



POPULAR ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT

For the year ended December 31, 2020



CITY COUNCIL



Seated, left to right: **Bill Woeste** (At-Large), **Leslie Besl** (1st Ward),
Tim Abbott (4th Ward)

Standing, left to right: **Terry Senger** (3rd Ward), **Chad Oberson** (At-
Large), **Dale Paullus** (2nd Ward), **Mark Scharringhausen** (At-Large)



Mayor Steve Miller



CITY MANAGER

Acting City Manager, Don Bennett, is appointed by City Council and serves as the Chief Executive Officer and head of the administrative branch of the City. The Manager is responsible for the proper administration of all the affairs of the City, the supervision of all City departments, preparation of the annual operating budget and oversight of financial condition, and the enforcement of all laws and Ordinances within the City.

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the City of Fairfield is to provide opportunities for all to experience an exceptional quality of life in a safe, well-balanced, and attractive environment by creating progressive partnerships to build our future.

LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE

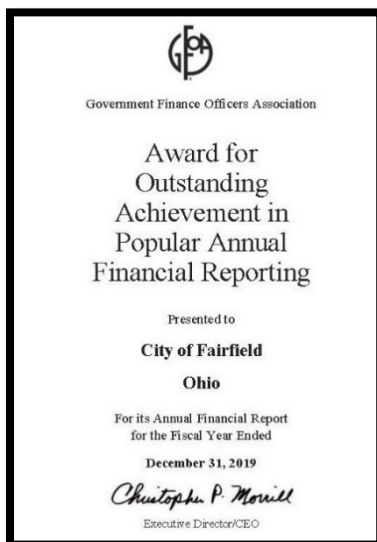
The Department of Finance is proud to present the City of Fairfield's Popular Annual Financial Report (PAFR) for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2020. The PAFR summarizes the City's financial activities from a more detailed report called the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report, which contains financial statements prepared in conformance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) and audited by Plattenburg & Associates, an independent auditing firm.

The 2020 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report received an unmodified (clean) opinion, and the PAFR uses that same information presented in a more reader-friendly format. The City of Fairfield's 2020 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report is available at the City Building in the Finance Office or on the City of Fairfield website at the following location: <https://www.fairfield-city.org/222/Comprehensive-Annual-Financial-Reports>

The City of Fairfield's PAFR is unaudited and presented on a GAAP basis unless otherwise noted. The purpose of the PAFR is to provide summarized financial data as a means of increasing awareness and knowledge of the operations of the City. We believe our citizens deserve transparency when it comes to their tax dollars. This report is designed to help you gain a better understanding of the City's resources and how we put your tax dollars to use.



Jake Burton
Director of Finance



AWARDS

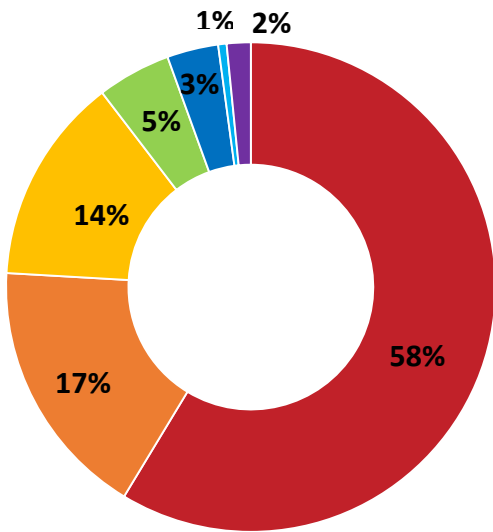
The City received the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting for its PAFR for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2019. This was the 2nd year in a row the City has achieved this award.

Where the Money Comes From

Revenues – Governmental Activities

The funding the City receives in order to provide services to its residents and business community comes from a variety of sources. The charts below summarize the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance - Governmental Funds from the 2020 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report. The significance of income taxes is recognizable as it makes up 58% of governmental activities revenue. Maintaining a strong local tax base is critical for continued success.

2020



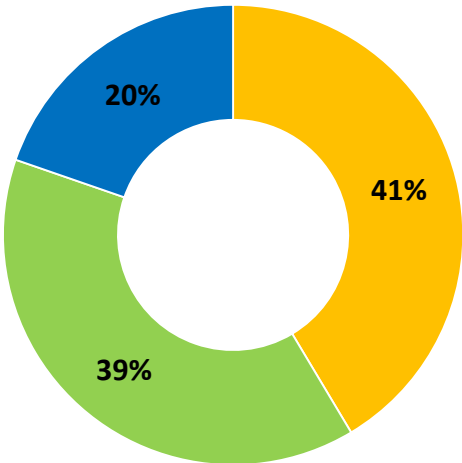
	2018	2019	2020
Income Taxes	\$30,288,354	\$30,571,598	\$32,873,183
Intergovernmental	\$8,417,569	\$8,210,034	\$9,665,620
Property Taxes	\$7,578,973	\$7,806,857	\$7,670,634
Charges for Services	\$2,796,234	\$2,929,600	\$2,726,764
Fines, Licenses & Permits	\$2,093,158	\$2,303,782	\$1,899,532
Investment Earnings	\$675,646	\$1,093,906	\$311,715
Other Revenue	\$539,338	\$573,729	\$887,012
	\$52,389,272	\$53,489,506	\$56,034,460

Revenues – Proprietary Funds

Proprietary Fund revenue represents revenues that arise from charges to customers who directly benefit from goods or services in the City of Fairfield. The charts below summarize the Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Fund Net Position – Proprietary Funds from the 2020 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report. Examples of Proprietary Fund charges for service are charges for water, sewer, and solid waste. Additionally, charges for service can include fees at the City’s aquatic center and golf courses.

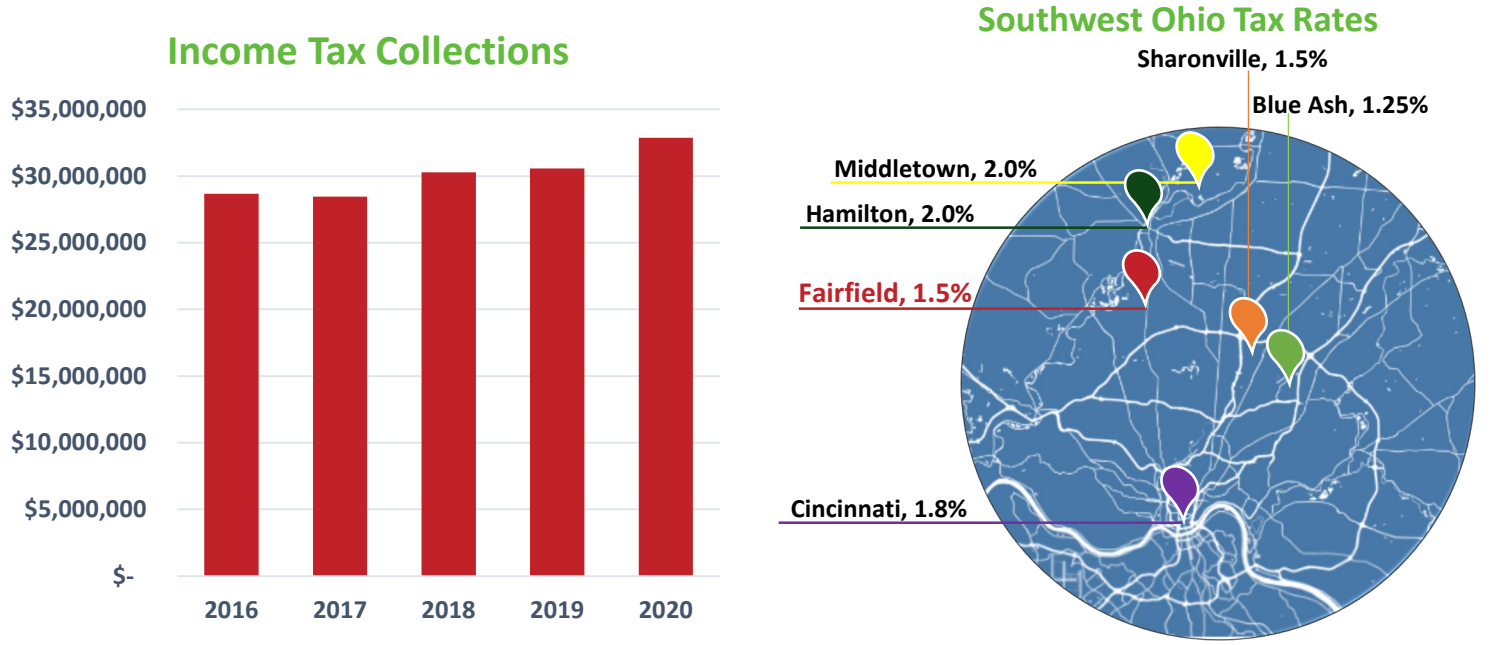
2020

	2018	2019	2020
Water Utility	\$7,035,900	\$7,453,133	\$7,922,299
Sewer Utility	\$7,117,454	\$7,160,623	\$7,435,258
Other Enterprise	\$3,993,232	\$4,098,529	\$3,767,813
	\$18,146,586	\$18,712,285	\$19,125,370



Income Taxes

Income taxes represent the largest source of revenue for the City. Income tax collections are comprised of three sources: taxes withheld from employees working in the City, taxes from individual residents, and taxes on net profits of businesses operating in the City. Revenue from withholding represents 78% of the City’s total income tax revenue. The importance of this withholding revenue outlines the financial impact of nonresidential development in the City.



Property Taxes

Property tax is based on the amount charged per \$1,000 worth of taxable property value, also know as ‘millage.’ Amounts collected for levies, other than general operating levies, must be used for those specific purposes. The County Treasurer’s office collects the property taxes and the County Auditor’s office distributes those revenues to the appropriate jurisdiction.

Calendar Year	Collection Year	Assessed Value			Estimated Actual Value	Direct Rate
		Real Property	Public Utilities	Total		
2015	2016	\$ 903,236,750	\$ 38,373,230	\$ 941,609,980	\$ 2,616,540,045	5.94
2016	2017	\$ 903,187,030	\$ 41,633,890	\$ 944,820,920	\$ 2,625,462,586	8.44
2017	2018	\$ 956,212,820	\$ 43,078,190	\$ 999,291,010	\$ 2,776,823,738	8.44
2018	2019	\$ 1,000,644,150	\$ 47,648,580	\$ 1,048,292,730	\$ 2,912,989,418	8.44
2019	2020	\$ 984,802,100	\$ 49,484,530	\$ 1,034,286,630	\$ 2,874,069,353	8.44
2020	2021	\$ 1,154,528,940	\$ 55,581,820	\$ 1,210,110,760	\$ 3,362,648,368	8.44

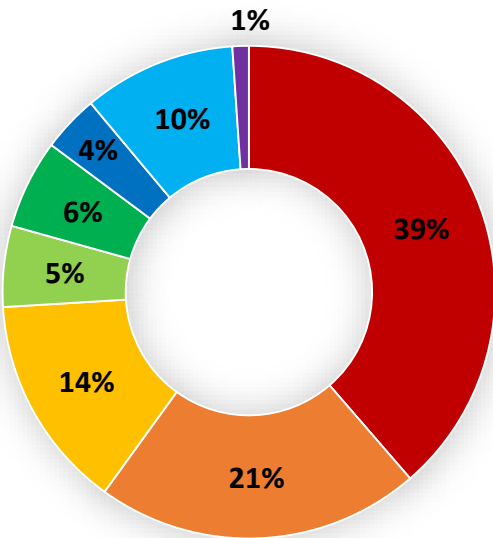
The assessed value of real property (including public utility real property) is 35% of estimated true value. Personal property tax is assessed on all tangible personal property used in business in Ohio. The assessed valued of public utility personal property ranges from 25% of true value for railroad property to 88% for electric transmission and distribution property. General business tangible personal property is assessed at 25% for everything except inventories, which are assessed at 23%. Property is assessed annually.

Where the Money Goes

Expenses – Governmental Activities

The City’s governmental activities account for most of the basic services provided by the City’s various departments. The City’s expenses are reported at the function level, which describes the primary purpose of the expenses. Within each function, the expenses of one or more City departments are reported.

2020



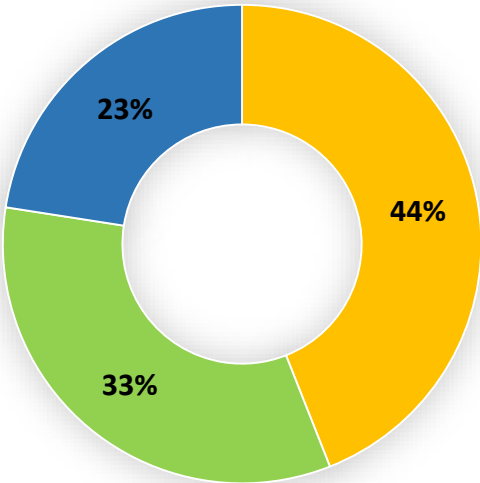
	2018	2019	2020
Public Safety	\$19,027,936	\$19,586,285	\$17,359,953
General Government	\$8,581,493	\$9,241,331	\$9,578,771
Transporation and Street Repair	\$3,454,387	\$6,886,517	\$6,319,056
Capital Outlay	\$10,586,483	\$6,735,184	\$2,383,394
Leisure Time Activities	\$2,665,024	\$2,808,303	\$2,627,991
Debt Service	\$2,021,485	\$1,673,942	\$1,670,345
Community Development & Public Health	\$1,432,907	\$1,451,989	\$4,499,802
Basic Utility Service	\$502,866	\$444,198	\$483,211
	\$48,272,581	\$48,827,749	\$44,922,523

Expenses – Proprietary Funds

Proprietary Fund expenditures consist of those costs associated with operating the individual enterprises. The City of Fairfield owns and operates its own Water and Sewer Utility. Residents who use the services are billed for their usage. Their bills help to recoup the cost of running the utility enterprise. Additionally, the City collects for solid waste charges and operates its own aquatic center and two golf courses.

2020

	2018	2019	2020
Water Utility	\$5,639,963	\$7,239,622	\$6,995,740
Sewer Utility	\$6,799,256	\$6,454,803	\$5,316,493
Other Enterprise Funds	\$4,147,028	\$4,563,467	\$3,582,765
	\$16,586,247	\$18,257,892	\$15,894,998



General Fund Analysis

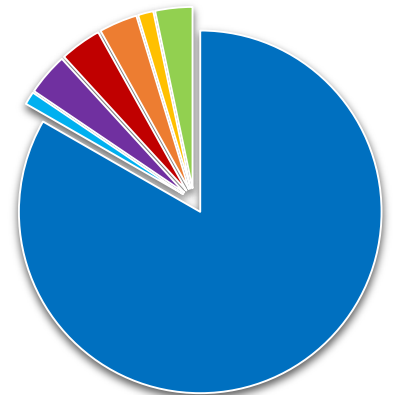
The General Fund is the City's primary operating fund. It accounts for the majority of all financial activity of the City. The fund pays almost all the personnel and day-to-day operating expenditures with the exception to those relating to Streets, Public Utilities, Fire, and some Recreation Activities (Golf and Aquatic). In 2020, over 93% of the City's General Fund revenue was derived from four sources: Taxes, Intergovernmental, Charges for Service, and Court Costs & Fines. Additionally, over 82% of the City's General Fund expenditures come from two sources: General Government and Public Safety. In the case of Public Safety, this would be Police costs. The costs of the City's Fire Department are paid out of the Fire Levy Fund, which is funded primarily through the City's Property Tax Levy. The numbers for these charts are found in the City's Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance and are presented on a Non-GAAP Budgetary Basis.

General Fund Revenues by Category

	2018	2019	2020	% Change
Taxes	\$26,450,152	\$27,534,768	\$27,802,245	0.97%
Licenses & Permits	\$457,407	\$383,063	\$382,001	-0.28%
Intergovernmental	\$1,116,011	\$1,238,444	\$1,401,080	13.13%
Charges for Services	\$1,111,037	\$1,223,070	\$1,017,974	-16.77%
Court Costs & Fines	\$978,056	\$1,127,951	\$1,026,854	-8.96%
Investment Earnings	\$336,494	\$452,919	\$267,915	-40.85%
Other Revenues	\$1,002,981	\$1,095,640	\$1,441,050	31.53%
	\$31,452,138	\$33,055,855	\$33,339,120	0.86%

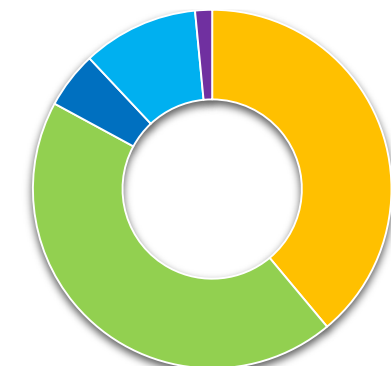
2020 Revenues by Category

Taxes	83.4%
Licenses & Permits	1.15%
Intergovernmental	4.20%
Charges for Services	3.05%
Court Costs & Fines	3.08%
Investment Earnings	0.80%
Other Revenues	4.32%



General Fund Expenditures by Category

	2018	2019	2020	% Change
General Government	\$9,526,026	\$10,922,456	\$9,478,799	-13.22%
Public Safety	\$12,191,021	\$12,336,891	\$10,864,805	-11.93%
Community Development	\$1,403,439	\$1,431,138	\$1,482,070	3.56%
Leisure Time Activities	\$2,782,211	\$2,937,209	\$2,625,318	-10.62%
Capital Outlay	\$105,125	\$428,926	\$234,885	-45.24%
	\$26,007,822	\$28,056,620	\$24,685,877	-12.01%



2020 Expenditures by Category

General Government	38.40%
Public Safety	44.01%
Community Development	6.00%
Leisure Time Activities	10.64%
Capital Outlay	0.95%

Did you know?

The City of Fairfield and Fairfield City Schools are two separate entities, each with their own independent elected officials and budgets. The Fairfield City School District is funded primarily with property taxes; the City of Fairfield is funded primarily with income taxes.

Major Initiatives

With 20% of the City’s income tax revenue dedicated to funding street and capital improvements, Fairfield City Council and Administration are committed to maintaining the City’s existing infrastructure, while also investing in infrastructure enhancements and additional capital assets.

Updated annually, the City of Fairfield Capital Improvements Program (CIP) provides a roadmap for anticipated capital projects ranging from utilities, parks, facilities, transportation, and other capital and infrastructure needs.

Significant Projects in 2020:

- ✓ The 2020 Annual Street Paving project covered approximately 24.4 lane miles with a cost of \$2.21 million. This project paved portions of Symmes Rd., Seward Rd., Hunter Rd., Doris Jane Ave, Crestview Ave and multiple neighborhood streets.
- ✓ In the Water Division, the Seward Road Water Storage Tank was rehabilitated during 2020 for approximately \$665,000, including cleaning, repairing, and painting the tower – both inside and out. This storage tower is one of the City’s five drinking water storage tanks.
- ✓ Public works began the Muskopf Storm Sewer project to alleviate the mud and water in large storm events originating from the hillside at the end of Muskopf Road. This project includes the installation of a large diameter storm sewer from the end of Muskopf Road to the existing Lake Michigan detention basin with an estimated cost of approximately \$720,000.
- ✓ The Fire Department purchased a new E-One Custom Emax Pumper Fire Truck for a cost of \$617,000, replacing a 1998 model, and a new Horton Ambulance for a cost of \$298,000, replacing a 2010 model.





Marsh Park Fishing Lake is a natural spring fed lake with over 4,000 feet of accessible shoreline.



The first two Class A industrial buildings in Fairfield Commerce Park on Seward Rd. contain roughly 550,000 square ft. of space for new jobs.



The City provides leaf collection services annually. It is ground up so that it can be recycled as an ingredient in commercial mulch.

FAIRFIELD

O H I O

Contact Us

Emergency – Dial 911

General – 513-867-5300

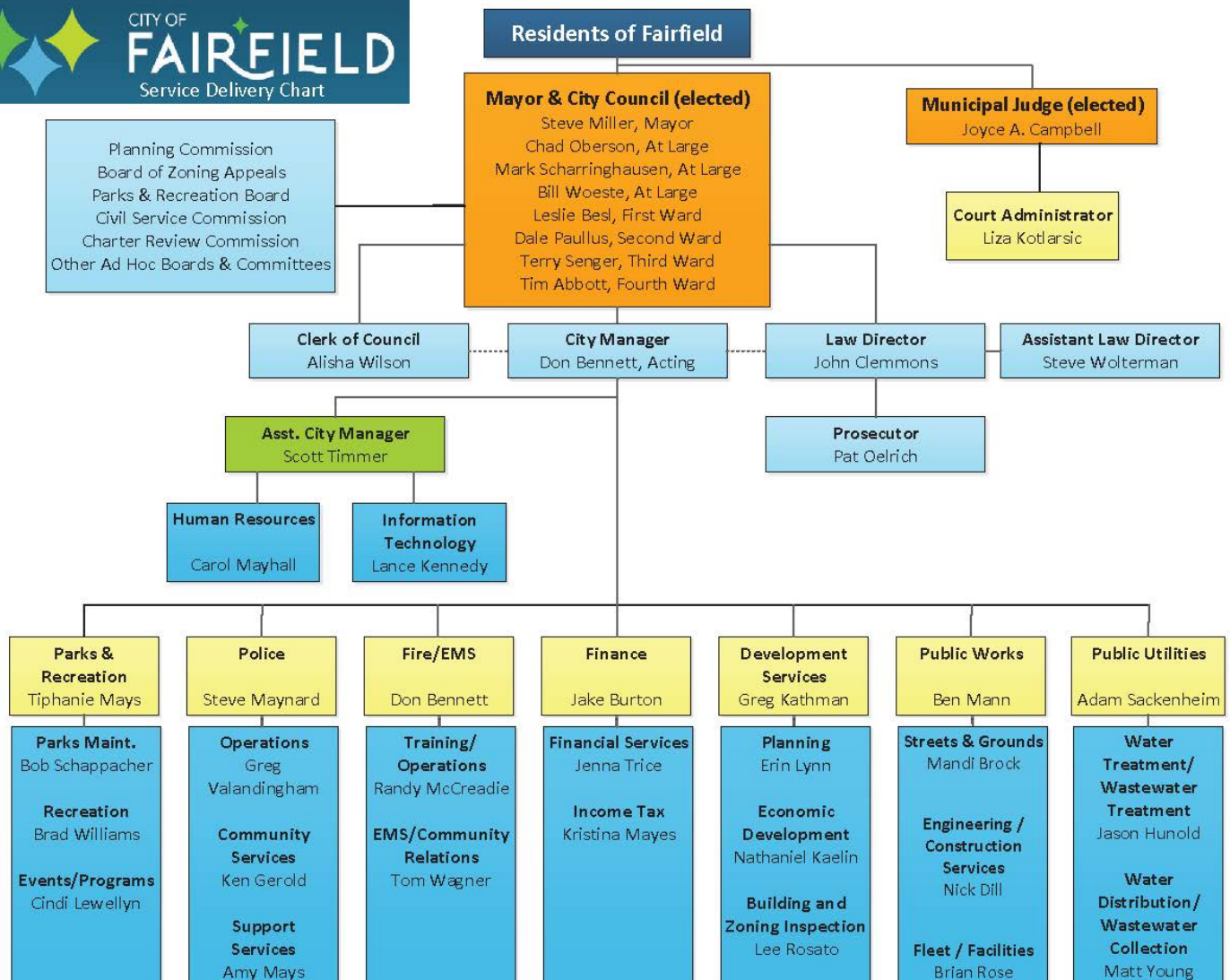
Utilities – 513-867-5375

Parks – 513-867-5348

Finance – 513-867-5315

5350 Pleasant Avenue
Fairfield, OH 45014

www.fairfieldoh.gov



CITY OF FAIRFIELD, OHIO

POPULAR ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT