

MAYOR'S NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 1, FEBRUARY, 2021

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MAYOR**

**VILLAGE OF WESTFIELD
CENTER
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Office Hours:

**Monday-Thursday 9:00 a.m. -
3:00 p.m.**

Friday 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 (Noon)



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Park Circle Beautification Plans

Village Council has some exciting news regarding the re-beautification of our Park Circle. Plans to enhance the park in 2021 include a new, larger ADA compliant gazebo, the installation of natural barriers on the east and west sides of the park, the removal of declining trees for safety and the selective pruning and shaping of remaining trees to promote healthy growth and there will also be installation of LED flashing warning lights at the 4 intersections on Park Circle. Continue to watch for updates on the progress in future Mayor's newsletters.

Capital Projects – 2021

Village Council met in a special work session on February 2, 2021 to plan what the capital outlay will be in 2021.

Capital Meeting: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 @ 5:00 p.m. 2021 Approved Capital Projects

<u>Capital Projects</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Miscellaneous Street Repairs/Trees/Cemetery	\$ 58,185.00
Miscellaneous Capital Equipment	\$ 50,000.00
Engineering	\$ 39,400.00
Waste Water Treatment Plan SCATA System	\$ 27,000.00
North Leroy Trail (\$106,590.00 Grant)	\$ 121,125.00
Gazebo (\$27,348.00 Insurance Settlement)	\$ 106,000.00
S. Leroy Culvert (\$26,906.00 Grant)	\$ 68,990.00
Concrete Pad (Recycle Bins)	\$ 6,000.00
Trees in Park Circle	\$ 36,000.00
Body Cams, Tasers, Car Cam, Shot Gun	\$ 13,300.00
Windows Server & License	\$ 10,000.00
Engineering	\$ 4,000.00
Total	\$540,000.00
Less Grants & Insurance:	<u>-\$160,844.00</u>
Total	\$379,156.00

Village Projects and Capital Expenditures in 2020
(Note that COVID-19 funding helped with two projects.)
2020 CAPITAL PROJECTS COMPLETED

<u>General/Street/Park Funds</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Park Phase 2	\$272,801.00
Leaf Vac	\$199,000.00
Police Car	\$ 60,209.00
Miscellaneous Street Repairs	\$ 33,225.00
Engineering	\$ 30,314.00
December 31, 2020 Cash Balance	\$ 18,936.00
Vactor	\$ 18,057.00
Waste Water Treatment Plan Computer Upgrade	\$ 18,046.00
Village Hal Parking Lot (Balance from 2019)	\$ 15,742.00
Oil Drum Replacement	\$ 1,973.00
Internet Upgrade	\$ 1,613.00
Traffic Blinker	\$ 1,576.00
Backup Drive, DVD Reader, Bar Code Reader	\$ 1,521.00
Police Car Computer	\$ 1,509.00
Park Drainage	\$ 1,470.00
Village Hall Phone System	\$ 1,126.00
Saw	\$ 900.00
SCATA System	\$ 202.00
Re-Purchase Grave Site	\$ 100.00
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	\$678,321.00
Less Grant Offset	<hr/> -\$125,530.00
	<hr/> \$552,791.00
<u>Sewer Fund</u>	
Vactor	\$ 18,057.00
Flowmeter	\$ 3,353.00
PDO Feed Pump	\$ 1,380.00
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	\$ 22,790.00
<u>COVID-19 Fund</u>	
Vactor	\$ 57,115.00
Zoom Room Equipment/Licensing	\$ 20,659.00
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	\$ 77,774.00

Old Fire House Status

The committees that were formed last year to consider the future of the fire station have not met due to COVID-19. This has been a good development in that real uses for the fire station have emerged. One police car is housed there. The vactor and the leaf pick-up machine have also found a home at the fire station. This equipment is used sporadically and the fire station has proven to be a good place to store them. In addition, two large mowers are also stored there. Village Council will take a long term look at the possible uses of the fire station through the committees once they can begin meeting. It appears, however, that this building is becoming an asset in ways not originally thought of.

Sewer Rate Increase

Village Council approved an increase in sewer rates from \$9.90 to \$10.55 per thousand gallons of customer usage. The rate will go into effect in March. The present rate has been effect for about two years.



Cemetery Perimeter Landscaping

The Village and Westfield Group have entered into a land use agreement regarding the east and south perimeters of the Village Cemetery. All tree line vegetation on the east and south sides of the cemetery will be removed and replaced with new plantings agreed upon by the Village Cemetery Committee and Westfield Group. The entire project will be carried out and paid for by Westfield Insurance. They will also maintain the new tree line which is on both Westfield Insurance and Village properties. This is a large project which will benefit Village residents. The Village is fortunate to have a corporate neighbor willing to take on the whole project.

Police Department Upgrade

Council made the following 2021 purchases to improve the Police Department. Cameras are now a part of police work and a Taser gives police an option to stronger uses of force. These are important department improvements.

Upgrade Camera System in 2017 Ford	\$ 5,800.00
Body Worn Cameras	\$ 2,500.00
2 Tasers	\$ 3,000.00
12 Gauge Shotgun – Benelli M4	\$ 2,000.00
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	\$13,300.00

Leaf Collection

Mayor and Council have not experienced a project or purchase that has been more warmly received. Village hall has received calls, cards, and letters thanking Council for this service. Village Superintendent, David Pitsenbarger and his staff scheduled leaf pick up three times a week to accommodate residents and never let leaves pile up for long periods. This roll out went as planned and the Village looks for many years of leaf pick-up service. The wait was about the expense of the equipment but it feels like it should have been done sooner.



North LeRoy Walking Trail

Village engineers will bid this project in February. Building the trail through Village property across from Smucker Drive and LeRoy will connect to the walking trail in the park. Total cost of this project is \$126,104.00. The Village will apply the \$106,590.00 grant received from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources to this project.

SHRED DAY

The Village of Westfield Center Shred Day for residents is scheduled for **Saturday, May 15, 2021 from 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m.** Please note: **Due to COVID-19 there are SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS listed below.**

Village residents may bring up to five (5) boxes/bags of paper to be shredded at no charge. Examples: Bank Statements, Canceled Checks, Paycheck Stubs, Outdated Tax Returns, Credit Card Statements, Outdated Bills, Medical Information, Letters, Envelopes, Ledgers, Junk Mail. Note: It is not necessary to remove staples or paper clips from the documents, however, please remove binders and/or binder clips.

Cardboard is not accepted.

COVID-19 INSTRUCTIONS: Place the items to be shredded in your trunk. Drive up to the shredding area. PLEASE DO NOT GET OUT OF YOUR CAR. Open your trunk and someone will remove the items to be shredded from your trunk.

REMINDERS:

RECYCLING: Please flatten boxes before placing them in the recycling bins.

Please check the list of recyclable items on the front of the bins to make sure the items you are placing in the bins are recyclable items.

If the recycle bins are full, please do not place your recycles on the outside of the bin.

There are additional recycle bins located at the Medina County Solid Waste Facility located at 8700 Lake Road, Seville. There are additional locations listed on their website.

SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBERS: Please **do not write** your social security number on your checks when you are submitting income tax payments.

VACATION WATCH FORMS: The forms can be completed on line and sent directly to the Police Department. www.westfieldcenter.org – Click on the Police Department page, click on “Vacation Watch Form”. Complete the form. Check “I am not a Robot”. Click “Send”.

REPORTING STREET LIGHT OUTAGES: Residents can report outages by using the village website (www.westfieldcenter.org); click on the “**Links & Resources**” tab; click on “**Report Street Light Outage/First Energy**” link; fill out the information as prompted. You will receive a confirmation of your report from First Energy via email. Or you can print off a form, fill it out and either mail it or drop it off in the Village Drop Box.

PETS: Please **pick up after your pets.**

TRASH RECEPTACLES: Please try to store your trash receptacles inside your garage.