



City of Pataskala Finance Department
James M. Nicholson, Finance Director
Finance Director's Report to Council

Current Projects & Issues

- **July/August 2017** – The financial results through July 31st have been compiled and summarized in the monthly Financial Condition Report, which was previously distributed and is currently available on the city's website. We are still processing entries for the month of August, and plan to have the books closed by mid-week the first week of September. With that said, however, I am able to provide a mid-month update on income taxes. Income tax collections for the month of August are approximately \$444.0 thousand and are \$13.8 thousand (3.22%) higher than the same period in 2016. On a year to-date basis, income tax collections are \$3.84 million and are \$139.3 thousand (3.76%) higher than in 2016.
- **Ohio GFOA** – I am pleased to inform Council that I was recently elected by the membership of the Ohio Government Finance Officers Association to serve as President-Elect (2017-2018), and then President (2018-2019) for the state-level organization. I will be officially sworn in at the annual conference being held in Cleveland in mid-September.
- **Collective Bargaining** – The city and the OPBA (e.g., Sergeants) have tentatively agreed to a 3-year contract which fundamentally mirrors the wage increases and benefits included in the recently-approved contract with the FOP. The unit recently held a vote, and the membership ratified the agreement. We are bringing the OPBA agreement to Council for ratification at the August 21st Council meeting in Resolution 2017-056.
- **Non-Union Pay Matrix** – Unlike the collectively bargained city employees, the non-union employees do not have a contract which governs their rates of pay and terms/conditions of employment. Instead, the city's *Employee Handbook & Policy Manual* governs the terms and conditions of their employment. Their compensation, however, is governed by a pay matrix which lists each position and a rate of pay at each of 20 steps. The last pay matrix approved by Council expired on 12/31/16, and we have maintained paying those rates since that time. Now that two of the three unions have agreed to contracts, we have prepared a 2017-2019 pay matrix which reflects the pay scale increases received by the unions. The 2016 pay matrix was increased by 3.25% for 2017, 3.25% for 2018 and 3.0% for 2019. Resolution 2017-057 has been prepared and will be presented to Council for approval on August 21st.
- **Police Station Construction Project** – The proposed construction project for a new Police station will be rebid in January 2018. As a result, none of the project-related appropriations in 2017 will be required. I've completed my analysis, and have prepared a supplemental appropriation ordinance (Ordinance 2017-4294) that will remove these items from the 2017 budget. This piece of legislation will have its first reading at the August 21st Council meeting.
- **2018 Budget** – I have completed my analysis of 2017 revenue projections, and updated them in the budgetary system accordingly. These updated numbers served as the basis for my 2018-2022 revenue projections. In addition to completing my evaluation of the revenues, all of the budget consolidation tools have been updated to support the 2018 budget process. The next major step

in the budget process is to update the CIP database to reflect proposed project changes. Once that has been completed, I will be consolidating departmental CIP submissions to determine overall scope and financial impact of proposed capital spending.