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CITY PHONE NUMBERS

POLICE, FIRE & MEDICAL EMERGENCY	911	PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT	298-0777
NON-EMERGENCY	298-2122	Public Works Director	
PUBLIC SAFETY	298-2122	Engineer, Bulk Pickups	
Director of Safety, Police and Fire Services, Emergency Medical Services, Public Safety Records		Street, Alley, Water and Sewer Maintenance	
PUBLIC SAFETY DEPARTMENT		Waste Collection (Refuse and Recycling)	
INFO LINE (RECORDING)	293-INFO	WATER DEPARTMENT	
		Billing & Meter Information	298-0400
		Water Softening Plant Information	298-0777
ADMINISTRATION	298-0600	CITY WEBSITE	www.mvcc.net/oakwood
City Manager, Deputy City Manager, Clerk of Council, City/School Scene Newsletter			
FINANCE DEPARTMENT	298-0402	OTHER NUMBERS	
Finance Director, Assessments, Vital Statistics		OAKWOOD SCHOOLS	
HEALTH DEPARTMENT	298-0600	Board of Education	297-5332
INCOME TAX DEPARTMENT	298-0531	Oakwood High School	297-5325
		Oakwood Junior High School	297-5328
INSPECTIONAL SERVICE	297-2920	Edwin Smith Elementary School	297-5335
City Inspector, Permits, Zoning and Pre-Sale Housing Inspections, Property Maintenance Issues		Harman Elementary School	297-5338
LEISURE SERVICES	298-0775	Lange School (Kindergarten)	299-8730
Director of Leisure Services		Dayton Power & Light	331-3900
Health Center & Teen Center		Hills & Dales Shelter Rental Info (March 21 - Oct. 17)	333-8400
Horticulturist/Smith Gardens		Kettering Inspections Department	296-2441
Parks & Recreation Program		Montgomery County Property Tax Information	225-4002
William E. Gardner Pool	297-2933	RTA (Route & Schedule Information)	226-1144
Leisure Line (Recordings)	297-2935	SBC Ameritech	1-800-660-1000
MUNICIPAL COURT	293-3058	Time Warner Cable	294-6400
Clerk of Courts, Small Claims Court and Traffic Violations		Vectren	1-800-909-7668
PERSONNEL/HUMAN RESOURCES	298-0411	Wright Brother's Post Office	1-800-275-8777
		Wright Memorial Public Library	294-7171

Oakwood City Council

Oakwood is served by a council/manager form of government. Oakwood's City Council is comprised of five members who are elected on a non-partisan basis for four-year overlapping terms. The mayor and vice mayor are selected by their fellow council members for two-year terms.

City Council is the policy-making body of the community. To implement its policies, enforce its ordinances and direct delivery of services to citizens, council appoints a full-time professional city manager. The city manager serves as chief administrative and operating officer of the city.

City Council normally meets in formal session on the first Monday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at the city building, 30 Park Avenue. These formal meetings are broadcast live on the local cable Government Access Channel 21 (check www.mvcc.net for the broadcast schedule). Council also meets in work session typically, on the third Monday of each month. These work sessions are also held at the city building and normally begin at 5 p.m. During summer months, council may meet only once per month. Meetings are open to the public and attendance is encouraged.

To help them in performing city business, council members rely on the assistance of many Oakwood citizens through service on city committees. The current list of council-appointed committees is as follows:

- Board of Health
- Board of Zoning Appeals
- Budget Review Committee
- Comprehensive Planning Committee
- Environmental Committee
- Human Relations Commission
- ADA Compliance Committee
- Personnel Appeals Board

In total, the current slate of committees provides opportunities for over 145 residents to be involved in the business of providing local public services. Citizens interested in serving on a committee should contact the Clerk of Council, Cathy Blum at 298-0600 or should send an e-mail to Mayor Judy Cook at cook@oakwood.oh.us or City Manager Norbert Klopsch at klopsch@oakwood.oh.us.



Judy Cook
Mayor



Carlo McGinnis
Vice Mayor



Roger Blumensheid
Council Member



Bill Duncan
Council Member



Stanley Castleman
Council Member



Dear Friends and Neighbors,

The information in this report details Oakwood activities and achievements of the past year. I recommend reading it in order to know how your tax dollars have been allocated to maintain our city and provide service to our citizens.

The report reveals the careful, organized planning by city staff to best utilize the resources, skills and work capacity available to them. This past year was particularly challenging as staff managed the myriad of demands required to maintain our community standards in face of inflationary increases in expenses and reduced revenues. The decrease in income tax and budgeted estate tax left income short of expectations.

Along with programmed infrastructure projects, the Dixon-Patterson sewer project was completed due to the aggressive pursuit of available state funding by staff. Management consistently researches outside funding possibilities and seeks to secure them for our benefit. This is an important addition to our own tax base.

The improvements in the business district exemplify benefits secured through joint private and public investment. The private investment additions in the business district were echoed with a new pedestrian crossing light and beginning investment toward improved parking by the city. The destination retail area serves our community and adds appeal for attracting new citizens.

The development of the former NCR property bounded by Schantz Ave. and Far Hills has been the focus of the year. The many years of discussing and preparing for the possible development of this land are now being considered in terms of concrete plans. Throughout this time the overwhelming citizen appeal that we have heard regarding the use of this land is that it provide additional revenue to relieve future property tax increases. The proposed plan serves that end along with providing empty nester housing not currently available in Oakwood.

Perhaps the greatest single achievement of staff in 2006 is the acquiring of the Old River playing fields. Securing these athletic fields for permanent use by the community fulfills a long term goal of both City Council and City Staff. With ownership comes the ability to plan and invest wisely in the future of this property.

These highlights of 2006 activities speak to significant issues confronted during the past year. As we approach our centennial year with the celebration of our long history of success as a city, we also are very aware of our need to address new and challenging issues before us. Cooperative efforts to improve our regional economy appeal to City Council and City Staff because they serve our own city as well. We are also aware of citizen interest in participating in the activities of the region beyond our borders, to be seamlessly joined with others in our region. As a team, City Council and City Staff jointly seek to preserve the values, traditions, heritage and ambiance of our city while keeping our attention and interest on the possibilities and attraction of new endeavors. This we do with continued attention to the many diverse voices of our citizens.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Judy Cook".

Judy Cook
Mayor



Message from the City Manager



Dear Fellow Citizens:

It is my pleasure to present the city's 2006 Annual Report. The format of the report includes an introduction of each operating department followed by a series of questions and answers. The data and narrative will give you a good understanding of the services provided by your city staff. I hope you find this report informative and useful.

Producing this Annual Report gives me the opportunity to reflect on the past year and to present some thoughts on current issues and opportunities. We have chosen once again to have this report published in newsprint form by the Oakwood Register and delivered as an insert to your paper. We do this for two reasons.

- First, because the newsprint format is an inexpensive method of assembling and printing the report. We pay approximately \$1800 to print and distribute over 4,000 copies of this report to Oakwood citizens, businesses and property owners. Other types of printing methods would easily cost two or three times this much.

- Second, we know from community surveys that most Oakwood citizens read the Oakwood Register. From a survey conducted in the winter of 2004, we found that our citizens use the Oakwood Register as their primary source of information about the City.

Although many good things took place in 2006, four significant highlights are:

- Old River Fields: We purchased the 28-acre athletic/recreation fields from the NCR Corporation and now have total control over the facility that has become very important to our community.

- New Public Safety Director: We hired Alexander P. Bebris to be our Public Safety Director. Alex, joined by his wife Carrie and children Katherine and James, joined the staff on July 14, 2006. He came to us from Wisconsin and fills the department head vacancy created when Chief Glen Beddies retired.

- Property Tax Levy Renewal: By a 73.4% Yes vote, our citizens approved the renewal of a 2.72 mill property tax levy. This reflects a statement of support for the work of city council and staff and a desire that our city continue to provide comprehensive services.

- Retirements: We bid farewell and Godspeed to Captain Walt Conroy after 26 years of service to Oakwood and Lieutenant Tom Gallimore after 29 years of service to Oakwood. Both men served with distinction holding significant leadership positions within our public safety department.

Article IV of our City Charter addresses various issues relating to the position of city manager. Section 4.02 outlines 10 specific duties of the manager. Four of these duties relate to city finances. This says that management of our public funds is

one of my primary responsibilities – arguably, my number one responsibility. As such, I spend a significant amount of time working on finance-related issues.

Our most important financial document is the annual budget. This is a public document available to all citizens. The budget document includes a broad collection of information. One important section is the city manager's Budget Message. In this message, I discuss a number of financial highlights. I share details on issues or events that have a favorable impact on our financial resources and on things that are or will provide major challenges.

Since this is such an important item for our city, I am reprinting my 2007 Budget Message on the following three pages, with a few updates. I trust that you will find the information interesting and useful.

In closing, let me thank you for taking the time to read this Annual Report. Although it takes a significant amount of time to prepare such a report, I think it is very important that our citizens have the opportunity to learn about our community and to understand what we do and the challenges we face. We can be very proud to live and work in this beautiful community. Our excellent schools, beautiful housing stock, unmatched community character and ambiance, and neighborly environment is second to none in southwest Ohio. Although you can point to many features or attributes that make our City special, I believe that our most valuable resource is the fine citizens who have chosen Oakwood for the place to live, raise families and retire.

If you have any questions about this report or have any issues that you wish to discuss with me, please do not hesitate to call (298-0600) or e-mail (klopsch@oakwood.oh.us). I hope 2006 was a good year for you and on behalf of City Council and Staff, wish you all the very best this year and in the years ahead.

Sincerely,

Norbert S. Klopsch
City Manager



Message from the City Manager

2007 BUDGET MESSAGE

I am very pleased to present to you the 2007 Annual Budget for the City of Oakwood. This is my fifth Budget as your City Manager. Many people assisted in the preparation of this document. Most notably, it reflects the efforts of our department heads and finance department, led by Finance Director Brad Beachdell. It also reflects input from our citizen Budget Review Committee ("BRC"). We met with the full BRC on four occasions in 2006, ultimately receiving BRC endorsement of this 2007 Budget at a meeting on December 12, 2006.

All of our funds and accounts have acceptable 2006 year-end balances, with the exception of the Sanitary Sewer funds. This was the case at this time last year as well.

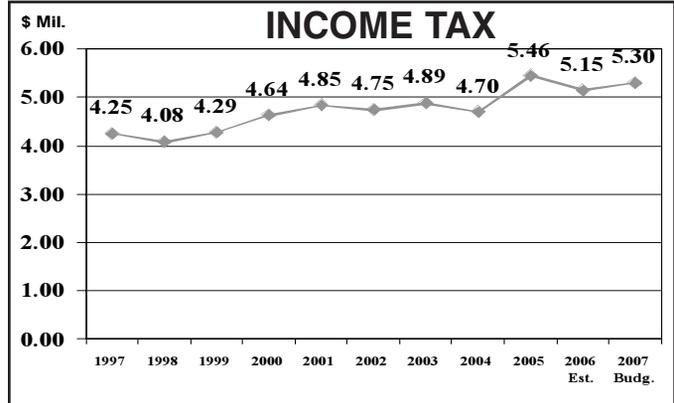
Following are 2007 Budget highlights.

NON-ENTERPRISE

Current Balances: At the conclusion of this year, our non-enterprise funds (but not including the Special Projects Fund or Public Facilities Fund) year-end balances decreased by approximately \$1.4 million. This occurred because:

- We only received an estimated \$500,000 (actual was \$375,626) in estate tax revenue -- this is \$500,000 less than what we budgeted to receive this year and approximately \$1.36 million less than what we received last year;

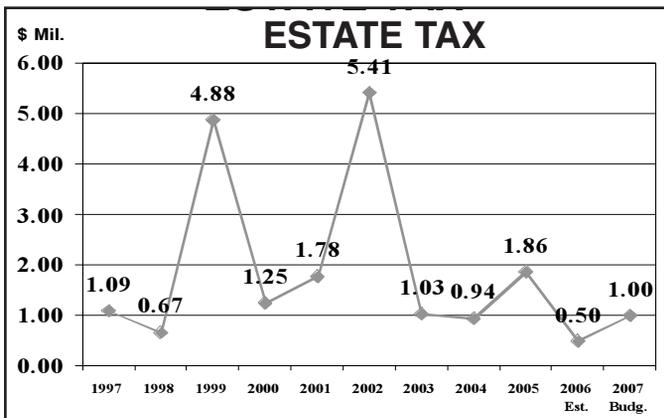
- We received an estimated \$5,150,000 (actual was \$5,029,001) of income tax revenue this year – this is approximately \$310,000 less than what we received last year and \$150,000 less than we budgeted to receive; and



- We have reached the point where our normally expected General Fund expenses are higher than our typical annual revenues. It is important to remember that we have not raised taxes to support city services since 1991.

Revenues and Expenses: Our year-end balances grew between 1998 and 2003 and again in 2005. The primary reason for this is that we received large estate tax distributions in those years, particularly in 1999 and 2002. The estate taxes received this year are at a level necessitating that we spend some of our cash reserves to balance the budget – this in lieu of raising taxes. We can do this without decreasing our cash balances below acceptable levels. The decision to spend cash reserves rather than raise taxes is supported by the Budget Review Committee. We will revisit this fiscal policy with the BRC at our 2007 meetings.

In 2007, we anticipate seeing the first phase of a major project to begin reusing the former NCR Sugar Camp property. New uses are expected to include professional offices and condominiums and/or patio homes. These new uses will generate significant tax dollars that will help begin closing the gap between our annual revenues and expenses.





Message from the City Manager

Major 2007 Expenses: This 2007 Budget reflects a responsible investment in capital equipment and in our city public infrastructure. Between 1997 and 2006, our Non-Enterprise capital expenses averaged approximately \$800,000 per year. This does not include expenses on the two public facilities projects (Public Works Center and Safety/Admin Building) which were paid for out of our Public Facilities Fund or on the Far Hills Streetscape project, the purchase of the Old River Athletic Fields, and the purchase of the 4-unit apartment building at 22 Orchard Drive, all of which were paid for out of our Special Projects Fund. The 2007 Budget includes \$1,249,000 for capital equipment and improvements as shown below:

Capitol Equipment		Capitol Improvements	
Computers	\$25,000	Gardner Pool Repairs	\$33,000
Two Police Cars	\$52,000	Asphalt Street Imp.	\$200,000
Refuse Packer	\$180,000	Far Hills Bus. Dist. Parking	\$150,000
Two Refuse Scooters	\$50,000	Park Ave. Streetscape	\$300,000
Pickup Truck	\$15,000	Ridgeway Guardrail Repl.	\$40,000
Copy Machine	\$10,000	Orchardly Park Imp.	\$14,000
Mobile Data Terminals	\$10,000	Oakwood Ave. Imp.	\$150,000 ⁽¹⁾
OCC Chairs	\$10,000		
Mower	\$10,000		
TOTAL	\$362,000	TOTAL	\$877,000

Over the past decade, we have made significant investments in our roadways, parks, pool and other capital improvements, and replaced a significant amount of our capital equipment, including two fire trucks, two medic vehicles, many public works trucks and other pieces of equipment. With those investments, we are keeping up with our infrastructure needs and have the equipment to provide the quality services that our citizens expect.

Public Facilities: Two years ago we completed construction on the Safety/Admin building. With

the completion of this project, our two primary public facilities are now completely rebuilt and will serve the city well for many decades. Although we borrowed money in 1999 and 2002 for these projects, I am pleased to report that we continue to have the cash reserves needed to pay off this debt in accordance with our original payback schedules. These schedules call for the total debt to be retired in 2014. Since we are earning more on our invested money than what we pay in debt service, we benefit by maintaining the original payback schedule. If conditions change, we may expedite this payback schedule.

Old River Athletic Field: On September 22 we purchased the 28-acre Old River Athletic Fields from the NCR Corporation. This was the most significant financial action of 2006. We paid \$2,300,000 for these fields, using cash reserves from our Special Projects Fund. We then borrowed \$2,300,000 and placed that money in our Public Facilities Fund. In the same manner as debt on the public works

center and city building described above, we will slowly and systematically pay back the borrowed money. We will do this by paying \$200,000 against the principal each year through 2017 and \$100,000 in 2018. With the purchase of Old River, we now own a beautiful athletic field that meets our needs for outdoor athletic/recreation space. In 2007 we will begin building a new access road to the fields from Far Hills Avenue. In 2007 we will also begin discussing options for capital improvements to these fields.



Message from the City Manager

WATER

Current Balances: We project that our Water Fund year-end balances will drop by approximately \$150,000 in 2007. Even with this drop, our projected 2007 year-end balance of approximately \$720,000 is still above the \$500,000 minimum acceptable balance. This is particularly noteworthy since we have not raised water rates since 1994.

(1) \$150,000 State Issue 2 grant will be used to fund the Oakwood Avenue Improvement project.

Major 2007 Expenses: Our average annual expenses on Capital Equipment and Improvements over the past 10 years were approximately \$165,000. In 2007 we are expecting to spend \$147,500 as shown below:

Southwood Water Main Replacement	\$120,000
Replacement Utility Truck	\$25,000
Miscellaneous Equipment	<u>\$2,500</u>
Total	\$147,500

SEWER

Current Balances: Our Sanitary Sewer Funds have a projected 2006 year-end balance of approximately \$91,000, well below the \$500,000 minimum acceptable level. Between 1992 and

2005 we did not raise our sanitary sewer rates to keep up with the increasing costs we pay to Montgomery County and the City of Dayton for wastewater treatment. Effective January 1, 2005, we raised our sewer rates by \$4.87 per month. This generated some new revenue, but not nearly enough to offset the increased costs from the previous 13 years. The 2007 Budget revenue assumes that we will raise our sewer rates in January 2007.

Major 2006 Expenses: Our average annual expenses on Capital Equipment and Improvements over the past 10 years were approximately \$88,000. In 2007 we are expecting to spend only \$2,500, this for a few minor equipment items.

Those are the highlights. Again, I thank the BRC members and my department heads for their assistance in preparing this budget.

As we do each year, we have included in this document a summary of our annual goals and objectives. These are projects that go beyond our normal day-to-day operations, yet are important to continuing our efforts in providing the finest possible service to the community. Those goals and objectives can be found beginning on page 28.

Thank you for the guidance and direction you provided as we developed this Budget. I look forward to working with you in the upcoming year and beyond.



Public Safety

The Oakwood Public Safety Department is one of only 32 fully consolidated police and fire departments in the country. All of Oakwood's sworn officers are state certified in law enforcement, fire fighting and emergency medical services. The underlying strength of the department is premised on the philosophy that public safety service can be most effectively provided by deploying officers trained in the basics of all three disciplines.

A significant advantage to consolidation is that Public Safety Officers (PSO's) on patrol can respond very quickly to a fire call and extinguish small fires or accurately evaluate the status of larger fires. Another distinct advantage is that the PSO's are trained and equipped to respond to life-threatening emergencies and to take immediate action on any medical situation.

Oakwood's Public Safety Department is the second oldest consolidated department in

the United States. Formed in 1927, the concept has been successful in providing our citizens with one of the most secure cities in Ohio and an extremely quick and knowledgeable response to any emergency.

The 38-member Public Safety Department consists of Chief Alex Bebris, two captains, four lieutenants, 25 public safety officers, five dispatchers and a department secretary.

Here are some key questions we are often asked about public safety matters.



What are our crime statistics?

Our total reported crime over the past few years has not fluctuated much.

CRIME

OFFENSE	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Part I crimes	207	258	195	165	202
Other major crimes	119	80	109	106	87
Total	326	338	304	271	289

We categorize crimes into two areas:

"Part I" and "Other Major". A breakdown of each for 2005 and 2006 is as follows:

CRIME	2005		2006	
	OFFENSES	CLEARANCES	OFFENSES	CLEARANCES
PART 1 CRIMES				
Criminal Homicide/Attempted Murder	0	0	0	0
Rape	1	1	2	2
Robbery	0	0	1	0
Assault	12	10	11	10
Burglary	28	7	31	7
Larceny	123	42	142	42
Auto Theft	1*	1	15**	1
PART 1 TOTALS	165	61	202	62
OTHER MAJOR CRIMES				
Arson	0	0	0	0
Forgery, Fraud, Counterfeiting	22	7	21	4
Morals	5	2	2	0
Criminal Damaging, Vandalism, Mischief	65	12	51	6
Narcotics	13	8	13	12
Carrying Concealed Weapon	1	1	0	0
OTHER CRIMES TOTALS	106	30	87	22
ALL MAJOR CRIMES TOTAL	271	91	289	84

*Vehicle was stolen elsewhere and recovered in Oakwood. **Eleven vehicles were stolen from Oakwood and recovered elsewhere. Three vehicles were stolen elsewhere and recovered in Oakwood. One was an attempted auto theft.



Public Safety



As I see in the table below, a majority of our crimes are larcenies. How many of these are investigated and how many are solved?

We investigate every larceny (or theft) and, for that matter, every crime. Shown below are the results of our investigations.

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Total Larcenies	154	159	126	123	142
Clearances*	60	20	19	42	35
Percent Cleared	39.0%	12.6%	15.1%	34.1%	24.7%

*Clearance means that the case is no longer under investigation because 1) an arrest has been made; 2) the case is exceptionally cleared; 3) the case was unfounded.

Historically, larcenies (e.g., thefts from vehicles, bicycle thefts) have been difficult to clear. Residents can prevent many of the larcenies in our community by doing the following:

- Locking garages.
- Locking vehicles and removing items of value.
- Obtaining bike licenses from the Safety Department and securing bicycles in garages.
- Reporting any suspicious activity to the Safety Department immediately.

TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT



Is there a correlation between traffic enforcement and criminal activity?

Yes, there does seem to be a correlation. Traffic enforcement has always been a significant part of the Public Safety Department's mission because of the residential character of our community and the high volume of traffic traveling through Oakwood daily. Annual statistics will vary depending upon community needs and the emphasis given to this important component of an officer's duty. A 5-year history of our statistics is as follows:

YEAR	OVI*	ACCIDENTS	INJURIES	DEATHS	CITATIONS
2002	23	186	26	0	3074
2003	24	192	22	0	3425
2004	24	207	28	0	2515
2005	15	216	24	0	2334
2006	10	221	28	0	2035

*Operating Vehicle Intoxicated (formerly DUI).



Last year, what were the causes of most accidents?

CAUSES	ACCIDENTS
Assured Clear Distance	..62
Failure to Yield	.....49
Improper Backing	.....27
Failure To Control	.....24
Inattention	.....5
Improper Turn	.....6
Disobey Traffic Device	....10
OVI	.....1
Snow/Ice	.....6
Other	.....14
Total	.....204



What do Public Safety Officers do while assigned to patrol duty?

In addition to traffic enforcement, officers also perform vacant house checks, after hours checks on businesses, conduct OVI patrols, respond to calls, perform foot patrols in parks and business areas, conduct crime prevention activities, visit block parties, investigate suspicious individuals and vehicles, make contact with citizens, conduct follow-up investigations on previous complaints, respond to fire and EMS calls for service, direct traffic and monitor school areas.



Public Safety



Oakwood citizens and businesses benefit greatly from the fast response time to fires - an important advantage of a consolidated Public Safety Department. What is our response time to fire scenes as compared to the ideal national standard of six minutes?

	2004	2005	2006	National Standard
Average engine response time to scene	3.94 mins.	3.92 mins.	4.22 mins.	6 minutes
Average cruiser response time to scene	2.08 mins.	1.84 mins.	2.21 mins.	



What has been Oakwood's fire loss record in recent years?

YEAR	ALARMS RECEIVED	HANDLED BY		FALSE ALARM	NO DAMAGE	DAMAGE SUSTAINED	TOTAL FIRE LOSS
		FIRE CREW	CREW OFFICERS				
2002	127	106	21	39	118	9	\$28,350
2003	151	135	16	59	139	12	\$109,110
2004	141	112	29	30	116	25	\$910,000
2005	125	102	23	24	118	7	\$118,475
2006	148	127	21	39	126	22	\$97,250

The Public Safety Department responded to a number of significant fires in 2006. In most cases damage was confined and limited due to our quick response and suppression efforts. On November 11, crews responded to a structure fire on Woods Road. The fire was confined to the den with smoke damage throughout. Damage was estimated at \$30,000. On September 27, crews responded to a kitchen fire. The fire was quickly contained and damage was estimated at \$1,300. The most significant fire occurred on February 4; crews responded to a fully involved kitchen fire. A quick knock-down limited fire damage to the kitchen and dining room area, but smoke traveled throughout. Damage was estimated at \$60,000.

I've read about the proposal to create a county wide public safety dispatch center, what is the current status?

On January 22, Oakwood City Council directed city staff to continue studying the proposal to determine if Oakwood citizens and businesses could benefit by Oakwood joining a county wide system.



Public Safety

RESCUE

Question

**How many medic runs do we have in an average year?
Of those runs, what happened to the patient?**

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Total Medic Runs	509	460	494	510	543

ACTION TAKEN	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Taken to hospital by medic vehicle	398	411	394	417	442
Taken to hospital by police cruiser	8	6	5	1	3
Taken to hospital by mutual aid*	22	26	21	23	20
No removal**	77	16	68	65	72
Dead on Arrival	4	1	6	4	6

* "Mutual Aid" means we were assisted by medics from another jurisdiction – usually this is Kettering.

** These are patients who did not need to be transported to the hospital. They either received treatment onsite, or refused treatment and transport.

Question

How quickly do safety officers respond to calls for medical emergencies as compared to the ideal national standard of 4 to 6 minutes for the first unit and 13 minutes for a medic?

MEDIC RESCUE TIMES	National Standard	2004	2005	2006
First unit on scene	4-6 minutes	2.08 minutes	1.81 minutes	2.08 minutes
Medic response time	13 minutes	3.18 minutes	3.35 minutes	3.50 minutes
Average on-scene time (medic)		15.30 minutes	15.46 minutes	16.81 minutes
Average run time		57.83 minutes	54.06 minutes	54.79 minutes

TRAINING

Question

How many hours of training are accomplished annually for the department to maintain current certifications for Public Safety Officers?

TRAINING	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Police	2330	1502	1302	1075	1699
Fire	1152	853	1064	946	1891
Rescue	1140	1024	532	1012	1756
Communications/General	142	34	59	221	79
TOTALS	4764	3413	2957	3254	5425

COMMENTS & FUTURE GOALS

- Complete the Department's Fire Operations and Tactics Manual; implement new training based upon the adoption of the manual.
- Explore and study ways to eliminate the paper-card based "Fire Run Cards", moving to either a linked Computer Aided Dispatch system or other computer accessible method.

- Improve incident analysis at the shift, and departmental level to reinforce positive aspects of operations at significant incidents as well as identify and address problem areas.
- Examine ways to integrate the Department's planned volunteer program into enhanced service delivery in the area of fire and EMS responses.



Legal Affairs

The Law Department of the City of Oakwood is headed by our City Attorney, Dalma C. Grandjean, a shareholder in the firm of Altick & Corwin, L.P.A. All of Oakwood's City Attorneys have been affiliated with the law firm of Altick & Corwin, which traces its origins back to 1853.

The office of City Attorney is established by the Charter of the City of Oakwood, which was approved by the electorate on May 3, 1960, and last amended at an election on November 8, 1988. The Charter provides that the Oakwood City Attorney shall serve as the director of the Department of Law. Chapter

127 of the Administrative Code of Oakwood sets forth the duties of the City Attorney and specifies that he or she shall be accountable to the City Manager and to Council.

The Department of Law advises the Council, the City Manager, municipal boards and commissions and the administrative officers and departments on all relevant matters of law; drafts and reviews legislation, contracts and other legal documents; and represents the City in civil cases and criminal prosecutions.

Also serving the Department of Law are Robert N. Farquhar as Assistant City Attorney, Scott A. Liberman as Tax Collection Attorney,

and Dennis J. Adkins as Prosecutor. Mr. Adkins prosecutes charged violations of municipal ordinances and state laws in Oakwood Municipal Court. Mr. Adkins also provides training to the Oakwood Public Safety Department on matters relevant to effective law enforcement and to the personnel of Oakwood Municipal Court on procedural and substantive legal matters. Mr. Liberman serves as the Tax Collection Attorney for the City of Oakwood. As such, he advises the Department of Finance in its tax collection efforts, and, when necessary, files suit against delinquent taxpayers.



How does the city of Oakwood regulate the subdivision of land within the community?

The city of Oakwood regulates the subdivision of land pursuant to its subdivision regulations. These regulations are contained in Chapter 1171 of the Codified Ordinances. Any property owner or agent seeking to subdivide land must comply with the procedures and requirements of this Chapter. Prior to a person subdividing the land, the subdivider or engineer, consults with the City Manager, presenting in sketch form the design of the proposed subdivision. This sketch shows the location of proposed streets, parks, playgrounds, and other related developments of the subdivision. After the initial meeting with the City Manager, the subdivider files an application with the Planning Commission to seek tentative approval of what is called a "preliminary plat" of the proposed subdivision. This preliminary plat shows the proposed streets; utilities; lots; and locations of parks, open space, and other facilities within the subdivision.

Upon receipt of the preliminary plat, the Planning Commission reviews and verifies that the plat conforms to the principals, standards, and requirements of the city of Oakwood Subdivision Regulations. After such review, the Planning Commission approves, disapproves, or approves with modifications the preliminary plat, noting the changes that need to be made on the subdivision prior to its construction. Once a preliminary plat is approved, the subdivider may secure the necessary permits to proceed with the street and utility improvements. After completion of all the improvements, the subdivider submits a final plat to the City Manager to review to ensure that streets and improvements are constructed pursuant to the approved preliminary plat. If the City Manager finds that the final plat meets the approved preliminary plat, he will forward it to the Planning Commission with a certificate of title and a two-fold certificate stating that the streets and utili-

ties of the plat are satisfactory, and the improvements have been completed to the satisfaction of the authorities having jurisdiction.

After the final plat has been received and found to conform with the preliminary plat and the requirement of the subdivision regulations, the Planning Commission will approve the final plat. Upon this final approval, the plat is recorded with the Montgomery County Recorder's office.

For smaller subdivisions, called lot splits, plats are usually not required. A small subdivision is one where there is no opening, widening, or extension of any street or road; no more than five lots will be created after the original tract has been completely subdivided; the proposed subdivision is not contrary to the applicable zoning or subdivision regulation of the City; the property has been surveyed and said survey has been submitted with the application; and the applicant has submitted deeds and other instruments of conveyance along with the survey. After the City Manager reviews the materials, the City Manager shall stamp upon the proposed deed or other conveyance the phrase "approved by City Manager, no plat required if recorded within 30 days of this approval."

The primary consideration in subdivisions or lot splits is whether the property can be divided into new parcels that meet the minimum lot size and dimensions required by the zoning code for the zoning district in which the property is located.

The code requirements ensure that subdivisions in the city of Oakwood provide desirable places for its citizens to live. The goal of the Planning Commission and city staff in administering the subdivision regulation is to make sure that subdivisions provide for adequate utilities, open space, streets, and lots that promote the public's health, safety and welfare. In adopting the subdivision regulations, the Council supports the review and enforcement of its subdivision regulations to ensure that an environment attractive to its residents remains.



Building & Zoning

and the remaining space is being marketed as a potential medical and wellness campus. In addition to the existing buildings, a three-story professional building is being proposed for the western portion of the site along W. Schantz Avenue. This building may eventually include a fine dining restaurant as well. The existing gatehouse, opposite Kramer Road, is proposed to be converted to a café serving coffee and light fare. The new main entrance to the commercial portion of the site will be opposite Kramer Road, and a traffic signal will be installed at this location. The existing main entrance near Maysfield Road will be removed.

In addition to the commercial and religious uses along W. Schantz Avenue, much of the undeveloped portion of the area along W. Schantz near Far Hills and extending north along Far Hills to the corporation line are intended to be developed almost exclusively for residential use. There are 125 residential units planned for the site which includes 33 single family, 30 attached villas and 4 four-story mid-rise buildings with 8 condominiums per building. Except for a proposed commercial building on the north side of the entrance to the residential portion of the development, the remaining Far Hills frontage will feature residential units with extensive landscaping and architectural features that compliment the adjoining neighborhoods. The residential units will vary in size from 2,000 to 4,000+ square feet with price points ranging from \$400,000 to \$750,000. This development is being geared towards retirees and empty nesters. The residential portion of the development will be accessed from a single entrance opposite Springhouse Road. A new traffic signal will also be installed at this location. Development of the site is projected to occur over a period of 5+ years, with an estimated build-out value of nearly \$90 million dollars.

Besides the December 13 public hearing, two additional public hearings were held in January. During a January 17, 2007 meeting, the Planning Commission recommended approval of the proposed Master Development Plan to City Council subject to a comprehensive list of stipulations and requirements. City Council began their review of the proposed plan in early March.



Much has been written about the recent opening of “The Greene” shopping, dining and entertainment complex in Beaver Creek. Is there anything new going on in the Oakwood

Business District, and are there any improvements planned for the future?

The Far Hills Avenue Business District saw significant changes in 2006. In late July, the new 10,500 square foot Oakwood Centre Retail Building opened on a former parking lot site next to Talbot’s. There were three tenants occupying the building when it opened in the summer, and the remaining tenant opened just last month. Three of the four tenants, The Pink Daisy, From Inside Out and Preen Beauty are all new to Oakwood. The fourth tenant, Chico’s, moved in to expanded space from its former location across the street. The former Chico’s space is now occupied by Whispers Home, an expanded division of Whisper’s Lingerie, formerly located on Triangle Avenue.

Besides the opening of the new retail center and the expansion of several other businesses, a new traffic signal and pedestrian crosswalk were installed near Orchard Drive. The purpose of the signal and crosswalk is to provide patrons frequenting businesses on either side of the street safe and convenient access for crossing

Far Hills Avenue.

As the retail stores, restaurants and service locations within the Business District continue to grow in popularity, the city is considering options for expanding public parking opportunities within the district. Any parking expansion will take place to the rear of the existing buildings in an effort to encourage, where possible, business expansion along the highly desirable Far Hills frontage.



In late 2006, two commercial buildings on the corner of Oak Knoll Drive and Far Hills Avenue were demolished and a new building is now under construction. What is the

proposed use of this new building?

In September 2006, Oakwood Planning Commission approved a major site development plan for a new Lebanon Citizens National Bank (LCNB) location. This is the first LCNB branch in Montgomery County, and is slated to open in the spring.



If I am considering a room addition, or building a new garage, building a deck, or some other major improvement, what do I need to do in order to secure a permit?

Major projects such as those described require submission of a certified plot plan and detailed scaled drawings which effectively describe the project. Once these items are submitted, the city reviews the plans for compliance with our zoning code. If the zoning setbacks are met and the plans conform in all other respects to city regulations, the plans are approved and forwarded to the city of Kettering for issuance of the necessary permit(s).

If the setbacks are not met or if there are other issues which require special use approval, then the application is forwarded to either the Board of Zoning Appeals (“BZA”) or the Planning Commission, and a public hearing is scheduled. Following the public hearing, the proposed project is either approved, denied, or approved with conditions. If the project is approved or approved with condition(s) that the applicant has agreed to meet, the plans are forwarded to Kettering for issuance of the necessary permit(s).

Since the BZA and Planning Commission only meet once a month, it is important for property owners who are planning major improvement projects to submit their plans well in advance of when they hope to start construction work.



Does Oakwood issue any permits?

Yes. Assuming the proposed improvement complies with zoning regulations, the city issues permits for fences, patios, driveway resurfacing or replacement, sidewalks and driveway aprons, and storage sheds.



Building & Zoning



Along these same lines, what are the requirements for some of the most common home projects?

The following matrix identifies many of the most common improvement projects and whether those projects require a permit or zoning consideration. This list is not intended to be inclusive.

HOME PROJECTS	ZONING REVIEW	BZA OR PLANNING COMMISSION HEARING	PERMIT REQUIRED
Air Conditioning/Heat Pump Equipment	Yes	May be needed	Yes
Arbor or Trellis	No	No	No
Backflow Device	No	No	Yes
Deck	Yes	May be needed	Yes
Driveway Apron Replacement	No	No	Yes
Driveway Resurfacing	No	No	Yes
Driveway Replacement	No	No (If no expansion of existing driveway.)	Yes
Electrical Wiring (New, upgrade or renovation)	No	No	Yes
Entrance Pillars	Yes	May be needed	Yes
Fence	Yes	No	Yes
Flag Pole	No	No	No
Gazebo	Yes	No	Yes
Garage (New)	Yes	May be needed	Yes
Greenhouse	Yes	No	Yes
Hot Tub	Yes	No	Yes
Irrigation System	No	No	Yes
Landscaping (Plant material only)	No	No	No
New Construction (Room additions or new homes)	Yes	May be needed	Yes
Painting	No	No	No
Patio	Yes	May be needed	Yes
Play Structure (12 feet or less in height)	Yes	No	Yes
Porch Enclosure	Yes	May be needed	Yes
Signs (Permanent)	Yes	May be needed	Yes
Roof Shingles	No	No	Yes (Only if roof decking is being replaced.)
New Steps	Yes	No	Yes
Replacement Steps	No	No	Yes
Siding	No	No	Yes
Sump Pump	No	No	Yes (If the work requires removal of electric meter.)
Sidewalks – Public	No	No	Yes
Storage Shed	Yes	No	Yes
Swimming Pool	Yes	May be needed	Yes
Walkways (Private)	Yes	May be needed	Yes
Water Heater & Water Softener	No	No	Yes
Window Replacement	No	No	No



Much of the investment within the community is driven by renovations or additions to existing structures.

What are some of the most common improvement projects; how many permits are issued annually for these types of improvements; and what has been the total investment in new construction and renovation during the past five years?

Total investment in new construction, renovation or other improvements, not all of which are listed above, during the past five years is approximately \$44,209,112.

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Impervious Work on Private Property (Driveways, patios, sidewalk, etc.) # of Permits/Value	103 \$444,016	186 \$792,780	154 \$678,868	155 \$627,293	170 \$750,064
A/C Unit/Heat Pump # of Permits/Value	107 \$499,910	96 \$528,451	100 \$468,562	113 \$514,537	114 \$664,305
Fence/Retaining Wall # of Permits/Value	121 \$266,762	107 \$255,302	115 \$252,480	74 \$136,718	91 \$249,818
Accessory Structure (Garages, storage sheds, decks, etc.) # of Permits/Value	22 \$22,391	19 \$24,569	13 \$21,650	31 \$60,783	15 \$68,400
Residential Addition/Remodel # of Permits/Value	97 \$3,548,905	99 \$1,742,188	95 \$2,721,105	80 \$2,786,835	88 \$2,886,955
Residential – New Home Construction # of Permits/Value	0 0	0 0	1 \$1,920,000	2 \$850,000	1 \$950,000
Business Addition/Remodel # of Permits/Value	12 \$293,200	5 \$105,000	13 \$439,402	7 \$547,400	6 \$161,500
Business – New Business Construction # of Permits/Value	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	1 \$975,000
All Other - 2003 Includes: City Buuilding (\$5,480,000) Oakwood Schools (\$5,960,000) Chabad Center (\$495,500)	169 \$623,660	123 \$12,645,101	103 \$1,289,877	125 \$1,637,005	126 \$758,320
Total Number of Permits Total Value	631 \$5,698,844	635 \$16,093,391	594 \$7,791,944	587 \$7,160,571	612 \$7,464,362



Building & Zoning



How does the city ensure that residential and commercial property owners keep their properties at a level of care and maintenance consistent with community standards?

The city has several means at its disposal to ensure that properties are kept at a standard of maintenance consistent with community expectations.

1. Pre-Sale Inspection: Before a property can be sold, a property owner must arrange for a pre-sale inspection. During the inspection, the city Inspector identifies repairs, deficiencies and Code violations that need to be corrected. These deficiencies must be corrected before title to the property is transferred. Alternatively, a new buyer can assume responsibility for completing the necessary repairs.

2. Landlord Registration: Any non-owner occupied property within the city must be registered with the city. If the owner resides outside of Montgomery County, he/she must identify a local agent who is then

responsible for receiving notices of maintenance Code violations. Whenever there is a tenant change, but no more than once a year, the city conducts an inspection and identifies deficiencies or Code violations. These violations must be corrected before a property can be occupied by another tenant.

3. Year Round Monitoring: Besides an annual street by street tour conducted by city staff to identify exterior Property Maintenance Code violations, the city responds to citizen generated complaints regarding property maintenance issues. Each year, more than 100 letters are sent to property owners advising of Property Maintenance Code violations, and establishing a reasonable timeframe within which a property owner is to make the necessary repairs. For the most part, the city is able to gain compliance through voluntary means. In those rare instances where the city is unable to attain voluntary compliance, the city has legal recourse to cite a property owner into Oakwood Municipal Court.

In a community where a majority of the housing stock is more than 50 years old, it is very important that we use every available means at our disposal to ensure that property values continue to appreciate.



If I own rental property within the city, are there either state or local registration requirements which must be met?

This past year, the state of Ohio adopted legislation requiring that owners of residential rental property register with the County Auditor. This new law supersedes landlord registration requirements the city of Oakwood already had in place. Although the city can no longer require landlord registration, Oakwood

passed legislation in late 2006 requiring that owners provide the city a list of tenants residing at each rental property location. Moreover, if there is a change of tenant, the property owner is responsible for scheduling the necessary Oakwood inspection.

In late January the city began notifying rental property owners of the tenant registration requirement. If you have rental property and have not received a Tenant Registration Form, contact the city offices at 298-0411.

For more information on residential rental property registration, contact the Auditor's office at (937)225-4314 or on the web at www.mcauditor.org.



There are a lot of homes for sale right now and those homes seem to be staying on the market longer. Is this a real estate trend unique to Oakwood?

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Number of Homes Sold	225	198	177	193	186
Average Selling Price	\$221,867	\$239,531	\$241,928	\$260,059	\$270,643
Average Number of Days on the Market	97	97	88	98	103

Nationwide, 2006 was marked by reductions in both the price of single-family homes and the number of homes sold. In the greater Dayton area, the single-family home inventory in 2006 was larger than in any previous year. Within the Dayton area, there were nearly 11% more single-family home listings in 2006 than in 2005.

COMMENTS & FUTURE GOALS

Park Avenue Streetscape Improvements: Last spring, City Council appointed a Park Avenue Streetscape Advisory Committee to work with city staff and a local landscape architecture and planning firm in identifying ideas and opportunities to enhance the appearance and functionality of the one block business area on Park Avenue between Far Hills and Harman Avenues. The Advisory Committee, which included eight Park Avenue property owners and tenants, met on several occasions and identified a number of suggested improvements. These improvements included: signage enhancements; more pedestrian friendly parking and access opportunities; enhanced lighting; introduction of trees and landscaping to soften the existing hard-

scape; and, traffic calming features. These recommendations were developed into a concept plan and a preliminary cost estimate was determined for completing the proposed improvements.

The recommendation of the Advisory Committee was forwarded to the Citizen Budget Review Committee in September 2006. The Budget Review Committee recommended that City Council consider proceeding with certain aspects of the proposed improvements and \$300,000 was included in the 2007 Budget for this purpose.

The city intends to contract shortly for the design work, and it is anticipated that work will begin yet this year on parking and signage enhancements included in the plan.



Leisure Services

The mission of the Department of Leisure Services is to enhance the quality of life of Oakwood residents by offering a variety of activities that encourage overall wellness, cultural enrichment and fellowship with

neighbors. Its purpose also includes building upon the natural beauty of the city through the improvement, care and maintenance of parks, public gardens, boulevards and rights-of-way.

The department is managed by Carol Collins who supervises a full-time staff of seven and provides oversight to dozens of program leaders, volunteers, seasonal and part-time employees.



When the Department of Leisure Services was created in 1987, its goal was to make each recreation program as self-sustaining as possible. What are the top ten program areas for which fees are received?

REVENUES FOR THE TOP TEN PROGRAMS		
	2005	2006
Pool Membership	\$124,563	..\$125,873
OCC/Health Center Membership Dues	92,150	.....85,186
Sports Activities Fees	44,778	.....46,015
Pool Concessions	31,838	.....29,635
Dance Classes and Lessons	30,739	.....36,234
Old River Rentals.....	25,283	.....12,665
Smith Gardens	20,310	.....18,696
Exercise, Fitness Programs	19,011	.....22,087
Swim Lessons, Pool Passes	21,565	.....23,001
Tumbling, Gymnastics	11,585	.....7,511
Other Misc. Programs	89,530	.....92,410
TOTAL	\$511,532	..\$499,313



The Department of Leisure Services also has responsibility for maintenance of the city's natural areas and boulevards. What is the value of publicly owned trees and what are the annual expenses?

Total value of street/park trees	\$14,942,000
2006 expenses:	
Tree removal and trimming	\$58,819
Stump removal	\$7,767
Johnny Appleseed Street Tree Planting Project (city portion)	\$6,758
Tree & Shrub Replacement in Parks and Boulevards	\$8,099
TOTAL:	\$81,443
Average street tree value	\$1,810/tree
Average park tree value	\$1,674/tree



What are the major special community events and activities that are coordinated by the Department of Leisure Services?

- Pictures with the Easter Bunny/Eggstravaganza
- Friends of Smith Gardens Perennial Sale
- Spring Health Fair
- New Resident Pancake Breakfast
- That Day in May
- Kite Nite at Old River Complex
- Blanket Concerts at Smith Gardens
- Pre-School Story Hour at Smith Gardens
- Family Fun Day at Old River Park
- Ice Cream Social
- Homecoming Hotdog Supper
- Senior Luncheons
- Johnny Appleseed Tree Planting Project
- Pumpkin Carving
- Scarecrow Row/Family Fall Festival
- Candy Cane Hunt
- Letters from Santa
- Mother/Son and Father/Daughter Dances
- Breakfast with Santa
- Lighting up Oakwood/Holiday of Lights
- Holiday Decorating Event



To what extent does the General Fund subsidize Leisure Services programs?

The Leisure Services Department received \$404,000 in General Fund tax dollars in 2006 compared to \$317,000 in 2005. The money is used to help operate Leisure Services programs.



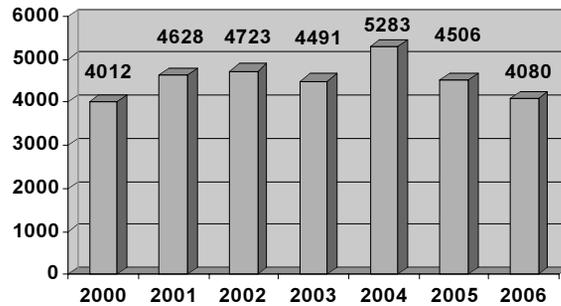
Leisure Services

Question

Memberships are an important financial ingredient of the Leisure Services operation. How many memberships did the Oakwood Community Center have during 2006 and how does this compare to the past six years?

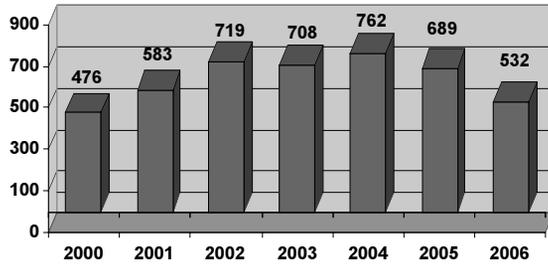
OCC MEMBERSHIPS

For family memberships, these numbers include all family members.



HEALTH CENTER MEMBERSHIPS

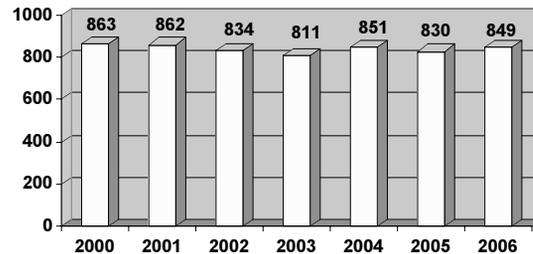
There were 10,055 visits to the Health Center in 2006.



POOL MEMBERSHIPS

There were an additional 1,157 daily passes purchased in 2006.

Total visits to the pool in 2006 were approximately 33,322 as compared to 38,363 in 2005.



Question

For the year 2006, how many Oakwood citizens purchased memberships to the OCC, Health Center and Pool?

Note: We have approximately 9,200 citizens living in Oakwood.

OCC Membership4,080
 Pool Membership 849
 Health Membership 532



Leisure Services

Question

What are the benefits of purchasing an OCC Membership?

There are many benefits of purchasing an OCC Membership. By becoming a member, you are entitled to discounts on a Health Center Membership and the Gardner Pool Membership. It also entitles you to the lowest possible rate offered on all of the classes, sports programs and events the OCC sponsors. If you plan on taking classes, your membership will pay for itself in a short period of time. An OCC Membership is valid one year from date of purchase.

Question

How many people swim at Gardner Pool every season and how many employees does it take to run the pool?

In 2006, there were 33,322 visits to the pool, which is a decrease from 38,363 in 2005. Mid-August to Labor Day attendance was low because of rain and cooler temperatures. The figures do not reflect swim lesson or swim team participants. Staff includes a Pool Manager, Assistant Manager, Head Lifeguard, nine full-time guards, 4-5 substitute guards, a concession supervisor, 6 full-time concession workers and 4-5 substitutes. Additionally, the city employs three swim team coaches.

Question

The City of Oakwood purchased the Old River Sports Complex in 2006. What kinds of activities were held during the year and how many participants?

The city of Oakwood was thrilled to be able to purchase the Old River Sports Complex in September 2006. We paid \$2.3 million for the 28-acre property. The acquisition enables the City to host activities beginning in the spring and continuing through the fall sports season. The city of Oakwood and Oakwood City Schools utilize the area for sports activities and special events. The City uses the facility for kickball, T-ball and coach pitch in the spring and soccer in the fall. Special events sponsored by the City include Family Kite Nite in the spring and fall, snowman building in February, as well as a Family Fun Day in the summer. These special events are a welcome addition to our OCC offerings and we are certain will continue to grow in popularity. The Oakwood City Schools used Old River for their High School and Junior High School soccer programs in the summer and fall. In addition, the City rented the facility to non-city and school organizations, including Oakwood United, the Dayton Soccer Academy, 3 Dayton area soccer tournaments, the University of Dayton as well as others. More than 50,000 people attended sports activities and special events that were held at that complex from April through October.

Question

How many years has the City of Oakwood been a Tree City USA and what is the significance of this program?

The city of Oakwood has been a Tree City USA for 25 consecutive years and was one of the first communities in the Miami Valley to receive this national award by the National Arbor Day Foundation. Oakwood meets four major criteria each year to qualify for this award. They are as follows:

- A city department is designated and responsible for tree maintenance.
- The city's forestry program must have an annual budget of \$2 per capita.
- The city must have in place a tree ordinance.
- The city must sponsor an Arbor Day Observance and Proclamation.

Question

How many trees have been planted through the Johnny Appleseed Street Tree Planting program?

In 28 consecutive years, a total of 2,322 trees have been planted through this project at a total cost of \$260,113. The program is offered each year and includes a 50% discount to homeowners as long as the trees are planted in the right-of-way. In 2006, the homeowners cost ranged from \$72 to \$79 for a 2" diameter tree.

Question

Are there rooms available to rent at the OCC for meetings or parties?

There are three rooms available to rent: The Great Room, which is perfect for a reunion, reception or large party, the Teen Center, which is just the right size for a birthday party or meeting and the Large Classroom which can accommodate 10-15 people comfortably for a meeting or presentation. For information on room rentals, please contact Vickie Gearhart at 298-0775.



Leisure Services

Question

What new programs were offered in 2006?

The vitality of the Department of Leisure Services is very important to the community. During the year, the Oakwood Community Center staff added 11 new programs to encourage and increase citizen participation. Some of the added programs were the Community Garden Lecture "Designing with Color" which was attended by over 150 residents and included a book signing by the author Debra Knapke; TaeKwonDo for kids and adults; Teddy Bear Picnic at Smith Gardens; Family 8 on 8 Soccer Tournament; Family Fall Festival; Abrakadoodle; Weight Training Circuit, just to name a few.

Question

What type of fitness classes are available at the OCC?

We realize that everyone has busy lives, but exercise, health and fitness should be an important part of it! So together with our fitness instructors, we have developed a diverse selection of exercise classes to fit into your schedule and that will suit your individual fitness level and goals. Classes are available in the mornings and the evenings, and you can register for the whole session or buy class passes to attend on a drop-in basis. No more excuses!

Question

Is there babysitting available if I take an exercise class?

Yes! For a nominal fee, Patricia Lawson will attend to your children Monday-Thursday for the morning exercise classes including Dancercise, Flexible Strength and/or Circuit. Miss Pat plans fun activities for your child to do while you get fit. It's a win-win situation!

Question

I've heard a little about the Emerald Ash Borer insect. Should we be concerned about it?

Yes, we are concerned about the possible infestation of the Emerald Ash Borer. The city of Oakwood's Department of Leisure Services and the city's tree contractor are now monitoring and inspecting the ash trees in the city rights of ways, parks and natural areas for Emerald Ash Borer (EAB). According to the city's tree inventory there are 697 ash trees out of a total of 8419 trees in the areas described above. This is 8.3 % of the city's tree population. To date there has been no activity or evidence of the insect. Even though there has been no sign of EAB in Montgomery County, it is probably a matter of time, as surrounding counties have seen some infestation. The EAB moves less than a half mile per year, which means the majority of the insects have traveled to other areas in the state by being transported via car, truck or other means of transportation. It is recommended that no firewood be brought into the area or taken out of the area from other locations. This insect has destroyed millions of acres of ash trees throughout the Midwest and it is vitally important that Oakwood does their part in recognizing the devastation that can be caused. Removal of ash trees in Oakwood at this point in time is not being considered due to their maturity and importance of the trees to the community. It is the city's hope that there will be ways of destroying the EAB before any other action like removal must be considered. The city is in contact with the Ohio Department of Agriculture as well as the Ohio Department of Natural Resources on a weekly basis and is updated as to the progress of the insect. If anything changes the Oakwood community will be notified as other action is considered.

COMMENTS & FUTURE GOALS

Customer Service — The OCC publishes an annual Community Calendar which highlights community functions and school sporting events. It lists important holidays and city meetings as well as school breaks. City staff members take pictures throughout the year and residents are encouraged to submit photos to be published in the calendar. The calendar also lists all the important and frequently used telephone numbers within the city and schools and a list of commonly sought-after information about each department. The calendar is distributed in the Oakwood Register in mid-December.

The OCC sponsored its first annual Family Fall Festival this past fall. The festival runs in conjunction with the annual Scarecrow Building Contest in mid-October and is held in Shafor Park. Horse drawn carriage rides up and down ScareCrow Row was one of the many highlights of the day. Children participated in the Costume Parade, played old fashion games and rode on a small train around the park. There was food and entertainment for everyone to enjoy. It is estimated that over 1500 people attended this event, which is sure to become a favorite fall tradition!

Quadrant Tree Trimming Program — The city of Oakwood takes great pride in its beautiful tree-lined streets. Many of the trees in the tree lawn areas needed to be trimmed to meet height requirements and city codes. The City contracted with American Forestry Service to provide this tree trimming service at no cost to residents. Letters of notification are sent to each household prior to trimming.

Oakwood Community Center Building Improvements — In 2006, the Department of Leisure Services made two major improvements to the Great Room. The old worn carpet was replaced and the wallpaper was removed and replaced with updated prints to match the new carpet. This room is used for many community meetings, events and programs as well as private rentals for parties and receptions.

New Resident Breakfast — The City of Oakwood held a new resident family pancake breakfast on Saturday, May 6, 2006 to welcome residents who moved into the community during the past year. Approximately 100 people attended this wonderful community event.



Engineering & Public Works

The Public Works Department responsibilities include:

ENGINEERING: To provide quality professional engineering and surveying oversight to management, operation and improvement of Oakwood's infrastructure. This includes development of short-term and long-range capital improvement plans and implementing an annual capital improvement program. Services include project budgeting, design, preparation of construction plans and contract documents, and construction engineering and inspection.

PUBLIC WORKS: To provide the following

public services:

Refuse Program - Includes weekly household waste collection and disposal, a recycling program, a bulk refuse pickup program and year-round yard debris pickup. Also includes fall leaf pickup and a spring mulch delivery.

Roadway Maintenance - Includes routine repair of asphalt and concrete streets and alleys, maintenance of sidewalks and other structures within the public rights-of-way, mowing and trimming of public areas, snow and ice removal, and maintenance of the city's traffic control systems including traffic signals

and street signs.

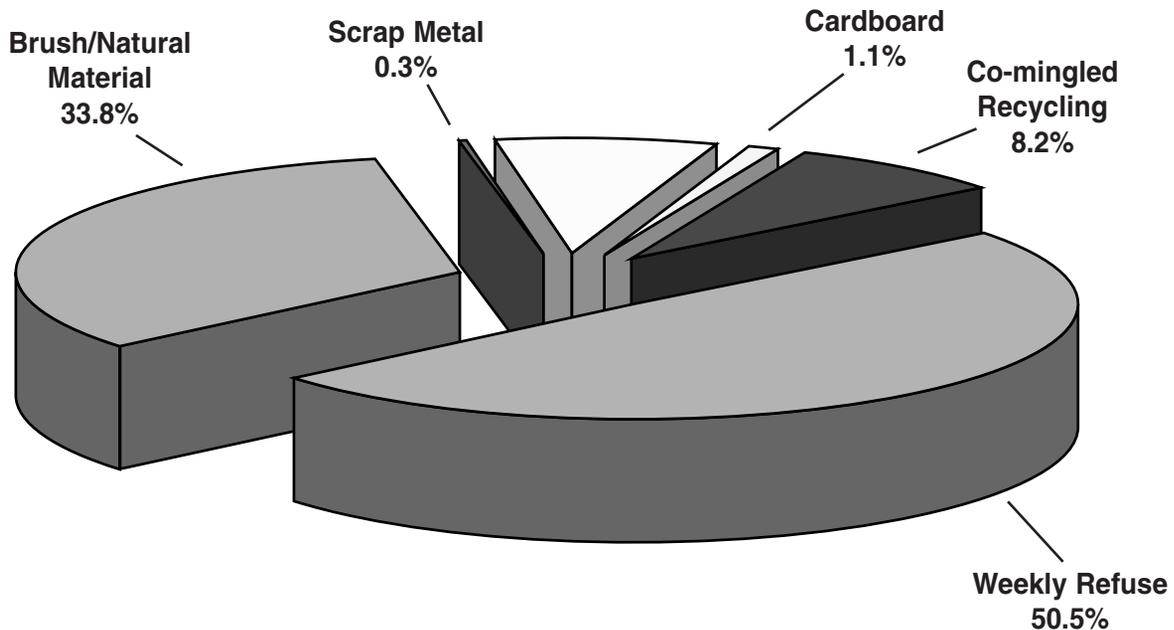
Utilities - Includes operating and maintaining the city's water production and treatment facilities and the water distribution system, including fire hydrants. Also includes sanitary sewer line cleaning and repair, and storm sewer maintenance.

Kevin Weaver, P.E., P.S. is Director of this department. The Department includes an assistant director, two foremen, a water production superintendent, an engineering technician, department secretary, and 26 public works employees.



Weekly refuse collection is one of the primary components of the Public Works Department's service delivery program. What is the mix of our solid waste stream?

Total of 8,034 tons of material handled





Engineering & Public Works

Question

Each week refuse, recycling and bulk pickup crews make over 3,200 residential pickups, which translates to over 166,000 pickups for the year. With all these stops, how many times last year did service crews miss scheduled pickups?

	Misses for the year
Refuse and Co-Mingled Recycling	4339 Less than 1% of total pick-ups

COMMENT: In 2006, we had 1,310 reports of inaccessible trash. These reflect individual reports from our service crews where they could not make pickups due to locked garages, cars in the driveway, locked driveway gates, loose dogs, etc.

Question

Another important task of the Public Works Department is to make sure Oakwood streets are free of ice and snow. One way to measure this effort, and perhaps the severity of our winters, is to track the tons of salt and overtime used in any one year. What does the data show?

	2003	2004	2005	2006
Tons of Salt	2112	1021	1561	299
Overtime Hrs	1275	784	640	106

Question

Part of the city's snow removal operation is the practice of plowing the sidewalks if there is more than one inch of snow accumulation. How long has the city provided this service?

We have plowed sidewalks since 1966, after the completion of major roadway widening improvements to Far Hills Avenue. This plowing is a unique service starting point for ensuring safe walks. Residents are ultimately responsible for the safe condition of sidewalks on their frontage and must view the city plowing as a supplement to and not replacement of their own efforts.

Question

Where does the City get its water?

We produce almost all of our own water. We have eight water production wells and three water treatment plants. In total, we produced 99.99% of our own water in 2006. The remaining 0.01% was purchased from the City of Dayton for testing purposes. The city's total water use over the past five years looks like this.

Water use	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
In million gallons	439	480	407	424	384

Question

What is the value of the city's "infrastructure"?

The infrastructure is valued at over \$100 million and consists of:

- Eight water production wells and three water treatment plants.
- A 1.5 million gallon water storage tower and a water distribution system including 44 miles of underground water main pipes and 341 fire hydrants.
- 39 miles of underground sanitary sewer pipes.
- 25 miles of underground storm sewer pipes.
- 51 miles of roadways and alleys, and 46 miles of sidewalks.
- 15 signalized traffic intersections.

Question

What major infrastructure projects were undertaken in 2006 and what did they cost?

Project	Cost
Curb, Sidewalk and Apron Repair	\$100,000
Dixon-Patterson Sanitary Sewer Project*	\$260,000
Annual Pavement Marking Program	\$20,000
2006 Asphalt Pavement Maintenance	\$400,000
Park Road and Forrer Blvd. Water Main Extensions*	\$54,000

*\$150,000 paid for by Ohio Issue 2 grant.

**Construction in early 2007 with 2006 dollars.



Engineering & Public Works



The city has a five-year capital improvement program, which essentially represents a list of projects tentatively planned for upcoming years. What are some street maintenance and repair projects and anticipated costs?

Street Maintenance & Repair Infrastructure Improvements 5 - Year Program

Project	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	5-Year Program
Annual Asphalt Pavement Program	200,000	400,000	400,000	400,000	400,000	1,800,000
Bi-Annual Concrete Street Repair		160,000		160,000		320,000
Sidewalk, Curb and Apron Program	110,000	125,000	125,000	125,000	125,000	610,000
Deep Hollow Bike Gutter Removal		40,000				40,000
Kramer Road Reconstruction					250,000	250,000
Thornhill Road Curb					100,000	100,000
Ridgeway Guardrail Replacement	40,000					40,000
Park Ave. Parking/Streetscape	300,000					300,000
Oakwood Avenue Safety Improvements	300,000*					300,000*
Far Hills Business Dist. Parking	150,000					150,000
Sweetwood Roadway Reconstruction		160,000				160,000
Woods & Thruston Roadway Reconstruction			300,000			300,000
Runnymede Roadway Reconstruction				700,000		700,000
Total Street Maintenance and Reconstruction	1,100,000	885,000	825,000	1,385,000	875,000	5,070,000

*Received approval for \$150,000 grant from State Issue 2 program



I've read about Phase 2 Stormwater requirements with which the city of Oakwood must comply. What are these and what can residents do to help?

In March of 2003, the city of Oakwood was required to submit a stormwater management program (SWMP) to the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (OEPA). The SWMP is a plan for accomplishing specific goals over a five year period to limit pollution that enters the region's streams and rivers from within the city of Oakwood. The Miami Conservancy District (MCD) is working as a project partner with many of the jurisdictions in the Dayton area. They have taken on the majority of the public awareness and education campaigns.

Some of the tasks that the city is or will be undertaking to meet these requirements include:

- continuing street sweeping operations on a regular basis to keep material out of the storm sewer,
- dry weather screening of manholes to help identify and eliminate illicit connections,
- mapping of the city's outfalls to rivers and streams,
- controlling construction run-off,
- modifying internal day to day practices to help limit pollution,
- submitting an annual report on the year's activities to the OEPA.

Citizens in the community can do some simple things to help prevent pollution to our rivers and streams. Please clean up after your pets because the bacteria from their waste is very dangerous to animals in the streams. Please do not put oil into the storm or sanitary sewers – 1 quart of oil can pollute 100,000 gallons of water. Please keep plant material (except for leaves during the 10 week collection period in the fall) out of the street as it will be washed into the storm sewers and eventually into the streams.

COMMENTS & FUTURE GOALS

Traffic Signal Operation: In 2007, a study of the operation of the signals along Far Hills and Oakwood Avenue will be undertaken to improve flow along these roadway corridors. Every effort will be made to maximize the efficient movement of traffic while maintaining the safety of pedestrians and the traveling public.

Refuse Packer Purchase: The 2007 budget includes \$180,000 for a new garbage truck. We will purchase another "split bed packer" allowing us to carry refuse on one side and recycling on the other. The new truck will function as one of the two primary units on our refuse routes. Our oldest truck will be relegated to a backup role. This will allow us to continue to provide recycling services in an efficient manner even if one of our primary packers is down for repair. The purchase will also reduce the additional dollars needed to keep the older packer working.

WATER Service Meter And Reading Transmitter (WATERSMART) Program: The WATERSMART program is nearly complete. Approximately 100 properties remain that are not providing automated meter readings. Over the first half of 2007, public works staff will be working to resolve the remaining issues with the affected property owners. If you have any questions or concerns about the project or your water service, please contact Kevin Weaver, Director of Engineering and Public Works, or Mike Wenclewicz, Assistant Director, at the Public Works Center at 298-0777.

Oakwood Avenue Safety Improvements: Oakwood Avenue will be reconstructed from Far Hills Avenue to Springhouse Road/Irving Avenue. This project will clarify the striping and single lane use, provide for left turn lanes at Schantz Avenue, replace drainage structures as needed, and replace and upgrade curb ramps. The city is receiving a grant for 50% of the project cost up to \$150,000 of the projected \$300,000 cost.



Finance

Our Finance Department provides fiscal oversight to seven broad fund classifications, and manages income tax collection, payroll, water, sewer and refuse billing, accounts

receivable, accounts payable, and meter reading.

The finance department is managed by Brad Beachdell and consists of seven employees. Six

are full-time and one is part-time. In concert with the city manager's office, the finance department prepares the annual budget and monitors all city expenditures.



How is our City budget organized?

Our budget document is organized into seven different fund classifications as follows: General Fund; Special Revenue Funds; Capital Improvement Fund; Internal Service Funds; Trust & Agency Funds; Enterprise Funds; Debt Service Fund.

The first five (General, Special Revenue, Capital Improvement, Internal Service and Trust & Agency) cover all of our city operations except the water and sewer utilities. We refer to these five as "Non-Enterprise Funds". The sixth (Enterprise) covers all operations relating to our water and sewer utilities. The seventh (Debt Service) accounts for any long-term bond debt. We are pleased to report that the city currently has no long-term bond debt.



How are the water and sewer Enterprise Funds different than the Non-Enterprise Funds?

Enterprise Funds are operated like a business, but intended to operate at a break-even point, rather than at a profit. Customers are billed for services provided. Water and Sewer revenues cannot be used for any purpose other than to provide water and sewer services to the customers of these utilities.

The Non-Enterprise group of funds is comprised of all other funds which provide public services to the community, and may be subsidized in whole or in part by General Fund Revenues such as Property, Income and/or Estate Tax revenues. Some examples of services provided by Non-Enterprise Funds are Public Safety (police, fire and emergency medical services), refuse collection, street maintenance and repair, streetlighting, and operation of the Oakwood Community Center, to name a few.

It is probably more easily explained and understood by thinking of the Water Funds, Sewer Funds and the Non-Enterprise Funds as three separate companies.

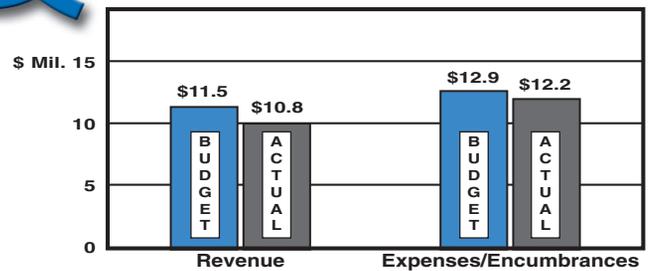
- Company A – Non-Enterprise Funds (Public Services)
- Company B – Water Utility
- Company C – Sewer Utility

From a budgetary standpoint, each of these three companies are operated as separate and unique organizations. All of the costs involved in producing, treating, storing, distributing and billing for our public water are paid for by our residents and businesses who use the water. This is accomplished through our quarterly water billing system. Likewise, all of the costs involved in operating and maintaining our sanitary sewer system and the costs we pay to Dayton and Montgomery County for the treatment of our wastewater are paid for by the residents and businesses who use our sanitary sewer system. This too is accomplished through our quarterly sewer billing system. None of our general tax dollars (e.g., income tax, property tax, estate tax) are used to pay for any costs related to the water and sewer utilities. Rather, 100% of the general tax dollars are used to pay for the other public services (e.g. police, fire, emergency medical services, street maintenance, parks and recreation) offered by the city.



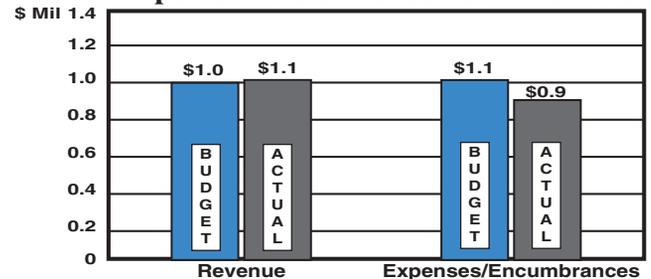
How did our revenues and expenses in 2006 compare to what we had budgeted?

Revenue vs. Expenses
Non-Enterprise Funds Year-End 2006



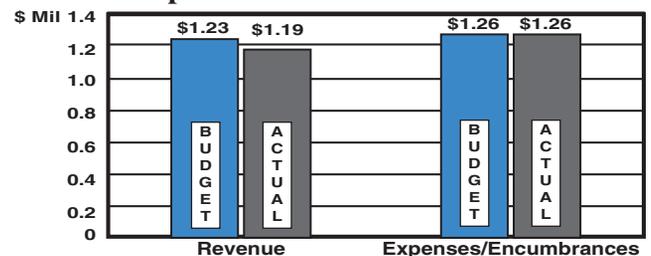
As shown above, our Non-Enterprise Fund revenues and expenditures were somewhat less than we budgeted. In 2006, Council approved a previously unanticipated expenditure of \$330,000 to acquire property located at 22 Orchard Drive near the Oakwood Business District, for the purpose of helping to resolve parking issues in that area. We ended the year with fund balances totaling \$11,952,583, very near to what we budgeted.

Revenue vs. Expenses - Water Funds Year-End 2006



Our Water Fund revenues were somewhat higher than budgeted, attributable primarily to the sale of a residential rental property, which sold for \$130,000, and is located adjacent to our wellfields on Kling Drive. This, coupled with the fact that our expenditures were somewhat less than budgeted, resulted in our year-end Water Fund balances increasing by \$172,452.

Revenue vs. Expenses - Sewer Funds Year-End 2006



Our Sewer Fund received slightly less revenue than expected and spent very near to what was budgeted, thereby causing us to use cash reserves to balance the budget. Accordingly, our Sewer Funds ended the year with balances totaling \$53,983, which is down \$153,638 from year-end 2005.

Note: The three bar charts above reflect actual cash received and spent for the fiscal (calendar) year. They do not include money transferred between funds, money spent that had been encumbered (or committed) from a prior year's budget, or money borrowed or spent to pay off short-term debt.



What is the City's annual budget?

Shown below are the 2007 budget figures.

NON-ENTERPRISE FUNDS FOR PUBLIC SERVICES - (COMPANY A)

Fund Classification	Actual Balance 01/01/07	Estimated Revenue	Estimated Expenditures	Estimated Balance 12/31/07
Non-Enterprise Funds	11,878,993	11,639,889 ⁽¹⁾	13,080,058 ⁽²⁾	10,438,824

(1) This figure does not include \$4,250,000 borrowed in accordance with the debt management policy on our public facilities and land acquisition projects. (2) This figure does not include \$4,650,000 paid in accordance with our debt management policy or \$2,931,542 transferred between funds.

WATER UTILITY - (COMPANY B)

Fund Classification	Actual Balance 01/01/07	Estimated Revenue	Estimated Expenditures	Estimated Balance 12/31/07
Water Funds	869,540	957,800	1,107,081	720,259

SEWER UTILITY - (COMPANY C)

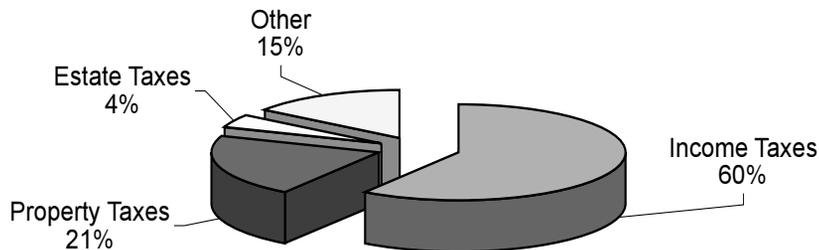
Fund Classification	Actual Balance 01/01/07	Estimated Revenue	Estimated Expenditures	Estimated Balance 12/31/07
Sewer Funds	91,065	1,533,500*	1,393,582	230,983*

*The estimated year-end Sewer Fund balance above assumed the imposition of a \$42 increase in the quarterly sewer bill effective Jan. 1, 2007 for the average (3,000 cu. ft) household. However, Council determined that a \$22 per quarter increase would satisfy the City's current needs. Therefore the estimated revenue and year-end Sewer Fund balances are reduced to \$1,352,517 and \$50,000 respectively.



What percentage of the City's 2006 General Fund revenue was generated by Income Taxes, Property Taxes, and Estate Taxes?

General Fund Revenue



	Income Taxes	Property Taxes	Estate Taxes	Other	Total
2006	\$5,079,001	\$1,790,966	\$375,626	\$1,291,125	\$8,536,718

Note: "Other" includes items such as Local Government Fund Monies, Other Miscellaneous Taxes (e.g., Liquor, Cigarettes), and Fines & Forfeitures.



Finance



Who receives my residential property tax dollars?

The amount you pay in property taxes is a function of the assessed value of your property and the property tax millage for our city. The residential total effective millage rate used for 2006 property tax collections was 67.64, as compared to our current residential total effective millage rate of 67.77, which may be broken into two components, as follows:

Inside millage (non-voted) – the tax rate imposed by governmental bodies without need for vote by its citizens (maximum 10 mills combined between Montgomery County, Oakwood City Schools and the City of Oakwood).

Outside millage (approved by voters) – the tax rate proposed by the government entity and approved by vote of its citizens.

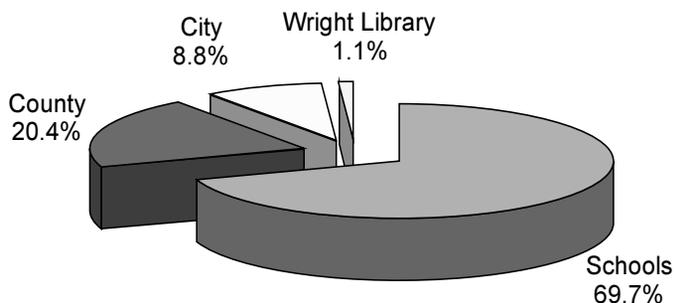
The total effective millage is shared by the four organizations shown below, and Oakwood property taxes are comprised of the following effective millage rates:

	Inside Mill.	Outside Mill.	Total Mill.
Oakwood City Schools	4.72	42.51	47.23
Montgomery County*	1.70	12.12	13.82
City of Oakwood	3.58	2.42	6.00
Wright Mem. Pub. Library	0.00	0.72	0.72
Total	10.00	57.77	67.77

*This includes money that goes to support Montgomery County governmental operations and also includes money supporting Sinclair Community College and the County Human Services Programs (e.g., ADAMHS Board for Montgomery County, Montgomery County Children Services, Montgomery County Combined Health District, Montgomery County Board of MR/DD, etc.).

Based on the above millages, your property tax dollars are distributed as follows:

Property Tax Dollar Allocation



How are my property taxes calculated?

Here is the formula for an owner-occupied single-family property:
Assessed Value of your property
x 35% x millage ÷ 1,000 x 87.5% = Annual Property Tax

So, if your property is assessed at a value of \$200,000 your annual property tax would be calculated as follows:

$$\$200,000 \times 0.35\% \times 67.77 \div 1,000 \times 0.875\% = \$4,151$$

Based on the tax dollar allocation percentages, your property tax dollars would be distributed as follows:

Oakwood City Schools	\$	2,893
Montgomery County	\$	847
City of Oakwood	\$	365
Wright Library	\$	46
Total	\$	4,151



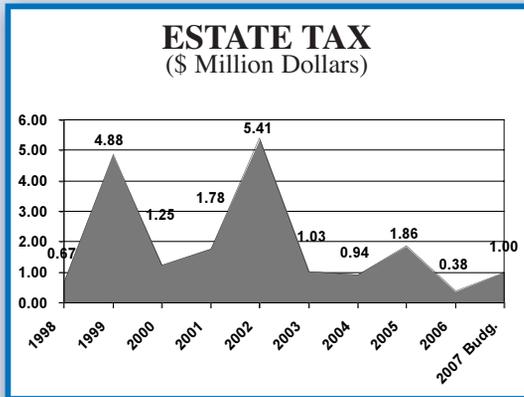
Who receives my income taxes and estate taxes?

The City receives 100% of those revenues. They are used to help pay for the Non-Enterprise Fund public services.

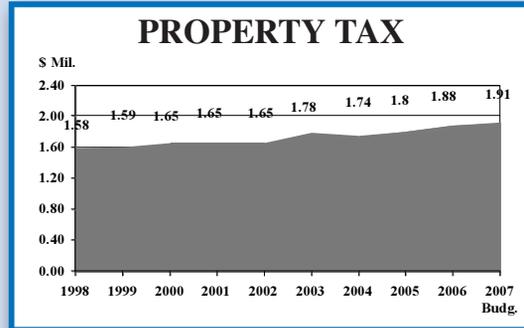


Have the property, income and estate taxes that go to the City changed much in recent years?

Below is the history since 1998.



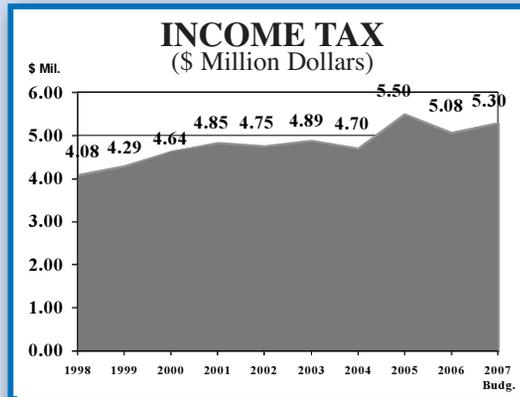
As you can see from the graph above, annual estate tax revenue can vary dramatically from year to year. The spikes in 1999 and 2002 are very unusual, in fact unprecedented. Not including the estate tax revenue that accounted for these two spikes, our 10-year annual average estate tax is approximately \$1.0 million.



Property revaluation occurs every six years.

The recent 2005 revaluation resulted in a modest revenue increase for the City in 2006.

The city has not asked property owners for an increase in voted property taxes for city services since November, 1991.



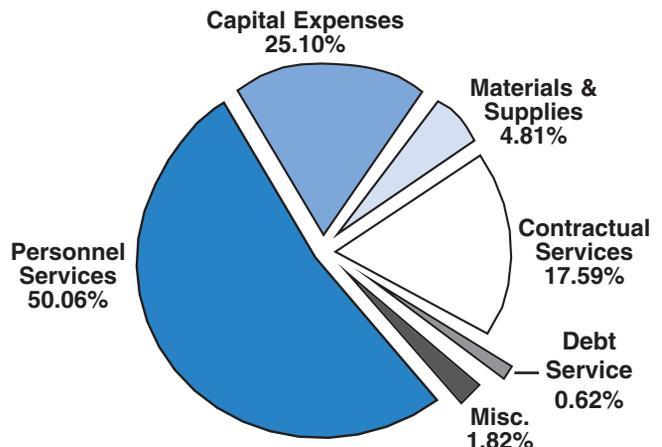
Our income tax was down somewhat in 2006, as compared to 2005, but is expected to rise again in 2007. We have not raised our income tax rate since 1984.



What are the different categories of expenditures incurred by the City, and what percentage of the total was expended in each category for 2006?

Expenditures	Actual 2006	% Of Total
Personnel Services	8,023,848	50.06%
Contractual Services	2,818,998	17.59%
Materials and Supplies	770,383	4.81%
Capital Expenses	4,022,263	25.10%
Debt Service	98,901	.62%
Miscellaneous	293,584	1.82%
Total	16,027,977	100%

City of Oakwood 2006 Expenditures by Category



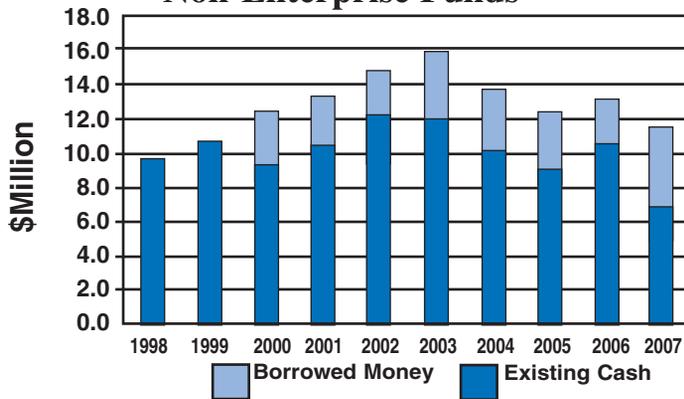


Finance

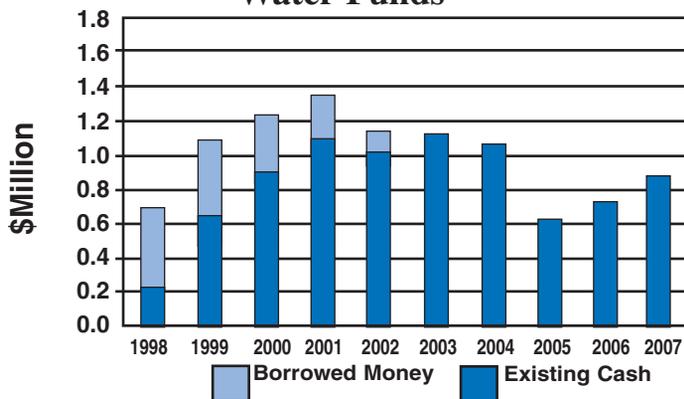
Question

I know that the City has cash reserves that can be used during times when annual expenses exceed annual revenues. What is the 10-year history of our beginning year fund balances?

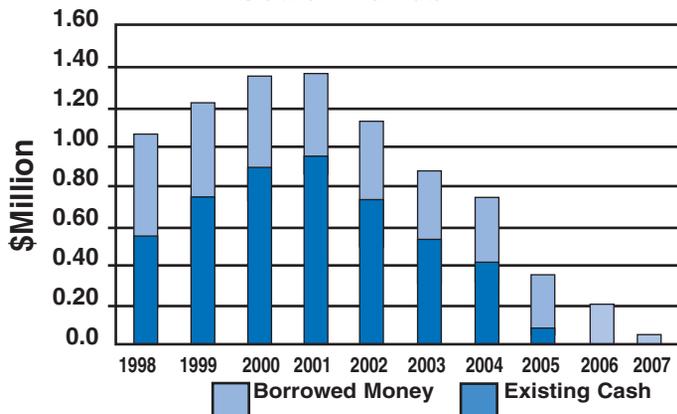
Beginning Year Cash Balances Non-Enterprise Funds



Beginning Year Cash Balances Water Funds



Beginning Year Cash Balances Sewer Funds



Question

Does Oakwood invest the money it holds in the fund balances?

Yes, most of it. We keep all dollars not immediately required for cash flow safely invested. All investments are guided by an investment advisor and are overseen by the City Manager and Finance Director. Our investment protocol is governed by city ordinances which encompass a philosophy of protecting principal first and maximizing value next. As of December 31, 2006 the City of Oakwood had \$11,789,848 invested at an average rate of return of 4.73 %. In 2006, our total investment income was \$632,076.

Question

Oakwood began accepting credit cards as payment for various fees and services effective Jan. 1, 2006. How does this work and why can't I

just hand my credit card to someone at the counter in the administrative offices?

Effective January, 2006, the City of Oakwood partnered with a firm by the name of Official Payments Corporation to provide this convenient service to its citizens. Credit card payments can be made by calling 1-800-272-9829 or by logging on to the website www.officialpayments.com and providing the requested information. A convenience fee will be added by Official Payments Corporation for providing this service. If charge cards were accepted directly by Oakwood staff at the administrative offices, the City would have to absorb the credit card usage fees, thereby passing on the cost of this service to both users and the general public. The Oakwood Community Center continues to accept credit card payments as they have in the past, and their system is not affected by our recent partnering with Official Payments Corporation. As Community Center fees are structured to accommodate credit card transaction fees, no convenience fees are added to charges made for Oakwood Community Center membership dues, programs or classes.

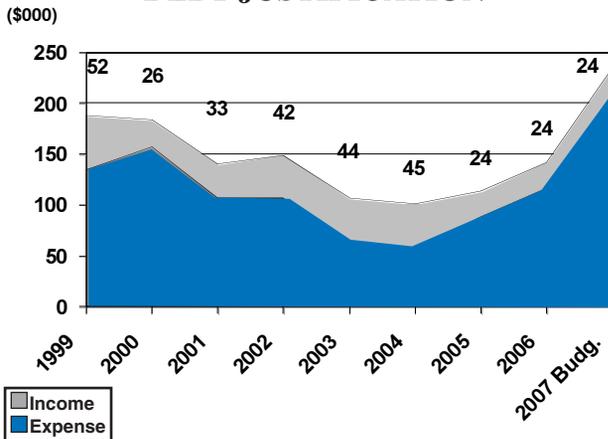


Finance



How much additional revenue have we earned by investing our cash balances as opposed to paying off the debt?

PUBLIC FACILITIES DEBT JUSTIFICATION



The dark shaded area in the chart represents the cost associated with carrying the Public Facilities and land acquisition debt on our books. The top of the upper shaded area represents the total interest income we earned on our borrowed funds for each of the given years. Accordingly, the upper shaded area represents the net profit we earned on borrowed funds, after taking into consideration all related expenses.

Note: When lending monies in today's rising-interest-rate market, rates obtained are not quite as favorable as they once were, because lenders are bidding, or offering, rates with a built-in protective margin. Specifically, the rate of return on our investments this year is expected to be much closer to the interest rate we are earning on our investments. Although not as lucrative an endeavor as in past years, maintaining the short-term debt and investing the monies still remains a prudent move.



Do we have debt?

At the close of 2006, we held \$2.5 million in debt for the Public Works Center and Administration/Safety Building projects, and an additional \$2.3 million for the NCR athletic fields acquired in September, 2006. Each March, we pay down our public facilities debt by an amount of \$350,000. Likewise, each October we intend to pay down our land acquisition debt by an amount of \$200,000. Although we have the cash reserves to pay off all of our debt obligations, we are earning higher interest on our investments than we are paying on our outstanding debt and have therefore chosen to pay the debt off slowly and strategically.

I heard we recently received a large amount of estate tax. What are we doing with it?

In February, 2007 we received \$5,921,037 and we are expecting to receive an additional \$1,980,499 in April, 2007. The money is presently deposited in our General Fund and is earning investment income. City Council and staff will meet with the 37-member citizens budget review committee to discuss options on how this money can best be used to benefit our citizens.

COMMENTS & FUTURE GOALS

Sewer Fund Balance: The City of Oakwood does not have its own wastewater treatment facility to treat wastewater returned via the sanitary sewer system, but rather contracts with the City of Dayton and Montgomery County for these necessary services. These external wastewater treatment costs, over which the City has no control, have increased substantially over the past decade. Until recently, we have allowed the sewer fund balance to absorb these increases, to the extent that sufficient reserve resources no longer exist (see chart on page 29). Accordingly, we are continually monitoring the balances and expenditures from this fund, and will be recommending rate increases as may be necessary over the next few years.

Sewer Ordinance and Regulation Rewrite: The rules and regulations pertaining to sanitary sewer services have not been revised or updat-

ed in a number of years, and are due for review. During 2007, we will review the rules and regulations and make any changes deemed appropriate to bring these regulations current and to standardize and align with water and income tax regulations.

Annual Water / Sewer Survey: For the year 2004 and many preceding years, the city of Englewood conducted an annual survey of water and sewer rates charged by various jurisdictions throughout southwest Ohio in an effort to provide municipal utility departments with a comparison of pricing among their peers. Although this information proved quite useful to Englewood as well as many other jurisdictions (Oakwood included), Englewood determined that other tasks took precedence over this survey, and accordingly none was taken in 2005. Understanding the regional benefit provided by the survey, Oakwood stepped up in 2006 and took on this task.



Municipal Court

The Oakwood Municipal Court was established on January 1, 1934. Its authority is derived from section 1901.01 of the Ohio Revised Code and its territorial jurisdiction coincides with the corporate limits of the city of Oakwood. The court's mission is to provide

high quality and courteous services to the litigating public. It is charged with deciding cases fairly and will impose meaningful sentences in criminal/traffic cases.

Judge Robert Deddens is serving his third six-year elected term as Municipal Judge. His

responsibilities as Judge include appointing and supervising a full-time Clerk of Courts who in turn supervises the part-time Clerk. A part-time Bailiff is employed to serve subpoenas and eviction notices, and to immobilize vehicles.



What is the authority of our municipal court?

Like all municipal courts, our court has authority to conduct preliminary hearings in felony cases and has jurisdiction over traffic and non-traffic misdemeanors. The court also has limited jurisdiction in handling civil cases in which the amount of money in dispute does not exceed \$15,000 and in handling small claim cases in which the amount of money in dispute does not exceed \$3,000.



What are the court hours of operation?

The court is open to the public Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Non-jury, criminal and traffic proceedings convene at 8:30 a.m. on Thursdays of each week. Jury trials are scheduled every other month throughout the year as needed. In addition, the judge is on call for the purpose of conducting criminal arraignments when called upon to do so by public safety officers. Civil proceedings commence at 1:30 p.m. on Thursdays of each week.



What is the process used by the court in dealing with serious criminal and traffic cases?

When a person is arrested and charged with committing a serious crime or a serious traffic offense, the police officer notifies the court which immediately schedules an arraignment to set bail. Arraignments are held anytime day or night, on short notice. The judge meets with the officer and defendant promptly after the arrest. This reduces police time and the cost of housing and monitoring prisoners. It also ensures the prisoner is not unnecessarily jailed pending trial. Prisoners who do not make bail are transported to the county jail.



Does Oakwood have a jail?

Yes, and it includes two cells. However, our jail is classified as a Temporary Holding Facility ("THF") meaning that we may only incarcerate a prisoner for a maximum period of six hours. Given the availability and close proximity of the County jail, this THF meets our needs.



When a person pays a traffic citation, how much of the fine and court costs go to the state and how much goes to the City and County?

	Court Costs	Criminal Traffic/Fines	Seat Belt Fines	Court Cost Seat Belts
(Total Court Costs are currently \$74.)				
State	32.5%	-0-%	100%	32.5%
County	0%	25%	0%	0%
City	67.5%	75%	0%	67.5%

The \$24 court cost going to the State is sent to Columbus for the Innocent Victims of Crime Fund and the Public Defender Fund.

Fines for violation of state codes are paid to the County Treasurer while fines for violation of Oakwood ordinances are paid to the city.



Do we have jury trials in Oakwood?

Yes. When a defendant requests a jury trial, the Clerk of Court on behalf of the Court summons sixty residents from the city of Oakwood to report as prospective jurors. From those who report, eight jurors and one alternate are selected for the actual trial. No jury trial in the last 15 years has lasted more than one day. Jury trials are typically scheduled on Fridays. Jury trials are not permitted for minor misdemeanors (such as a speeding ticket) when jail is not a possible sentence.



What are some of the legal requirements that affect jury duty?

Ohio law modified the circumstances under which a prospective juror may be excused. The circumstances include: **1)** A physical or mental condition which must be supported by a physician's documentation. **2)** If a person can demonstrate that jury service would cause "extreme undue physical or financial hardship." **3)** The person is over 75 years of age and would like to be excused.

A person may be permanently excused if the judge determines that the underlying grounds for being excused are of a permanent nature.

The law also: **1)** Provides for a minimum fine for failure to appear for jury service of \$100. **2)** Prohibits employers from taking disciplinary action that could lead to the discharge of any permanent employee as a result of being summoned to serve as a juror, and **3)** Prohibits employers from requiring employees to use vacation or sick leave for time spent on jury duty.

COMMENTS & FUTURE GOALS

New Facilities: The court and court staff continues to enjoy the wonderful facilities in the new building. The Court and the City continue to evaluate whether and to what extent a video connection with the County Jail would benefit the City. The video connection would enable the Court to conduct video arraignments with prisoners in the County Jail, saving the expense of paying public safety officers to transport prisoners back and forth between the County Jail and the City for arraignments, and to guard the prisoners in

the courtroom until he or she is arraigned. At present, cost/benefit analysis has not warranted the expense of video arraignment equipment.

Court Interpreters: The court and court staff are facing more defendants who do not speak English – primarily persons who speak only Spanish. The law requires that the city provide qualified interpreters for accused who are indigent. The court expects this procedure to become more prevalent in the future.