MESSAGE FROM YOUR BOARD OF TRUSTEES

In order to become a better local government for our residents and business community, the Jefferson Township Board of Trustees has made a commitment to improve communications and financial transparency within the Township. One of the tools we identified as a priority is an annual summary report to our citizens. This summary report provides a high level overview of Township financial information, priorities, and accomplishments from 2014, as well as goals and challenges for 2015. We hope you find this report beneficial and informative.

The Township has also committed to participating in the State Treasurer’s OhioCheckbook program. More information on this program is provided in the “What's Next” section of this report.

In addition to these resources, the Township is audited every two years by the Auditor of State. Past audit reports are available on the Auditor’s website:
https://ohioauditor.gov/auditsearch/search.aspx

The audit report for 2013-2014 should be posted by mid-July.

As we strive to improve communications and transparency, please feel free to contact us with your questions, comments, or suggestions at 614-855-4260.

Sincerely,

Rich Courter            Mike Rowan           Claire Yoder

2014 Priorities

Fire & Emergency Medical Services (EMS): Secure stable funding for fire protection and emergency medical services. This was achieved through the passage of a 3-mill continuing levy on the November 2014 ballot.

Roads: Seek alternative funding for road repairs. In 2014 the Township resurfaced Poppy Hills Drive with state grant funding and applied for additional state funding to reconstruct Havens Road. Unfortunately this application was denied and alternative solutions are still being looked at.

Communications: Work to improve communications among the Township, residents, and local business community through publications, increased accessibility to the Trustees and community outreach events.
NOTES
Figure 1 illustrates Jefferson Township’s sources of revenue.

- The majority of revenue comes from property and other local taxes. This includes gas tax, inside millage and voted levy funds (fire & ems).
- Other sources of revenue include motor vehicle license fees, fire prevention fees, and zoning and building permit fees.
- Intergovernmental revenue includes local government funding from the state as well as homestead exemption and rollback reimbursements.
- In 2014, Jefferson Township received revenue from several state grants, which included:
  - Ohio Public Works Commission grant to resurface Poppy Hills Drive and Dixon Road, and make improvements to Clotts Road.
  - NatureWorks grant to build a restroom facility at Olde Quarry Park.
  - Bureau of Workers Compensation grant to purchase firefighter/paramedic safety equipment.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Revenue Source</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Property &amp; Other Local Taxes:</td>
<td>$4,478,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Licenses, Permit, Fees:</td>
<td>$779,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intergovernmental:</td>
<td>$769,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Grants:</td>
<td>$636,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Licenses, Permits, Fees</td>
<td>$11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Misc. Sources</td>
<td>$131,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Assessments</td>
<td>$13,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Earnings on Investments</td>
<td>$6,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>$7,326,000</td>
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**What is inside millage?** Unvoted, or inside millage, is levied by local governments without a vote of the people. The maximum combined amount of inside millage is 10 mills and is apportioned among the county, school district and municipalities and/or township of each taxing district. Jefferson Township collects 1.25 mills of inside millage.
Figure 2 illustrates actual expenditures in 2014 by type, rather than by the fund the expenditures were paid out of.

- Public Safety includes the daily operations and administration of the fire department, including the fire station, equipment and supplies, and firefighter/paramedic salaries and benefits.

- Township Administration includes the administration of the township, the zoning and building department, and fiscal office.

- Payments to the Franklin County Health Department are required of all Townships.

- Capital Outlay includes all improvements to sites and capital expenses. In 2014 this included improvements to Clotts Road, the resurfacing of Dixon Road, Poppy Hills Drive and Havenswood Place, the completion of Olde Quarry Park, and the purchase of a new fire engine. While the work on Clotts Road and Dixon Road was completed in 2013, the projects were accounted for in 2014.

- One of the township’s smallest programs is Public Works. This program includes all road repairs and maintenance (except capital improvements) as well as snow removal and stormwater management. Due to flat revenues in recent years, the road department has been forced to cut its operating budget by 26% since 2010.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Public Safety (Fire/EMS)</th>
<th>$3,685,000</th>
<th>Public Works</th>
<th>$437,000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Capital Outlay</td>
<td>$1,236,000</td>
<td>Conservation-Recreation</td>
<td>$155,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Township Administration</td>
<td>$801,000</td>
<td>Health</td>
<td>$112,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Debt Payments</td>
<td>$497,000</td>
<td>Interest</td>
<td>$67,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL:</td>
<td>$6,985,000</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
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</table>
CRACK SEALING

Crack sealing is a road maintenance procedure used to extend the life of the road by three to five years. Cracks in the pavement are sealed using a flexible form of asphalt. This sealing keeps water from penetrating the layers of pavement, thereby slowing deterioration. In 2014, the following roads were crack sealed:

- Ashcroft Loop
- Beech Knoll Avenue
- Knoll Drive and Court
- Swisher Creek Crossing Court
- Woods Place
- Stratshire Lane, Place and Court
- Short section of Venetian Way

DURA PATCH

Dura patch is a combination limestone and an asphalt emulsion, applied by our service crew to repair flaws on Township roads. In 2014, portions of Havens, Mann and Kennedy were repaired using Dura patch.

STORMWATER MANAGEMENT

As part of the Ohio EPA requirements, Jefferson Township is responsible for maintaining all aspects of the stormwater system, including all roadside ditches, storm drains and pipes. In 2014, stormwater management projects included:

- Replacing deteriorated storm tile on Mann Road
- Reclaiming a roadside ditch on east side of Mann Road between Havens Road and Wynfield Drive.
- Unclogging blocked storm drains on Longstreth Park Place
The Jefferson Township Fire Department (JTFD) provides the community with advanced life support emergency medical services, all-hazards emergency response services, and fire prevention. JTFD is classified by the Insurance Services Office with a Class 4 ISO\(^{(1)}\) rating. Our staff is highly trained, with the department logging more than 8,000 hours of training annually, including the following in 2014:

- Ice Rescues
- Emergency Vehicle Operations (annual)
- Pediatric Education for Prehospital Professionals
- Rescue Task Force (expedited triage and removal of victims of active shooter incidents).

\(^{(1)}\) ISO numbers rate the capabilities of a fire department. Training, response time, dispatching, and equipment are all factored in. The ratings are out of 10, with 1 representing the best public protection.

STAFFING AND EQUIPMENT

JTFD currently staffs one fire station 24/7/365. Every shift, six Firefighters and one Battalion Chief respond to fire, medical, and other emergencies with 1 Engine, 1 Medic Unit and 1 Command Vehicle.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>SNAPSHOT</th>
<th>2014</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EMS Calls</td>
<td>1,324</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire Calls</td>
<td>618</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average Response Time</td>
<td>6 Minutes</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

In 2014, the following roads were resurfaced:

- Poppy Hills Drive at a cost of $220,000; funded through a grant from the Ohio Public Works Commission.
- Havenswood Place at a cost of $150,000; funded through savings in the road district fund.

CAPITAL OUTLAY

ROAD RESURFACING

In addition, the department provides safety services such as free child safety seat inspections, CPR/AED training and bad weather well being checks. Call 614-861-3757 to schedule your free child safety seat inspection or to learn more about the safety services offered by your fire department.

Child Safety Seat Inspection

Poppy Hills Drive
In October 2014, Jefferson Township purchased a new fire engine to replace the failing front line engine. The Board of Trustees, with significant input from fire department personnel, chose to purchase a demonstrator engine rather than designing a custom built fire engine. This decision resulted in a savings of about $30,000 and reduced the delivery time from 8-10 months, down to 60-90 days.

**OLDE QUARRY PARK**

Jefferson Township recently opened our newest park, Olde Quarry off of Reynoldsburg-New Albany Road. The project was made possible with two NatureWorks grants totaling over $142,000, as well as in-kind donations and multiple Eagle Scout projects. While the improvements to the park spanned several years, the final work on the park was completed, and the park opened in May 2014.

**NEW ENGINE 141**

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**TOWNSHIP ADMINISTRATION**

**Zoning and Building**

Jefferson Township’s Zoning and Building Department had a busy year in 2014, issuing 51 permits for new single family homes, 338 permits for projects such as decks, patios and pools, as well as working with TS Tech on its facility expansion.

**Communications and Planning**

The Township began work on a Comprehensive Plan by hosting a community kick-off meeting on June 24, 2014, to gather input from residents and talk about the planning process.

A goal of 2014 was to improve communications between the Township and our residents and business community. This was addressed with the creation of the Township’s Facebook page in February, and a monthly online newsletter in June. In addition, Township staff and Trustees attended numerous neighborhood association meetings to address concerns and answer questions about the Township.

**CONSERVATION / RECREATION**

Conservation Recreation includes the upkeep and maintenance of four Township parks and all related facilities, as well as the planning and execution of community events.

2014 marked the 31st year of the annual Halloween Party, and the first year of corporate support from local businesses. Over $2,300 was contributed to help support the event.

Several other community events were held in 2014, including the Winter and Spring Nature Walks, the Ice Cream Social and the Farmers Market, held every Saturday morning from June through September.
WHAT’S NEXT: FUTURE GOALS AND CHALLENGES

2015

GOALS FOR 2015

Continue to Improve Communications and Transparency

OhioCheckbook.com
On April 22, the Jefferson Township Board of Trustees agreed to become one of the first local governments to sign up for OhioCheckbook.com, a first-of-its-kind website from the State Treasurer that shows taxpayers exactly how their tax dollars are being spent. OhioCheckbook.com was launched in December 2014 at the state level, and on April 14, Ohio Treasurer Josh Mandel invited local entities to become partners in promoting government transparency. The site will compile Jefferson Township’s spending information into a database that will allow taxpayers to search by category, vendor, time period, etc., as well as view graphs, charts and comparisons. Our data are expected to be available online this summer. Township Fiscal Officer Ken Jones said, "We are pleased to announce our partnership with the State Treasurer's Office on OhioCheckbook.com. We share the Treasurer's vision that people deserve to know where their tax dollars are being spent and believe that this initiative will advance good government in Jefferson Township."

Coffee with the Trustees
June 11 was the first of these twice-a-month meetings. Residents are invited to come speak informally with your elected officials about issues that are important to you. Coffee with the Trustees are held every 2nd and 4th Thursday at the Fire Station. Check jeffersontownship.org for meeting times.

CHALLENGES FOR 2015

Adequate Funding for Road Repairs and Maintenance
A recent assessment by the Franklin County Engineer indicated that 65% of Jefferson Township’s roads require repair, ranging from crack seal to full reconstruction. Years of residential growth, coupled with decreased funding from the state, have led to the deterioration of Township roads and the postponement of necessary repairs. Aside from pothole repair, crack sealing, and grant funded projects, a properly funded road maintenance program has been largely non-existent. If instituted, a maintenance program would enable the Township to be proactive rather than reactive in addressing our roads, preventing further deterioration and more costly repairs in the future.

Your Trustees will be looking at options to fund such a road maintenance program including the possibility of a levy. They would greatly appreciate your input. Please feel free to call, email or attend our public meetings to voice your opinions on this important township issue.