



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

Current Projects & Issues

- **March 2023** – The financial results through March 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. I hope to have the April report prepared sometime over the next week. We are still processing entries for the month of May and will be doing so for the next couple of weeks. As RITA has not yet made our mid-month settlement, I am unable to update Council on the preliminary status of May's income tax collections.
- **2022 Financial Reporting & Audit** – We've completed the preparation of the 2022 GAAP accrual-based financial statements for the city, as well as the 2022 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR). I am currently in the process of reviewing the draft ACFR to ensure accuracy. Once that step is completed, the auditors will move on to the audit of the financial statements.
- **USW Collective Bargaining** – We met with the USW negotiating team to discuss outstanding issues. We will be bringing the results of those discussions to Council most likely at the next Council meeting.
- **Introduction to the Finance Office** – On April 25-26, I served as the moderator and primary presenter at an Ohio GFOA seminar entitled 'Introduction to the Finance Office' held in Dayton, Ohio. We ended up with approximately 65 participants in the day and a half workshop and received excellent feedback from the attendees. The session covered a wide variety of topics for new fiscal officers and included public accounting, budget planning/management, internal controls and audits, just to name a few of the topics.
- **2022 Ohio Dept of Taxation Certification** – I completed and submitted the city's response to the annual Local Tax Certification requested and required by the Ohio Department of Taxation.
- **2024 Budget** – We are just beginning to look at the 2024 budget process. At the May 15th Council meeting, Council will be asked to approve the budget schedule for this year's budget process.
- **Parks & Recreation Seasonal Hires** – We've supported the onboarding function for all of the seasonal hires in the Parks & Recreation department.
- **Utility Billing VIP Implementation** – Supported the Utility department in the implementation of a new utility billing module. We are quite pleased that we were able to balance the utility books within the 2nd business day of the following month. That's quite an accomplishment given all of the 'moving parts'. I would like to give a shout-out to Dani Brown for all of her efforts in making this implementation successful. Nice job!