

R.BENJAMIN STAHLER
MAYOR
937/592-4376



DAVID J. HENRY
SERVICE SAFETY DIRECTOR
937/592-6807

CITY OF BELLEFONTAINE
135 NORTH DETROIT STREET BELLEFONTAINE, OHIO 43311-1476
FAX NO. 937/592-4218

The state of the city is strong. Throughout our entire team of associates, we continue to focus on providing reliable services to our community. The City of Bellefontaine continues to balance its revenues with expenses in an effort to keep our financial position stable. Our 2018 year-end revenues were \$9,552,820 and expenditures were \$8,801,249. On a larger scale, our comprehensive revenues were \$25,459,427 and our comprehensive expenditures were \$24,188,806.

2018 was a year of celebration and transition. Logan County celebrated its Bicentennial year with a number of festivities. Our city associates continued their generous support of the Logan County United Way by reaching our highest donation year ever. Additionally, the United Way of Logan County became the smallest agency in the state of Ohio to surpass the million dollar mark in this year's campaign. Within the Mayor's office, we also celebrated the retirement of James Holycross who retired in May after serving more than 10 years as Safety-Service Director. David Henry, a member of City Council for 20 years, resigned his position to assume the role of S/S/D. Zeb Wagner was appointed President of City Council and Richard Kurtz was appointed First Ward Council to round out the moves. Bellefontaine City Auditor, Jack Reser, and his staff again received the Ohio Auditor's Award for their diligent efforts in overseeing our city's finances. Mr. Reser resigned his position in July 2018 to assume the role of Logan County Auditor. Fred Brentlinger was appointed by the Central Committee to fill that unexpired term.

Our Engineering Department saw the completion of a number of significant projects. The Police Department had an impound building constructed which took the place of a previously rented structure. The Waste Water Treatment Plant retrofitted one of their clarifiers. The Kauffman Annex building underwent a renovation to their upstairs. There was additional work done at the Eastern Avenue Bridge, water line extensions and several storm water projects. 16 housing permits were issued and 31 commercial and Industrial permits were issued (up from 13 the year before). This year we were able to invest \$265,000 to pave streets. The city also purchased the properties to its immediate west and razed the six condemned homes that were located there.

The Police Department handled over 22,000 calls for service in 2018. There were 48 breaking and entering reports, 288 reports of theft and 275 reports of drug activity. There were 1700 charges filed against offenders, 120 OVI arrests and the officers typed over 4300 reports to document these activities. The department continues to provide security at Mary Rutan Hospital 24/7 and there are three officers assigned to the hallways and classrooms at various buildings within Bellefontaine City Schools. The department remains focused in the area of community outreach with

R.BENJAMIN STAHLER
MAYOR
937/592-4376



DAVID J. HENRY
SERVICE SAFETY DIRECTOR
937/592-6807

CITY OF BELLEFONTAINE
135 NORTH DETROIT STREET BELLEFONTAINE, OHIO 43311-1476
FAX NO. 937/592-4218

41 neighborhood events in 2018. In 2018, we offered our sixth class of the Citizens Police Academy and fifth Youth Academy.

Our Fire Department responded to 3,181 total emergency runs; 519 fire incidents (20%), 2300 EMS runs (80%), 172 BOTH fire and ambulance responded. 16 of the department's 19 firefighters are certified as paramedics. The remaining staff will be certified in 2019. The department also conducted 80 building inspections in the community. The department received grants totaling \$238,056 to maintain or replace equipment. A Drone was purchased by a donation made from Lake Township Trustees that will be used by both our Fire Department and Police Department. The department continues prevention and fire safety education through public outreach efforts. They offered 141 public events reaching nearly 2,540 individuals in 2018.

The Parks Department continues its focus on the goal of maintaining a healthy community. They were heavily involved with fund raising to replace the Kaleidoscope playground with all new equipment that is designed to be inclusive to children of all abilities. Construction is scheduled to begin in the spring of 2019. The Parks Dept. continues to build upon the summer outdoor movie series and Myeerah's Outdoor Education Series. There were 1253 youths participate in nine different sporting leagues. Our Hoffman Pool had over 11,000 visitors spend their day swimming. They saw 222 families and 139 individual season passes sold in 2018. A new 2 acre dog park was constructed in Jack Martin Park. The Shade Tree Commission, comprised of 9 volunteer members, continue to maintain an inventory of 1300 trees in our community. Our Cemetery is also managed under the Parks Department. In 2018 there were 38 burials and 31 new lots sold.

The Water Department had a busy year with maintenance of water lines and improvements to our water meter reading system. They responded to and repaired 24 water main leaks (compared to 17 the previous year) and took on several significant water main replacement projects in a continuing effort to update our water line infrastructure. Both the Waste Water Treatment Plant (WWTP) and Water Department reported another year with zero violations to the Ohio EPA codes. The WWTP handled over 1,026,000 million gallons of raw wastewater which produced 263 dry tons of a bio-solid material. This material was then provided to area farmers to spread on their fields to increase the nutrient content of the soil. They also cleaned and televised over 29,000 feet of sanitary sewer as preventative maintenance and raised or repaired 39 manhole covers.

R.BENJAMIN STAHLER
MAYOR
937/592-4376



DAVID J. HENRY
SERVICE SAFETY DIRECTOR
937/592-6807

CITY OF BELLEFONTAINE
135 NORTH DETROIT STREET BELLEFONTAINE, OHIO 43311-1476
FAX NO. 937/592-4218

Our income tax revenues for 2018 were estimated at \$6.4M and the city collected \$6.37M. This was the third year for RITA to manage the tax filing and collections for the city. Presently, RITA manages the tax returns for 309 Ohio communities. Last year, RITA filed 21,217 tax forms for Bellefontaine and filed 50 small claims cases representing \$39,041 owed to the city.

With the passage of a community ballot initiative in November of 2016, we saw lower aggregate gas and electric rates available to our citizens. In 2018, we signed agreements which extended and lowered those rates to our customers. The Utility Department continues to incorporate technology into their operation. Our customers may now access their on-line accounts to monitor balances, consumption, usage, and payment options. We are also able to reach out to our customers to notify them of a possible leak or higher than normal consumption rate. In 2018, Bellefontaine created 3,925 tons of municipal waste. While the national average for waste generation is 4.5 pounds per person per day, our community only averages 1.6 pounds per person per day. To the city's credit, we avoid 24% of landfill of our total disposal by composting yard waste and recycling household materials.

Our Code Enforcement Officer had another productive year. In addition to being the administrator over many of the city's grants and construction projects, he is also responsible to site violators of our city's codes. In 2018, he reported 650 various violations and resolved 89% of them. The vast majority of those are for tall grass and/or exterior premises violations. In May of 2018, City Council adopted a new set of Property Maintenance Codes.

Our fleet of various cars, trucks and other such equipment keep our Vehicle Maintenance Department busy throughout the course of the year. In 2018 they saw over 400 repairs on 140 vehicles and they outfitted 5 new police cruisers.

We have a very busy Regional Airport. 24 of their 28 hangers are rented. There are 32 aircraft on our field including 7 multi-engine or jet aircraft. In 2018, they sold nearly \$100,000 in fuel. With a staff of 12 associates (including 6 instructors), Midwest Corporate Air had 85 check rides/ licenses issued and taught 75 pilots. These pilots came to Bellefontaine from 16 states and there were several international students, as well.

R.BENJAMIN STAHLER
MAYOR
937/592-4376



DAVID J. HENRY
SERVICE SAFETY DIRECTOR
937/592-6807

CITY OF BELLEFONTAINE
135 NORTH DETROIT STREET BELLEFONTAINE, OHIO 43311-1476
FAX NO. 937/592-4218

Downtown Bellefontaine continues to grow, thrive, and attract shoppers from other communities. 2018 saw at least twenty new businesses added to this area. There were new dollars invested in structures, store fronts, and second floor apartments. With an increased number of restaurants, coffee shops and unique shopping boutiques, Bellefontaine is attracting a lot of attention from other communities. The Logan County Court House, which serves as the centerpiece of our downtown, completed its 6 1/2 year restoration project to re-open in November, 2018. Mary Rutan Hospital opened the doors of their new \$22M Community Health Center and Urgent Care to the community. Our historic Holland Theatre closed its doors at the end of 2018 in preparation for a six month \$1.3M renovation.

We continue to work closely with area business and industry to promote a healthy economic environment. Our Chamber of Commerce hired a new Economic Development Director. He proclaims a very optimistic outlook for our community. Their office is working with the city to develop a strategic plan in the early months of 2019. We will continue our focus toward workforce, housing, and safety of our citizens. The Logan County Collaborative continued to address the needs of industry, education and the community in an ongoing effort to assure a sustainable, stable, and skilled workforce to meet the needs of area industry. Our global relations remain strong between our community and many of our internationally owned companies that have a presence in our area.

As Mayor, I believe we are poised to have another promising year in the City of Bellefontaine! We look forward to 2019 and continued community development. We are excited to be a part of a city that faces its challenges head-on and embraces the changes that may come with another day. I am grateful for the opportunity to represent the City of Bellefontaine as Mayor. Good things are happening in Bellefontaine!

Respectfully submitted,

Ben Stahler

Mayor