

2015 Annual Report

Village Manager: Peter Monteleone I

The Village of East Palestine is committed to preserving the present services and programs while investing in our future through prudent budgeting and infrastructure development. This years Annual Report highlights many of the outstanding programs, services and facilities available to residents and illustrates why our community is such a great place to live!

This report includes updates on some of the Villages major goals and priorities for the fiscal year (FY) 2015 that were accomplished. During (FY) 2015, the Village focused on maintaining our vibrant and unique community while investing in our future. The challenges presented by the slowly improving economy required prudent fiscal planning and the strategic implementation of programs and services in order to address the impact of sluggish economic growth. We are working hard at being prepared for the future so that we can capitalize to the fullest extent on all benefits available for our community.

In 2015 we have experienced many successes and discovered areas that needed modifications. We had a good sound fiscal year which included several changes such as, hiring new engineers (Lennon, Smith, Souleret Engineering, Inc.) for the Waste /Water Dept. for the I&I solutions, several re-paved roads, chipped and sealed roads, crack filling of our new roads, completion of the west street sidewalk project (Safe Routes to School grant), contracting out our concession stand, 2 new trucks for the Fire Dept., several successful drug busts by our Police Dept. and many more accomplishments. We have continued to work hard and make it a priority to build our public relations with the community. These new relations have paid off and will continue to grow.

Inside this issue:

Managers report	1-5
Finance	6-7
Law Director	8
Events	9
New businesses	10
Village permits, building/zoning	11
Park	12-17
Cemetery	18-19
Legislation	20-21
Street Dept.	22-24
Police Dept.	25-26
Water/ Waste Water Dept	27-29
Fire Dept.	30-32



Market Street, Business District, East Palestine, Ohio



Location of East Palestine, Ohio



Coordinates:  [40°50′7″N 80°32′31″W](#) / [40.83528°N 80.54194°W](#) / [40.83528; -80.54194](#)Coordinates:  [40°50′7″N 80°32′31″W](#) / [40.83528°N 80.54194°W](#) / [40.83528; -80.54194](#)

Country

United States

State

Ohio

County

Columbiana

Government

• **Type**

Charter

• **People's Mayor**

Margo Zuch

Area^[1]

• **Total**

3.15 sq mi (8.16 km²)

• **Land**

3.15 sq mi (8.16 km²)

• **Water**

0 sq mi (0 km²)

Elevation^[2]

1,001 ft (305 m)

Population (2010)^[3]

• **Total**

4,721

• **Estimate** (2012)^[4]

4,653

• **Density**

1,498.7/sq mi (578.7/km²)

Time zone

Eastern (EST) (UTC-5)

• **Summer (DST)**

EDT (UTC-4)

ZIP code

44413

Area code(s)

330, 234

FIPS code

39-23940^[5]

GNIS feature ID

1064586^[2]

Website

<http://www.eastpalestine-oh.gov/>

Geography[\[edit\]](#)

GRANTS 2015

This year we have continued to work hard at aggressively searching out all grants that are available to help us fund projects to enhance our community with great success. We have been working with OMEGA, M.S. Consultants and Lennon, Smith, Souler.

We had great success completing the Safe Routes to School Grant (\$269,963.24) which was under the budgeted amount by approximately \$70,000.00 Also we applied for and received another Safe Routes to School Grant (\$340,000.00) for a second phase in 2013. This phase should be done in 2018. We are starting the planning phase of this project this year.

We completed the new splash pad project for the pool. This project was funded by the East Palestine Community Foundation combined with Lynn Gould's donation of time, labor and expertise. This project was done in a unorthodox manner. We became a pioneer and have been looked at by several of our neighboring communities on how we successfully completed this project ourselves in such a cost effective way.

Also in 2013 we applied for and received the Critical Infrastructure Grant (\$316,000.00) which includes some CDBG money) for the replacement of our Summer Street Bridge. This was a highly competitive grant and we were excited to get it. We were already prepared to take a loan out to replace the bridge but canceled this loan and now will receive this grant money. We have worked all through 2014 and 2015 to complete environmental. We have been at the mercy of the county administering this grant and it is in the construction phase starts March 1st. It should be completed in spring.

We also received (\$20,000.000) from the County Commissioners for the funding of a full time officer to participate in the Drug Task Force. Also a Dare Grant (\$1,002.00)

We have received (\$75,000.000) in CDBG grant money from Columbiana County to help fund a 4 phase plan to drill two more wells on a new site. This is a proactive plan to help us in the future not to encounter a water crisis. Also this will put us in a better position to be prepared for growth. We are working with the Ohio EPA waiting at this point for conformation on the site.

We also received (\$12,500.00) donation from unity township for our fire dept..

“ aggressively searching out all grants that are available.”

FINANCES



Again I am excited to report how we managed to not only survive but thrive another year. We had a very successful fiscal year. All Departments were very conscious of their spending and it has paid off with a good solid carry over. This year we worked extremely hard to be creative and very attentive to all details with our finances. With several modifications we again managed to accomplish much with what we had. We will continue to strive to stop incurring unnecessary debt and better our overall financial condition.

PROJECTS COMPLETED 2015



- We paved West Street from W. North Ave. to W. Main Street– Howell Ave. from Stacey Ave. to Village Limits-Lyons Ave. from Moore Lane to turn-E. Highland Ave. entire road-N. James St. from East Grant St. to end of road-Carbon Hill Rd. from Bacon Ave. to Village limits– Marion Ave. from North Market St. to Howell Ave.
- We cracked filled almost all our new roads from the past several years.
- We chipped and sealed approximately 2 miles of roads. Stacey Ave., Irwin Ave., East High St., East Adams St., Cyland Ave., Brookdale Bridge, Conner Drive, Valley St., Western Ave.
- We did our spring clean up again. It was successful.
- We did infrastructure repairs to the pool pump house. We also built the new splash pad. It was a tough project but very successful. We did the work and contracted it internally with the help of local businesses. The funds for this project were donated by the East Palestine Community Foundation.
- We put 20 or more 25 foot maple trees, 2 pear trees and two others in at the park this year. We also cut down several dead trees.
- We hired new engineers to work on coming into compliance with our permit with the Ohio EPA. We have a new plan of action and are to move forward with the engineers and EPA . We have applied for funding through DEFA and are working on a 1% planning loan.
- We did much of the preparation for the new well project in 2015.
- We completed the West Street sidewalk project in 2015 and it came out great. We are now starting on the next sidewalk grant for 2018.
- The fire dept. got new turnout gear. Also two new trucks.

Total logged phone call messages for manager needing response in 2015. This does not include calls that I answered or calls on voice mail.



TOTAL DOCUMENTED MESSAGES (for returned call and action)– 700

Would estimate double that in answered calls and voice mail.

*** Approximately 200 pages of regular reports on duties performed by both Water/W.W. and Street Departments. (if you would like to see them they are on file.)**

*** We logged and finished 79 work orders in 2015.**

*** We have continued to be aggressive in this area and work on cleaning up the Village of blithe.**

*** As the Floodplain administrator we addressed 5 floodplain issues this year.**

*** Also I had the opportunity to attend several board meetings for the land bank and CCIC. I serve on these boards as a representative for the Village of East Palestine.**

FINANCE DEPARTMENT 2015

Achieving a balanced budget

*The Village of East Palestine adopted the (FY) 2015 budget at the end of 2014. The 2015 total budget **after supplemental appropriations** was for **\$5,333,485.22** and actual year end expenditures were **\$4,747,606.69** which is down from last year by over **\$100,000.00***

*The 2015 expected revenues were **\$5,025,951.25** and the actual year end revenue was **\$4,980,713.03** which is up by over **\$140,000.00***

This is the trend we are striving for. Lowering expenditures and allowing revenues to increase. This is why we are climbing out of our debt service total.

On the following page is a bar graph of 2008-2015 revenue and expenditure comparative analysis.

*** Understanding the Villages Budget**

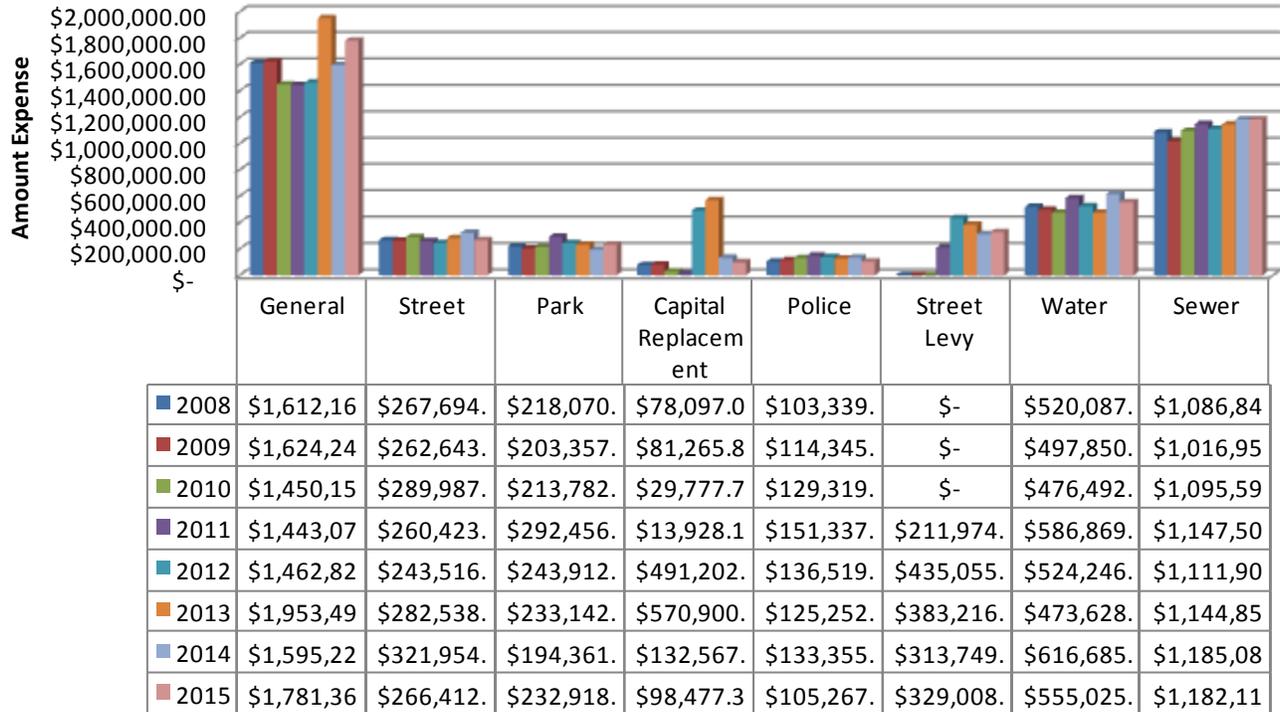
The General fund supports most of the Villages services provided to residents (e.g. Police, Fire, Administration etc.). **Park fund** is from park levy, pool receipts and is supplemented if needed from general fund. **Street fund** is from gas tax and license plate money and street levy monies go for road maintenance and repair.

Water/Waste Water fund is from water and sewer bills (this is an **Enterprise Fund**, which are funds that are used to account for operations financed and operated in a manor similar to private business enterprise where the intent is that the cost of providing the services to the customers is financed through user charges.) These funds cannot be transferred to any other fund.

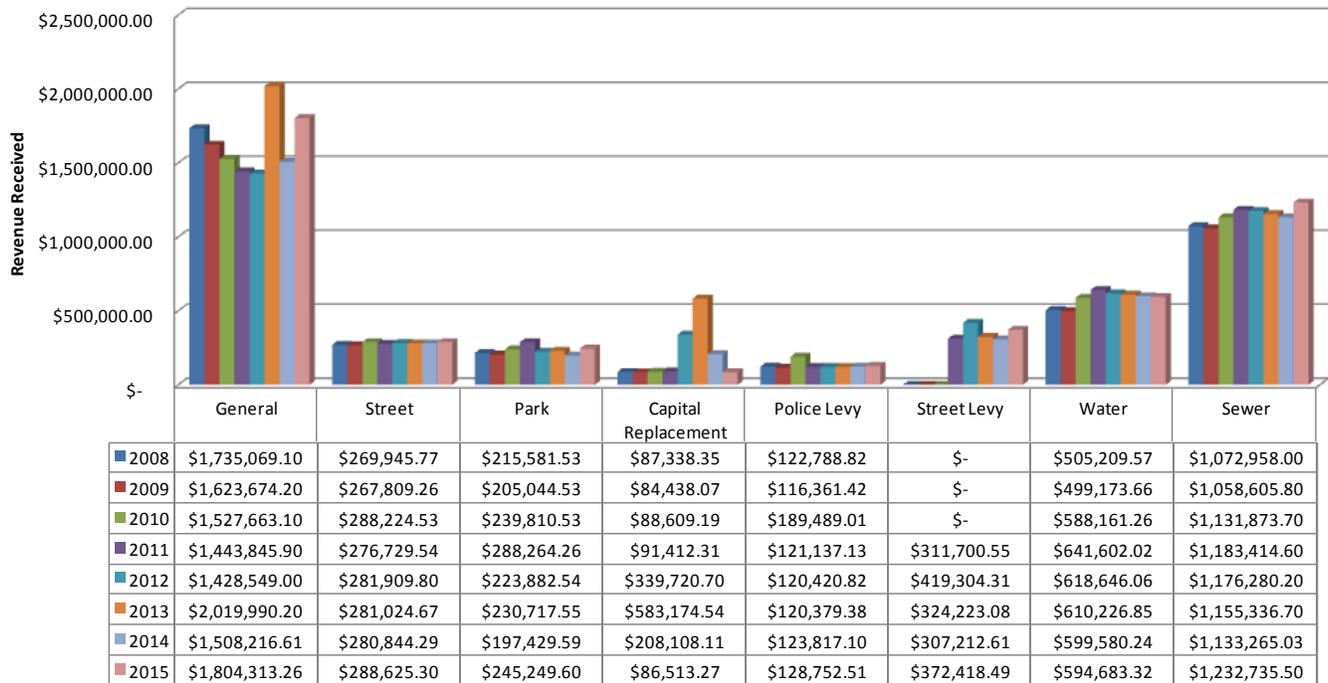


FINANCE DEPARTMENT 2015

Expense 2008-2015



Revenue 2008-2015



LAW DIRECTORS 2015

Law Director's Annual Report: 2015

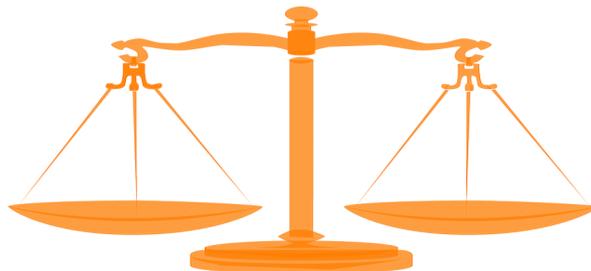
A long standing dispute, concerning the failure to provide water and sewer service to property owned by David and Michelle Vargo, was settled amicably by the Village and the Vargos.

New union contracts were negotiated with the Teamsters and FOP.

A plan of action has been initiated to address the renewal of the Sewer Plant permit, with the hope that Ohio EPA will issue the permit, without the assessment of any fines or other penalties. Several discussions and meetings have occurred, concerning compliance with the Affordable Care Act, as it relates to employees who work more than 29 hours per week, but that are not full time employees.

Approximately 52 proposed Ordinances, Resolutions, and legal opinions were prepared and submitted for Council's review. Weekly meetings with the Village Manager continue, as we work on issues of concern, and discuss future plans.

Approximately sixteen minor misdemeanor criminal or traffic files were open in 2015. Most of the files remaining open at the end of 2014 and most of the 2015 files have been successfully concluded.



EVENTS 2015

- The Chamber of Commerce held the car cruise again this year (Cruisin for Concerns) for E.P Social Concerns. The Chamber of Commerce also held the Turkey Trot. The East Palestine Fire Association put on the 4th of July Fire Works this year. They did the class A fire works which reminded me of the old days. We were very proud of the job they did. We provided support by our safety forces and service departments. They all did a great job.
- We had another Dog Days this year and with the help of many volunteers it was a success again.
- We also had our third 5k run at the park this year.
- Street Fair had a third successful year of being downtown again.
- Spring cleanup.
- We hosted the Tree City USA annual award banquet. It was a great success. We were told that it was one of the nicest they have had. Misti put a lot of work into this.



NEW BUSINESSES 2015

E.P. Corner Store

Berger Plumbing

Bulldog Tattoo (Formerly LA Tattoo)

EP Antiques and Uniques

The Cluttered Hutch

Dogs on the Run

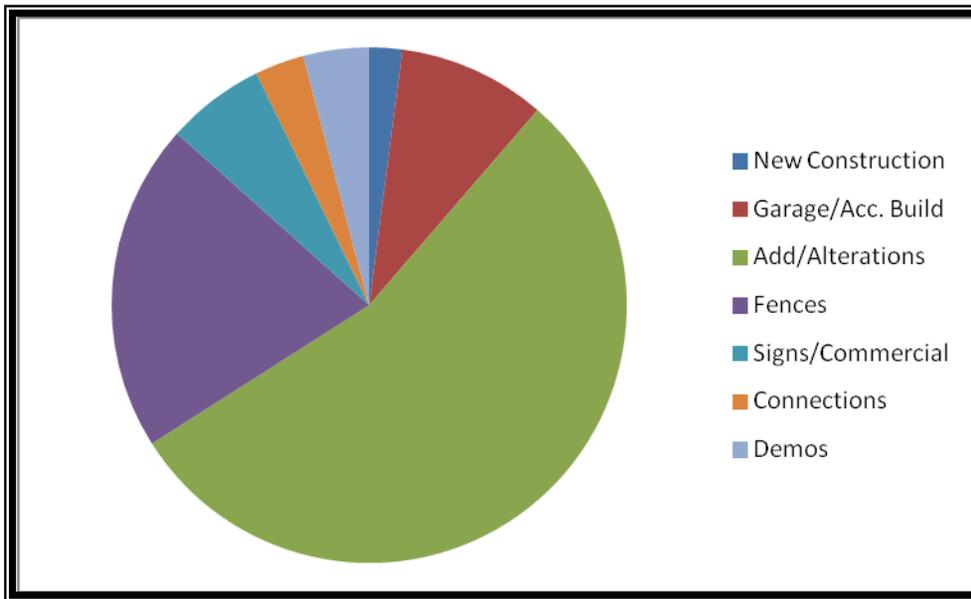
The Body Shoppe (Formerly Skilz)

Chelsee T. Photography



2015 VILLAGE PERMITS, BUILDING/ ZONING/DEMOLITIONS

2015 BUILDING PERMITS



NEW CONSTRUCTION	2
GARAGE/ACCESSORY BUILDINGS	9
ADDITIONS/ALTERATIONS/REPAIRS	53
FENCES	20
SIGNS/COMMERCIAL	6
CONNECTIONS/TAP-INS	3
DEMOLITIONS	4
TOTAL PERMITS	97

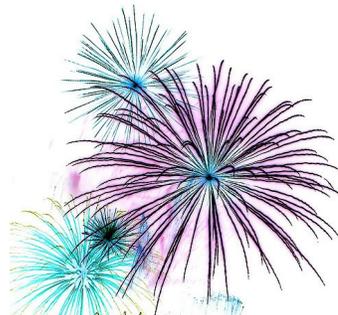
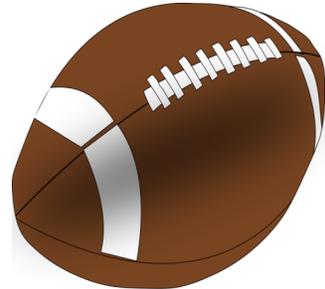
ESTIMATED CONSTRUCTION COSTS FOR 2015 \$2,111,360.21

BUILDING PERMIT FEES	\$3,250.00
VARIANCE FEE	\$ 100.00
CONNECTION/TAP IN/METER&HORNS	\$5,119.00
TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$8,469.00



E.P. PARK 2015

The Park maintenance employees are responsible for overall maintenance of the park. Some of these duties included are pressure washing, painting and maintenance of the park pool. This includes keeping all chemicals balanced and in compliance with the Health Dept. They also take care of mowing, trimming of trees and weed eating. Every day the employees have the duties of picking up any trash and they empty all garbage cans in the park and around the pool. They also clean and maintain all buildings in the park including the community center, the new pavilion, girl and boy scout cabins and the pool house. They coordinate with all organizations and make sure that the baseball fields are mowed and weeded before all games. And twice a week they have to drain the water out of the pool house and clean the pool filters. They also maintain our newest edition of the pool, the splash pad. They put the features up at the beginning of the year and take them down for winterization. They make sure that any decorations and flags are up for special occasions.



It was a very exciting summer in 2015 with the addition of the Splash Pad. Money has been donated for the Splash Pad by the East Palestine Community Foundation. Work was donated by Lynn and Jobey Gould of LAG Pools, Scott McCrea of Dynamic Structures, Tom Povenski of Tapco Electric and Gary Linhart from Town and Country Nursery. The Street Dept and the Water Department were able to complete this whole project in about 3 to 4 weeks. With the help of the Water Dept. we replaced and repaired much of the infrastructure to the pool. We also were able to buy a new chlorine and acid pump for the pool. We took several dead trees down in the park this year but were able to plant over 20 new trees. We planted two for the Tree City USA, 3 for Mr. Bruno and 18 others. We also crack filled, and sealed the basketball courts and painted one of them with bulldog colors.

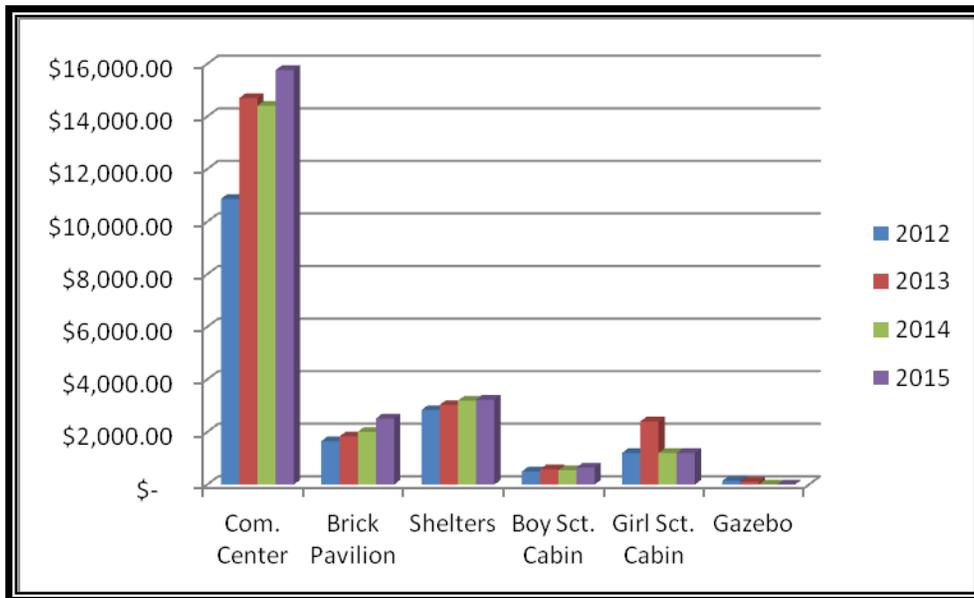


2015 EAST PALESTINE PARK



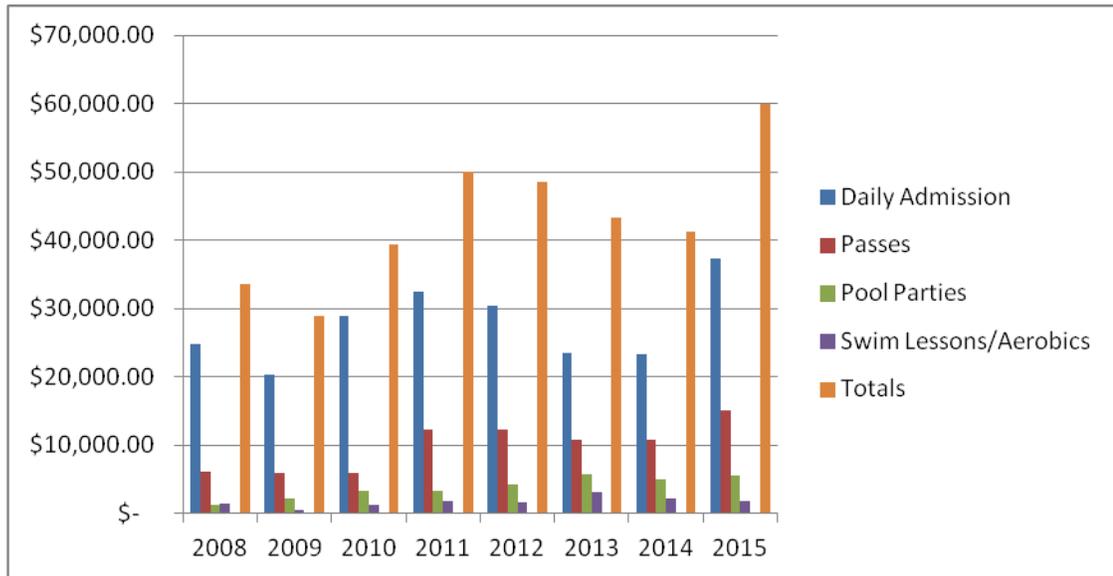
2015 PARK FA-

CILITY RENTAL



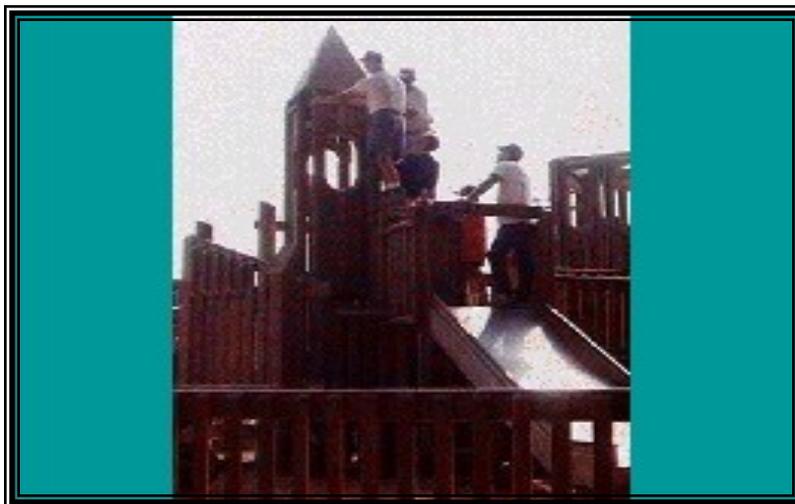
	2012	2013	2014	2015
Com. Center	\$10867.00	\$14696.00	\$14407.00	\$15767.00
Brick Pavilion	\$1650.00	\$1830.00	\$2005.00	\$2515.00
Shelters	\$2835.00	\$3030.00	\$3190.00	\$3230.00
Boy Sct. Cabin	\$495.00	\$585.00	\$550.00	\$650.00
Girl Sct. Cabin	\$1200.00	\$1200.00	\$2400.00	\$1200.00
Gazebo	\$140.00	\$105.00	0	0
TOTALS	\$17187.00	\$22646.00	\$21352.00	\$23362.00

2015 PARK POOL INCOME

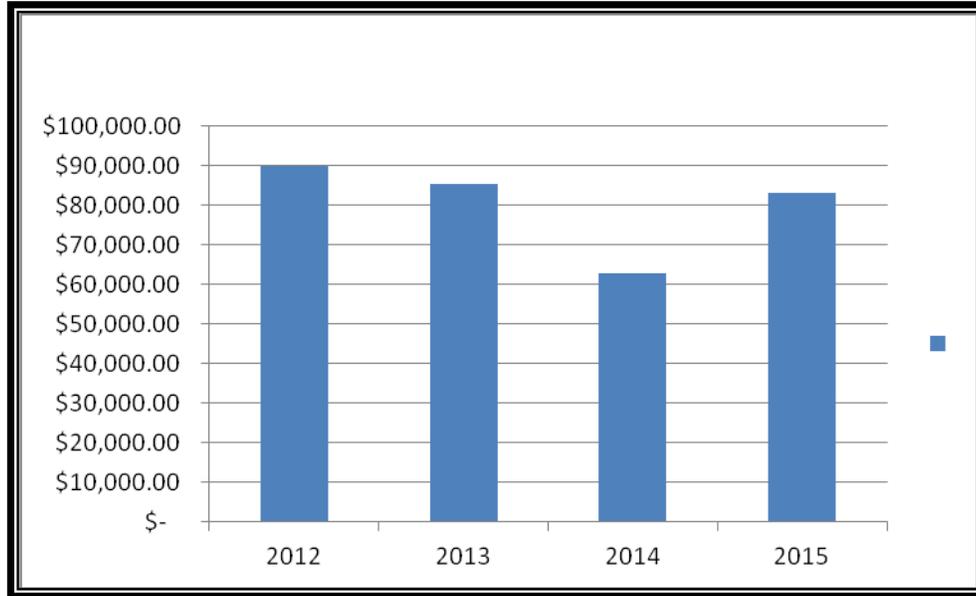


	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
DAILY ADM.	\$24,821.00	\$20,284.00	\$29,015.00	\$32,443.00	\$30,445.00	\$23,553.00	\$23,385.00	\$37,391.20
PASSES	\$6,140.00	\$5,860.00	\$5,970.00	\$12,325.00	\$12,355.00	\$10,740.00	\$10,780.00	\$15,130.00
PARTIES	\$1,247.00	\$2,175.00	\$3,295.00	\$3,645.00	\$4,210.00	\$5,810.00	\$4,975.00	\$5,525.00
SWIM LESSON / WATER AEROBICS	\$1,435.00	\$590.00	\$1,180.00	\$1,895.00	\$1,584.00	\$3,147.00	\$2,164.00	\$1,865.00
TOTALS	\$33,643.00	\$28,909.00	\$39,460.00	\$50,308.00	\$48,594.00	\$43,250.00	\$41,304.00	\$59,911.20

(This chart takes out the concession stand to show apples to apples)



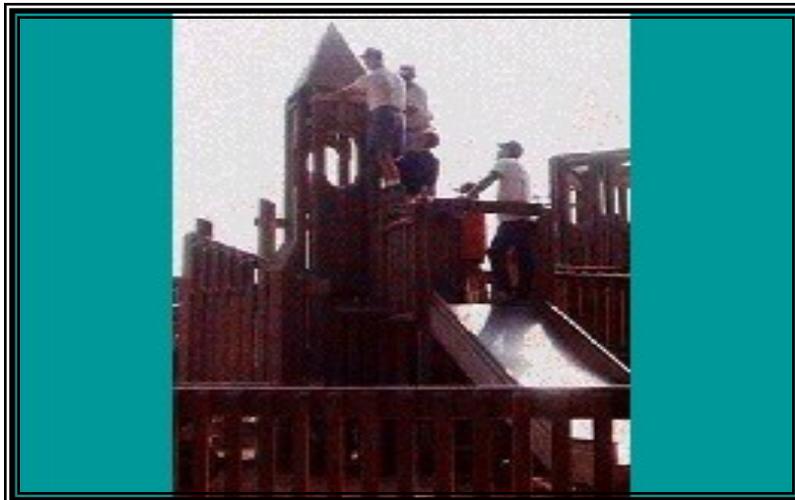
2015 TOTAL PARK INCOME



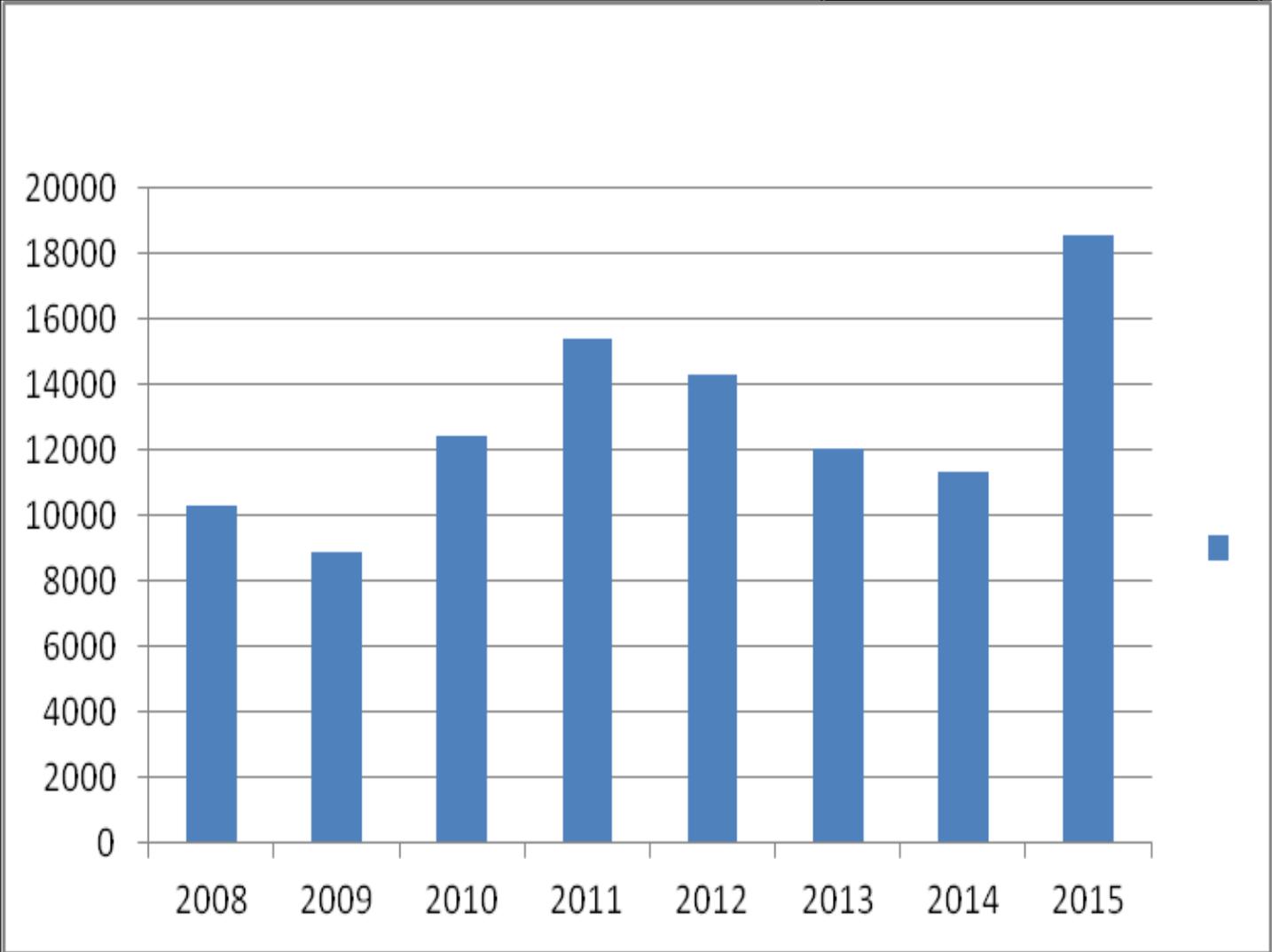
	2012	2013	2014	2015
TOTAL INCOME	89,866.93	85,500.12	62,656.90	83,273.20

****NOTE- DECLINE IN TOTAL INCOME FOR 2014 IS PARTIALLY DUE TO THE CONCESSION STAND BEING RUN BY SAVVY J'S SNACK SHACK. IT WAS ALSO LEASED OUT FOR ALL OF 2015. We must take into account the expenditures and net profit.**

****NOTE: Savvy J's Snack Shack paid \$250.00 in utilities & percentage of profit paid was \$497.72. This amount is NOT included in the above figures for total park income. Each year from 2014 and forward we are saving an average loss of \$9,600.00 from not operating our own concession.**



2015 EAST PALESTINE POOL SWIMMERS



2015 EAST PALESTINE CEMETERY

GLENVIEW CEMETERY, SOUTH MARKET STREET

Glenview Cemetery questions and arrangements are handled in the Finance Office at the Municipal Building, at 85 North Market Street. Hours are 8-12 and 1-4 Monday through Friday, except holidays. The telephone number is 330-426-4367, Extension 19. Glenview rules and prices are listed below.

1. Visitation hours: dawn to dusk
2. Burials: Monday through Friday, until 3 PM; Saturday until 12 Noon; Any other hours must be approved in advance by the Village.
3. Foundations: Installed by monument company or other entity following specifications of the Village. Inspection approval by the Village.
4. No interments allowed by lot owner for remuneration. No transfer of assignment of use of lot or interest therein permitted except transfer to the Village in the form of a Deed of Reconveyance.
5. No disinterment permitted without approval of the Village and upon written order of the lot owner. Disinterment may be made by the Village only.
6. Lot enclosures of any kind are prohibited.
7. Cornerstones must be set flush with sod.
8. Only flat markers are permitted in the flat marker section of the cemetery.
9. New sections established by the Village will give the lot owners the option of upright headstones, not to exceed 70% of the lot or grave. All monuments and parts of vaults above ground shall be of granite, rock or chiseled finish. No metallic monuments or grave markers will be permitted. No trees within the lot or bordered shall be cut own or destroyed without the consent of the Village. Footstones will be permitted flush to ground mount only.
10. The Village has the right to enter lot and remove trees or shrubs on lot where roots and branches have become detrimental to adjacent lot or avenue, unsightly, or inconvenient to passengers.
11. The Village has the right to remove any monument, effigy or enclosure determined to be offensive or improper, or injurious to the appearance of surrounding lots or grounds.
12. No "For Sale" signs permitted on lots.
13. A written order from the lot owner is required for interment.
14. One interment per grave or crypt. Only exceptions are a mother and infant child or twins under ten (10) years of age buried at the same time. Two or more interments of cremated remains will be allowed together but no more than three interments per lot.
15. Scattering of cremated remains over cemetery or specific lot is not permitted.
16. Entrance to every lot must remain unobstructed.
17. Entrance sills, enclosures, beds of stones or pebbles, concrete, metal or plastic hedges, shrubs, posts, bars, chains or rails are not permitted on graves or plots. Grave mounds are prohibited.
18. Spring and summer decorations are permitted on graves from April 1 through October 15. Fall and winter decorations are permitted on graves from November 1 through March 15.

COST OF GRAVES: RESIDENTS WHO LIVE WITHIN THE EAST PALESTINE VILLAGE LIMITS, ONE GRAVE SPACE: \$500.00

COST OF GRAVES: NON-RESIDENTS, ONE GRAVE SPACE: \$600.00

INTERMENT FEES: Grave, Monday-Friday: \$600.00 Grave, Saturday:\$650.00 Grave, Sunday and Holidays: \$700.00 Cremation ,Monday-Friday: \$300.00 Cremation, Saturday: \$350.00, Cremation Sunday and Holidays: \$400.00.

DISINTERMENT FEE: Double the interment charge

2015 EAST PALESTINE CEMETERY

PIONEER BOATMAN MEMORIAL CEMETERY, LINCOLN AND WALNUT STREETS

Pioneer Boatman Memorial Cemetery was begun in the late 1700's and was dedicated in 1976 to Barnerd Boatman, a Revolutionary War soldier, who served with General George Washington. It was formerly known as "The Old Cemetery", "Quaker Cemetery", "Old East Palestine Cemetery" and "The Presbyterian Cemetery". It had been abandoned for many years when Barnerd Boatman's grave was found. It was once the graveyard of "The Calvinistic Meeting House", the first church in East Palestine. There are about 194 known burials in the cemetery that are listed on one side of a permanent memorial marker. On the other side are names of 21 veterans of 4 wars: the Revolutionary War, the War of 1812, the Mexican War and the Civil War. Burial records have not been found. The permanent marker was erected in 1990 by the American Legion, Post 31, of East Palestine. Restoration began in 1989 by Margaret Meek Travis and Kathryn Bauknecht. In 1994 the Boatman Cemetery Memorial Association was formed. Restoration continues as donations are received. The cemetery is listed on the Ohio Historic Inventory of Cemeteries.



We took over the maintenance of our own cemeteries in 2013. This was a great move on the Villages part. We were able to spend the same amount of money that we were just to have it mowed every two weeks and hire our own workers and take care of much more than just mowing. Over the past several years the cemetery looks so much better. We receive compliments on a regular basis. It used to be complaints on a regular basis.

LEGISLATION PASSED IN 2015

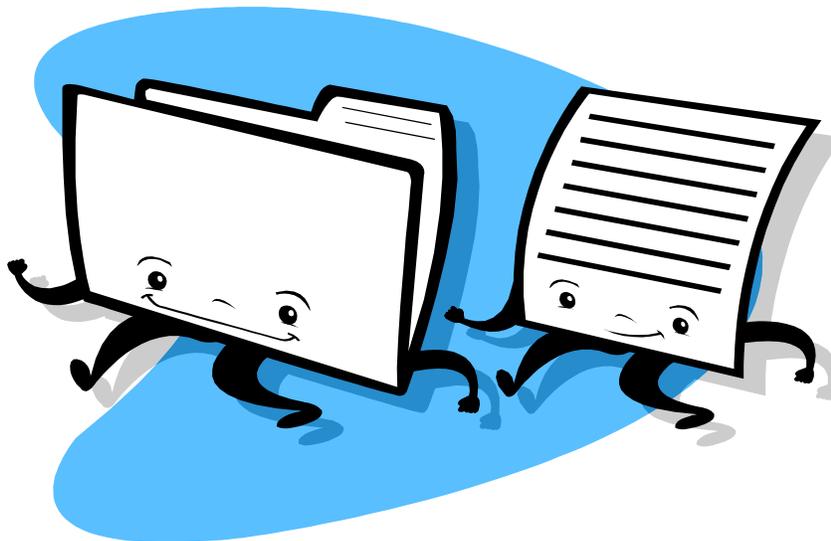
2015 LEGISLATION

- Ord. 1-2015 2015 Paving
- Res. 1-2015 Hiring alternate counsel for representation in Vargo dispute
- Ord. 2-2015 Hiring waste water operator on a temporary basis
- Res. 2-2015 Updating Columbiana County Mitigation Plan
- Ord. 3-2015 Updating Codified Ordinances
- Res. 3-2015 Drug Task Force
- Ord. 4-2015 ODOT land purchase for SR 170 improvements
- Res. 4-2015 Apply for funding for EPA mandated improvements to WWTP
- Ord. 5-2015 Approving settlement for Vargo w & s issue
- Res. 5-2015 Concession stand lease
- Ord. 6-2015 Amendments to employee handbook
- Res. 6-2015 ODOT- Purchase road salt
- Ord. 7-2015 Contract for Durapatcher
- Res. 7-2015 Supporting 911 Plan
- Ord.8-2015 Financing Documents for Durapatcher
- Res.8-2015 Authorizing Mgr. to proceed with sanitary sewer improvements (EQ Basin)
VOTED DOWN
- Ord.9-2015 Com Center fees for non profits **TABLED 5-11-15**
- Res.9-2015 Authorizing Mgr. to proceed with sanitary sewer improvements (w/out EQ Basin)
- Ord. 10-2015 Contract with Donnell Ford for 2 2015 trucks for Fire Department
- Res.10-2015 Accepting amounts and rates for 2016
- Ord.11-2015 Budget/Estimated resources for 2016
- Res.11-2015 Contract with low bidder for, Foust Constr, for West St. sidewalk project
- Ord.12-2015 Supplemental Appropriations
- Res.12-2015 Lease parking lot for Police Department (Telischak)
- Ord.13-2015 Amending Ord. 15-2007- Vargo
- Res.13-2015 Application to WPCLF & OWDA for \$200,000.00 planning loan for SS Improvements
- Ord. 14-2015 increasing the base sewer rate
- Res.14-2015 Application to WPCLF for \$200,000.00 planning loan for SS Improvements
- Ord.15-2015 Contract with Gary McConnell to consult with I & I problem
- Res.15-2015 Special Assessments to County Auditor
- Ord.16-2015 ODOT bridge inspection program
- Res.16-2015 Law Director Contract(David Powers) 2016
- Ord.17-2015 Authorizing Mgr. to advertise bids/enter agreement for UV repairs at WWTP
- Res.17-2015
- Ord.18-2015 Contract negotiations with LSSE (Lennon, Smith& Souleret Engineers) for design services for
ww system improvements

2015 LEGISLATION

- Res.18-2015 2016 DTF money
- Ord.19-2015 Amend Chapter 880 of Codified Ordinances regarding Municipal Income Tax
- Res.19-2015
- Ord.20-2015 Suspend Payments to Electric Trust
- Res.20-2015
- Ord.21-2015 Repealing Section 1061.01 of Codified Ordinances (Dogs in Park)
- Res.21-2015
- Ord. 22-2015 2016 Appropriations
- Res.22-2015
- Ord. 23-2015 Contract with Lennon, Smith & Souleret Engineering
- Res.23-2015
- Ord. 24-2015 Contract with Brittain Motors for 2015 Silverado
- Res. 24-2015
- Ord. 25-2015 2% wage increase full/part time non union employees
- Res.25-2015
- Ord. 26-2015 Ratifying FOP Contract
- Res.26-2015
- Ord. 27-2015 Ratifying Teamsters Contract
- Res.27-2015
- Ord.28-2015 Employee Handbook (white book) updates
- Res.28-2015
- Ord.29-2015 Supplemental appropriations

UPDATED 12/29/2015



STREET DEPARTMENT 2015

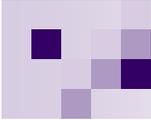


Year End Report 2015

Street Department

The street department maintains 27 centerline miles and an equal amount of alleys. This department handles all mowing and maintenance of all Village property. We obtained four county funded youth summer workers this summer. The street department handled forestry duties, taking down dead or damaged trees and overgrowth along some Village streets and in the Park. They also applied cold patch to potholes in the winter months and hot patch in the summer. They also apply hot tar to the cracks on the roads that are starting to show wear and tear. The street department also maintains 91,020 feet of storm drains and 750 catch basins. They also take care of all the painting of Cross walks, curbs and school zones. Place barricades for special events. Erect flags, banners and decorations downtown. They take care of maintenance of licensed and unlicensed vehicles.

The Village purchased a Dura Patcher this year which has helped us tremendously in pothole repair. and has freed up manpower to other projects. We also planted 23 trees this year.



In the winter months of the year there was a lot of snow plowing and salting every day in 2015. We also spent any down time in the shop reorganizing and cleaning putting all tools in order. In our back storage area we cleaned and put all tools and other inventory like oil filters, fuel filters, and all small plow parts and so on in there proper places. We made ourselves a little work area in the back of our storage room like an office. We now have a computer and a printer filing cabinets and a nice work desk which is great when we need to look anything up. for parts, how to, videos or whatever we need. and now our files are in better order and getting better.

: Adams St. bridge project

In early spring we noticed that one of the cement beams on the bridge had failed so we had to take the old beam out that was hanging down into the creek and build a form from underneath. Then braced the form under the bridge with cribbing and railroad jacks. Then poured a new beam with heavy rebar reinforcement. And on the other side of the same bridge we had to fix a sinkhole caused from the erosion of the creek bank. We cleaned up around the sinkhole and made a form and filled with cement as well.

: Storm Drain Lid At Clark And Market

The cement riser into the street and was getting worse with every passing car. We had to break out the old concrete ring and then cut out asphalt down to the base. We took it down 3 inches. We then put the new riser in the hole and asphalted around it.

: Storm Drain Lid At Martin And Market

This storm drain failed as the Clark St. one did so we again had to break the old cement out and cut the asphalt out. This one we used a steel riser instead of the cement riser due to the odd shape of the hole and lid. Then cut out the asphalt down about 4 inches then replaced with new concrete.

: Storm Drain At Liberty And Main

This storm drain caved in. The concrete riser around this one just fell apart. so for this one we saw cut the square around the riser then was able to just pull the old broken pieces out and drop a new riser in the hole.

: Storm Drain System

We replaced a 70 foot section of 24 inch drain pipe in a resident property on Clark St. We had to dig up the old terra-cotta pipe that was all broke up and crushed and replace it with double wall plastic

: Potholes

half of the summer was spent non stop filling potholes with load after load of asphalt.

The purchase of the Dura Patcher has made it easier to do multiple projects

at the same time. Because only two people have to man it, it leaves the rest of the crew to tackle other projects that need done on a daily weekly bases.

: Dura Patcher

The Dura Patcher was purchased mid summer last year.

This machine combines the same emulsion used in tar and chipping and lime stone to fill potholes. After the learning period it has proved to be a great asset to the street department, not only do the patches seem to last longer and even look better it only takes two men to run it which lets the rest of the employees to do other things.

: Grass

Once a week the street department takes care of the cutting and weed eating of the grass at:

Taggart St. by Tube Tech

The strip of yard between Family Dollar and the Creek behind it

The lot in the parking lot behind City Hall

The triangle lot on Rt14 by the welcome to EP sign

In front of the Street Garage

The lot on West Main going down beside the creek and the other side

And the hill side on the west side of the West St. bridge

We also take care of any vacant properties around town that need mowed

About once every two weeks we go and brush hog, mow and weed eat out at Leslie Run

Every two to three weeks we highway mow hill sides and hard to reach areas:

City Lake

On Brookdale

Main St

Connors Dr.

and creek

: Street Sweeping

Every week in the spring and summer months we get one day and one night of sweeping in town done.

: Storm Drains

On a weekly basis we go out and clean off storm drain covers of debris

And we go out as often as possible to vacuum out storm drains and jet the pipes out

Holidays and other occasions throughout the year we put up flags, banners or Christmas decorations.

: Paving

Last year we had a good year getting 7 of our streets that needed paved done.

Marion, Lyons, Howell, Marion, James, Highland and West streets.

We also tar and chipped several streets like Cyland, Pleasant, Western and several more.



E.P. POLICE DEPARTMENT 2015

EAST PALESTINE POLICE DEPARTMENT

**75 EAST MAIN STREET
EAST PALESTINE, OHIO 44413**

PHONE: 330-426-4341

FAX: 330-426-4343

Kevin S.Dickey
Chief of Police

2015 Annual Police Report

The members of the police department continued sincere efforts serving the residents of the community while striving to reduce crime and maintain or improve the quality of life for the residents. Overall, those efforts have been successful.

Although there are some increases in certain areas, overall the total reported crimes in 2015 decreases by 6.7% from 2014-2015.

Domestics decreased by 30.7%
Juveniles increased by 66%
Thefts decreased by 18.4%
Burglary and B&E's combined increased 8.3%
Criminal Damaging decreased by 40.9%
Assaults increased by 33%
There was 1 rape reported
There was 1 Sexual Imposition reported
There was 1 Gross Sexual Imposition reported
There were no murders
Citations issued increased 17.4%
Traffic crashes decreases 23.3%

The police department answered a total of 4720 calls for service in 2015.
Dispatch handled 38,055 calls.

Local drug related charges and/or arrests decreased by 34%. I see this is an indication that the combined enforcement efforts of all police officers, K-9 Toney, K-9 handler Sgt. Johnson and our participation with the Columbiana County Drug Task Force are working at the street level.

There were 122 total K-9 deployments in 2015, which is a 9.9% increase from 2014. K-9 Toney alerted on drugs, drug remnants or drug paraphernalia 40.5% of the total drug sniffs.

Sgt. Johnson attended twenty (21) training sessions and had 95 training hours.

Sgt. Johnson and K-9 Toney received their annual Ohio Peace Officer Training Academy (OPOTA) certification in Narcotics, Tracking and Article Searches. This is a State certification.

They also obtained certification through North American Police Working Dog Association (NAPWDA) for Narcotics, Tracking and Article Search. This is a nationally recognized accreditation.

Our fulltime participation continues to produce results as well.

In 2015, there were:

- Five (5) search warrants executed inside East Palestine, which is down 5 from 2014.
- There were seventeen (17) cases opened, which is 2 more than 2014.
- There were fifteen (15) people indicted for various charges, which is 4 less than 2014.

On May 30, 2015, we experienced a near direct lightning strike at the police station, which damage nearly all of the primary and back-up communications equipment rendering normal radio communications equipment inoperable. Dispatch worked off a portable radio for about three (3) hours until radio repair arrived and set up a temporary base radio. Fire Chief Brown provided a piece of equipment to restore toning capabilities for the East Palestine, New Waterford and Negley Fire Departments.

The strike caused over \$30,000.00 in damage to the equipment. Thankfully most (but not all) of the cost of the repairs were covered by insurance. Although we worked as quickly as possible, it took about three (3) months to get all the equipment operational, and for three (3) months dispatch worked off the portable base station and the piece of equipment Chief Brown provided. As you can imagine, radio communications were less than perfect for the three (3) months it took to get the new equipment installed and operational. Over time this caused a bit of aggravation and frustration for the dispatchers, police officers, firefighters and EMT's. Nevertheless, they all worked through it and got the job done. For this I thank and commend each of them.

As I have said in the past, the credit for the success of the police department is due to the commitment, hard work and dedication of the men and women of the police department, both police officers and dispatchers. They are the ones who do the hard work and get the job done day after day, sometimes under less than ideal situations or conditions. It is they who make the department the professional organization it is today, and I could not be more proud of each and every one them.

In closing, I would like to say that it is a privilege and honor to serve as police chief for the East Palestine Police Department. I look forward to working with everyone and a successful 2016.

Yours truly,

Chief Kevin S. Dickey





WATER/WASTE WATER DEPARTMENT 2015

2015 Summary

For the year 2015 the water plant produced 198.21 million gallons of water. The difference can attributed to un-accounted for water such as; hydrant flushing, un-metered water (all city buildings, fires and fire department training), backwashing the water plant and water leaks.

In general maintenance in the water department the water plant was painted on the interior and painting of the filter tanks and piping system began in December and will continue through the winter. A new heating system was also installed in the water plant. In the distribution system a total of 542 fire hydrants were flushed and 37 valves exercised. A total of 13 water leaks were repaired, 10 services replaced and one main line valve was replaced. Backflow Solutions Incorporated (BSI) was enlisted as the villages coordinator for the annual backflow testing program. This is an OEPA mandated program and must be reported monthly and annually. This change in the program saved the village both time and money. All testing and monthly and annual reports were submitted on time and to the proper agencies.

In the wastewater system the treatment plant treated a total of 327.996 million gallons of wastewater. At the treatment plant, a truck delivering chemicals owned by Sal Chemical struck the ultraviolet structure and destroyed it. The company's insurance is paying to replace the structure. Construction began in December and is ongoing. All testing and monthly and annual reports were submitted on time and to the proper agencies.

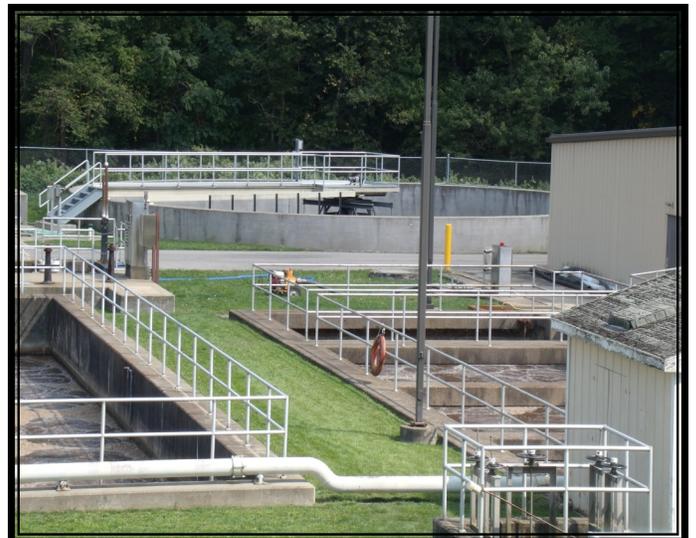
In 2015 the village also changed engineers for the upcoming inflow and infiltration project. Lennon, Smith and Souleret Engineering out of Coraopolis, Pa. takes over for MS Consultants out of Youngstown, Oh.

Supervisor John Jurjavic was injured on the job and had shoulder surgery in June. He was off work from June 29th to August 31st. During this period EF Davis and Associates was hired to cover as the Class III operator. Davis continues to cover in John's absence.

In the spring Denny Griffith and Scott Wolfe passed the state exam for the class I wastewater license. Brock Jurjavic is currently working on obtaining his class I as well. The past year saw many personnel changes in the departments. Tom Delo transferred to the department early in the year and left for an outside job in September. Carol Cope was then elevated to a full-time position in the water

billing office. This was done to prepare for the eventual retirement of another worker in the office. Chris Hughes then transferred into the water/wastewater department in September. Chris was hired part-time to replace the departed Delo. Scott Wolfe accepted a position with Aqua Water in Columbus, Ohio and resigned in January of 2016. The village is currently advertising for this position.

A statistical summary of the year is attached.



WATER W/W DEPARTMENT 2015

2015	Final Reading	High consumption	OUPS Ticket	Check Reading	Repair/ Replace Equipment	Check sewer	Check stoppe d meter	Shut off curb	Turn on curb	Re- place / Repair Shut off	Check leak	Misc	TOTAL
Jan	10	16	7	4	3	6	1	2	2	0	2	2	55
Feb	3	0	1	58	4	2	0	10	5	0	6	8	97
Mar	3	1	13	30	4	9	0	7	9	0	1	2	79
Apr	12	11	9	2	5	5	1	5	14	2	7	2	75
May	5	9	9	7	6	3	0	8	14	1	2	3	67
June	9	10	14	8	6	2	0	15	7	0	0	1	72
July	11	16	19	13	0	4	0	6	5	1	3	2	80
Aug	8	21	12	13	1	3	2	9	7	1	4	7	88
Sept	12	7	25	15	5	1	0	9	5	0	3	6	88
Oct	9	9	19	17	3	2	0	8	16	1	3	6	93
Nov	9	14	7	6	2	3	0	6	6	0	0	2	55
Dec	10	4	5	20	3	2	1	3	5	0	0	0	53
TOTAL	101	118	140	193	42	42	5	88	95	6	31	41	902

TOTAL RESIDENTIAL BACKFLOWS TO DATE 486

11/15

2015	Waste Water Flow	Water Production	Water Billed	Residential Back-flows	Shut off Sent	Dis-connection Cards	Shut off at curb	Taste /odor	Dis- colored water	Low pressure
Jan	24.46	17.842	8.093	0	121	72	3	0	0	0
Feb	22.858	17.538	6.373	0	142	84	6	0	1	1
Mar	39.872	16.867	8.828	2	114	65	4	0	1	1
Apr	37.228	14.723	8.228	6	121	64	5	0	3	0
May	22.97	16.476	7.621	3	113	62	4	0	0	0
June	43.417	15.863	8.255	3	142	98	6	0	0	0
July	28.09	17.469	7.934	1	128	81	6	0	1	0
Aug	19.654	20.4	8.173	6	146	85	6	0	0	1
Sept	19.452	17.029	8.04	1	136	83	3	0	7	0
Oct	23.578	17.029	7.504	4	129	86	10	0	3	0
Nov	21.61	13.858	7.605	1	141	85	5	0	0	0
Dec	24.807	13.116	7.36	0	118	67	2	0	1	0
TOTAL	327.996	198.21	94.014	27	1551	932	60	0	17	3

FIRE DEPARTMENT 2015

EAST PALESTINE FIRE & EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES 2015 YEAR END REPORT

The men and women of the East Palestine Fire & Emergency Medical Services had quite a productive year. The Divisions of Fire, and Emergency Medical Services experienced an increase in call volume. New equipment was purchased, replacing older, and outdated equipment. New membership was added to the roster, and plans were made to open a new fire station in Unity Township. Firefighters responded to a total of 238 alarms in 2015. This is an increase of 48% from the year 2014. Please see the chart below for more details.

ALARM TYPE	2014 TOTALS	2015 TOTALS	UP/DOWN	%
Structure Fires	19	35	Increase	84%
False Alarms	20	32	Increase	60%
Brush Fires	23	16	Decrease	30%
Car Fires	2	3	Increase	50%
Motor Vehicle Crashes	26	31	Increase	15%
Investigations	28	45	Increase	61%
Rescues	2	15	Increase	650%
Public Service	28	20	Decrease	28%
Other Type Fires	13	40	Increase	208%
Year End Totals	161	238	Increase	48%

Emergency Medical Technicians were dispatched to a total of 971 medical emergencies in 2015. This is an increase of 18% from the year 2014. Please see the chart below for more details.

ALARM TYPE	2014 TOTALS	2015 TOTALS	UP/DOWN	%
Patient Transports	498	676	Increase	36%
Transport Refusals	260	280	Increase	8%
Calls Dropped	62	15	Decrease	75%
Year End Totals	820	971	Increase	50%

Mutual aid agreements were formed between the East Palestine Division of Emergency Medical Services, New Waterford Fire Department (EMS), and the Negley Volunteer Fire Department (EMS). This agreement was formed in an effort to reduce the number of emergency calls unanswered in all three areas. The Division of Emergency Medical Services received mutual aid 53 times, and provided mutual aid 68 times in the year 2015.



In addition to reducing the amount of calls unanswered the mutual aid agreement was also an effort to reduce the strain on manpower during the daylight hours (0700-1700). The agreement improved the number of calls dropped, decreasing them by 75% from 2014. However the manpower strain in the daylight has not improved at all. Responders already employed as EMT's are not available in the daylight hours due to regular employment. The number of responders that are available during the daylight hours are not able to meet the demand of emergencies on a regular basis. Thus resulting in calls being dropped or mutual aid from other agencies. Recruitment efforts are being made with a strong interest from EMT's and Paramedics from all around the outlying areas. However the non-competitive compensation results in the loss of potential responders.

The East Palestine Village Council updated the fees charged for emergency medical services in early 2015. These updates were the first change to this ordinance since 2008. The Medical Billing Office received a total of \$178,986.12 in payments for emergency medical services rendered in 2015. This is an increase of 31% from the year 2014.

In early 2015 the Division of Fire was given a budget of \$250,000.00 to purchase a Brush Fire Truck to replace the then current Brush Fire Truck as well as the then current Rescue Truck. After receiving multiple bids from fire truck manufacturers, the new truck would exceed the budget. After considerable thought and planning, the Division of Fire was able to meet their needs with the allotted budget. A 2015 Ford F-450 cab and chassis, Flatbed, Tool Boxes, and updated brush fire tools were purchased to replace the then current Brush Fire Truck. In addition they also purchased a 2015 Ford F-250 pick-up truck to replace the then current Rescue truck. The Division of Fire's ability to maximize available resources resulted in the affordability to replace both pieces of equipment and save the Village a total of \$40,000.00.

During 2015 seven Firefighters were sent to the Columbiana County Career and Technical Center for their basic firefighter course. With a 100% pass rate, all seven Firefighters returned with their State of Ohio Volunteer Firefighter certification. Two Firefighters received their certification as a State of Ohio, and National Registry - Basic Emergency Medical Technicians. There are currently a total of 18 Emergency Medical Technicians, and 29 Firefighters with a total of 37 responders on the roster. Three newly hired Firefighters await a class date for their basic firefighter course. During the first quarter of 2016, seven firefighters will attend the Emergency Medical Technician Basic course.

Some restructuring of resources were made moving the administrative offices of the Fire Department to the Main Street Station. The station's class room was remodeled into an office, housing the Fire Chief, and Billing Clerks. This move eased the access to Police and Fire Dispatch, as well as centrally located the administrative offices of all East Palestine Safety Forces.

The East Palestine Firefighter's Association took over the July 4th fireworks show in 2015. Through the support of local businesses and fundraising the EPFFA provided a celebration in the Village Park that drew spectators from all around.

The once Unity Township Fire Department Station will be opened to early 2016. Plans were made during the last quarter of 2015 for the East Palestine and New Waterford Fire Departments to occupy that station. With both departments being contracted to provide fire protection to the citizens of Unity Township, the opening of this station will improve response times, as well as be a great recruitment opportunity.

The East Palestine Fire Explorer Post 2024 has a current roster of 13. The explorer post is made up of middle, and high school aged children ranging from 14-17 years of age. This group of teenagers play a vital role in our department. They respond to emergencies and participate in departmental trainings. This provides them with a positive influence and teaches them the skills necessary to become a firefighter or EMT. They are the future of our department.

In closing, East Palestine Fire and Emergency Medical Services are committed to serving the citizens of East Palestine and area communities with the highest level of life and property protection. We will achieve this by providing excellent and compassionate service in an atmosphere that encourages innovation, professional development and diversity.

Sincerely,

Joshua M. Brown
Fire Chief
East Palestine Fire/EMS
(330) 426-4341
jbrownc121@gmail.com

