fire officers.

Chief Reese stated that all firefighters are paramedics. Daily, three officers work: a captain, a lieutenant at Station Two, and a supervisor for another crew. They operate independently, each with a team of one officer and two firefighter/paramedics, managing separate emergencies as calls often differ.

Councilman Shaffer wanted to know if overtime expectations could be discussed in the interviews.

Chief Reese stated that during interviews, candidates are explicitly asked about their willingness to work overtime. He highlighted that while most new officers are aware of the expectations, newer firefighters often find it challenging to adapt to working holidays and overtime. Chief Reese mentioned that he clearly communicates during interviews that working holidays, such as Christmas, are a standard part of the job. He observed that candidates' attitudes towards overtime typically become apparent during the interview process. Chief Reese said the Department's five-year Community-Driven Strategic Report is complete and will be released soon. He thanked supporters and noted that the report provides valuable community feedback guidance. It will be available on the Department's website for public review.

Director Wilkerson explained that staffing levels funded by the paramedic Levy, which had 17 staff members, have been reduced to 15, with two transferring to the ambulance fund, increasing its staff to two. Over time, previously supported by the Levy, it now falls entirely on the general fund. The Department also planned for two retirements with cashout included.

Chief Reese noted that the ambulance levy remains vital for operations.

Mayor Corcoran noted staff concerns across departments. The last time staffing was increased in the Fire Department was after the previous paramedic levy renewal. Having extra staff means securing more funding from the community.

Chairman DeVries called for a recess.

Recess 10:00 a.m.
Reconvene 10:15 a.m.

Chairman DeVries reconvened the meeting.

City of North Ridgeville Police Department– Police Chief Mike Freeman

Auditor Wilkerson introduced the Police Department budget and directed everyone to page 68 of the 2025 budget book. She explained that the Police Department is supported by both a police Levy fund and a police pension fund, and is funded through property taxes and intergovernmental revenue. Director Wilkerson shared that for 2023, actuals show a decrease of half a percent for the 2024 budget estimate, while the 2024 to 2025 budget projects a 1.2% increase. The intergovernmental revenue for this period increased by 2.5% in 2023 and was projected to rise by 1.68% from 2024 to 2025, based on the year-end estimate. She mentioned that the Police Chief's current staffing level is 52 employees. The signing of the OPBA contract led to adjustments in staffing allocations, resulting in three employees being transferred from the police Levy fund to the general fund. This was due to the fact that the levy funds are fixed and could not support those positions. Director Wilkerson concluded by turning the discussion over to the police chief.

Police Chief Mike Freeman provided a comprehensive update on the department's operations, accomplishments, and needs:

- New Police Department Facility: The new building opened in 2024 and is functioning well. Communications, phones, and computer systems are operating smoothly.
- Policy System: The Lexipol (LAOPO) policy system was successfully implemented and is in use.
- Drone Program: A drone program was launched with both large and small drones. Five officers are certified operators.
- K-9 Unit: A new female Malinois K-9 was acquired and is currently in training, bringing the department's total to three K-9s.
- Officer-Involved Shooting: A shooting incident on the north end of town was ruled justified by the Prosecutor's Office.

Crime Statistics (*Handout attached to minutes*):

- North Ridgeville ranks second-lowest in total, property, and violent crime among surrounding cities, despite being the third-largest in population.
- Property crime is nearly 80% below the national average.
- Violent crime is 90% below the national average.

Traffic and Crash Data:

- Crash data from 2019 to 2024 has remained stable.
- Fatal crashes have been minimal in the past two years.
- Top crash routes include Route 83 and I-480.
- Seasonal weather contributes to crash patterns.

2025 Budget Requests from Police

Equipment:

- Seven additional Taser 10 units.
- Two additional Flock cameras to cover gaps in city access points, though some locations lack nearby power sources.
- One sniper rifle for the Emergency Response Team (ERT), a joint unit with Avon and Avon

Lake.

Personnel:

- Two additional officers for the traffic unit to address ongoing complaints and improve enforcement consistency.

Vests:

- The department participates in a federal 50/50 cost-sharing program. All officers receive new vests with a five-year lifespan, and replacements are rotated accordingly.

Chairman DeVries asked whether the committee members and City Council members had any questions.

Councilwoman Awig wanted to know if there were any plans to address speeding in the city.

Chief Freeman explained that traffic enforcement remains a significant concern within the community, as it is the most frequent complaint received from council members and residents. The traffic unit has demonstrated a proactive approach by conducting over 7,000 stops in recent years, highlighting their effectiveness.

Councilwoman Swenk asked how many additional staff members the Police Department is requesting and the need for flock cameras.

Chief Freeman noted that the department operates with two day shift platoons and two night shift platoons, totaling 28 officers. There are five officers in the detective bureau. The traffic unit currently has two officers, with a request to expand to four. In addition, the Flock camera expansion aims to fill remaining gaps, though some locations lack power sources.

Chairman DeVries asked about upcoming retirements.

Chief Freeman explained that a conditional offer has been extended to a new officer, which would bring the staffing level to 42, although four retirements are expected in 2025. Chief Freeman emphasized the importance of pre-hiring to maintain staffing levels, especially given the 18-week police academy requirement. A new Civil Service test is scheduled for the summer. A recently approved contract was acknowledged as a key step in improving retention and reducing turnover.

Director Wilkerson explained that they built in three additional staff members to backfill the three positions that would be retiring in 2025, which is seven pay periods. An adjustment would be needed if additional time is required.

Councilman Shaffer wanted to know if the money from traffic tickets goes into the Police Department budget.

Chief Freeman responded with a no.

Director Wilkerson explained that ticket revenue from Mayor's Court goes into the general fund, and the general fund funds approximately 90% of the Police Department's budget.

Councilman Shaffer wanted to know the difference between a youth-oriented crime and a teen-oriented crime.

Chief Freeman clarified that the data is state-generated and likely age-based, though exact definitions are unclear.

Councilwoman Swenk noted the frequency of red light violations at major intersections, particularly at the intersection of Route 83 and Center Ridge. She expressed that there is a need for more road officers.

Chief Freeman explained that, in 2024, officers logged 101 hours on federal traffic details, down from 1,117 hours in 2019. For city traffic details, only 52 hours were logged in 2024, compared to 1,234 hours in 2020. Chief Freeman noted that younger officers often prioritize time off, which impacts their participation in overtime.

Chairman DeVries inquired if the Police Department had a chance to use the armored vehicle.

Chief Freeman explained that the regional armored vehicle is expected to arrive in mid-2025 and will be stationed in Avon, as Avon is the central location.

Councilman Abens complimented the choice of using the MARCS system. Some concern was expressed over the decline in citation revenue, with suggestions that increased enforcement could help justify additional staffing. He would like to see the citation revenue improve, so there could be a justification for more personnel.

Chief Freeman agreed that the Police Department needs to work harder.

Councilman Jacobs inquired whether the traffic unit's sole duty is traffic enforcement or if they are occasionally assigned to other tasks.

Chief Freeman explained that the traffic unit is only used when no one else is available to handle a situation or if a specific emergency arises. Although officers are occasionally reassigned from traffic duties to handle emergencies, such instances are kept to a minimum to ensure ongoing enforcement. Typically, there are four to five officers on shift at any given time, which helps to maintain consistent enforcement efforts despite resource limitations.

Councilman Jacobs asked for the percentage of time that the traffic unit gets pulled for other duties.

Chief Freeman noted that it is less than 10%.

Chief Freeman answered resident Frank Toth's (located at 35300 Nikki Ave) question regarding streamlining the bus camera enforcement. The City now has video evidence of vehicles passing stopped school buses, which will improve enforcement. The key to enforcement is knowing who is driving the vehicle at the time of the violation.

Councilman Shaffer wanted to know if there are any ticketing cameras in the City.

Chief Freeman added that North Ridgeville does not use ticketing cameras because it is a civil violation.

Chairman DeVries called for a recess.

Recess 10:47 a.m.

Reconvene 11:05 a.m.

Chairman DeVries reconvened the meeting.

City of North Ridgeville Parks and Recreation Division - Director Kevin Fougousse

Auditor Wilkerson introduced the Parks and Recreation Division budget. The Parks and Recreation Division is supported by the general fund as well as three additional funds. One of these is the Park and Recreation Program Fund, which receives intergovernmental revenue, a small grant, charges for services, and interest income. Although the Division did not apply for the Fishing Derby grant in 2024, it plans to do so in 2025. This anticipated grant is included in the projected service revenue charges.

From 2023 actuals to the 2024 year-end estimate, revenue increased by 18.3%. The 2025 budget reflects a 12.22% increase. This budget supports part-time staff who manage programming and work within various facilities and fields. The 2023 actuals compared to the 2024 year-end estimate show a 10.8% increase, while the comparison from 2024 to 2025 shows a 16.9% increase. The fund remains self-supporting and revenue-generating, with strong fund balances.

License fees, permits, and interest support the Park and Recreation improvement fund. From 2023 actuals to the 2024 year-end estimate, revenue increased by 49.5%. The 2025 budget anticipates a 3% increase in funding. This fund supports capital outlay. The department has three full-time staff members budgeted under this fund. The park and recreation fund employs 29 staff members, with some staff classifications modified.

Director Fougrousse provided highlights for the department's budgets for 2024 and 2025. Director Fougrousse introduced Matthew Murphy, who joined the department at the end of July as the Recreation Services Administrator (Assistant Director). He also introduced Hannah Barkhurst, who joined as Program Supervisor at the end of September.:

- The department offers a variety of programs for all ages, including youth and adult education, fitness, community events, and athletics.
- In 2025, a total of 95 programs are budgeted.
- The department runs a sponsorship program that generated nearly \$27,000 last year.
- It received a \$10,000 grant from the Ohio EPA for park water stations.

Director Wilkerson added that the 2025 budget shows a significant increase in the general fund operating budget, due to a \$186,000 equipment capital outlay, with no other major changes.

Recreation Trust Fund:

- Experienced growth in several areas.
- Special events funding rose from \$37,000 to \$65,000, supporting expanded summer concerts, a new golf outing, and more community events.
- Sports supplies funding almost doubled from \$46,000 to \$84,000, mainly due to including youth football in the department.
- The football program, formerly independent with 170 participants, will now include around 150 new participants, creating North Ridgeville's first unified football program in over 55 years. The department will also manage a cheer program.
- Significant equipment costs are involved, including helmets costing between \$175 and \$225.
- Initial capital projects and equipment costs have been reported, with expectations of additional revenue.
- The City of North Ridgeville has historically managed its youth football programs through the Parks and Recreation Department.
 - Last fall, the flag football program had 170 children, up 50 from the previous year.
 - The smaller tackle football, previously on the Lorain County side, is now expected to include about 150 more children.

- Flag football will stay in the Little Southwest Conference, including Avon, Avon Lake, North Olmsted, Olmsted Falls, and Westlake.
- The tackle football will join the Lake Erie Youth Football Conference, with divisions for padded flag, rookie tackle (fifth grade), and varsity tackle (sixth grade).
- Transportation for away games is parent-responsibility; travel is local (20-25 mins) to schools like Midview, Keystone, Amherst, Elyria, with a similar pattern for flag football.
- Contracted sports services (referees, umpires, assigners) budget increased from \$43,000 to about \$50,000 due to rising costs.
- Field maintenance and concessions are managed well; ongoing discussions about concession operations with football, baseball/softball concessions yielded over \$15,000 last summer.
- Concession staff are mainly high school students, trained and managed by the department; improvements include credit card payment options.
- Restroom facilities at Shady Drive Complex were upgraded three years ago, now heavily used and growing.
- Budget item for a baseball field liner (Turf Tank) was initially allocated by Public Works and later assigned to Parks and Recreation.
- New field mapping and painting equipment, similar to North Olmsted's, allows digital mapping and automation, replacing manual spray paint; details pending.
- Cost for new equipment covered by Parks and Recreation.
- Confirmed that Frontier Park has been used for the past two years, including hosting football programs. About \$70,000 was allocated last year for athletic field upgrades at Frontier. Current improvements at Frontier include sand slitting, overseeding, and drainage repairs, which are necessary due to increased usage.
- Shady Drive Complex to continue hosting football, potentially for only flag football, to reduce wear.
- In communication with North Ridgeville High School about loss of practice fields; possible alternative sites include Root Road Park, Frontier Park, or Shady Drive Complex.

Public Parks:

- Concession stand at Frontier Park is operational; however, it needs cleaning and repainting. It was upgraded in 2010 with a CDBG grant.
- Funds available for replacing the pedestrian bridge at Frontier Park with a 10-foot-wide engineered, steel structure for better accessibility and durability. The estimated lifespan of the new bridge is around 25-30 years.
- Compliance with House Bill 47 regarding Automated External Defibrillators (AED) was to add two additional units at Shady Drive Complex and South Central Park, which the Fire Department maintains.
- A vandalism incident at South Central Park involved two juveniles, and charges were reduced in exchange for restitution.
- Details on replacing the pedestrian bridge include using steel to replace concrete piers to improve water flow.
- South Central Park playground project: RFPs issued in October, and five submissions received. Construction is expected to begin around June.
- Department plans to expand community programming, including existing events like summer concerts and Stash Dash, and new events such as a golf outing and the "Corporate Challenge" for local businesses. The Corporate Challenge features activities such as tug-of-war, basketball, and golf, inspired by a successful Vandalia program that is expected to grow.
- Updated Costs: Stash Dash (about \$20,000), summer concerts (about \$25,000, due to higher band fees).

- Golf outing scheduled for early September.
- The swimming pool proposal is not being considered. A new master plan, which includes land development and large-scale projects, is being considered and depends on funding approval. The past pool proposal was rejected; staffing challenges during COVID-19 were noted as possible reasons.

Capital Projects:

- \$149,000 for a new Parks and Recreation Master Plan to guide future growth because the current Master Plan is eleven years old.
- \$71,000 for waterline repairs near Pavilion One and the splash pad in South Central Park, with work to upgrade infrastructure.
- \$98,000 upgrade planned to improve the park's camera system, installed in 2015, is currently outdated and nonfunctional after a server crash. Due to recent vandalism and social media trends, a new system is critical. The upgrade includes 34 new cameras covering all park areas, accessible to police, parks, and public works, with advanced features like mobile access, alerts, and facial recognition. Vendor is Harb Security, with experience in correctional facilities and airports.
- Electrical pedestal upgrade costing \$88,000 will support holiday events and seasonal displays, similar to "Magic of Lights." Pedestals may be used for community events via formal agreements.
- Root Road Park parking lot project, delayed but funded by a \$500,000 grant, scheduled for 2025.
- Frontier Park pedestrian bridge replacement expected to be completed in 2025.
- The new camera system will be monitored by police, with access for parks and public works.
- Electrical pedestals are primarily for parks, but could be shared for community events.
- Parks Master Plan, adopted in 2013, guides improvements and funding; however, a new plan is needed from the community.
- Working with GPD Group to apply for a grant from ODNR for Pavilion 5 improvements in South Central Park, relocating it from the splash pad, with applications due in June 2025 and the project in 2026.

Director Wilkerson added that all items discussed by the Parks and Recreation Director are included in the current budget, except Pavilion 5. If the grant is awarded, the department will request matching funds from the Council.

Director Wilkerson noted that the Senior Center was not on the agenda due to the lack of equipment or capital requests.

Director Fougousse remarked that staffing is strong, especially among high school students supporting summer camps, concessions, scorekeeping, and supervision. Recruitment success is attributed to participation in the North Ridgeville High School's Annual Future Fair, where many students return each year. Few hires in 14 years have not worked out.

No further comments. The committee appreciated the presentation and efforts.

Chairman DeVries called for a recess.

Recess 11:30 a.m.

Reconvene 11:50 a.m.

Chairman DeVries reconvened the meeting.

{Clerk notes: There are certain parts in the meeting where the audio was unclear or hard to hear due to technical issues with the mics or distance from the mics.}

City of North Ridgeville Building Division – Director Kim Lieber and Guy Fursdon

Auditor Wilkerson introduced the Building Division budget, funded through the general fund.

Building Official Fursdon and Planning & Development Director Kim Lieber provided highlights and explanations for the budget changes.

- In 2024, the Building Department initiated a scanning project to digitize paper files and reduce physical storage.
- Preparations are nearly complete for the Department's relocation, with construction expected to begin in Q1 2025.
- The primary goal for 2025 is to move the Department (about 22 employees) without disrupting services to staff, contractors, or residents, especially during peak permit season.

Staffing and Property Maintenance:

- A zoning inspector, Casey Hale, was hired in September 2024 after an extensive search. He brings a law enforcement background and is actively learning local codes.
- With only one zoning property maintenance inspector covering 23.5 square miles and 37,000 residents, the department remains in a reactive mode, responding primarily to complaints.
- Long-term goals include expanding staffing and implementing a rental registration program to track better and inspect single-family rental properties. This would help ensure that tenants have safe and sanitary living conditions. The program would require landlord licensing and additional staff resources.
- It was explained that longevity is a negotiated fringe benefit provided to employees who have served the City of North Ridgeville for five years or more.

Permit System and Technology:

- Plans to implement an online permitting system have been postponed to avoid overburdening staff during the physical relocation. The online system remains a long-term goal following the successful move.

Inspection Turnaround:

- The Department maintains a 24-hour turnaround for inspections, with rare delays. Emergency inspections are prioritized and often completed sooner.

Equipment:

- The Department reported that equipment needs are typically well-covered within the existing budget. In early 2025, the department plans to purchase updated code books to accompany the newly adopted state codes. These will include commentary editions, which are helpful for code interpretation and understanding. The cost is expected to be minimal.
- Department vehicles are leased, with one used vehicle still in operation. The Finance Director will make future decisions regarding vehicle replacement.

Director Wilkerson noted that tree removal expenses, previously paid from this budget, have been reallocated to grounds maintenance. With the addition of an arborist, tree removal is now handled internally by the City's staff.

Councilman Abens inquired whether the Building Division would handle inspections for the upcoming high school construction project or if the work would be contracted out.

Building Official Fursdon responded that the matter is still under consideration, but it was confirmed that inspections will be handled internally, as was done with the middle school project. The department does not anticipate needing external support for the building portion of the project.

Chairman DeVries called for a recess.

Recess 12:15 p.m.

Reconvene 12:30 p.m.

Chairman DeVries reconvened the meeting.

Director Wilkerson introduced the Engineering Division. The general fund Revenue supports the Division and currently has 10 positions—one is a part-time permanent, and one is a seasonal part-time.

City of North Ridgeville Engineering Division – Director Kim Lieber, Christina Eavenson, and Eric Brown

City Engineer Eavenson provided a background of what the Engineer Division has done, its achievements, and any EPA mandates from the past year. A PowerPoint from the Engineering Division is attached to the minutes. She also covered key 2025 Capital Projects requests.

Full Depth Pavement Replacement – Annual:

- Photos were shown depicting the existing roadway condition, pavement removal, and final stages of completion.
- In 2024, approximately 7,200 square yards of concrete were replaced, funded by a \$900,000 budget. This work covered about 0.47 miles of centerline roadway. The City had over 80 miles of concrete streets, and the current budget allowed for less than half a mile of replacement.
- Mike Runyon and Civil Engineer Brown walked the streets, marked areas needing replacement, and returned to the office to quantify and estimate costs.

The Catch Basin Repair Project – Annual:

- In 2024, 50 basins were repaired, an improvement over previous years due to a \$150,000 budget allocation.
- The Service Division provided a list of basins needing repair, which staff visited and prioritized based on condition. Complaints from residents and inspections by the Service Division informed the prioritization process.

Traffic Paint Striping – Annual:

- In 2024, the budget increased to \$175,000 from \$150,000 in previous years. A map was shown indicating which roads were striped; major roadways were prioritized over residential streets. Some roads were deferred to the following year if their condition was deemed acceptable.

Crack Sealing – Annual:

- In 2024, 7.7 centerline miles of roadway were sealed.
- The Streets Division, particularly Anthony Oliva, provided recommendations for which streets to seal by conducting slow drives or walking the streets to assess conditions and identify additional areas for sealing.

The Hydrant Replacement Project – Biannual:

- In 2024, Brian O'Grady identified hydrants to be replaced by visiting each hydrant, taking photos, and measuring the right-of-way, especially near driveways.
- All hydrants were tagged to guide contractors during replacement.
- Staff prepared all bid documentation, issued it for bidding, and onboarded the contractor.
- It was noted that during the last two hydrant replacement projects, isolating the water system was necessary to complete replacements. Water mains ranging from 8 to 16 inches in diameter were shut down, but aging valves often failed to seat properly. There is a need to address water line valve replacements due to these issues. Some hydrants were skipped because isolation of the water system was not possible.

Maddock Road Box Culvert Replacement at Watson Ditch:

- Ray Ford discovered the deteriorated culvert during ditch cleaning, noting exposed rebar and structural damage. The condition posed a risk of catastrophic failure, prompting prioritization of the project.
- Staff improved tracking of culverts not inspected by ODOT, which only inspects bridges. The city was responsible for approximately 56 culverts.
- Routine inspections led to the identification of the Feelon Ditch and State Route 83 culverts for replacement, prioritized for the next OPWC funding round.

Stoney Ridge Road Peanut Roundabout:

- The roundabout project had been in development for an extended period.
- TC Energy's high-powered gas main and easement requirements delayed progress.
- Utility relocations and property acquisitions also presented challenges.
- Plans were in place to lay the top coat in November, weather permitting.
- Completion by year-end was uncertain, but the roundabout was expected to be open before the end of the year. Landscaping work might be completed later.

Looking Forward to 2025:

- Expressed excitement about relocating from the basement to a more functional workspace. The new space would allow for better collaboration and organization. Director Lieber was leading the effort to finalize the updated floor plan.
- A goal for the upcoming year was to restore and update the City's GIS system, which had been down for two years due to server issues.
- Aimed to catch up on record information, especially for new developments and assets. There was concern that replacements of older assets were not being properly documented.
- The City received a notice from the EPA indicating deficiencies in its contingency and emergency preparedness plan for the public water system.
- A binder containing relevant documentation was maintained at both the Service Division and City Hall. Brian O'Grady and staff met with an EPA representative to review the plan. The EPA granted an extension through the end of the year to address several items, including:
 - Valve exercising
 - Updates to the asset management plan (a draft was already in place)
 - Updated water asset drawings and community metrics. Staff planned to compile the necessary updates and respond to the EPA by the deadline.

Sanitary System & I&I (Inflow and Infiltration):

- Discussed ongoing issues with illicit stormwater connections and groundwater infiltration through disjointed pipes.

- Orenson Beam Knoll, one of the City's oldest communities, was identified as having significant wet weather flow issues. Flow monitoring by AECOM revealed that wet weather could increase flow by up to 1,259%, potentially costing nearly \$2,000 per day in treatment.
- Recommended a public outreach campaign and targeted fixes to address I & I concerns.

Construction Standards:

- The City's construction standards had not been updated since 2008.
- An intern with CAD experience assisted in updating the title block to include the current City logo.
- Outdated specifications and materials were identified, requiring clarification with contractors. Expressed intent to complete the updates within the year.

Master Plans:

- Work had begun on several master plans, but was delayed due to shifting priorities.
- OHM was engaged to develop the Master Water Plan, which ties into the contingency and asset management plans.
- Future planning for the next 5–10 years was discussed, including the need for a new water tower.
- Strand was hired to begin Phase I of the Master Stormwater Plan, focusing on evaluating existing conditions. Many older communities lacked storm sewer systems and had limited right-of-way and tree lawn space, complicating infrastructure upgrades.

MS4 Permit:

- Mr. Brown and Joe Reitz led efforts related to the MS4 permit this year.
- The City was required to submit a 15-page annual report to maintain the permit, due April 1st.
- The report involved coordination with multiple departments, including Parks & Recreation and the Service Division.
- The EPA audited the City's MS4 permit compliance on three of six measures and found deficiencies. There are plans to work with the EPA to address and resolve the issues.

PCR Rating:

- The last Pavement Condition Rating (PCR) for the roadway network was completed in 2019.
- Mr. Brown used the data in collaboration with the Service Division to identify roads for future maintenance. OHM had prepared the previous report, but updated data was needed for future planning.

Staff introduced highlights of the proposed capital improvements for the upcoming year, noting the list was not all-inclusive.

State Route 83 & Chestnut Ridge Roundabout:

- The project was originally scheduled for the current year, but faced delays due to:
 - Communication utility relocation issues involving Windstream Kinetic and GLW.
 - Restrictions during the endangered bat season, which prevented tree clearing.
 - Utility pole relocations were also required.

Pressure-Reducing Valve (PRV) Vault Replacement:

- The Service Division identified an emergency capital improvement need at the Elyria water source entry point.

- The PRV vault was rusting, with seams separating and groundwater infiltrating the structure. A sump pump was running continuously and discharging into a neighboring property.
- Design plans were nearly complete, and the Division aimed to secure a contract within the year.
- This project was marked as a priority for budget allocation due to its emergency nature.

Cypress Avenue Extension & Rehabilitation:

- The project included extending Cypress Avenue to Lorain Road and rehabilitating the existing half-mile stretch.
- The existing roadway was in poor condition and required:
 - Full road rehabilitation
 - Curb repairs
 - Concrete entrance installation to accommodate truck traffic
 - Catch basin adjustments and storm sewer upgrades

Sugar Ridge Road Sanitary Sewer Extension:

- Awaited modeling results from AECOM to ensure the extension would not be a problem for the existing system. Approval was received to proceed with extending service down Sugar Ridge Road.
- The extension would support future development along State Route 83.
- This project was identified as a strategic infrastructure investment requiring budget support.

Sugar Ridge Road Rehabilitation:

- Funding was secured for both the roundabout and the roadway rehab. The project aimed to improve the entire roadway from Waterbury Boulevard to Bender Road.
- The Service Division performed a temporary mill and fill on the segment extending to the Elyria line due to severe deterioration.
- The full rehabilitation was deemed critical for long-term infrastructure stability and warranted continued budget prioritization.

Additional Capital Projects & Budget Considerations:

Director Lieber secured Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding for repaving work on Carolyn, Luanne & Monica Drives. The Department planned to pursue the repaving project in the upcoming year using the awarded funds.

Sidewalk Improvements:

- It was clarified that sidewalk repairs are not typically included in roadway rehabilitation projects unless:
 - Federal funding mandates ADA compliance.
 - The sidewalk presents a significant safety hazard, such as severe cracking.
- Due to budget constraints, sidewalk upgrades were only pursued when necessary.

Lorain Road Bridge over Norfolk Southern:

- The City owned a bridge near the drive-in theater with an appraisal rating of 7, indicating acceptable condition but needing maintenance. Chain link fencing was a concern, and a maintenance study was proposed to assess repairs and extend the bridge's lifespan. Funding would be required for the study and repairs.

Mills Creek Flood Control Basin:

- There are still challenges with this drainage project.
- A high-pressure gas main owned by TC Energy ran through the proposed watercourse rerouting area. A solution was identified: an inverted stormwater siphon to route flow beneath the pipeline, which TC Energy approved.
- Additional complications arose from wetland mitigation requirements imposed by the Army Corps of Engineers. There are plans to resolve these issues and complete the project within the year, pending budget approvals. The project required specialized engineering and environmental compliance funding.

Norfolk Southern Railroad At-Grade Separation:

- The City applied for funding through the Ohio Rail Development Commission (ORDC) for an overpass bridge at the Norfolk Southern crossing.
- The project advanced to the next phase of evaluation by the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA).

Director Lieber mentioned she is currently in the diagnosis phase for the Zoning Code update. Additionally, she requested that City Council increase the land acquisition line item to half a million.

Adjournment:

Chairman DeVries adjourned the meeting at 3:06 p.m.

{ SEQ CHAPTER \h \r 1}To Order – Wednesday, November 22, 2025 (Day 2):

Chairman Martin DeVries called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. in Council Chambers at North Ridgeville City Hall, 7307 Avon Belden Road.

Pledge of Allegiance:

Led by Chairman DeVries.

Attendance:

In attendance were Committee members Clifford Winkel, Councilman Bruce Abens, and Chairman Martin DeVries.

{Clerk notes: The individuals who presented during the budget session are named individually or by the department within the section that was being presented.}

Also in attendance were Finance Director April Wilkerson, Assistant Finance Director Fabrice Dongo, Mayor Corcoran, Assistant Clerk of Council Fijabi Gallam, Councilwoman Holly Swenk, Councilman Eric Shaffer, Councilwoman Georgia Awig, and President Jason Jacobs.

2026 Budget Discussion (Continued):

City of North Ridgeville Public Works - Jon Montgomery (Presentation attached)

Finance Director Wilkerson presented the Public Works Department budget. Equipment expenses from 2023 to 2024 increased by 9.3%. The 2024 estimate for the 2025 budget decreased by 47.3%. This supports the debt service fund as well as the Improvement fund. The French Creek service fund owes \$10.9 million, including \$8.2 million from the Ohio Water Development Authority (OWDA) loan for the CM tank blower project. There is a \$2.695 million bond issued in 2016 for three projects. These loans are paid only after the projects are completed. Tap fees, along with transfers from the operating fund, help fund the improvement fund. It is expected that tap revenue will decline, leading to adjustments in the estimates as final data. Capital outlay covers projects listed within the treatment plant budget. The 2023 actual expenses compared to the 2024 year-end estimate are approximately 169%. The projection from the 2024 year-end to the 2025 year-end budget is 179%. The fund summaries for the treatment plant show strong fund balances, and the plant maintains a six-month target carry forward for the operating account.

City of North Ridgeville French Creek Wastewater Plant - Jon Montgomery and Corey Timko

- \$8.3 million CM blower upgrade project - the largest and most critical project undertaken at the plant. This project involved 3 million gallons of water and was delayed due to supply chain issues, specifically a 60-week delay for a transformer and a 90-week delay for switchgear.
- The Super Hut project, completed prior to the CM blower upgrade, was reported to be highly successful. It improved sludge storage by keeping it dry.
- Due to the centrality of the CM blower project, no other major systems would be taken offline simultaneously, and the project was expected to span two years. The team planned to focus on smaller efficiency and maintenance tasks during this time.
- A significant drought from June to October 2024 affected plant operations, reducing inflow and wet weather revenue. The drought caused functional issues, including pump shutdowns due to insufficient water levels.

Capital projects and equipment upgrades were outlined:

- The influent screen project was budgeted at \$2 million but expected to come in lower due to design changes.
- A \$500,000 contingency was added to the CM tank project.
- Launder covers were added to reduce algae growth.
- A sludge collector arm was reinstated due to deterioration of the existing unit.
- Radiant heaters were added to the Super Hut conveyor to prevent winter operational issues.

Additional projects included, but not urgent:

- Water line replacement.
- Maintenance for the building.

Additional equipment replacement:

- A quad cab Ford F250.
- A CAT telehandler, replacing the need for rented cranes and improving access to equipment.
- A new Kubota vehicle, part of a regular replacement cycle for plant transportation.

Director Wilkerson reminded everyone to stay aware of the rate study and the 4% increase, while expenses go up.

Chairman DeVries called for a recess.

Recess 9:35 a.m.

Reconvene 9:50 a.m.

Chairman DeVries reconvened the meeting.

Director Wilkerson presented the Public Works budget. It is the largest department that includes maintenance grounds, cemeteries, streets, water, sewer, storm, French Creek, and the City garage. The grounds maintenance department is a staff of six. For the 2025 budget, the department has asked for a reclassification of the assistant ground maintenance supervisor who serves as the sexton, while being the grounds maintenance Foreman. The department hired an Arborist whom City Council previously approved.

City of North Ridgeville Grounds Maintenance Division – Jon Montgomery and Anthony Oliva

Director Montgomery addressed the need for a staffing change within the Grounds Maintenance Division. He explained that the department faced frequent disruptions due to the city's growth and the unpredictable nature of daily tasks. When key staff members were occupied with urgent issues like water breaks or ditch work, there was no backup to manage other priorities.

To streamline operations, a new position was proposed to support both grounds maintenance and other departmental functions. The individual selected had over 20 years of experience and was familiar with the department's roles, making him well-suited.

City of North Ridgeville Cemetery Division – Jon Montgomery and Anthony Oliva

Director Wilkerson noted that the Cemetery Division operated under a separate fund, collecting fees for plots and burials. A comparison of 2023 and 2024 showed a 9.52% increase in service charges, with a projected 2.74% increase for 2025. The general operations budget for cemeteries decreased by 19% in the 2024 budget.

- Columbariums have recently been installed, with pricing and niches still being finalized; future expansion depends on their initial success. Columbariums offer flexibility for expansion, with each unit holding around 400 niches, priced between \$300 and \$500.
- \$75,000 allocated for fencing improvements; plan to renovate one cemetery per year (Stoney and Ridgeville), including fencing, landscaping, and tree removal.
- The City maintains older headstones at Stoney Cemetery, but limited staff—comprising four people, including two maintenance workers—hampers upkeep efforts.
- The cemetery fund included a \$4,000 annual wage allocation for the seasonal cemetery role, which was transferred from the general fund.

Mayor Corcoran confirmed that Fields Cemetery had room for expansion, while the other two cemeteries were more limited. He supported the columbarium concept and noted the availability of an online portal for locating loved ones. He also remarked that the cemeteries were in good condition overall.

City of North Ridgeville Streets Division – Jon Montgomery and Anthony Oliva

Director Wilkerson presented the staffing within Public Works. The department currently employs 49 staff members, including six part-time employees. Staff were shared across Street, Water, Sewer, and Storm divisions, with some employees performing duties in all four areas. Council had previously approved the addition of a secretary in 2024, though the position was not filled in 2023. The secretary now supports the City Garage and Water/Sewer operations.

Fund summaries for street operations were reviewed. Revenues from gasoline and license plate taxes remained stagnant, prompting cautious budgeting. The Street Construction, State Highway, and Permissive Motor Vehicle License Tax funds showed modest year-over-year increases or decreases, with fund balances used to offset expenditures. The Street Levy fund, supported by property taxes and intergovernmental revenue, continued to fund paving, supplies, and capital projects. Property tax revenue remained stagnant, with a projected 2% increase, though no growth was observed in 2024. Intergovernmental revenue, including homestead rollback, also remained flat. Transportation expenditures increased by 14.3% from 2023 actuals to 2024 year-end, based on available capital improvement funding. Engineering budget requests decreased by 15.3%, allowing for reallocation to other expenses. The State Infrastructure Bank loan was paid in full; remaining debt service included OPWC loans and fiscal charges.

- Public Works paved 11 roads in 2024, using nearly 8,000 tons of asphalt across approximately 7 miles, including concrete repairs.
- Major repairs were completed on North Barton, and 20 roads were crack-sealed using 30,000 pounds of material. Crack sealing was performed in subdivisions such as Mills Creek Lane North and South, Lorain Road, and Island Road.
- Anticipated fewer roads being paved in 2025, focusing instead on longer stretches.
- Catch basin repairs were performed as needed, with approximately 100 identified for future attention.
- Noted that while additional funding could support more work.
- Several cul-de-sacs were repaired in recent years, including North Barton Road, Dorchester Avenue, and Manning Circle.
- Approximately \$1 million was spent on full depth repairs last year, doubling prior years' investment.

- Equipment and labor limitations continued to impact project capacity.
- Multiple retirements were anticipated in 2025, including long-serving employees in operations and mechanics.
- Summer help recruitment remained challenging despite outreach efforts to schools, job fairs, and social media.

City of North Rigeville Water and Sewer Division - Jon Montgomery and Brian O'Grady

Director Wilkerson reviewed the water fund budget. She noted that the water fund's revenue primarily came from charges for services, tap fees, and interest, and the 2023 actual revenue versus the 2024 estimate is 6.2% higher. The estimate was accurate, but the Finance Department planned to monitor it throughout the year for potential adjustments for 2025. Charges for services revenue are normally budgeted at a 2.2% increase. The meter sales and water taps had increased significantly, especially due to commercial development, though they remained cautious about projections due to variability. The water fund supported utility operations and collections, with budget increases in both areas for 2025. Capital outlay focused on equipment replacement, with a 10.7% increase from 2023. Non-operating expenses included a transfer to support debt service for recent notes issued, which funded water meter replacement and water improvement projects. The fund maintained a carry-forward balance, though it had decreased slightly due to support for the meter replacement project. The debt service fund noted that tap-in fees were slightly lower than the 2023 actuals over the 2024 year-end estimate. Ongoing adjustments due to variables like debt retirements, including a water improvement project for Dorchester Avenue that was scheduled to be paid in full by 2028, lead to a decrease in debt service principal in 2029. A \$1.2 million note repayment for a meter replacement project was included, and there was no target carry forward in this fund because it was an extension of the main operating fund.

The water improvement fund was also reviewed, with capital outlay related to a request from Engineering to support future waterline projects. A transfer of \$1 million into this fund was planned for the following year, and resources had already been allocated for upcoming water projects. A new water meter replacement fund was to be created, supported by a \$3.50 monthly fee per meter approved by the council. This fund included \$5 million for a capital improvement project and transfers out to the debt service fund to support debt payments. Once the debt was paid off, the fund would continue to accumulate for future water meter replacements.

Regarding the sewer fund, in August 2012, the council approved a 10% increase in sewer charges. Of all collected charges, 6% was allocated to the Sewer Improvement fund, and 4% to wholesale rates. The revenue estimate from 2023 to 2024 increased by approximately 6.89%, with the proposed budget reflecting about a 0.5% increase. Some revenue estimates were low and were expected to be amended in 2025. The sewer fund supported both utility collection and operation costs, including sewer processing at French Creek, which saw a slight increase from 2024 to 2025. It was anticipated that rates at French Creek would increase by 4% annually. Transfers from this fund went to the sewer improvement and debt service funds.

Regarding debt, Director Wilkerson mentioned that two bonds, related to Center Ridge Road and the westerly line, are set to mature in 2027, leading to about \$500,000 in savings. Additionally, bonds for Dyke Road and Case Road are scheduled to mature in 2028. The fund's balance was strong, and there were no current plans to issue new debt in the coming year. The sewer improvement fund included tap fees and transfers from the operating fund.

- ETL (a tap) line, an extended transmission line from Avon Lake to Medina; repairs were billed directly to participating cities.
- About 20 employees are needed to get the required duties done on a daily basis, excluding emergency work like main breaks and EPA orders.

- Purchase 472 million gallons of water from Elyria, and the city is on track with the required usage.
- The department generally replaced 15–20 hydrants annually.
- About 40 hydrants were replaced through the replacement program because they are still inoperable or leaking. Many were pre-1980 and linked to older mains, complicating replacements. A hydrant replacement could cost around \$5,300, and a valve replacement could cost \$2,300, depending on the size. They were often needed due to deterioration.
- The department generally replaced 15–20 hydrants annually.
- An estimated \$16,000 EPA license-to-operate fee will be discussed for the location where the fee was historically paid.
- Reported progress on the lead line verification project, with 300 responses received and no known lead lines in the City.

City of North Ridgeville City Garage - Jon Montgomery and Head Mechanic Brandon Winter

Director Wilkerson remarked that the division operates as an internal service fund, servicing only City departments and billing them directly for labor, materials, and contracted services. City Garage has six full-time staff members, including five mechanics and one head mechanic. The fund does not serve external entities. All vehicle maintenance is centralized through the garage, and the Head Mechanic also serves as the City's fleet manager, overseeing a tracking system for all vehicles. The fund's structure differs from others due to its internal billing model. To support operations and manage timing differences in billing and procurement, City Council previously advanced \$60,000 from the general fund. The 2023 actuals to 2024 year-end estimates showed a 12% increase, with a 2.9% increase budgeted for the upcoming year. Labor charges are based on a set rate and adjusted according to union contract terms. Forecasted negative balances in future years were noted as timing-related and not cause for concern. Billing occurs biweekly to maintain cash flow. The capital projects fund covers equipment replacement costs, as the internal service fund only includes costs that can be billed to departments.

- Reported that the garage completed approximately 600 work orders in 2024, servicing police, fire, parks, and service departments.
- Preventive maintenance efforts included rustproofing, painting, and salt box upkeep to extend equipment life and improve presentation.
- The garage is in good condition, with newer lifts, metalworking tools, and cleaning equipment.
- Two hot water pressure washers and an undercarriage wash system are operational and recently serviced.
- Trucks are washed regularly, either upon return or the following morning.
- The hourly labor rate was confirmed at \$103.
- "Personal Services" in the fund summary refers to salaries and benefits.

City of North Ridgeville City Garage - Jon Montgomery and Storm Water Forman Ray Ford

Director Wilkerson remarked that the storm water fund is supported by charges for services, with a 6.2% increase in the 2024 year-end estimate over 2023 actuals and a 5% increase budgeted beginning in 2026. The 2025 budget showed a 32% decrease from 2024 due to capital outlay, as presented by the City Engineer. The fund has no outstanding debt service and no separate improvement fund; capital projects are paid directly from the operating fund. A six-month carryforward was budgeted, with 76% of the fund balance available for appropriation.

- The department has worked to minimize flooding through targeted maintenance and the use of GIS to analyze complaints and identify problem areas.

- Discussed ditch rehabilitation, debris removal, and coordination with the City arborist to manage declining trees.
- Councilwoman Swenk asked Forman Ford to be on the Board of the Drainage Control because he would be a great asset.
- Councilman Abens and Forman Ford agreed that the farmers had installed some of the storm water systems.
- Foreman Ford reviewed the PowerPoint slides attached to the minutes regarding the equipment needed for operations.

Chairman DeVries called for a recess.

Recess 12:00 p.m.

Reconvene 12:16 p.m.

Chairman DeVries reconvened the meeting.

Planning & Development Department Director Kim Lieber - CIC Presentation:

Russ Bathis from Square and Patton Boggs, along with Kim Lieber, gave a presentation on the Community Improvement Corporation. The Community Improvement Corporation (CIC) would assist with the problem of property acquisition as a tool for the City, operating as a non-profit separate entity. If there is a consensus from City Council that CIC would benefit North Ridgeville, then the administration would proceed with the implementation, including the background, the steps of implementation, and what authority City Council has over the CIC.

Mayor Corcoran explained that the CIC would be beneficial to the City to speed up purchasing properties for the health and welfare of the community.

Chairman DeVries called for a recess.

Recess 1:05 p.m.

Reconvene 1:18 p.m.

Chairman DeVries reconvened the meeting.

Other City Departments and Go2IT – Mayor Corcoran and Finance Director Wilkerson:

Director Wilkerson outlined the Finance Department, Human Resources, Debt Service, and the Self-Insurance Fund budgets.

Mayor Corcoran noted that the City was working on a server project delayed due to vendor issues with Dell. This was identified as the final major IT project for 2024. Plans for 2025 include purchasing computers for various departments, shifting focus from large network projects to individual departmental needs. Integration with departmental software will follow the server upgrade. He confirmed that previous issues with the phone system had been resolved.

Director Wilkerson added that no equipment outlay was built into the Computer Services budget for 2025, as such expenditures are typically only budgeted when specific needs are identified. She noted that while the server project concludes the 2024 initiatives, additional requests may arise in 2025.

Director Wilkerson reported that the finance department has six full-time staff supported by the general fund. Investment income has increased, resulting in higher fees for the investment service

provider. A small increase was included for GAP services to support the issuance of a new Popular Annual Financial Report (PAFR), a simplified financial summary for residents. The report, delayed due to the audit timeline, is expected to be issued next month and will be mailed citywide. The staff is currently being housed in two separate offices. Funding was requested to create a workspace in the former Treasurer's Office to allow for direct supervision.

Under the Income Tax budget, Director Wilkerson noted a slight increase in expenses paid to RITA for tax administration and to Reimer, RITA's collection agency, which charges an 18% fee on delinquent tax collections. An additional \$50,000 was budgeted to cover charges from the State of Ohio related to net profit business tax filings. When a local business had refiled a prior year's income tax and received a refund, the City was charged by the State of Ohio to return the previously allocated funds. This type of adjustment, common with net profit filings, was built into the budget due to the short 20-day payment window required by the State.

The miscellaneous general government budget covers cross-departmental expenses within the general fund. Items include unemployment payments, general supplies, like coffee, first aid kits, auditor and treasurer fees related to property tax collections, payments to visitors bureaus, and school bus camera funds.

Under Human Resources, Director Wilkerson provided an update on the Pradco Supervisor Training Program, reporting strong participation and positive feedback across three cohorts, including department heads and newly promoted staff. The 2025 budget includes funding to continue this training for new hires and promoted personnel. The department also covers contracts with Stefanik & Iosue for HR oversight and Sedgwick for workers' compensation claim administration.

Director Wilkerson confirmed that \$25,000 in funding has been approved for employee recognition and morale initiatives. This funding was again included in the 2025 budget under Human Resources. She noted that not all funds have been used yet, as the City is working with Stefanik Iosue & Associates to develop a formal policy for its use, including reviewing practices in other municipalities.

Regarding the fireworks budget, the \$25,000 allocated was for the City's share of the fireworks display at Victory Park, a joint effort with Victory Sports Park. The Park charges fees for parking and activities, but not for entry.

Mayor Corcoran explained that the event was moved from South Central Park years ago due to safety concerns raised by Chief Reese, which were later validated by an accident at another event. Victory Park donates a portion of its net proceeds to North Ridgeville Community Care.

Director Wilkerson noted that Citywide property and casualty insurance rates increased by 37.8%, largely due to rising auto insurance costs, challenges in securing coverage for municipalities, and the presence of a police department. A recent police-involved shooting, though handled with restraint, was cited as a factor influencing rates. Additionally, Ohio's high tornado frequency has impacted property insurance premiums.

The Debt Service section covered several funds:

- Income Tax Debt Service Fund: Supported by 5% of municipal income tax revenue, with only 2.5% currently utilized. Outstanding debt was reduced to approximately \$2.7 million, with a strong fund balance projected to grow due to reduced debt obligations.
- Central Fire Station and Police Station Debt Service Funds: These are levy-supported and subject to annual adjustments by the county based on fund balances. The police station fund includes a bond premium that must be paid down within five years per federal law.

- Walgreens TIF Debt Service Fund: Debt was fully paid in 2023. Remaining revenues in 2024 will be transferred to the General fund.
- Performance Lane TIF: The City acts as a pass-through agent for this debt, which was issued to fund infrastructure improvements. The debt began around 2016 and is expected to continue for many years.
- Center Ridge Road Debt Service Fund: Supported by motor vehicle license tax revenue. The fund balance is sufficient to cover annual debt service, with modest growth projected.
- Westerly Special Assessment Debt: Related to sanitary sewer improvements, this debt will be paid off in 2026. Residual funds will be transferred to the General fund.
- Victory Lane Bond Retirement Fund: Another special assessment fund, with debt scheduled to be paid off in 2034.

The Self-Insurance Fund:

- Medical insurance costs increased by 12.8% due to higher claims, particularly involving employees and their spouses.
- Cost-saving measures were implemented, including drug program rebates. However, due to union contracts, employees only pay 12.5% of total costs, leaving the City responsible for the remainder.
- Discussed the possibility of requiring spouses with access to other coverage to use it, but no such policy is currently in place.

Solid Waste Fund:

- Supported by service charges, the fund saw a 5% increase from 2023 to 2024 and an 11% increase projected for 2025.
- A one-year contract extension with Republic Services was negotiated to reduce a proposed 25% rate hike to 9.63%.
- A rebid is planned for 2025, with expectations of higher costs. The fund no longer supports rate holidays due to depleted balances.
- Discussed leaf pickup services, which are not currently offered by Republic and would require significant investment if provided by the City.

Moved by DeVries and seconded by Winkel to enter Executive Session to discuss staffing, salaries, and departmental budget requests.

A roll call vote was taken, and the motion carried.

Yes – 7 No – 0

Adjourned into Executive Session at 2:00 p.m.

Reconvened into the Finance Committee meeting at 3:28 p.m.

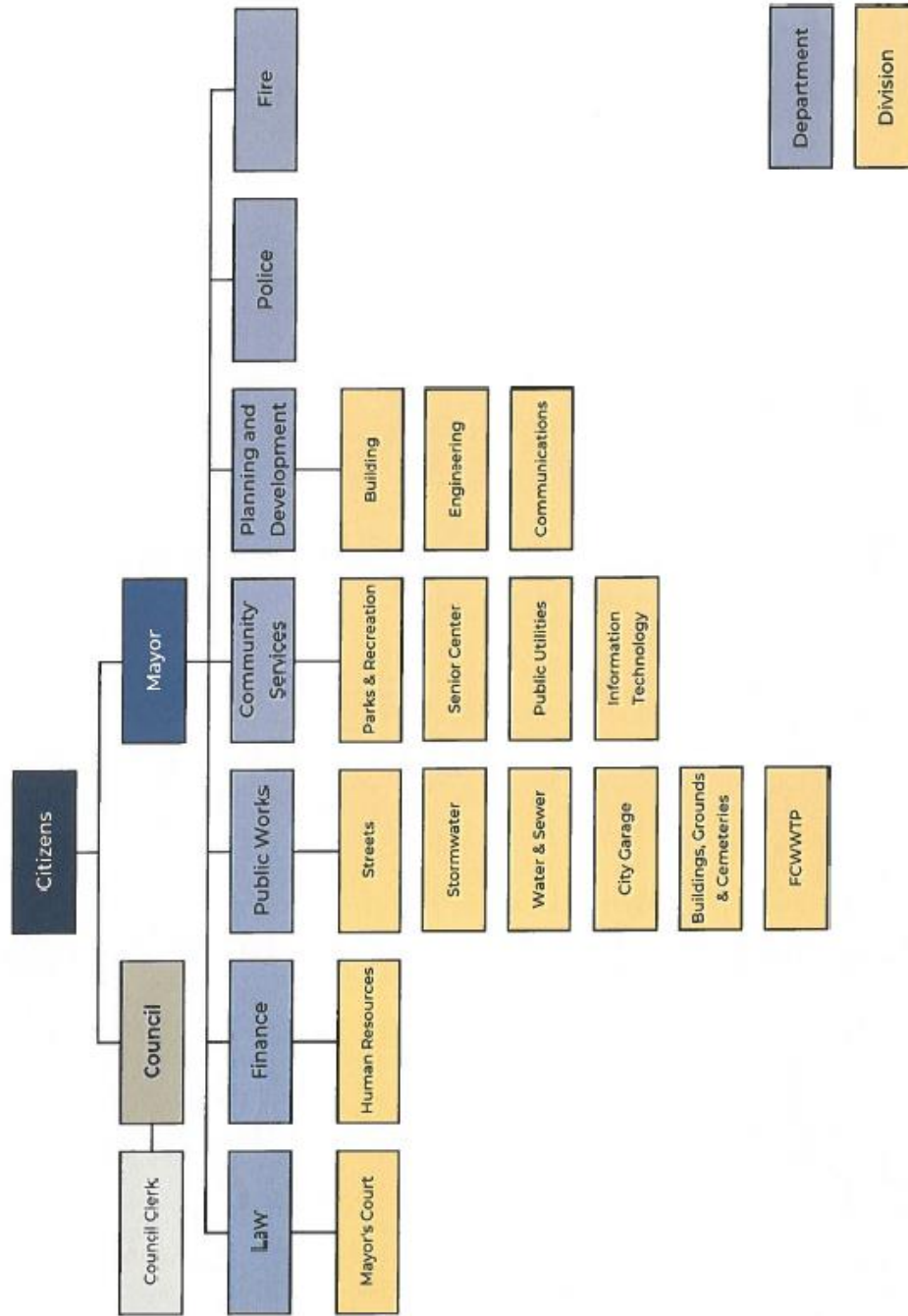
Adjournment:

Chairman DeVries adjourned the meeting at 3:29 p.m.

These minutes were approved on the 5th day of November, 2025.


Fijabi Julien Gallam, MMC
Assistant Clerk of Council

EXHIBIT 230.99(a)



City of North Ridgeville, Ohio
 Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Fund Balance
 General Fund - Actual, Budget, and Forecasted

	Actual	Budget	Year-End Estimate	Proposed Budget	Forecasted			
	2023	2024	12/31/2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029
Revenues								
Property and Other Local Taxes	\$1,536,917	\$1,850,012	1,835,700	1,869,000	\$1,906,000	\$1,944,000	\$1,983,000	\$2,023,000
Income Taxes	14,553,822	13,140,700	15,508,011	15,444,000	15,753,000	16,066,000	16,389,000	16,717,000
Intergovernmental Revenue	1,058,054	1,081,685	1,008,929	1,053,000	1,032,000	1,041,000	1,051,000	1,061,000
Licenses And Permits	934,574	932,000	841,658	979,000	980,000	1,002,000	1,024,000	1,046,000
Fines and Costs	472,773	637,000	349,860	452,000	492,000	502,000	512,000	522,000
Special Assessments	14,791	20,000	17,189	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000
Franchise Fees	283,984	300,000	276,183	300,000	300,000	300,000	300,000	300,000
Interest	302,929	210,000	438,779	365,000	372,000	379,000	387,000	395,000
Miscellaneous	854,096	879,000	976,415	900,000	901,000	902,000	903,000	904,000
Total Revenues	20,321,940	21,050,397	21,252,724	21,612,000	21,756,000	22,156,000	22,569,000	22,988,000
Expenditures								
Current								
Security of persons and property								
Police	4,912,292	6,551,955	5,887,589	7,275,611	7,494,000	7,719,000	7,951,000	8,190,000
Fire	1,415,116	1,863,970	1,701,863	1,962,275	2,021,000	2,082,000	2,144,000	2,208,000
Street Lighting	219,152	290,043	210,799	295,000	304,000	313,000	322,000	332,000
Total Security Of Persons And Property	6,546,560	8,705,968	7,800,251	9,532,886	9,819,000	10,114,000	10,417,000	10,730,000
Public Health And Welfare								
County Health Department	165,755	175,000	84,819	175,000	180,000	185,000	191,000	197,000
Leisure Time Activities								
Park And Recreation	907,067	523,520	472,721	715,895	737,000	759,000	782,000	805,000
Senior Citizens	422,571	444,001	428,730	461,200	475,000	489,000	504,000	519,000
Total Leisure Time Activities	1,329,637	967,521	901,451	1,177,095	1,212,000	1,248,000	1,286,000	1,324,000
Community Development								
Planning and Development	293,474	566,409	526,656	596,750	615,000	633,000	652,000	672,000
Planning Commission	3,000	2,296	1,518	2,930	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000
Board Of Zoning Appeals	31,48	2,150	76	2,030	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
Building	923,507	1,414,387	1,118,213	1,328,730	1,369,000	1,410,000	1,452,000	1,496,000
Engineer	846,259	1,491,156	1,054,101	1,591,450	1,598,000	1,646,000	1,695,000	1,746,000
Total Community Development	2,069,368	3,476,398	2,700,553	3,481,030	3,587,000	3,694,000	3,804,000	3,919,000

City of North Ridgeville, Ohio
 Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Fund Balance
 General Fund - Actual, Budget, and Forecasted

	Actual	Budget	Year-End Estimate	Proposed Budget	Forecasted			
	2023	2024	12/31/2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029
<u>General Government</u>								
Council	113,967	114,700	110,452	25,550	129,000	133,000	137,000	141,000
Clerk of Council	213,762	259,088	252,601	271,545	280,000	288,000	297,000	306,000
Civil Service	34,741	50,977	50,421	44,100	45,000	46,000	47,000	48,000
Mayor	483,564	575,085	363,946	376,770	388,000	400,000	412,000	424,000
Mayor's Court	235,240	280,946	231,393	280,100	289,000	298,000	307,000	316,000
Safety Service Director	147,794	(6)	(6)					
Finance	869,694	1,046,981	965,723	1,054,850	1,097,000	1,130,000	1,164,000	1,199,000
Treasurer	2,400	-	-					
Income Tax Administration	492,490	579,000	469,383	615,000	633,000	652,000	672,000	692,000
Law Director	580,259	784,723	611,138	793,400	817,000	842,000	867,000	893,000
Human Resources	30,642	337,156	193,242	210,000	216,000	222,000	229,000	236,000
Computer Services	315,636	846,092	565,918	654,755	983,000	1,012,000	1,042,000	1,073,000
Public Buildings	253,457	656,396	511,836	463,200	477,000	491,000	506,000	521,000
Grounds Maintenance	-	615,524	502,144	723,270	745,000	767,000	790,000	814,000
Miscellaneous	255,953	533,708	507,023	355,450	366,000	377,000	388,000	400,000
Total General Government	4,029,599	6,679,370	5,335,204	6,277,990	6,465,000	6,658,000	6,858,000	7,063,000
Total Expenditures	14,140,939	20,004,257	16,822,287	20,846,777	21,263,000	21,899,000	22,556,000	23,233,000
Excess (Deficiency) Of Revenues Over Expenditures	618,101	1,046,140	4,430,436	767,229	493,000	259,000	13,000	(245,000)
<u>Other financing sources (uses)</u>								
Sale of Assets	1,482	10,000	242	1,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000
Land Sales	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Advances-In	-	81,000	81,000	-	-	-	-	-
Advances-Out	(35,120)	(602,811)	(602,811)	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers-In	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers-Out	(3,285,560)	(300,000)	(300,000)	(600,000)	(600,000)	(600,000)	(600,000)	(600,000)
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	(3,319,198)	(811,811)	(821,569)	(599,000)	(590,000)	(590,000)	(590,000)	(590,000)

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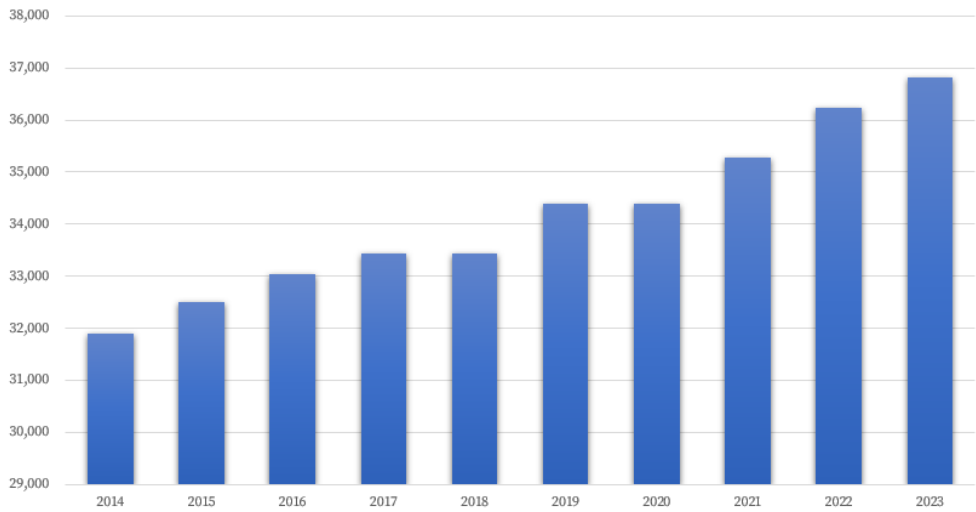
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3. Streets
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7. French Creek
8. City Garage

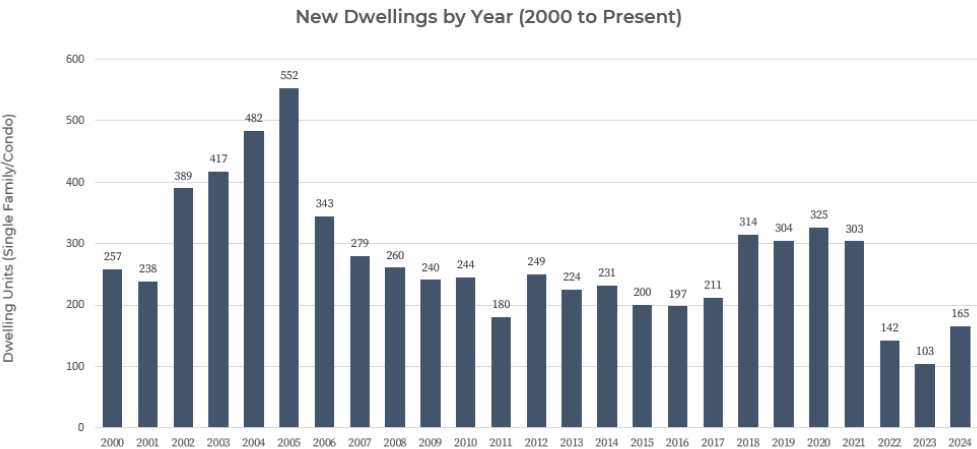
12. STAFFING LEVELS REQUEST



2025
Budget Overview

North Ridgeville Population Growth

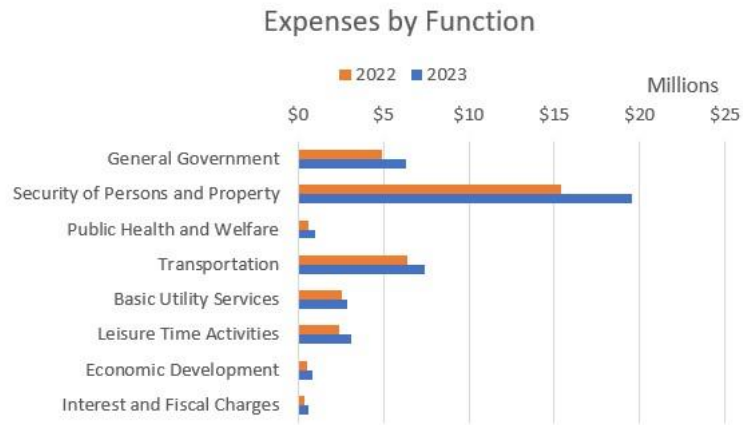




Governmental Funds



Governmental Funds



Annual Tax Budget

- Start of the annual budget process.
- Due to Lorain County Budget Commission by July.
- Revenue estimates submitted are used to generate the Official Certificate of Estimated Resources which limits the amount to be appropriated in each fund.
- Revenue estimates can be amended during the year covered.

Fund Summary

City of North Ridgeville, Ohio Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Fund Balance General Fund - Actual, Budget, and Forecasted								
	Actual	Budget	Year-End Estimate	Proposed Budget	Forecasted			
	2023	2024	12/31/2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029
Revenues								
Property and Other Local Taxes	\$1,836,917	\$1,850,032	1,835,700	1,869,000	\$1,906,000	\$1,944,000	\$1,983,000	\$2,023,000
Income Taxes	14,553,822	15,140,700	15,508,011	15,444,000	15,753,000	16,068,000	16,389,000	16,717,000
Intergovernmental Revenue	1,058,054	1,081,685	1,008,929	1,053,000	1,032,000	1,041,000	1,051,000	1,061,000
Licenses And Permits	934,574	933,000	841,658	979,000	980,000	1,002,000	1,024,000	1,046,000
Fines and Costs	472,773	637,000	349,860	450,000	482,000	503,000	522,000	522,000
Special Assessments	14,799	20,000	17,389	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000
Franchise Fees	293,984	300,000	276,183	300,000	300,000	300,000	300,000	300,000
Interest	302,929	210,000	438,779	365,000	372,000	379,000	387,000	395,000
Miscellaneous	854,096	879,000	976,415	900,000	901,000	902,000	903,000	904,000
Total Revenues	20,320,940	21,050,397	21,252,724	21,412,000	21,756,000	22,158,000	22,569,000	22,988,000
Expenditures								
Current								
Security of persons and property								
Police	4,912,292	6,551,955	5,887,589	7,275,681	7,494,000	7,719,000	7,951,000	8,190,000
Fire	1,415,116	1,863,970	1,701,863	1,962,275	2,021,000	2,082,000	2,144,000	2,208,000
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Public Health And Welfare								
County Health Department	165,755	175,000	84,819	175,000	180,000	185,000	191,000	197,000
Leisure Time Activities								
Park And Recreation	907,067	523,520	472,721	715,895	737,000	759,000	782,000	805,000
Senior Citizens	422,571	444,001	428,730	460,200	475,000	489,000	504,000	519,000
Total Leisure Time Activities	1,329,637	967,521	901,451	1,176,095	1,212,000	1,248,000	1,286,000	1,324,000
Community Development								
Planning and Development	203,474	566,409	526,656	596,760	615,000	633,000	652,000	672,000
Planning Commission	3,000	2,296	1,518	2,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000
Board Of Zoning Appeals	3,148	2,150	76	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
Building	923,507	1,414,387	1,118,213	1,338,700	1,369,000	1,410,000	1,452,000	1,496,000
Engineer	846,259	1,491,156	1,054,101	1,551,450	1,598,000	1,646,000	1,695,000	1,746,000
Total Community Development	2,069,388	3,476,398	2,700,563	3,481,800	3,587,000	3,694,000	3,804,000	3,919,000

Fund Summary

City of North Ridgeville, Ohio Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Fund Balance General Fund - Actual, Budget, and Forecasted								
	Actual	Budget	Year-End Estimate	Proposed Budget	Forecasted			
	2023	2024	12/31/2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029
General Government								
Council	113,967	114,700	110,452	125,550	129,000	133,000	137,000	141,000
Clerk of Council	213,762	258,088	252,601	271,945	280,000	288,000	297,000	306,000
Civil Service	34,741	50,977	50,421	44,300	45,000	46,000	47,000	48,000
Mayor	483,564	575,085	363,946	376,770	388,000	400,000	412,000	424,000
Mayor's Court	235,240	280,946	231,383	280,100	288,000	298,000	307,000	316,000
Safety Service Director	147,794	(6)	(6)	-	-	-	-	-
Finance	869,694	1,046,981	965,723	1,064,850	1,097,000	1,130,000	1,164,000	1,199,000
Treasurer	2,400	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Income Tax Administration	492,490	579,000	449,383	615,000	633,000	652,000	672,000	692,000
Law Director	580,259	784,723	611,138	793,400	817,000	842,000	867,000	893,000
Human Resources	30,642	337,156	193,242	210,000	216,000	222,000	229,000	236,000
Computer Services	315,636	846,092	565,918	954,755	983,000	1,012,000	1,042,000	1,073,000
Public Buildings	253,457	494,396	511,836	463,300	477,000	491,000	504,000	521,000
Grounds Maintenance	-	615,524	502,144	723,270	745,000	767,000	790,000	814,000
Miscellaneous	255,963	533,708	507,023	355,450	366,000	377,000	388,000	400,000
Total General Government	4,029,599	6,679,370	5,335,204	6,277,990	6,465,000	6,658,000	6,858,000	7,063,000
Total Expenditures	14,140,939	20,004,257	16,822,287	20,644,771	21,263,000	21,899,000	22,556,000	23,233,000
Excess (Deficiency) Of Revenues Over Expenditures	6,180,001	1,046,140	4,430,436	767,229	493,000	259,000	13,000	(245,000)
Other financing sources (uses)								
Sale of Assets	1,482	10,000	242	1,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000
Land Sales	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Advances-In	-	81,000	81,000	-	-	-	-	-
Advances-Out	(35,120)	(602,811)	(602,811)	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers-In	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers-Out	(3,285,560)	(300,000)	(300,000)	(600,000)	(600,000)	(600,000)	(600,000)	(600,000)
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	(3,219,198)	(811,811)	(821,569)	(599,000)	(590,000)	(590,000)	(590,000)	(590,000)

Fund Summary

City of North Ridgeville, Ohio Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Fund Balance General Fund - Actual, Budget, and Forecasted								
	Actual	Budget	Year-End Estimate	Proposed Budget	Forecasted			
	2023	2024	12/31/2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029
Excess Of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures And Other Financing Sources (Uses)	2,861,803	234,329	3,608,867	168,229	(97,000)	(331,000)	(577,000)	(835,000)
Fund Balances, Beginning Of Year	10,837,902	13,699,705	13,699,705	17,308,572	17,476,801	17,379,801	17,048,801	16,471,801
Fund Balances, End Of Year:	13,699,705	13,934,034	17,308,572	17,476,801	17,379,801	17,048,801	16,471,801	15,636,801
Reserve For Encumbrances	-	-	1,170,257	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000
Uncumbered Fund balance, End of Year	\$13,699,705	\$13,934,034	\$16,138,315	\$16,476,801	\$16,379,801	\$16,048,801	\$15,471,801	\$14,636,801
Target Carryover Balance	7,070,500	10,002,100	8,411,100	10,322,400	10,631,500	10,949,500	11,278,000	11,616,500
Available for Future Appropriations	6,629,205	3,931,934	7,727,215	6,154,401	5,748,301	5,099,301	4,193,801	3,020,301
Total Fund Balance, End of Year	\$13,699,705	\$13,934,034	\$16,138,315	\$16,476,801	\$16,379,801	\$16,048,801	\$15,471,801	\$14,636,801

MOODY'S
INVESTORS SERVICE

Credit strengths:

- Solid economic and demographic fundamentals
- Strong operating fund balance and liquidity

Aa1

Credit challenges:

- Full value per capita and resident incomes trail the majority of similarly rated peers
- Above average pension burden

Factors that could lead to an upgrade:

- Material expansion of the city's property and income tax base
- Sustained maintenance of strong operating fund balance and liquidity

Factors that could lead to a downgrade:

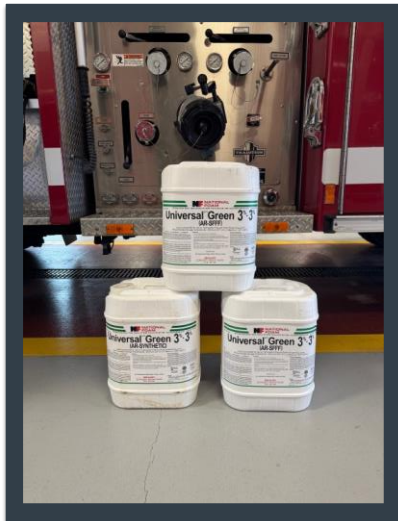
- Considerable contraction of the city's property tax or income tax base, or weakening of the city's demographic profile
- Material declines to available operating fund balance or liquidity

North Ridgeville Fire Department

2025 Appropriations



2025 Appropriations



Replacement of Cancer-Causing Firefighting Foams

The Problem:

Although the firefighting foams used since the 1970s are more effective than newer foams, in numerous scientific studies the older foams are linked to harmful effects on humans and animals, and they do not degrade naturally in the environment.

Our department is in the process of replacing all the hazardous foam with the new type. We are also trying to utilize the Ohio Statewide Foam Takeback Program to dispose of the hazardous foam.

Fire Apparatus and Equipment Maintenance

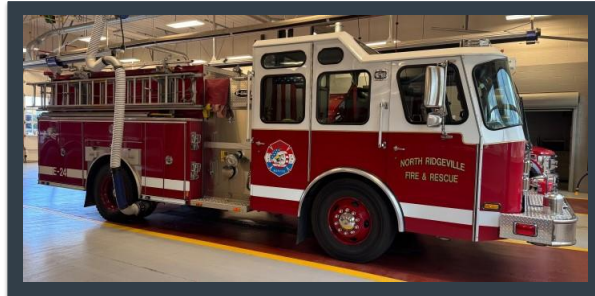
Our fire apparatus is in good repair, but a couple of engines are at least half-way through life expectancy:

Engine 21 – 2020

Engine 22 – 2014

Engine 24 – 2011

Truck (ladder) 23 - 2019



2024 M&R Equipment – City Garage
\$4,300.00 requested
\$6,913.00 spent year-to-date

2024 M&R Vehicles – City Garage
\$16,000.00 requested
\$29,487.88 spent year-to-date

Still have an unpaid invoice from Sutphen for \$16,071.46 that is being negotiated.



CITY OF NORTH RIDGEVILLE

3

Station #1 Carpet Replacement

We are requesting to begin replacing carpet at Fire Station #1 over the next two years

2025 Will be replacement in the entryways and day room

2026 Will be replacement in the classroom and dormitory



CITY OF NORTH RIDGEVILLE



4

Department Photos



Department photos have traditionally been taken every 5 years.

Last time photos were taken was 2016.

We have 17 new employees since the last photo session.

Members have the option of purchasing their individual photos directly from the photographer.

5

LCTRRT

North Ridgeville receives coverage for technical rescues, water rescues, and hazardous materials response from the LCTRRT.

NRFD has 7 members that belong to the various teams.

The 2025 contract with Lorain County requires North Ridgeville to pay \$0.37 per resident.



6

Extrication Tools



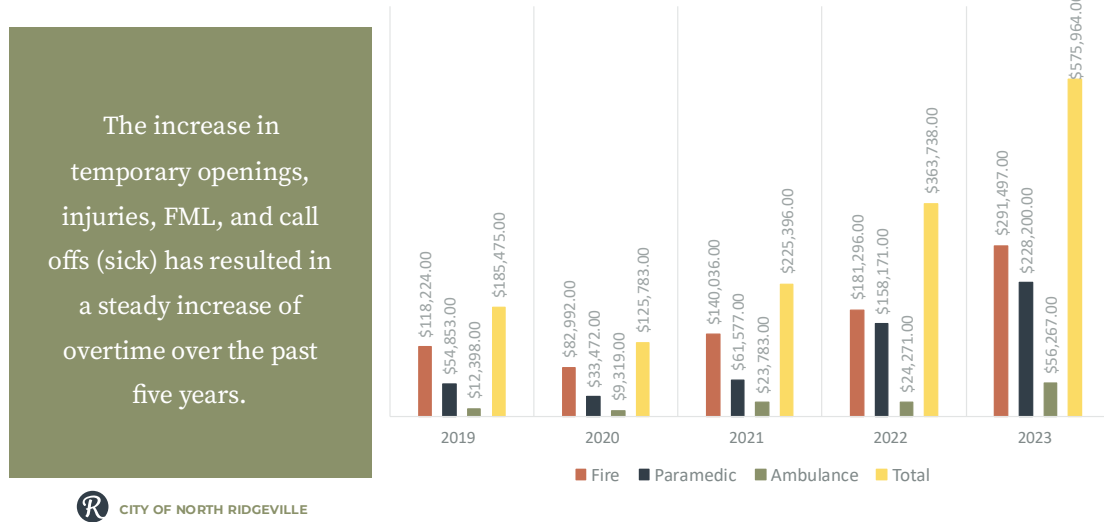
A couple of years ago, the city and Fire Department began switching all tools on each fire apparatus to battery-powered; replacing corded tools, gas engines, and costly generators. The addition of this last set of extrication tools will make the transition complete.

Current Staffing Model

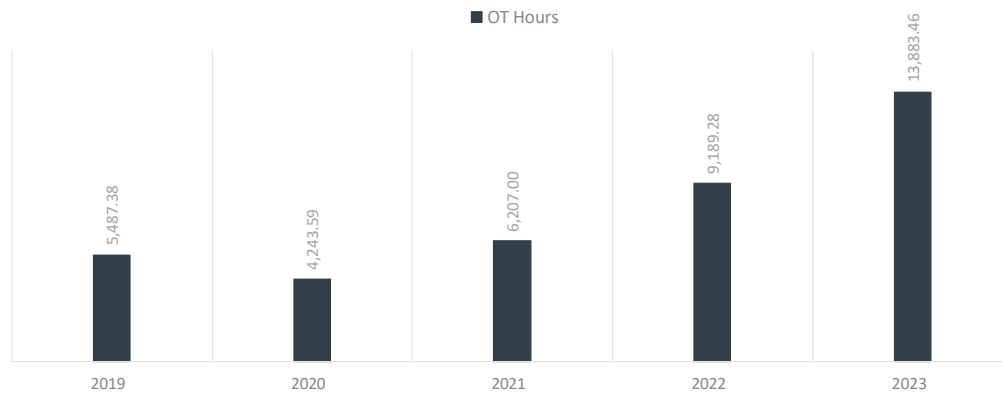
- 36 Line Personnel
- 12 per Shift
- 1 Captain, 3 Lieutenants, 8 Fire Fighters
- 9 Person minimum each shift
- 3 Personnel allowed off each shift
 - 1 Officer, 2 Fire Fighters
- Any openings, injuries, FML, or call offs (sick) result in overtime to maintain 9 minimum



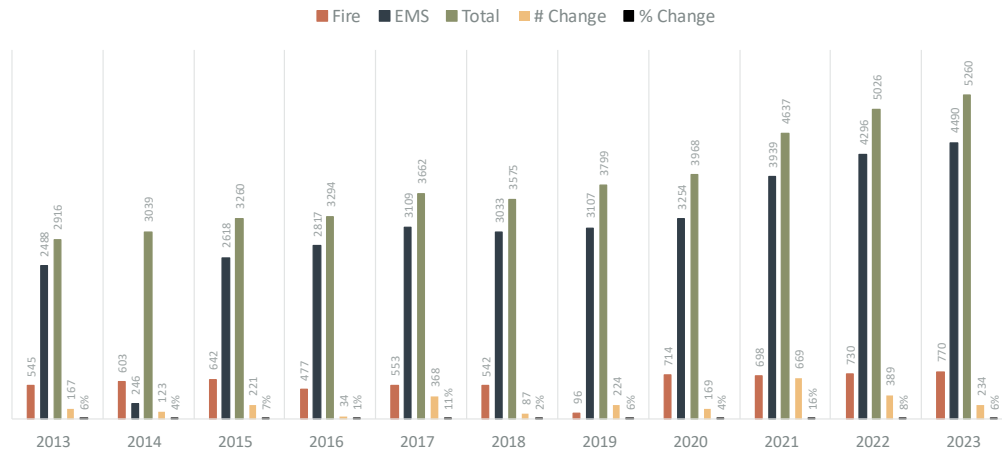
5-Year Overview of Overtime Paid



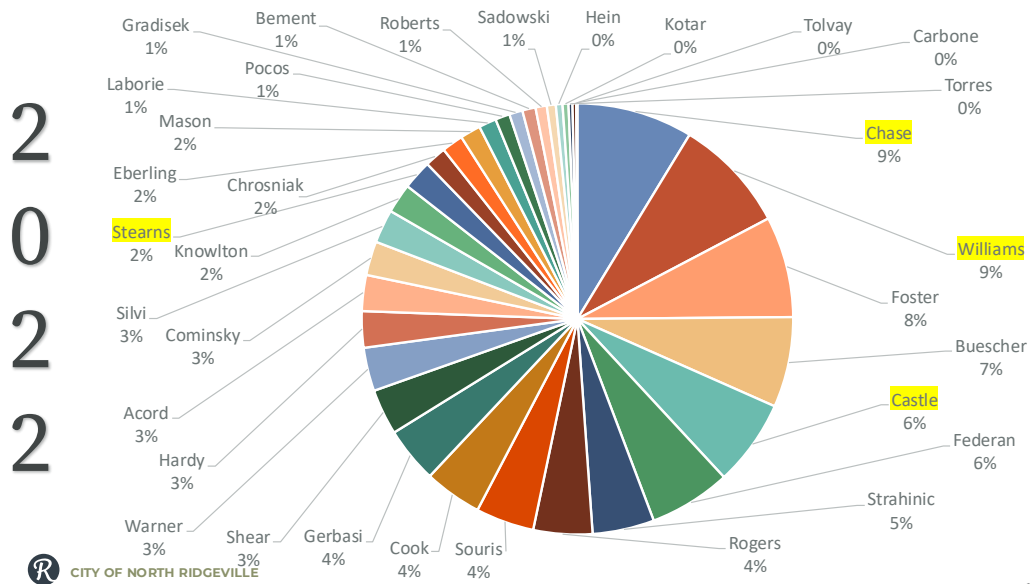
5-YEAR OVERVIEW OF OVERTIME HOURS WORKED

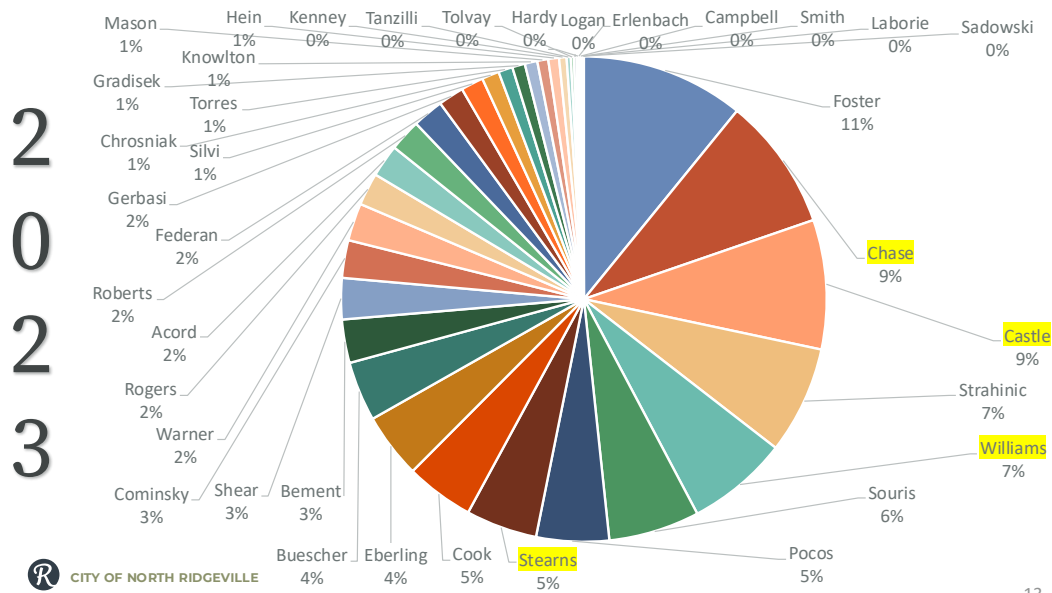


10-YEAR RESPONSE TOTALS



5-year increase = 32%
 10-year increase = 57%





13



Proposed Staffing Model

- 39 Line Personnel
- 13 per Shift
- 1 Captain, 3 Lieutenants, 9 Fire Fighters
- 10 People scheduled each shift, but we will operate with a minimum of 9 personnel
- 3 Personnel allowed off each shift
 - 1 Officer, 2 Fire Fighters
- Any single openings, injuries, FML, or call offs (sick) will not result in overtime to maintain 9 minimum

Benefits of Proposed Staffing Model

- Increase in number of days with extra person for tours, details, training, etc.
Currently, there is never an extra person.
- Will allow on-shift officers more time to assist with administrative duties.
- Although it will result in an increase of total wages, it will have a significant effect on reducing overtime.
- It will move the City and Fire Department one step closer to the inevitable fourth crew each day.
- It will help in preventing shifts where the department runs below a 9 -person minimum. This will result in safer conditions for the community and staff.
- Protects mental health of personnel and reduces the risk of burnout.



CITY OF NORTH RIDGEVILLE

Crime In Cities Around North Ridgeville

City	Population	Count Raw	Total Crime / 100k People	Property Crime / 100k People	Violent Crime / 100k People
Elyria, OH	52,902	1,112	2,102.0	1,903.5	198.5
Strongsville, OH	45,703	421	921.2	853.3	67.8
Westlake, OH	33,734	155	459.5	418.0	41.5
North Olmsted, OH	31,641	474	1,498.1	1,409.6	88.5
North Royalton, OH	30,687	174	567.0	527.9	39.1
Avon Lake, OH	25,846	130	503.0	433.3	69.6
Rocky River, OH	21,309	168	788.4	708.6	79.8
Broadview Heights, OH	19,490	30	153.9	143.7	10.3
Fairview Park, OH	16,821	105	624.2	552.9	71.3
Seven Hills, OH	11,516	88	764.2	668.6	95.5
North Ridgeville	35,481	160	432.8	392.2	40.6
	3 rd largest		2 nd least	2 nd least	2 nd least

Property Crime Rates In North Ridgeville

145

Property Crimes

392.2

Property Crimes / 100k People

-79.93%

Below The National Average

- There were 145 property crimes in North Ridgeville in the last reporting year.
- The property crime rate in North Ridgeville is 392.2 per 100,000 people.
- You have a 1 in 255.0 chance of being the victim of a property crime in North Ridgeville each year. That compares to a 1 in 0.0 chance nationally.
- That's -79.93% lower than the national rate of 1,954.4 per 100,000 people.
- And -78.80% lower than the Ohio property crime rate of 1,850.3 per 100,000 people.

Violent Crime Rates In North Ridgeville

15

Violent Crimes

40.6

Violent Crimes / 100k People

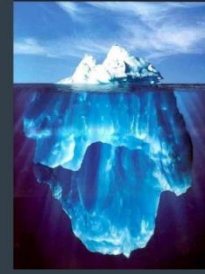
-89.03%

Below The National Average

- There were 15 violent crimes in North Ridgeville in the last reporting year.
- The violent crime rate in North Ridgeville is 40.6 per 100,000 people.
- You have a 1 in 2,464.5 chance of being the victim of a violent crime in North Ridgeville each year. That compares to a 1 in 323.9 chance statewide.
- That's -89.03% lower than the national rate of 369.8 per 100,000 people.
- -86.86% lower than the Ohio violent crime rate of 308.8 per 100,000 people.

Engineering Division

Behind the Scenes

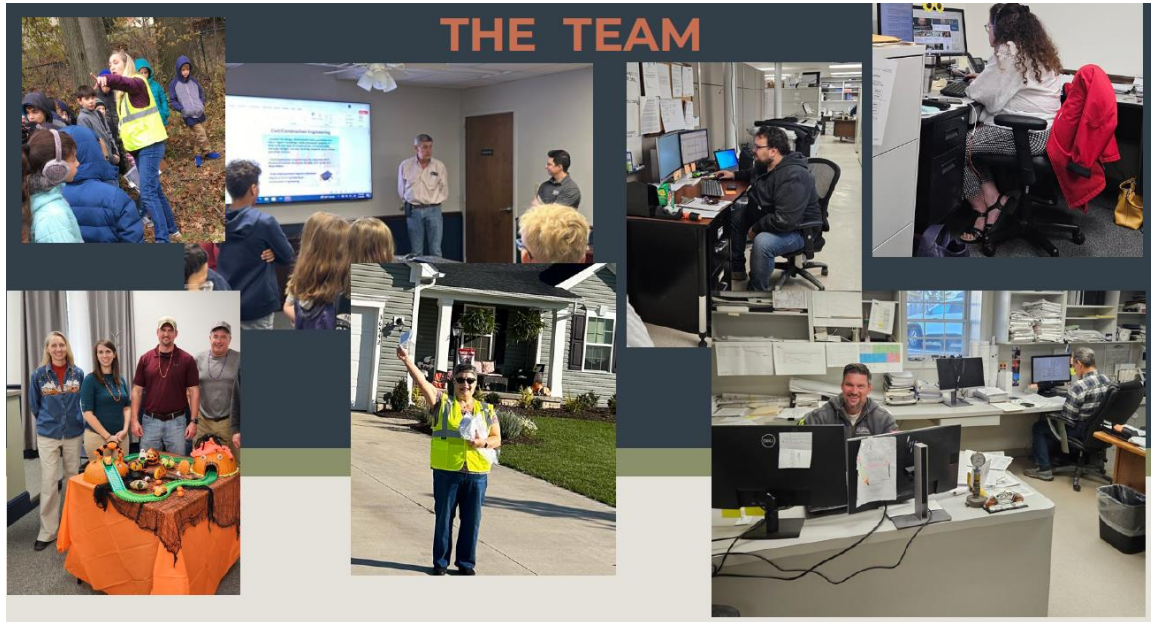


CITY OF NORTH
Ridgeville
EST 1810

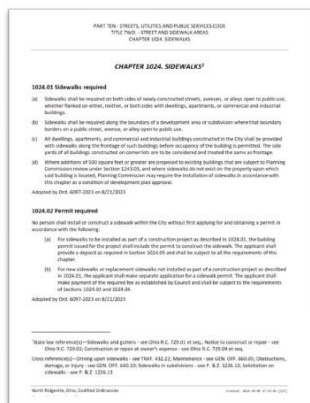
November 21, 2024

ACHIEVEMENTS

Capital Improvements
OEPA Reporting
Public Works Liaison
Valued Talent
Culvert Inventory
Engineering Permits
Ordinance Overhauling
Developer's Agreement



Ordinance Introduction



CHAPTER 1010 ENGINEERING PERMITS AND FEES

1010.01 PERMIT FEES
1010.02 ADDITIONAL FEES
1010.03 PLAN REVIEWS AND INSPECTIONS
1010.04 COMPLETION OF FINAL GRADING
1010.05 CASH DEPOSIT OR BOND TO GUARANTEE COMPLETION OF GRADE
1010.06 FIRE HYDRANT USE PERMITS

1010.01 PERMIT FEES

Applicable fees shall be collected by the City Engineer prior to issuance of a permit. The fee for those miscellaneous engineering permits specified in this section shall be as follows:

(a)	Agree, curb cut	\$30	
(b)	Backhoe governor	\$50	
(c)	Culvert pipe-ditch enclosure	\$50	
(d)	Dormitory	\$30	
(e)	Gravel	\$30	
(f)	Lawn, sprinkler irrigation system	\$50	
(g)	Overhead truck	\$10	
(h)	Sanitary towel and/or cling cut	\$50	
(i)	Smelter, over the top air main	See Chapter 1044	
(j)	Sidewalk	\$30	
(k)	Small cell wireless facility	\$250	
(l)	Storm sewer	\$50	
(m)	Storage tank	See Chapter 1030	
(n)	Tree clearing (3 acres)	\$150	
(o)	Water meter	\$50	
(p)	Water		
(1)	(1) Water tap or main	See Chapter 1046	
(2)	Service connection	See Chapter 1046	

1010.02 ADDITIONAL FEES

- (b) **Credit Card Fee.** A convenience fee may be applied to any credit card transaction in an amount sufficient to cover the City's administrative cost of processing payment.
- (c) **Work Without Permit.** Where work for which a permit is required is started prior to obtaining such permit, the fees required by such permit shall be doubled, but the payment of such double fee shall not relieve any person from fully complying with the requirements of this chapter or other applicable codes.

Residential Permit Fee Schedule



Payment methods accepted include cash, check or credit card (Visa, MasterCard, Discover and American Express). Make checks payable to City of North Ridgeville. Please note that items below marked with an asterisk (*) are subject to an additional State 1% fee.

NEW DWELLINGS			
Swelling fee*	\$150	Plus interest fee†	\$100
Planning fee**	\$120	Permitting fee-legal‡	\$100
Construction fee	\$140	Inspection fee	\$100
Marketing fee	\$120	Eng. & architecture fee	\$100
Architectural fee	\$120	Eng. & architecture & construction fee	\$100
Architectural fee	\$120	Perk build fee	\$100
Permitting fee	\$75	Additional construction fee	\$100
Development fee	\$75		
Interest deposit		Amount per lot/acre as determined by City Engineer	
Survey and record charges		As calculated by City Engineer	
Grading (total required)	\$1,000 up to first acre plus \$1,200 for each additional acre of development		

Additional/alternative fee ^a	\$140 + \$3,000 if	Roofing ^a
Plumbing fee ^a	\$35	Siding ^a

Electrical fee*	\$15	Plan exam fee*	\$0
Heating fee*	\$15	Occupancy fee*	\$0
Air conditioning fee*	\$15	Retrospection deposit	\$100
Door work fee*	\$15	Retrospection fee	\$100
Fireplace*	\$15		

ACCESSORY BUILDINGS & STRUCTURE

[illegible]

OTHER FEES
See Planning and Pricing for Schools for list of planning services.

- NRCO 1024 Sidewalks
- NRCO 1010 Engineering Permits and Fees

Agreement Revisions

- Development Agreement
- ROW Agreement

**USE OF THE PUBLIC RIGHT-OF-WAY, STREETS AND GROUNDS
AGREEMENT AND REQUIREMENTS**

APPLICANT
and
CITY OF NORTH RIDGEVILLE, OHIO

This Public Right of Way Agreement entered into this _____ day of _____, 2024, by the applicant,
_____, ("Applicant") and the City of North Ridgeville ("Owner"), the public
owner of the right of way.

WHEREAS, the Applicant desires to install a total of approximately 12.5 miles of new cable to
provide service to customers throughout North Ridgeville in accordance with the (S) individual sets of
plans that were reviewed by the Owner in late 2023 and early 2024 for right of way permitting.

WHEREAS, the five (5) individual sets of plans include the following Project Numbers: 231492,
231493, 231494, 231495, and 231496 (to be referred to collectively as, the "Plans").

WHEREAS, the Plans provide details for the installation of approximately 6.2 miles of aerial
cable to be installed and approximately 5.3 miles of buried cable to be installed on sections of Ross Road,
43, Lorain Road, Island Road, Bagley Road, and various other residential streets throughout Ward 3.

WHEREAS, the majority of the aerial work will occur on major streets and the majority of the
buried utility work will occur on residential streets and on residential subdivisions.

WHEREAS, the Owner maintains the public right of way at certain locations in the approved
Plans and requires that the Applicant's workmanship be in accordance with the applicable North
Ridgeville Confirmed Ordinances (N.R.C.O.) and Construction Drawings as stated here in this agreement.

WHEREAS, the public right of way can be used for the installation of numerous utilities and
essential services for the citizens of the City of North Ridgeville, and, of necessity for the efficient
installation and continued maintenance of all such services, the City of North Ridgeville requires that all
users of public right of way demonstrate certain industry best practices, comply with OSHA
requirements and standards, and comply with applicable City ordinances, state statutes, and
engineering and building department requirements.

WHEREAS, pursuant to O.R.C. § 491.24 (B), "The management, regulation, and administration
of a public way by a municipal corporation with regard to matters of fiscal concern shall be presumed to
be a valid exercise of the power of local self government granted by Section 3 of Article XVII of the Ohio
Constitution."

WHEREAS, the applicant shall complete the Engineering Plan Review Application for Planning
Commission and provide the required deposit for each of the planned projects. Plan review and
approval will be administered by the Engineering Department.

Page 1 of 6

**CITY OF NORTH
Ridgeville**
197-199

DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT

between

DREES HOMES, INC.
OWNER/DEVELOPER

GABLES MANAGEMENT COMPANY, LLC
AGENT FOR DEVELOPER

and

CITY OF NORTH RIDGEVILLE, OHIO

for the development of

THE CROSSING AT FRENCH CREEK

Agent for Developer: Gables Management Company, LLC

President: Katie Lancione

Address: 3200 West Market Street, Suite 104
Akron, OH 44333

City of North Ridgeville
Mayor Kevin Corcoran
E. Brian Moser, Director of Law
Kim Lohrer, Director of Planning & Development
Christina Emerson, City Engineer

Document Number:

Backflow Prevention & Cross Connection Program

- BF Program protects the PWS
- About 2,000 BF devices require annual passing tests
- Noncompliance results in the water being shut-off
- About 400 commercial users are obligated to complete a cross-connection survey annually.
- 20% of commercial users will receive a full inspection of their water system



Reduced Pressure Backflow



Pressure Vacuum Breaker

CROSS-CONNECTION CONTROL SURVEYS

This form is intended for use as a generic survey form:

Customer Name: _____
Address: _____
Type of Business: _____
Contact Person: _____
Contact Person's Phone Number: _____
Meter Number: _____
Meter Size: _____
Existing Backflow Prevention: _____
Installed: _____

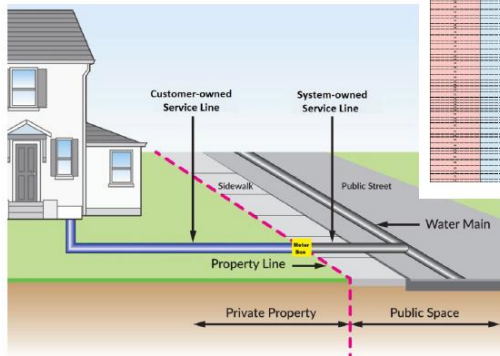
Yrs.	No.	Size	Manufacturer	Model	Serial Number	Flow Last Tested

HEATING	KITCHEN	MISC. EQUIPMENT
☐ Radiator	☐ Dishwasher	☐ Ice Maker
☐ Electric	☐ Sump Discharge	☐ Sump Discharge
☐ Solar	☐ Garbage Disposal	☐ Sump Discharge
☐ Boilers	☐ C.O.D. Thermostat	☐ Sump Discharge
☐ Chemically Treated	☐ Air Machine	☐ Sump Discharge
☐ Make-up Water	☐ Air Gap at Drain Line	☐ Sump Discharge
☐ From City Water	☐ New Line	☐ Sump Discharge
☐ Fed from Chemical	☐ Other	☐ Sump Discharge
☐ Fed from Tank	☐ Other	☐ Sump Discharge
☐ ASSE 1011 Installed	☐ Other	☐ Sump Discharge
☐ at Make-up		

COOLING	THE RAPID FLOOD & FLOOD SERVICES	AUXILIARY WATER
☐ Hot	☐ Hot Water Bath	☐ Hot Water
☐ Forced Air	☐ Ice Machine	☐ Hot Water
☐ Chiller	☐ Whirlpool	☐ Hot Water
☐ Cooling Tower	☐ Air Gap at Make-Up Line	☐ Hot Water
☐ Chemically Treated	☐ Evaporator	☐ Hot Water
☐ From City Water	☐ Refrigerator	☐ Hot Water
☐ Fed from Chemical	☐ Air Gap at Make-Up Line	☐ Hot Water
☐ Fed from Tank	☐ Air Gap at Make-Up Line	☐ Hot Water
☐ ASSE 1011 Installed	☐ Air Gap at Make-Up Line	☐ Hot Water
☐ at Make-up	☐ Air Gap at Make-Up Line	☐ Hot Water

Comments: _____
Survey by: _____ Date: _____
Company: _____ Company Phone Number: _____

Service Line Inventory Program



 CITY OF NORTH RIDGEVILLE

Service Line ID	Service Line Type	Material	Size	Length	Location	Notes	Inspector	Date	Status
1	Water Main	Steel	36"	100'	12345 Main St	Good	J. Smith	11/21/24	Known
2	Water Main	Steel	36"	100'	12345 Main St	Good	J. Smith	11/21/24	Known
3	Water Main	Steel	36"	100'	12345 Main St	Good	J. Smith	11/21/24	Known
4	Water Main	Steel	36"	100'	12345 Main St	Good	J. Smith	11/21/24	Known
5	Water Main	Steel	36"	100'	12345 Main St	Good	J. Smith	11/21/24	Known
6	Water Main	Steel	36"	100'	12345 Main St	Good	J. Smith	11/21/24	Known
7	Water Main	Steel	36"	100'	12345 Main St	Good	J. Smith	11/21/24	Known
8	Water Main	Steel	36"	100'	12345 Main St	Good	J. Smith	11/21/24	Known
9	Water Main	Steel	36"	100'	12345 Main St	Good	J. Smith	11/21/24	Known
10	Water Main	Steel	36"	100'	12345 Main St	Good	J. Smith	11/21/24	Known

- New OEPA requirement to verify by sight or historical records that there is no lead or galvanized steel pipe used for all 15,000 water service laterals
- Over 6,000 were classified as unknown and mandates further investigation

7

Drinking Water Community Metrics (DROP Report)

Ohio Community DROP Worksheet
 Community public water systems can use this worksheet to submit data required for the annual metrics application.

Reporting Year: **2023** (Required 4/30/2025)

Water System Name: **City of North Ridgeville Public Water Distribution System** (PWSID Number: **04-110802**)

City Contact Info: **City of North Ridgeville Public Water Distribution System** (PWSID Number: **04-110802**)

Utility Address: **12345 Main St, N. Ridgeville, OH 44039** (Phone Number: **440-333-0000**)

Community Metrics: **12345 Main St, N. Ridgeville, OH 44039**

Did the public water system operator for any part of 2023 provide water to the owner or operator responsible for 2023? This information will be used to determine if you are required to submit metrics information. If No, Submit form without filling out 2-7. If Yes, continue with your results.

Was the Community PWS Operating? **Yes**

Reporting Year	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002	2001	2000	1999	1998	1997	1996	1995	1994	1993	1992	1991	1990	1989	1988	1987	1986	1985	1984	1983	1982	1981	1980	1979	1978	1977	1976	1975	1974	1973	1972	1971	1970	1969	1968	1967	1966	1965	1964	1963	1962	1961	1960	1959	1958	1957	1956	1955	1954	1953	1952	1951	1950	1949	1948	1947	1946	1945	1944	1943	1942	1941	1940	1939	1938	1937	1936	1935	1934	1933	1932	1931	1930	1929	1928	1927	1926	1925	1924	1923	1922	1921	1920	1919	1918	1917	1916	1915	1914	1913	1912	1911	1910	1909	1908	1907	1906	1905	1904	1903	1902	1901	1900	1899	1898	1897	1896	1895	1894	1893	1892	1891	1890	1889	1888	1887	1886	1885	1884	1883	1882	1881	1880	1879	1878	1877	1876	1875	1874	1873	1872	1871	1870	1869	1868	1867	1866	1865	1864	1863	1862	1861	1860	1859	1858	1857	1856	1855	1854	1853	1852	1851	1850	1849	1848	1847	1846	1845	1844	1843	1842	1841	1840	1839	1838	1837	1836	1835	1834	1833	1832	1831	1830	1829	1828	1827	1826	1825	1824	1823	1822	1821	1820	1819	1818	1817	1816	1815	1814	1813	1812	1811	1810	1809	1808	1807	1806	1805	1804	1803	1802	1801	1800	1799	1798	1797	1796	1795	1794	1793	1792	1791	1790	1789	1788	1787	1786	1785	1784	1783	1782	1781	1780	1779	1778	1777	1776	1775	1774	1773	1772	1771	1770	1769	1768	1767	1766	1765	1764	1763	1762	1761	1760	1759	1758	1757	1756	1755	1754	1753	1752	1751	1750	1749	1748	1747	1746	1745	1744	1743	1742	1741	1740	1739	1738	1737	1736	1735	1734	1733	1732	1731	1730	1729	1728	1727	1726	1725	1724	1723	1722	1721	1720	1719	1718	1717	1716	1715	1714	1713	1712	1711	1710	1709	1708	1707	1706	1705	1704	1703	1702	1701	1700	1699	1698	1697	1696	1695	1694	1693	1692	1691	1690	1689	1688	1687	1686	1685	1684	1683	1682	1681	1680	1679	1678	1677	1676	1675	1674	1673	1672	1671	1670	1669	1668	1667	1666	1665	1664	1663	1662	1661	1660	1659	1658	1657	1656	1655	1654	1653	1652	1651	1650	1649	1648	1647	1646	1645	1644	1643	1642	1641	1640	1639	1638	1637	1636	1635	1634	1633	1632	1631	1630	1629	1628	1627	1626	1625	1624	1623	1622	1621	1620	1619	1618	1617	1616	1615	1614	1613	1612	1611	1610	1609	1608	1607	1606	1605	1604	1603	1602	1601	1600	1599	1598	1597	1596	1595	1594	1593	1592	1591	1590	1589	1588	1587	1586	1585	1584	1583	1582	1581	1580	1579	1578	1577	1576	1575	1574	1573	1572	1571	1570	1569	1568	1567	1566	1565	1564	1563	1562	1561	1560	1559	1558	1557	1556	1555	1554	1553	1552	1551	1550	1549	1548	1547	1546	1545	1544	1543	1542	1541	1540	1539	1538	1537	1536	1535	1534	1533	1532	1531	1530	1529	1528	1527	1526	1525	1524	1523	1522	1521	1520	1519	1518	1517	1516	1515	1514	1513	1512	1511	1510	1509	1508	1507	1506	1505	1504	1503	1502	1501	1500	1499	1498	1497	1496	1495	1494	1493	1492	1491	1490	1489	1488	1487	1486	1485	1484	1483	1482	1481	1480	1479	1478	1477	1476	1475	1474	1473	1472	1471	1470	1469	1468	1467	1466	1465	1464	1463	1462	1461	1460	1459	1458	1457	1456	1455	1454	1453	1452	1451	1450	1449	1448	1447	1446	1445	1444	1443	1442	1441	1440	1439	1438	1437	1436	1435	1434	1433	1432	1431	1430	1429	1428	1427	1426	1425	1424	1423	1422	1421	1420	1419	1418	1417	1416	1415	1414	1413	1412	1411	1410	1409	1408	1407	1406	1405	1404	1403	1402	1401	1400	1399	1398	1397	1396	1395	1394	1393	1392	1391	1390	1389	1388	1387	1386	1385	1384	1383	1382	1381	1380	1379	1378	1377	1376	1375	1374	1373	1372	1371	1370	1369	1368	1367	1366	1365	1364	1363	1362	1361	1360	1359	1358	1357	1356	1355	1354	1353	1352	1351	1350	1349	1348	1347	1346	1345	1344	1343	1342	1341	1340	1339	1338	1337	1336	1335	1334	1333	1332	1331	1330	1329	1328	1327	1326	1325	1324	1323	1322	1321	1320	1319	1318	1317	1316	1315	1314	1313	1312	1311	1310	1309	1308	1307	1306	1305	1304	1303	1302	1301	1300	1299	1298	1297	1296	1295	1294	1293	1292	1291	1290	1289	1288	1287	1286	1285	1284	1283	1282	1281	1280	1279	1278	1277	1276	1275	1274	1273	1272	1271	1270	1269	1268	1267	1266	1265	1264	1263	1262	1261	1260	1259	1258	1257	1256	1255	1254	1253	1252	1251	1250	1249	1248	1247	1246	1245	1244	1243	1242	1241	1240	1239	1238	1237	1236	1235	1234	1233	1232	1231	1230	1229	1228	1227	1226	1225	1224	1223	1222	1221	1220	1219	1218	1217	1216	1215	1214	1213	1212	1211	1210	1209	1208	1207	1206	1205	1204	1203	1202	1201	1200	1199	1198	1197	1196	1195	1194	1193	1192	1191	1190	1189	1188	1187	1186	1185	1184	1183	1182	1181	1180	1179	1178	1177	1176	1175	1174	1173	1172	1171	1170	1169	1168	1167	1166	1165	1164	1163	1162	1161	1160	1159	1158	1157	1156	1155	1154	1153	1152	1151	1150	1149	1148	1147	1146	1145	1144	1143	1142	1141	1140	1139	1138	1137	1136	1135	1134	1133	1132	1131	1130	1129	1128	1127	1126	1125	1124	1123	1122	1121	1120	1119	1118	1117	1116	1115	1114	1113	1112	1111	1110	1109	1108	1107	1106	1105	1104	1103	1102	1101	1100	1099	1098	1097	1096	1095	1094	1093	1092	1091	1090	1089	1088	1087	1086	1085	1084	1083	1082	1081	1080	1079	1078	1077	1076	1075	1074	1073	1072	1071	1070	1069	1068	1067	1066	1065	1064	1063	1062	1061	1060	1059	1058	1057	1056	1055	1054	1053	1052	1051	1050	1049	1048	1047	1046	1045	1044	1043	1042	1041	1040	1039	1038	1037	1036	1035	1034	1033	1032	1031	1030	1029	1028	1027	1026	1025	1024	1023	1022	1021	1020	1019	1018	1017	1016	1015	1014	1013	1012	1011	1010	1009	1008	1007	1006	1005	1004	1003	1002	1001	1000	999	998	997	996	995	994	993	992	991	990	989	988	987	986	985	984	983	982	981	980	979	978	977	976	975	974
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Consumer Confidence Report

- The Engineering Division creates and issues the Consumer Confidence Report each year.



 CITY OF NORTH RIDGEVILLE

CITY OF CHICAGO COMMISSIONER OF WATER AND SEWERAGE PUBLIC UTILITIES										
Contaminant Name	APPLICABLE STANDARD			CITY OF CHICAGO		Violation	Sample Type	Typical Sources of Contaminant		
	MCLG	MCL	Amount Allowed	Range	Amount					
Biological Contaminants (Excludes coliforms at their own point)										
Fecal Coliform (CFU)	500	77	0.00	0.01 - 0.20	0-17	0.00 - 0.17	Yes	Raw Sewer		
Fecality by sample dilution							Yes	Raw Sewer		
Total Organic Carbon (TOC)	500	77	0.02	0.00 - 0.20	0.000	0.00 - 0.20	Yes	Basically organic matter in wastewater		
Chemical Contaminants (Excludes by individual at their own point)										
Ammonia (ppm)	1	1	0.00	0.01	0.000	0.000	Yes	Discharge of drilling waters; Discharge from metal refineries; Production of natural deposits		
Fluoride (ppm)	1	1	0.60	0.00 - 0.20	0.000	0.00 - 0.20	Yes	By virtue of water in deposits; Water additive to which produces steam; Water discharge from foodline and aluminum industries		
Nitrate (ppm)	10	10	0.00	0.20 - 0.90	1.00	0.00 - 1.00	Yes	Leak of Borehole from area containing from water tanks, sewage, threat of nitrate		
CITY OF CHICAGO BUREAU										
Contaminants (MCL)										
Contaminant and Description by product	MCLG	MCL	Amount Allowed	Range	Violation	Sample Type	Typical Sources of Contaminant			
Benzene (ppm)	0.0001	0.0001	1.00	0.00 - 1.00	0.00 - 1.00	Yes	Water additive used in animal industries			
Hexachloro Acid (HCA) (ppm)	500	60	25.00	0.00 - 10.00	0.00	0.00	Yes	By product of drilling water; Road salt		
Hexachloro Acid (HCA) (ppm)	500	60	40.00	0.00 - 10.00	0.00	0.00	Yes	By product of drilling water; Road salt		
CITY OF CHICAGO BUREAU										
Contaminants (MCL)										
Action level (MCL)	MCLG	Method Allowed	Amount Allowed	Range	Violation	Sample Type	Typical Sources of Contaminant			
Lead (ppm)	0.010	0.010	7000	0	0	0	Yes	Exposure of household plumbing; Discharge from metal refineries; Discharge from metal refineries		
Lead of 10 samples were found to have lead levels in excess of the lead action level of 0.010										
Copper (ppm)	1.3 ppm	1.3 ppm	7000	0.00	0.00	0.00	Yes	Exposure of household plumbing; Lead from metal pipes; Discharge from metal refineries; Discharge from metal refineries		

9

Culvert Inspection Program

56 culverts or pipes at roadway crossings 3ft - 10ft in size

	Inspection Completed	BA	Water Inspection Daily	LA	Company Inspection	BA		
North Ridgeville GIS Culvert, Bridge, Pipe Information								
Address	Street	Rating	Waterway	Material/Type	Length	Size	Yr. Acquired	Life (Yr)
17000	Avalon Drive		Myers Brook 1 Tributary 1	RCF	320'	3'		
18003	Avalon Drive	BA	Myers Brook 1 Main Branch	Concrete Box Culvert	140'	8' x 3'	2001	45
9070	Avon Belden Rd	BA	Hindley Brook Main Branch	RCF Diagonal	55'	20" x 40" (40)		
6000	Avon Belden Rd	BA	Phelan Brook Main Branch	Concrete Box Culvert	60'	4' x 4'	2002	8
See notes 90, 10 and Check out	Albany St St	BA	Stearns Brook Main Branch	RCF	150'	5.5'		



(See Notes for the Property, Rating, Inspection, etc.)

underground (located in rear yard) - under street and under driveway (roadhouse) - driveway under 2" x 2" concrete. More culvert may be installed.

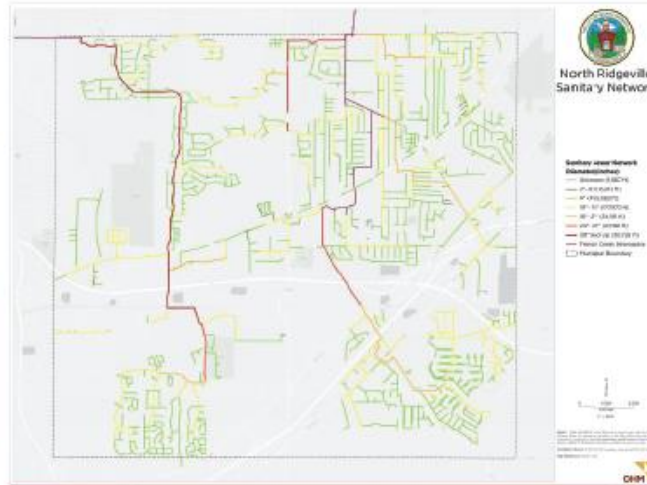
See notes for all on water pipe and water pipe should be replaced

 CITY OF NORTH RIDGEVILLE

10

Master Sanitary Plan

- The City retained AECOM in 2022 to provide an updated sanitary road map
- AECOM implemented over 35 flow meters to divide the city into subwatersheds to be further analyzed
- Need I&I resolution



Federal Requirements as Receiver of Federal Funds

- Many of our projects receive outside funding
- Some projects have multiple funding sources
- Engineering provides a report to Finance for their SEFA needs every year



Stoney Ridge, Mills Road, and Avalon Drive RAB						
KMU Contract Allowance						
\$1,661,825.00						
	Encum.	Budget	Pay App 1	Pay App 2	Pay App 3	Paid to Date
Water	632.644	422006	\$188,000.00			\$0.00
Sewer	660.675	422006	\$175,000.00	\$21,844.20		\$21,844.20
Roadway	225.223	421003	\$706,600.00			\$0.00
OPWC Grant			\$409,500.00			\$0.00
OPWC Loan			\$78,000.00			\$0.00
Capital	410.800	421003	\$104,725.00			\$0.00
NOPEC FUNDS	292.292	421003	\$292,811.00			\$292,811.00
Total:			\$274,655.20			\$274,655.20

Stormwater Utility Program (SWU)

- Enacted by NRCO in 2019
- Current ERU rate is \$4.69
- Program collects over \$1 million in revenue annually
- 400 commercial properties
- Engineering reviews revisions to commercial impervious surfaces annually
- Triennial reporting required



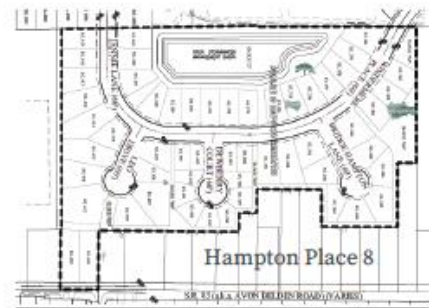
Residential Development

120 New
Individual
House Topos

The Crossing at
French Creek



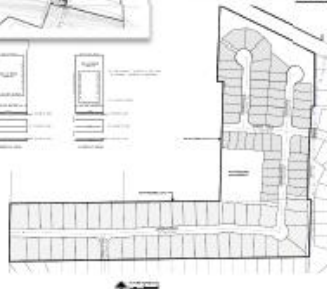
Ridgeville Farms



LOT SUMMARY

NUMBER OF CLUSTER LOTS: 11 UNITS
 NUMBER OF SINGLE FAMILY LOTS: 44 LOTS

North Ridge Pointe 9



Drainage Complaints

- Engineering receives dozens of calls throughout the year related to flooding
- Limited to how we can help



Support To Other Departments



Root Road
Soccer Parking
Lot



Police
Station



2024 Full Depth Concrete Pavement Replacement



- The City's contractor replaced over 7,000 SY's of concrete on five (5) residential streets in 2024



2024 Full Depth (Cont.)



2024 Catch Basin Repairs

- The City's Contractor repaired 50 Catch Basins in 2024



 CITY OF NORTH RIDGEVILLE

19

2024 Traffic Paint Striping

- The City's Contractor painted more than 40 centerline miles of roadways throughout the City in 2024



 CITY OF NORTH RIDGEVILLE



20

2024 Crack Sealing

The City's Contractor crack sealed approximately 7.7 centerline miles of roadways in 2024



21

2024 Hydrant Replacement Project

- The City's Contractor replaced 35 hydrants throughout the City in 2024.



22

Maddock Road Box Culvert Replacement at Watson Ditch

- The City's Contractor is currently wrapping this project up. The culvert (now officially a bridge) will be opened to traffic before the end of the year.



Exposed Reinforcing Rebar

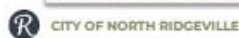
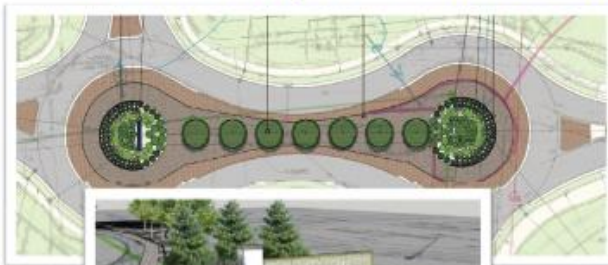


Locating Existing Water Main



23

Stoney Ridge Road, Mills Road and Avalon Drive "Peanut-Shaped" Roundabout



24

DIVISION GOALS

GIS Updates
OEPA Requirements
Valued Talent
Standard Construction Drawings
Ordinance Overhauling
Update Standards
I&I Campaign
Master Plans

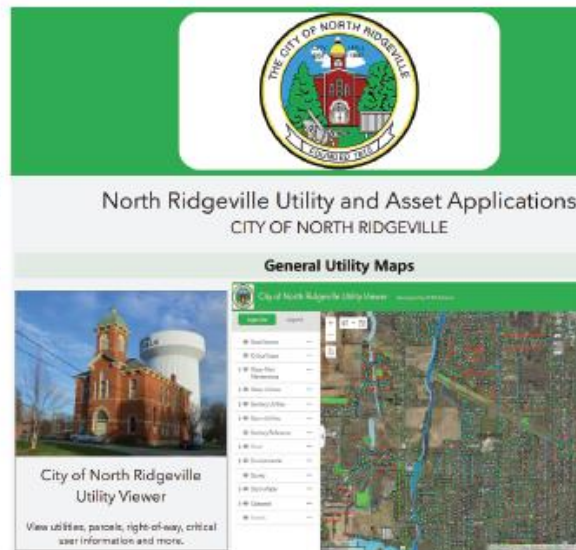
Expansion

Provide new functional space for the team!



GIS Updates

- ArcGIS system down for 2 years
- Catching up on all new subdivision assets added
- Water main replacements, i.e. for bridges and hydrant replacements
- Other Opportunities
 - traffic lights
 - street lights
 - City owned easements
 - Defined wetlands



Contingency Plan and Emergency Preparedness Plan Development and Execution

Exercise Contingency Plan
(CIP 2024-2025)

1. An annual exercise of the contingency plan shall be conducted. The exercise shall be conducted in a manner that is consistent with the contingency plan and shall be conducted in a manner that is consistent with the contingency plan and shall be conducted in a manner that is consistent with the contingency plan.
2. The exercise shall be conducted in a manner that is consistent with the contingency plan and shall be conducted in a manner that is consistent with the contingency plan.
3. The exercise shall be conducted in a manner that is consistent with the contingency plan and shall be conducted in a manner that is consistent with the contingency plan.

Any exercise of the contingency plan shall be conducted in a manner that is consistent with the contingency plan and shall be conducted in a manner that is consistent with the contingency plan.

Annual Contingency Exercise Log (to be filled out by the City)

Exercise	Date	Location	Participants	Results
1. Exercise of the contingency plan				
2. Exercise of the contingency plan				
3. Exercise of the contingency plan				
4. Exercise of the contingency plan				
5. Exercise of the contingency plan				
6. Exercise of the contingency plan				
7. Exercise of the contingency plan				
8. Exercise of the contingency plan				
9. Exercise of the contingency plan				
10. Exercise of the contingency plan				
11. Exercise of the contingency plan				
12. Exercise of the contingency plan				
13. Exercise of the contingency plan				
14. Exercise of the contingency plan				
15. Exercise of the contingency plan				
16. Exercise of the contingency plan				
17. Exercise of the contingency plan				
18. Exercise of the contingency plan				
19. Exercise of the contingency plan				
20. Exercise of the contingency plan				

Map of North Ridgeville

- Organizational Chart & Contact Info.
- Water System Policies incl. O&M
- Required Programs
 - Hydrant Flushing
 - Valve Exercising
 - Storage Tank Review
 - Other Maint.
- Identify Community Metrics
 - Critical Users
 - Risk Assessments
- Asset Management Plan
- CIP
- Demonstration of Financial Capacity

Infiltration and Inflow (I&I) Program

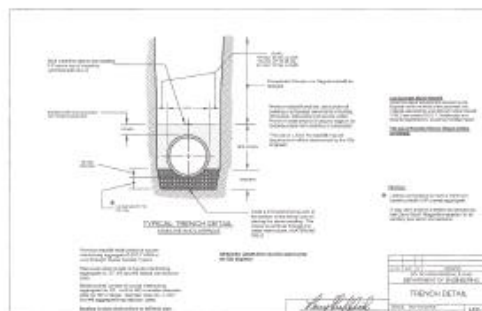
- Burdens the capacity of the sanitary sewer system
- Stormwater that enters the sanitary sewer must pass through the FCWTP, significantly raising operational costs for the facility
- Example – Aurensen, Behm and Noll normally estimated at \$150/day to treat, if wet weather is 1259% more than \$1,900/day



Administrative Work

Standard Construction Drawings (SCD)

Old Format



New Format



Master Water Plan

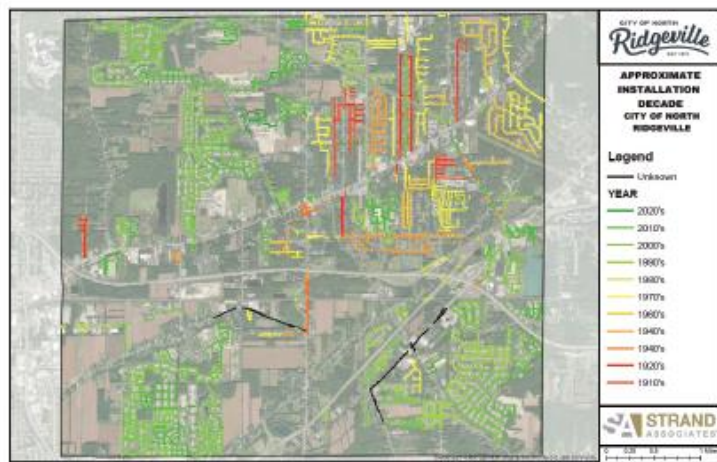
- The City had retained OHM Advisors in 2022 to analyze the City's water main network and provide a summary showing the overall health and areas that are most in need of replacement.
- The Division had to put this project on hold due to workload, higher priority projects and staffing shortages at the time.



31

Master Stormwater Plan

- The City had retained Strand and Associates, Inc. in 2022 to analyze the City's storm sewer network and provide a summary showing the overall health and areas that are most in need of replacement.
- The Division had to put this project on hold due to workload, higher priority projects and staffing shortages at the time.



32

Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) & MS4 Permits

MS4 Permit conditions:

- Public Outreach
- Public Participation
- Illicit Discharge Detection & Elimination
- Construction Site Runoff Control
- Post-Construction Runoff Control
- Pollution Prevention for Onsite Municipal Operations



33

Pavement Conditions Rating (PCR)

- Last prepared in 2019 needs updated
- The City has approximately 175 centerline miles of roadways that we are responsible for maintaining



34

2025 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT HIGHLIGHTS

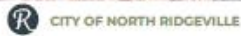
SR 83 & Chestnut Ridge RAB

Crash Statistics (2017-2019)

- 25 Total Crashes
 - 7 Injury Crashes
 - 18 Property Damage Only
- 11 Rear-End Crashes (44%)
- 5 Left-Turning Crashes (20%)
- 4 Right-Turning Crashes (16%)
- 4 Angle Crashes (16%)
- 1 Side-Swipe Crash (4%)



Sugar Ridge PRV Vault



37

Cypress Avenue Extension



38

An aerial photograph showing a residential neighborhood. A paved road runs diagonally from the top left towards the bottom right. To the left of the road, there are several houses with dark roofs and some open fields. To the right of the road, there is a dense line of trees and more houses. The overall scene is a mix of built-up areas and natural greenery.

CDBG-Carolyn, Luanne, & Monica Resurfacing



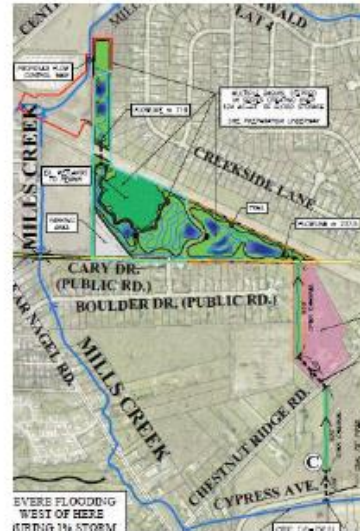
Lorain Road Bridge over NSRR



Mills Creek Flood Control Basin



CITY OF NORTH RIDGEVILLE



43

At Grade Separation for Race Road

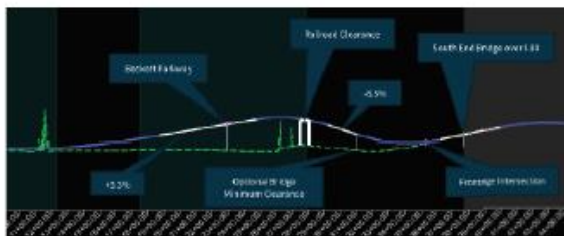


Figure 7 - Overpass Profile Details



CITY OF NORTH RIDGEVILLE

44

THANK YOU



2025 Public Works

Accomplishments



Storm

- Maddock Emergency Road/ Watson Ditch Main Branch
- Ridgeway Creek Main Branch (Lakeridge south to the Ohio Turnpike)
- Root and Chestnut Emergency Road/French Creek Ditch
- Stearns Ditch Project (Shaw Shaker Area)
- Krueger Dive Ditch
- Davis Ditch
- Welter Ditch and Culvert Replacement on Mills Rd
- Krebs ditch (from Lewis street to Mills Rd
- Batner Ditch Main Branch (Liberty Elementary)



2

Street

- **PAVING**
- Cadet
- Aurensen
- Noll Drive
- Laurel Cir
- Sugar Ridge
- Meadow Creek Oval
- Barres Rd
- Manning Cir
- Glen Drive



3

Water/ Sewer

Only 3 Water Main Breaks!!!!!!

15 service line repairs

40 Hydrant replaced

45 curb boxes replaced

6 main water valves replaced

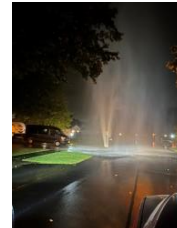
8 main water valves repaired

Sewer

Over 6000 Locates

Repaired pump at Becker lift station

Jetting and camera inspections



4

City Garage

- 780 work orders completed to date
- Trucks Oil Sprayed
- Trucks ready for Winter
- Emergency vehicle Maintenance



5

2025 Equipment Schedule

Service Department



Single Axle Dump/Plow/Salt Truck

- Everyday use, This vehicle will also serve as a snow plow vehicle in the winter.



Single Axle Dump Truck

Dump Truck used for Hauling dirt, stone or waste from water breaks or other service projects.



8

Bolt Bins

- Establish the correct inventory level for each part.
- Determine a call frequency for your location that ensures the established inventory levels are maintained and facility is organized.
- Provide customized purchasing reports. These reports allow management visibility to key areas of usage including frequency, dollars spent, fill rate, and product category sales and are available in a variety of formats including on-line, email, fax and hard copy. This information can be an extremely valuable tool for your management personnel for budgeting and inventory adjustments.
- Control and/or delete obsolete inventory.
- On-line ordering availability.
- Monitor performance and implement change through documented review process.
- Reduction of vendors which can save an average of 15% on the reduction of paperwork alone, not even considering labor, shipping and other associated costs.



9

Outfit Two Single Axle Dump Trucks

These dump trucks were purchased in 2024 and will need outfitted.



Loader

Loader used for daily operations.



Two one -Ton Dump/Plow/Salt Truck

Used for smaller projects when large vehicles cannot access location. Plowing/salting homes and city parking lots.



Utility Truck

Utility truck used for operators with Lockable tool storage.



New Patch Roller

Used for road repair
and general road
maintenance.



Camera Van

We currently have one camera
van for Storm, sewer and
emergency inspections. Parts
for the equipment are
expensive and usually on back
order.



City Garage

Utility Truck

New Utility Truck With Lift
Gate For Onsite Repairs.



THANK YOU

