THE BLUE LETTER



333 James E. Bohanan Drive • Vandalia, OH 45377 • (937) 898-5891

February 3, 2023

Honorable Mayor Herbst & Esteemed City Councilmembers:

Monday, February 6th, 2023 Council Meeting: The Study Session will begin at 5:00 pm. The Council meeting will begin at 7:00 pm.

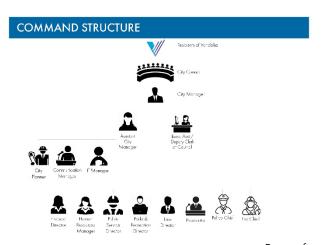
Congratulations to Sergeant Doug Nagel on his graduation from the Certified Law Enforcement Executive program. This was a 14-month process that included ten modules and is designed for law enforcement professionals who hold the rank of Sergeant and above.

Welcome to Our Three New Full-Time Firefighter / Paramedic / Inspectors: Firefighter / Paramedic / Inspectors Gage Duvall, Noah VanDoesburg and Marque Jones have joined the full-time ranks. These gentlemen worked part-time in the Division of Fire prior to entering the competitive process and their appointment. Their ceremonial swear-in will take place at the February 20th Council Meeting.

These are three additional full-time positions that are being added on the Division (one person per day). Six part-time positions will be reduced through attrition to offset some of the expense. Full-time

firefighter and paramedic staffing was a focus of our 2022 fall goal setting retreat and 2023 budget hearings. Currently the City is running a competitive promotional examination to add three full-time Fire Lieutenants (one per day) to the Division of Fire. The City intends to backfill any firefighter/paramedic/inspector vacancies resulting from the promotional process.

City Manager's Office Restructuring: I have restructured the City Manager's Office so that IT Manager Davey and IT Division staff will report directly to Assistant City Manager Holloway.



Focus Vandalia: Please see the most recent episodes of Focus Vandalia.



Monday, January 30, 2023 - Focus Vandalia - Cassel Hills Golf Course

Cassel Hills Golf Course Irrigation: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tpjR5qB2RQY



Monday, January 23, 2023 - Focus Vandalia - Foley Reconstruction Project

Foley Drive Phase II: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xXfiVP-OTLA

Property Acquisition: The City of Vandalia has taken possession of 69.1 acres on Webster St. The City acquired the land from Montgomery County. Approximately 18 months ago, I approached Montgomery County and requested the donation for the purpose of establishing a regional public safety training facility – there is no immediate timeline for this project at this time. Public Service Director Cron, Assistant City Manager Holloway and Law Director McDonald put in a lot of work to get the acquisition over the line. In the case that the project does not get off the ground, the City has accepted the land without use restrictions, meaning it could be leveraged for economic development or possibly residential

development (depending on the environmental monitoring status at that time – the landfill cell is to the south). I have enclosed a map.

Police Officer Robert Large: I have enclosed emails from Chief Althouse and CIT Co-Responder Kristina Hill regarding Officer Large's extraordinary efforts in assisting a young lady and her family. This is the type of value-added service that sets the our public servants apart.

Study Session:

Presentation:

Parks and Recreation Master Plan – Mike Svetz, Principal at PROS Consulting, will be presenting the 2023 Parks & Recreation Master Plan to City Council in Study Session on Monday, February 6. <u>Download the 253-page Parks & Recreation Master Plan on the City of Vandalia Website (LINK)</u>. This plan will be the roadmap for enhancing quality of life in Vandalia through our parks and recreation system. PROS Consulting coordinated and facilitated public input, focus groups with community stakeholders, other engagement strategies, and provided a statistically valid survey and corresponding report of community opinions and needs as part of the project. The plan includes best practices in the field, identification of new trends and opportunities, engagement of relevant stakeholders, and makes direct recommendations to ensure an appropriate balance of community programs, facilities and amenities, now and into the future. City Manager Wendt has shared a link to the draft report with members of Council for review prior to the presentation.

Monday, February 6, 2023 Items:

Items on this evening's Council Meeting agenda

Resolution: 2023 Motorola Service Agreement - The Division of Police purchased three radio consoles and five consolettes from Motorola Solutions in 2015 as part of the upgrade to the Multi-Agency Radio Communications System (MARCS). Following the initial warranties, the City has continued to enter into an annual agreement with Motorola Solutions for the servicing of the hardware and software upgrades. The radio system provides Vandalia Police, Fire and EMS personnel in the field with the ability to communicate with the City's Communications Center as well as other public safety entities on MARCS. Vandalia has received exceptional reliability with Motorola public safety radio equipment since the City's first purchase in 1986. I recommend City Council waive competitive bidding requirements due to the proprietary nature of the Motorola hardware and software and authorize payment of \$32,388.00 for service dates February 1, 2023, through January 31, 2024, because of the City's critical need to maintain uninterrupted connection with its public safety personnel and other users on MARCS.

Ordinance: Amend Codified Ordinances Relating to Knives - This ordinance will amend certain provisions in the Vandalia Codified Ordinances relating to knives in order to comply with changes in the

State law. This item was discussed in brief at a previous study session. Because of the custodial nature of the ordinance, I will request a first reading on February 6.

Monday, February 20, 2023 Items:

Resolution: Intrado 911 Phone System — On December 25, 2022, the Vandalia Division of Police's Intrado Viper 911 emergency telephone system was catastrophically damaged by water when the Justice Center's sprinkler system's pipes ruptured. This phone system provides 9-1-1, Text-to-9-1-1 and non-emergency phone services for police, fire, and EMS calls for service. VPD's Communications Center is operational utilizing a borrowed, older Intrado telephone system from another local government entity while waiting for a new replacement system. Members of the Division of Police and IT Division researched replacement phone systems and received demonstrations and cost proposals from Intrado for the Viper phone system and Motorola for the VESTA phone system. After evaluating features and service for both systems, we believe the Intrado Viper emergency telephone system provides the best option for purchase and replacement of our phone system.

Intrado's Viper emergency telephone system is familiar to our public safety specialists, replaces the damaged Intrado system we have been utilizing for the past six years, and continues to meet the needs of the Division. Intrado provides excellent service and is responsive to any service needs we have. Intrado's Viper emergency telephone system is approximately one-half the cost of Motorola's VESTA system and has lower annual maintenance costs. The installation time for Intrado's system is much shorter than Motorola's system. I request City Council waive the competitive bid process and approve an emergency resolution authorizing the Division of Police to purchase the Intrado's Viper emergency telephone system to meet the public safety needs of our community. This purchase is not a 2023 budget item but will be submitted with the insurance claim filed with MVRMA from the water damage for reimbursement. The total purchase and installation cost is \$121,851.02, which includes the first-year warranty.

Resolution: Purchase of Terrain Cut Mower with Snow Blower and Broom Attachment – The Parks and Recreation Department is requesting to purchase a John Deere Terrain Cut Mower with Snow Blower and Broom Attachments from Deer & Company through the State of Ohio Purchasing Contract #800750-STS515AG at a total cost of \$40,474.72, after trade-in. The 2023 capital budget has \$75,000 allocated for the purchase based on a price quote received during our budget preparation process. This specialty piece of equipment provides versatility in one machine as the unit will mow grass, blow snow and broom sidewalks, pathways and parking lots. The park maintenance division's current Terrain Cut Mower is a 2000 John Deere 1145 model with 822 hours of service. We are proposing to trade in the current model as part of the purchase.

Keep it clean!

Resolution: Purchase of Three High Capacity Smart Waste & Recycling Units – The Parks and Recreation Department is the recipient of a Montgomery County Solid Waste District Waste Reduction/Recycling Grant in the amount of \$22,287.65 for the purchase of three (3) High Capacity Smart Waste & Recycling Units from BigBelly LLC of Needham, MA. The City share of the cost of the units is \$12,253,85 for a grand total project cost of \$34,541.50.

Bigbelly's HC5 is a smart, solar powered, compacting waste and recycling station.

This compacting model holds 5-10X real capacity over an average traditional waste bin. It is equipped with sensors that monitor and report fullness levels and collection activity. It harvests solar power to compact waste and communicate its real-time status. All units will include lifecycle cloud-based software that will allow for communications concerning realtime status of the units. The Bigbelly system will allow for cleaner public spaces, increase staff maintenance productivity measurable sustainability with the installation of double stations (landfill waste and recycling) at our busiest parks. The units will be placed at the Art Park, Sports Complex and Helke Park and will provide smart, connected waste and recycling stations that keep waste contained



and report fullness status to collection crews to enable increased productivity. We are anticipating up to 80% collection reduction in addition to cleanliness, operational, economic, and environmental benefits as a result of this project. All three (3) units will be custom wrapped and have a foot pedal for a handsfree option

The City of Vandalia will receive a check in the amount of \$22,287.65 from Montgomery County once the project is completed.

Resolution: Purchase of Three Zero Turn Mowers – The Parks and Recreation Department is requesting to purchase three (3) John Deere 950M Zero Turn Mowers from Deer & Company through the State of Ohio Purchasing Contract #800750-STS515AG at a total cost of \$32,471.09, after trade-in. The 2023 capital budget has \$30,000 allocated for the purchase. The balance of funds for the purchase would come from unexpended funds from the Terrain Cut Mower purchase balance to cover the additional expense for the three (3) zero turn units.

The purchase will include the trade-in of two (2) 2007 John Deere 757 Model units with 1358 and 1700 operating hours. The third unit being replaced had no trade-in value due to the condition of the motor, therefore, we plan to keep this unit for parts and eventually scrape the remains of the unit.

Resolution: Renaming of Veterans Memorial Parkway to Veterans Parkway – Councilmember Follick, the Vandalia Butler Chamber of Commerce, and our partners at Butler Township have been working on the veteran banners program. I would like the opportunity to discuss with City Council and to determine whether it makes sense to rename and redesignate Dixie Drive from Veterans Memorial Parkway to Veterans Parkway. If so, I would request formal action in the form of a resolution at the February 20th meeting.

Discussion Items:

Purchase Modems for Fire Apparatus - The Division of Fire utilizes Sierra Wireless data modems in their fire apparatus to connect to city data services, such as fire and EMS dispatching, maps, address history, and other network and internet-based services. The current modems were installed in 2015. The modems have been failing at an accelerated rate and we have exhausted our spare modem inventory.

The Division of Fire budgeted \$24,000 for new modems. The budgetary estimate was based on new 5G modems, but after reviewing our options with a Sierra Wireless reseller, 4G modems are sufficient for our workloads. We are recommending Sierra Wireless RX55 modems, new antennas, and 5-year warranties for eleven vehicles with two sets of additional spares. We received a quote from Industrial Networking Solutions and ITSavvy, with Industrial Networking Solutions being the lowest. We are recommending the purchase of the equipment from Industrial Networking Solutions at a cost of \$16,167.58.

The installation of equipment will be handled by the IT Division.

Uninterruptable Power Supply (UPS) Replacement - One of the city's main Uninterruptable Power Supply (UPS) units was badly damaged during the Justice Center water leak on December 25, 2022. The unit short circuited and caught fire for a few moments before it was removed from the building. The UPS is one of three (3) Liebert GXT4 battery backup systems that support the Justice Center servers and 911 equipment. Power has been diverted to two smaller UPS units as a temporary solution.

IT Manager Davey contacted our regional Liebert rep at Uptime Solutions, and they worked with CDW-G to provide a quote for replacement hardware. CDW-G quoted a GXT5 model since the GXT4 model is no longer sold. CDW-G provided pricing on the Sourcewell cooperative purchasing agreement for a total replacement cost of \$13,129.03.

The equipment is covered by the city's insurance and will be submitted as part of our pending insurance claim. To bring the Justice Center server equipment back to full working order, I am recommending the replacement of the UPS from CDW-G for a cost of \$13,129.03.

SmartBill Extension of contract – The City currently contracts with SmartBill Ltd for data processing, printing, folding, inserting, presorting, and delivery to the USPS for the annual income tax notification

letter, annual federal 1099G forms and monthly utility bills. The processing is accurate, efficient and timely and we have been very pleased with the quality of the services. The current contract has expired, and a one-year extension has been recommended.

VRC Climbing Wall Auto Belay System - The Parks and Recreation Department is recommending a purchase agreement for the installation of a climbing wall auto belay system at the Vandalia Recreation Center with Vertical Reality, LLC of Miami, FL. Recreation Center Facility Manager Alicia McCracken requested proposals from three climbing industry manufacturers, receiving a quote from two. Vertical Reality submitted a proposal of \$17,250 The project will include the purchase, delivery and installation of five auto belay devices along with all necessary gear and accessories. The 2023 capital budget includes \$15,000 for this project so we are recommending the balance of funds come from unexpended capital project funds. During the research process staff learned that Vertical Reality provides climbing wall services to Blue Ash and Groveport Recreation Centers. Staff contacted both facilities and received positive feedback about their products and services.

VPD 2023 P&R Communications Maintenance Fees - In 2016, the Vandalia Division of Police transitioned radio communications to the State's Multi-Agency Radio Communications System (MARCS). Additionally, the Communications Center was upgraded in 2015. P&R Communications installed the initial radio equipment and has maintained it since then. P&R Communications continues to provide exceptional service to the Division of Police. I recommend the City continue to utilize P&R Communications, an authorized Motorola dealer, to provide maintenance and service for the Communications Center's radio equipment at an annual cost of \$11,446.00, which was the amount budgeted for 2023.

VPD Agile Network Renewal - In 2016, Vandalia Division of Police transitioned radio communications to the state's Multi-Agency Radio Communications System (MARCS). As part of this radio communication system, two OP-VPN connections, serviced by Agile Networks, were established. Agile Networks continues to monitor and service these IP-VPN connections. Agile Networks is the sole service provider for these IP-VPN connections. I recommend we continue our agreement with Agile Networks and pay the annual maintenance fees of \$14,880.00, which was the amount budgeted for 2023, billed in monthly installments.

Blight Abatement - The City has received a Default Judgement order from the Montgomery County Common Pleas court declaring the property at 6325 Shady Knoll Drive a public nuisance. City staff and elected officials have received many complaints from Vandalia residents about the condition of this property. The judgement permits the City to abate the nuisance by demolition of the structures and clean-up of the debris on site. The asbestos inspection has been performed asbestos was present in the structure. We have received two proposals for the asbestos abatement. I recommend that we enter into an agreement with Alloyd Asbestos Abatement for the asbestos removal at their submitted cost of \$14,250. They also performed the asbestos abatement on the property at 841 Spartan Avenue. We have received two proposals for the demolition of the structure and removal of debris from the property. I recommend that we enter into an agreement with Journey Trucking at a cost of \$23,445 for the demolition of structures and removal of debris from the property at 6325 Shady Knoll Dr. The City budgeted a placeholder of \$30,000 in the 2023 budget for all blight abatement projects. If the project is

to be demolished, it will be necessary to appropriate additional funds in the future to cover the demolition costs. The City will invoice the property owner for these costs and if not paid will be assessed to the property taxes.

Concrete Saw Cutting – Recently, I authorize the expenditure of funds to perform a concrete sawing pilot program. As part of our 2023 Curb & Sidewalk repair program we are including a test area of horizontal concrete saw-cutting to eliminate trip hazards. This is a common practice in many other municipalities. The horizontal saw-cutting is a less expensive way to remove trip hazards by eliminating the removal of the existing sidewalk and the restoration of the sod next to the walks. This has been problematic in recent years getting the grass to grow in small areas. By the estimates we received we feel like we can have the saw-cutting performed for approximately 30% of the cost to remove and replace the entire section of walk. If the pilot is a success, I plan to expand the scope to the entire project.

Precision Concrete Cutting is performing **210** cuts for a total cost of **15,625.00**. We will be cutting any walks that have a ¾" trip hazard or more to achieve Americans with Disabilities Act transition compliance. If we were to replace all of these sections of walk the cost would be near \$50,000 based on last year's project costs. I recommend that we enter into an agreement with Precision Concrete Cutting at their proposal cost of \$15,625.00 to perform the work. We would like to get them started as soon as possible to inspect the work and determine if we want to perform more saw-cutting or return to walk replacement.

We will use a portion of the funds appropriated in the 2023 Capital Improvement Budget for concrete repairs to perform this work.

6o-Day Calendar - The calendar is included in your packets for your review.

Council Meeting:

Communications, Petitions and Awards - Mayor Herbst will present a proclamation to Vandalia resident Betty Forte who recently turned 100 years young.

Resolution 23-R-o6: 2023 Motorola Service Agreement - The Division of Police purchased three radio consoles and five consolettes from Motorola Solutions in 2015 as part of the upgrade to the Multi-Agency Radio Communications System (MARCS). Following the initial warranties, the City has continued to enter into an annual agreement with Motorola Solutions for the servicing of the hardware and software upgrades. The radio system provides Vandalia Police, Fire and EMS personnel in the field with the ability to communicate with the City's Communications Center as well as other public safety entities on MARCS. Vandalia has received exceptional reliability with Motorola public safety radio equipment since the City's first purchase in 1986. I recommend City Council waive competitive bidding requirements due to the proprietary nature of the Motorola hardware and software and authorize payment of \$32,388.00 for service dates February 1, 2023, through January 31, 2024, because of the City's critical need to maintain uninterrupted connection with its public safety personnel and other users on MARCS.

<u>Ordinance – First Reading:</u>

Ordinance 23-03: Amend Codified Ordinances Relating to Knives - This ordinance will amend certain provisions in the Vandalia Codified Ordinances relating to knives in order to comply with changes in the State law.

The next Council meeting is on **Monday, February 6, 2023 at 7:00 pm**. The meeting will be an in-person meeting in Council Chambers. The meeting is open to Council, staff and the public to attend in-person. The meetings will be accessible for viewing on through **Zoom (LINK)**. Please note, no comments, electronic or oral, will be allowed by people that are participating electronically through Zoom. Anyone wishing to be heard on a topic will need to appear personally at the meeting. **The Study Session will begin at 5:00 pm followed by the City Council Meeting at 7:00 pm**.

Please contact me directly with comments and questions.

Very Respectfully,

Dan Wendt City Manager

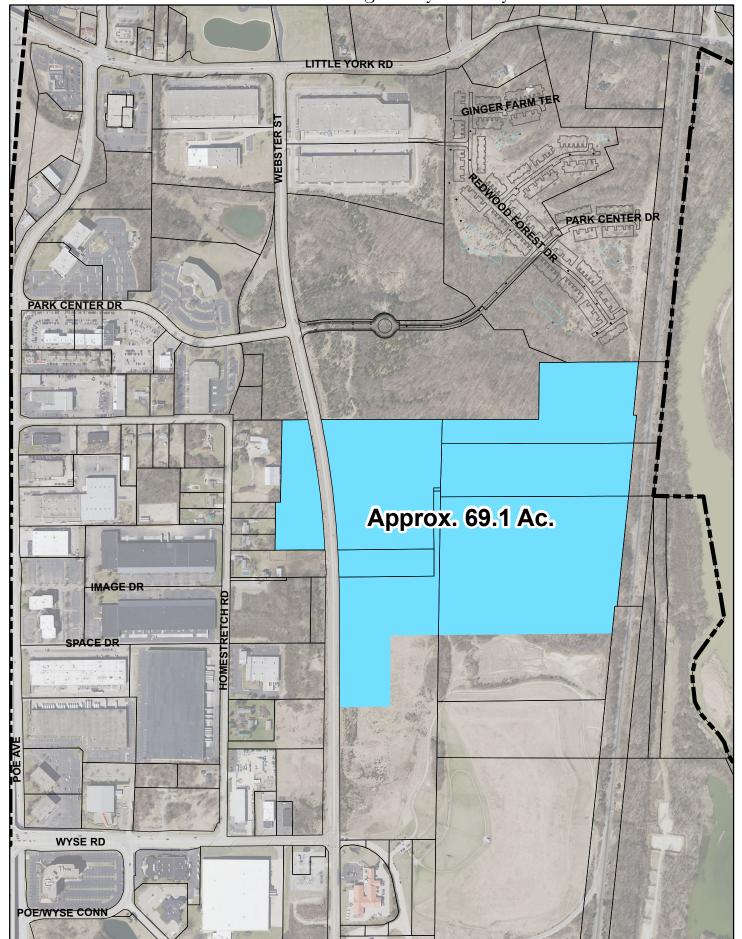
CC: Board and Commission Members

All City Employees



Properties to be Transferred from Montgomery County





From: Kurt Althouse
To: Robert Large

Cc: <u>Dan Wendt</u>; <u>Ben Walker</u>; <u>Brandon Sucher</u>

Subject: Note of Appreciation

Date: Friday, February 3, 2023 8:50:10 AM

Attachments: <u>image002.png</u>

image003.png image004.png image006.png image007.png

Robert,

I want to acknowledge the outstanding service you provided to this Vandalia family in assisting their young daughter who was having behavior issues. From the information shared, your intervention and the time you spent with her and the family had a significant impact in changing her perspective and improving the family's overall quality of life. This is an example of true service above and beyond the normal call for duty. Additionally, you utilized Kristina from South Community as a resource to assist in connecting this family with services that have benefited them and allowed them to address several issues their daughter and granddaughter were experiencing.

Thank for your outstanding work and service!

Kurt

Kurt E. Althouse Police Chief

City of Vandalia, Ohio 245 James E. Bohanan Dr. Vandalia, OH 45377 937-415-2290 Office 937-898-5868 Dispatch 937-898-5040 Fax



vandaliaohio.org









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wrote:

Hi!

I wanted to share a BIG kudos to Officer Large...

Back story to this young lady who lives here in Vandalia with mom and grandma... This young lady was having a lot of behavior issues, not going to school, cutting/suicidal, had been to Children's a few times, not really talking, and trying to physically fight grandma at times. Officer Large went above and beyond with this family before coming to me with this. He made MANY efforts to help this family, including walking the young lady to school and working with mom and grandma to attempt to find a residential program for this young lady (made many phone calls to various treatment programs). After all Officer Large's efforts he asked if I could meet with the family. I was able to get them linked to services.

I spoke to mom to check in and this is what she expressed to me: Her daughter is doing very, very well now. She is in a new school, is in the band, making friends, and feels like she fits in. Her daughter has expressed wanting to engage in therapy, so that is now being set up too. Mom said "I felt it was only right to tell you and Officer Large because if it wasn't for you two, we would have never known about the children matter program. Thank you guys for going out of your way to even help when I had questions and doing a lot of calling around. I really appreciate that and will never forget that. I'm just so happy she is ready to talk and get better. Thank you".

This was such a positive message from mom that I just had to share it. I really believe that Officer Large went way above and beyond the call for service and deserves a kudos! When he got involved, this family was at its breaking point and they thought the only option was to get their daughter into a residential program, but with a bit of listening, understanding, and advocacy, the young lady and her family is in a much better place!

Kristina Hill, LSW, MSW

Vandalia and Butler Township Police Department CIT Co-Responder **South Community**

Mental Health | Primary Care | Substance Use Treatment

Cell: 937-528-3140 Office: 937-296-3028

www.southcommunity.com

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2022 Service Awards Luncheon

Help us to honor employees reaching milestone anniversaries in their employment.

Friday, February 24, 2023 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Cassel Hills Golf Course Clubhouse

Lunch Provided



Who's being honored?

30 Years

Joe Blosser - Public Works
Rob Cron - Development and Engineering Services
Missy Pruszynski - City Manager's Office

25 Years

Rudy Wells - Parks and Recreation

20 Years

Bill Miles - Public Works Ben Walker - Division of Police

15 Years

Kimberly Brumfield - Court
Shaun Coatsworth - Division of Police
Brandy Collins - Court
Ed DiFalco - Court
Holly Estepp - Division of Police
Bryan Fine - Parks and Recreation
Cynthia Herbst - Court
Alicia McCracken - Parks and Recreation
Denise Mehall - Court
Doug Nagel - Division of Police
Zeb Ward - Public Works
Jennifer Wegley - Finance
Olga Williamson - Court

10 Years

Jeff Kreill - Parks and Recreation Deborah Wright - Division of Police

5 Years

Ben Lickliter - Parks and Recreation John Marshall - Parks and Recreation Steve Milliken - Division of Fire Mya Mitchell - Division of Fire Dan Morrow - Parks and Recreation



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Introducing My Vandalia, the fast, easy and free way to connect with the City for just about anything!





Request a "vacation house check."

Report property maintenance issues in an instant.

Report a pothole in seconds! Snap a photo and the app lets us know exactly where to send the crew!

Ask a question or submit a general comment.

It's your direct access line to the City!

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2023 Citywide Policy Goals

Approved December 5, 2022

Live



Small City Big Opportunity: Be known regionally as a top-tier suburb through top- tier City services. Enhance social and economic investment by promoting the City's high-quality services, well-performing schools, available workforce, escalating quality- of-life, and growing sense of place. Incentivize developments that improve life in Vandalia.



Safe and Secure: Ensure that Vandalia remains a safe and secure community by investing in both traditional public safety operations and creative outreach efforts to meet the evolving needs of our residents and visitors.



Enhance Infrastructure: Protect public assets and infrastructure by making calculated and deliberate investments in roadways, utilities, park spaces.

Work



Fiscal Sustainability: Leverage the operating position of the City to seize strategic opportunities for improving quality of life, while maintaining sustainable fiscal practices.



Trust and Confidence: Promote an open approach to government through coordinated, transparent, and evidence-based engagement practices. Empower residents, business owners and community stakeholders to partner in City programs.



Sharpen the Saw: Commit to process improvements by purposefully refining practices and leveraging technology to improve internal and external customer service.

Play



Vibrant: Be a vibrant community that uses its amenities and growth mindset to create a warm and welcoming environment in which to live, work, and play.

City of Vandalia 333 James Bohanan Drive Vandalia, Ohio 45377

PRSRT STD U.S. POSTAGE PAID DAYTON, OH PERMIT NO. 248



Vandalia utility rates are being adjusted.

Effective on the first utility bill in January, 2023, utility rates in Vandalia will be adjusted to meet emerging needs in the City's water, sewer and stormwater systems.



- ▼ To provide safe drinking water.
- ▼ To prevent accidental discharges of raw sewage.
- ▼ To address costs associated with regulatory mandates.
- ▼ To better prevent flooding during rain events.
- ▼ To perform deferred maintenance within the utility system.

For more details on Vandalia utility rates, check out the City of Vandalia website: www.vandaliaohio.org/utilities or use the QR code to visit the site. Questions? Call (937) 898-5891.







