

VILLAGE OF McCONNELSVILLE, OHIO
2019 STATE OF THE VILLAGE ADDRESS
MAYOR JOHN W. FINLEY

January 15, 2019

To comply with the Ohio Revised Code, I am presenting to council my 8th State of the Village Address. As I reflect on 2018, I am proud to say that as a team we continue to progress the village forward and manage the funds we are trusted with well.

Many projects were completed in 2018, in fact, the list is too numerous to list everything. However, a few highlights include the following:

- Finished the total refurbishment of 2 water storage tanks
- Made the final payment on the street sweeper
- Secured grant funding for multiple projects
- Purchased and placed in service a new dump truck with a stainless-steel bed, new snow plow, and a salt spreader
- Hired a new waste water treatment plant operator
- Completed an EPA-required Operation and Maintenance Manual for the waste water treatment plant
- Engineered and awarded a contract for major maintenance, repair, and renovation of the opera house building
- Engineered, bid, awarded, and started major water line replacement construction to replace old water mains on North Kennebec Avenue, Terrace Circle, and State Route 78. The lines that are being replaced on

North Kennebec Avenue were installed in 1890.

- Started the EPA-required engineering on the next phase of the waste water/storm water separation project for the west side of the village from 5th Street to Riverside Drive and from Plum Street to Main Street. That engineering project is almost completed so we can get started on the finance, grant, loan, bid, and construction part of the project. We have applied for multiple grants for that project as well.
- Started work on the EPA-mandated Asset Management Program
- Worked with ISO to elevate our water system in the village for fire protection.
- Ownership of the McConnellsville Cemetery was transferred to the Village of the McConnellsville, so we will now be operating and maintaining the grounds, graves, and property there.

As 2018 comes to an end and we reflect on our many accomplishments, we have no intentions of slowing the momentum for 2019. While our finances of the village are in great order, we do have some major projects facing us for 2019. Some of those include the following:

- Pave North 8th Street and all of Oakwood Drive at the expected cost of \$110,000.00
- Purchase a new leaf vac at a cost of \$60,000.00
- Completion of the Opera House project for \$800,000.00
- Finishing the safety/hand rail replacement project for \$110,000.00
- Finish the water line replacement projects that were started in the last quarter of 2018 at a cost of \$407,000.00

- Replace the rusted-out utility body on the villages 2001 bucket truck at a cost of \$30,000.00
- Start the sewer water separation project at an estimated cost of \$1,411,118.00
- Looking into a new mini excavator and trailer at a cost of \$60,000.00
- Purchase a small trailer for the cemetery at a cost of \$2,000.00
- Considering a sidewalk replacement project on North Kennebec Avenue for an estimated cost of \$100,000.00
- Purchase of a new police cruiser at a cost of \$50,000.00
- Applying for a neighborhood revitalization grant for \$500,000.00
- Completed LED lighting improvements throughout the village buildings for higher efficiencies
- There is always the risk of water line emergency replacement projects and other unexpected expenses.

Our finances have continued to improve yearly as is evident in the following 3-year comparison chart. Our current checking account balance is \$2,604,494.83 which is reflected as a sum of the 2018 accounts listed below.

Year Ending:	2016	2017	2018
General Fund	\$509,086.97	\$601,704.75	\$667,615.07
Street Construction Maintenance/Repair	\$43,515.44	\$48,901.05	\$42,588.23
Water Fund	\$836,748.67	\$742,457.48	\$796,547.46
Sewer Fund	\$755,221.13	\$911,986.64	\$963,914.62
Water Capital Projects Enterprise Fund	\$94,763.71	\$113,552.87	\$133,829.45
Year-End Balance:	\$2,239,335.92	\$2,418,602.79	\$2,604,494.83

We have continued to build on our foundation, but we are also investing in our future. A few of the challenges that have been identified are the continued high cost of water, the continued high cost of EPA mandates, and the erosion of taxes and business. I continue to be open and encourage investors for building new homes, apartments, and businesses in our village and have even taken on some projects personally. The heartbeat of our village depends on this growth and diversification.

We are looking forward to 2019. We have the best police force, village crew, office staff, village administrator, fiscal officer, and village solicitor available. I am very proud of the team we have built; every single employee and council member. Additionally, I truly appreciate the support from our residents within our entire community to help make and keep the village of McConnelsville a great and safe place to live and raise a family. The village continues to provide information and resources on our website (vomcc.com).

Respectfully Submitted,

John W. Finley, Mayor
Village of McConnelsville