



STATE OF THE CITY REPORT

Issued March 26, 2024, by Mayor Joel B. Day

The budgetary effects of inflationary costs for materials, supplies and equipment, and staffing issues presented the biggest challenges to our City government in 2023. But efforts were made to improve our City and sustain its growth and prosperity.

As the year progressed, department heads reported marked increases in the cost of everyday supplies, materials for projects, and equipment replacement. It was difficult to attract and keep employees, particularly in the Sanitation Department, because of fickle applicants and wage competition with private sector employers. By the end of 2023, the City workforce remained three employees short in General Services and without an assistant superintendent in the Water Department.

The major employers in New Philadelphia continued to add to their payrolls, which was reflected by the fact that, in 2023, the City collected over \$10 million in income tax revenue for the first time.

A new City Civil Service Commission was formed. Federal Administrative Judge Bob Preston, Attorney Lacey Felix and Kevin Milligan, Director of Cleveland Clinic Union Hospital's Physician Services were appointed as commissioners. They began to update the City's Civil Service Commission regulations to bring them into compliance with State laws and bring more flexibility into the hiring process.

City department heads attended two leadership training sessions at the Kent State-Tuscarawas campus. They learned ways to improve management skills and how to be more proactive to changes in the workplace.

Quarterly labor-management meetings were held with representatives from the City's four union bargaining units. The meetings were very productive in identifying how to improve relationships, working conditions, and employees' safety.

Work continued with Compass Point Planning to revise the City's zoning and planning codes. An online public survey gathered the community's thoughts on changes that could be made to remove gray areas in the existing codes and modernize land use regulations. A series of workshops were held with Compass Point's Wendy Moeller to develop the new codes.



An archaeological survey was completed at the southeastern end of the main runway at Harry Clever Field. The survey revealed iron objects possibly related to 19th century fences or other outbuildings on the former farmland. The survey was required by the Ohio History Connection after the City took ownership of the land. It was delayed two years because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Engineers from Burgess and Niple of Columbus completed a traffic study to determine the best way to redesign the Interstate 77/US 250/SR 39 interchange in New Philadelphia. The study was necessary to apply for design and construction funding from the Ohio Department of Transportation and the Federal Highway Administration.

In February, the City joined the Tuscarawas County Chamber of Commerce, Buckeye Career Center, and Kent State-Tuscarawas in hosting a visit by representatives of the Japan External Trade Organization. The JETRO team was interested in the advanced manufacturing training programs at BCC and KSU-Tusc. JETRO and Japanese manufacturers were looking for more locations and partnerships in Ohio because of Intel and the growing market for electric vehicles.

The New Philadelphia/Dover area was recognized for its economic development efforts in Site Selection magazine's Top 100 micropolitan communities in the United States.

A new 82-unit Marriott TownePlace Suites hotel opened on West High Avenue. The hotel was built by SAI Hospitality, Inc. of Perrysburg Ohio. And a new Petco store opened on Bluebell Drive NW. The store's design was Petco's new small town and rural concept.

ProVia became a new member of New Philadelphia's business community when it purchased the vacant Times Reporter building on Wabash Avenue NW. ProVia bought a lamination company and moved it into the building.

The revitalization of downtown New Philadelphia continued in 2023. Lacey Herbert-Stephen opened Lacey PAC dance studio and an Adaptive Movement Center in two downtown locations.

The Tuscarawas Arts Partnership sponsored two successful Art on the Alley events: one in May and the other in October. Attendance at the events continues to grow each year.

The City participated in TAP's "Love Tusc" project by having a sculpture designed by New Philadelphia artist Tony Contini placed in the Gavin's downtown quadrant. Funding for the project came from local businesses and individuals.

The Downtown Design Standards Board of Review continued its traffic box wrap art project. Eight more boxes were decorated by designs created by high school art students in Tuscarawas County.

A steering committee made up of 20 community members worked to develop a new organization to help guide the revitalization of the downtown area and develop ways to promote New Philadelphia's businesses and the community in general. The committee selected "NPact", or "New Philadelphia Advancing the Community Together", as the name of the new organization.

Also in 2023, the City used state funding to pay for the demolition of the buildings on the former Puritan Laundry property on the west side of Mill Avenue SW. The Ohio Environmental Protection Agency conducted a Phase 2 study on the parcels east of Mill Avenue in preparation for the land being donated to the City. The EPA expanded its testing area on Bank Lane SW to determine if PCE contamination had spread from the 1985 Puritan Laundry fire.

The Ohio Department of Natural Resources awarded the City a \$650,000 grant to begin construction of a biking and walking trail to Roswell.

New Philadelphia joined Tuscarawas County, the City of Dover and the Ohio and Erie Canalway Coalition in applying for an \$8 million Appalachian Community Grant to complete the Canal Towpath Trail to Waterworks Park. The City also partnered with the Ironton-Lawrence Community Action Organization to apply for a \$2.9 million ACG grant to reconstruct three of the four downtown quadrants. The improvements would make our downtown more walkable and encourage more shopping and activities.

The City directed state opioid settlement payments to help pay for a second School Resource Officer for New Philadelphia City Schools. A one-year agreement was crafted that had the School District paying a portion of the SRO's salary and benefits and purchase a new police cruiser.

A new \$1.8 million ladder truck was purchased for the Fire Department and officially welcomed with a public push-in ceremony at the fire station. It replaced a 20-year-old ladder truck which was frequently out of service for repairs.

The City's safety forces continued to respond to calls related to drug abuse and mental illness.

The Tuscarawas County Public Library installed a children's book Story Walk in the pollinator garden at the Southside Community Park.

The City's annual downtown Christmas Lighting Ceremony was raised to a new level with the addition of a programmable LED Christmas tree donated by the Rotary Heritage Fund and Don and Susie Whittingham. The tree was programmed to perform a light show to music at intervals every hour during the Christmas season.

Several long time City employees retired in 2023: Chief Mike Goodwin and officer Jen Horner from the Police Department. And At-Large City Council Members Dean Holland, Aimee May and Kelly Ricklic did not seek re-election. In November, Kris Kreinbihl, Tom Simmelink and Mike Walker were elected to fill the Council seats.

The challenges faced by the City in 2023 are likely to continue in 2024. But because of the diversity of our local economy and the grit New Philadelphians always show when tested, the State of our City remains strong as we advance into the new year.

MAYOR'S ACTIVITIES IN 2023

- Conducted monthly staff meetings.
- Attended the monthly meetings of the Tuscarawas County Mayors Association.
- Attended the monthly meetings of the Tuscora Park Foundation Board of Directors, and as secretary, kept the meeting minutes.
- Attended the monthly meetings of HARCATUS Tri-County CAO, Inc. as a public sector representative.
- Attended the monthly meetings of the Tuscarawas County Chamber of Commerce's Board of Directors and meetings of the Chamber's Business Retention and Expansion Committee.
- As a member of the Tuscarawas County Economic Development Corporation's Board of Directors, attended called meetings of the board.
- Was a guest speaker at an event at the Park Village Senior Living and Health Care Center and at meetings of the Kiwanis and Rotary Clubs.
- Participated in the annual Arbor Day tree planting ceremony at the Southside Community Park.
- Accepted the City's Tree City USA award at an Ohio Division of Forestry event in Cambridge, Ohio.
- Conducted monthly meetings of the administration's Property Review Committee to identify problematic structures in the City and recommend actions to eliminate them.
- Presented Certificates of Commendation to New Philadelphia Police Officers Tristen Lambert, Andrew Boyd, and Mitchell Gobley for rescuing two occupants and a dog from a burning apartment building on Bank Lane SW.
- Presented Certificates of Commendation to City Sanitation Department employees Brody Barbee, Ray Morrow, and Kyle Doran for helping an elderly resident on 3rd Street SW who was struggling to take his trash to the curb for pickup. The resident happened to be former New Philadelphia Mayor Greg Erb, who thanked the workers. They replied: "We don't mind because you matter."

- Presented a Certificate of Commendation to New Philadelphia Police Officer Mark Sadolsky, for his heroic action to rescue two children and the family dog from the porch roof of a burning apartment on Southwood Drive SW.
- Presented a Certificate of Commendation to City General Services Superintendent Ray Grewell for his outstanding leadership and for personally refurbishing the flashing traffic lights on North Broadway at Tuscora Park.
- As secretary of the Ohio Mid-Eastern Governments Association's board of directors, attended the annual three-day National Association of Development Organizations and the Development District Association of Appalachia conference in Washington D.C.
- Reappointed Diane Rusznak to the City Board of Health for another five-year term.
- Reappointed Josh Limbacher to another three-year term on the City Airport Commission.
- Reappointed Michele Leiser, Harry Matter and Neil Rupe to new three-year terms on the City Board of Zoning Appeals.
- Reappointed Bill Morgan and Phil Tidrick to new five-year terms on the City's Parks and Recreation Board.
- Appointed Dean Holland to the City Planning Commission to complete an unexpired term.
- Appointed Troy Pallotto to the City Cemetery Board for a three-year term.
- Appointed J.J. Boroski to the City's International Property Maintenance Code Board of Appeals.
- Gave an oath of office to new Firefighter Brett Putnam.
- Gave oaths of office to promote Police Officers Tessa Pohovey to Chief of Police, David Morris to Captain and Wayne Clark to Sergeant.
- Participated as an ex officio member of a steering committee that will develop a new strategic plan to continue to revitalize the downtown area and sustain its development and growth.
- Wrote a Letter of Support to the Rosenberry Foundation for an auxiliary police body armor grant.
- Wrote a request to Linda Bailiff, the Director of the Ohio Public Works Commission, to allow crushed limestone to be spread over the muddy grass parking lots on the Southside Community Park. She granted the request, which was necessary because the City received OPW Clean Ohio grant funding to construct the parking lots.
- Worked with the Ohio Mid-Eastern Governments Association to apply for government and private grant funding to begin construction of Phase 2 of the Southside Community Park's development.
- Issued a Mayoral Proclamation declaring the week of October 23rd as the National Family Partnership's annual "Red Ribbon Week" to raise awareness of the harm done to families and communities by the selling and use of illicit drugs.
- Presented a Mayoral Proclamation to Donnas Coulter at her 100th birthday celebration at the Tuscarawas County Senior Center.



- Attended ribbon-cutting grand opening ceremonies at Diamond in the Rough Property Solutions on West High Avenue, Custom Needle-Print on Ashwood Lane NW, Access Tusc headquarters on 5th Street NW, Marriott TownePlace Suites on West High Avenue, Petco Neighborhood Farm and Pet Supply on Bluebell Drive NW, and LaceyPAC Adaptive Movement Center on South Broadway.

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT – Jami Bailey

Among the responsibilities of the Mayor’s Executive Assistant is to issue licenses and permits, and collect revenue generated from parking meters and fines. Here are the numbers from 2023:

- Number of vendors licenses issued –211
- Parking Permits issued – 314
- Solicitors and Handbill Permits issued – 29
- Garage Sale Permits issued – 284
- Internet Café Licenses issued – 1
- Number of complaints and inquiries forwarded to the Street Department, Police Department and Zoning & Building Code Administrator – 44
- Total monies collected from parking meters and fines - \$15,837.92
- **Total Revenue collected for the year 2022 – \$40,858.42**

In addition, Jami Bailey did an outstanding job of organizing the City’s annual Christmas Lighting Ceremony, Christmas parade and a downtown store window Christmas decoration contest.

CITY PLANNING COMMISSION

The City Planning Commission held 10 meetings in 2023. Most of them were used as work sessions with Wendy Moeller of Compass Point Planning, who the City hired to revise its zoning, signage and planning codes. Recommendations made to City Council by the Planning Commission in 2023 included:

- Rezoning a parcel on Wabash Avenue NW from business to industrial to accommodate the location of ProVia in the former Times-Reporter building.
- Rezoning two parcels adjacent to the Little Theatre at Carrie Avenue and 5th Street NW from residential to business to fit the theatre’s remodeling plans.
- Rezoning a parcel on Kaserman Avenue NW from residential to industrial to accommodate the expansion of MPS Manufacturing

DOWNTOWN DESIGN STANDARDS BOARD OF REVIEW

The board conducted seven meetings in 2023. Members continued their work to develop design standards for building façade improvements, signage, and public art in the downtown area. In addition, the board helped plan and implement the following downtown projects:

- Art on the Alley – Sunday May 7th and Sunday October 15th
- County high school art students’ traffic box wraps
- Programmable LED Christmas tree
- New downtown LED Christmas lights
- Downtown store windows’ Christmas displays
- Revising the City’s zoning and signage codes
- Placement of the City’s LoveTusc sculpture on the Gavin’s downtown quadrant

HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT – Director Lacey McKain

2023 was a busy year keeping up with hiring and onboarding new employees to the City’s workforce. The City’s workforce consisted of 177 full-time employees, 31 part-time employees, and 51 seasonal employees. In addition to seeing that the City’s daily human resources needs were met, Director McKain also completed the following accomplishments:

- Completed all BWC requirements for the following programs:
 - DFSP (Drug-Free Safety Program): Earns the City a 4% discount on the BWC premium for participation in the Program.
 - Continued to participate and track random drug draws in concert with the City Health Department.
 - Continued to monitor all drug testing (i.e., pre-hire, random, and post-accident).
 - Conducted Mandatory Substance Abuse Training for all employees through Occupational Medicine Center.
 - ISSP (Industry-Specific Safety Program): Earns the City a 3% discount on the BWC premium for participation in the Program.
 - Attended classes throughout the year on Occupational Safety and Health.
 - TWBP (Transitional Work Bonus Program): Earns the City up to a 10% discount on the City’s BWC premium for participation in the Program.
 - Ensured that employees with physician orders for restricted duty were provided duties in line with the order.
 - Attended Monthly Tuscarawas Valley Safety Council Meetings: Earns the City a 1% discount.
- Conducted Mandatory Leadership Classes through Kent State University for all levels of management.
- Partnered with RTY to hold the 1st annual Job Fair at Tuscora Park to recruit seasonal employees to fulfill staffing needs in all City departments.

- Presented at the Buckeye Career Center Career Carnival, speaking to 8th graders from Tuscarawas, Homes, and Carroll Counties who are interested in pursuing a career in Government and Public Administration.
- Attended the Tuscarawas Valley College and Career Fair where Director McKain was given the opportunity to speak to juniors and seniors attending Tuscarawas County Schools and discuss future career opportunities within the City of New Philadelphia.
- Attended the Ohio Human Resource Conference in Sandusky Ohio which provided 3 days of training and professional development to Human Resource Professionals. This also gave the opportunity to network and bring new ideas back to New Philadelphia.
- Applied for and was awarded a \$40,000 Safety Grant to purchase Portable Traffic Signals for the General Services department.
- The City of New Philadelphia partnered with Tuscora #4 Fraternal Order of Police to support Stuff the Bus, providing school supplies for HARCATUS Head Start Preschoolers.
- Took the lead in transitioning the City employees' medical and dental insurance benefits to the Jefferson Health Plan.

SERVICE DEPARTMENT – Director Ron McAbier

PROJECTS – Using Federal and State grants, and local tax dollars, the following projects were completed in 2023:

- Approximately 6.25 miles of city streets were paved.
- 1,434 feet of 6” waterlines and 2,207 feet of 12” waterlines were installed.
- Approximately 550 feet of Glen Drive NE was rehabilitated with new paving and storm sewer lines.
- Phase 1 of the Franklin Square storm sewer project was completed with 1,887 feet of 60” sewer lines, 20 feet of 36” sewer lines, 10 feet of 18” sewer lines, and 138 feet of 12” sewer lines.

Building Permits – The following building permits were issued in 2023:

9	New Single-Family Homes
4	Duplexes
11	New Commercial Buildings
9	Additions to Commercial Buildings
18	Garages / Carports
4	Additions to Family Homes
302	Misc. permits for items such as signs, lot splits, concrete, licenses, taps, etc.
357	Total Permits and Licenses for 2023

Annexation – The following properties were annexed into the City in 2023:

- Lawver Properties, LLC – Parcels 25-01989-000 and 25-01887-000, initiated on March 8, 2022, Resolution 39-2022 passed January 9, 2023.

Board of Zoning Appeals – The Board of Zoning Appeals met eight times, granted nine variances, and denied two during the 2023 calendar year.

Tree Planting – A total of 25 trees were planted throughout the city during 2023.

Sidewalk Replacement Program – The Sidewalk Replacement Program was a success again in 2023. The City was able to assist 15 property owners in replacing or repairing their sidewalks.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY – Larry Lowdermilk

In 2023, the City continued to work with Pioneer 360 to manage the interdepartmental computer infrastructure and network. In addition, several computers were replaced, and networking equipment was updated, including the City’s main servers. New security measures were also put in place.

CITY AIRPORT COMMISSION/HARRY CLEVER FIELD

The City Airport Commission held 11 monthly meetings in 2023. Member Bob Bedard and Josh Limbacher were reappointed to three-year terms.

With the help of airport consultant Michael Baker International and grant funding from the Federal Aviation Administration and ODOT-Aviation, the following projects were completed at the airport:

- Taxiway A underwent a significant upgrade in its design and construction.
- The main runway lighting was upgraded and replaced.

Other improvements made at Harry Clever Field in 2023:

- The old airport beacon was restored and displayed at the airport as a monument to its aviation heritage.
- The three main electrical service panels at Maggoo’s Restaurant building were replaced.

The airport’s courtesy car was signed out 194 times for use by visiting aviators and their guests.

The following revenue was generated in 2023 by the use of Harry Clever Field:

Maggoo’s Restaurant Lease - \$24,076.60

Fuel Sales – the City receives \$.04 per gallon on all aviation fuel sold by ProAv (FBO) at retail

100LL: 37,704.94 gal; \$1,561.32
Jet A: 9,398.42 gal; \$550.25

Hanger Revenue

Rents: \$23,777.50
Maintenance Fees: \$8,700.00

Pro AV Rent: \$10,000.00

TOTAL REVENUE \$68,665.67

ZONING & BUILDING CODE ADMINISTRATOR – Joshua Mathias

The following information is a summary of activities for Code Enforcement and Zoning during the year 2023. Notices were sent to property owners in violation of our city’s Codified Ordinances.

ZONING

Zoning violations in 2023 consisted of failure to obtain permits, failure to obtain Certificates of Zoning Compliance (COZC), property setback, recreational vehicle (RV) storage, and home occupation violations.

Failure to obtain permits:	11
Failure to obtain COZC:	1
Setback violations:	3
RV storage:	5
Home Occupation violations:	2
Total Zoning violations:	22

PROPERTY MAINTENANCE

Property Maintenance violations in 2023 consisted of high grass, overgrown vegetation, trees, the accumulation of garbage, and the storage of junk or junk vehicles.

High grass:	60
Overgrowth:	16
Trees:	4
Garbage:	11
Junk:	39
Junk Vehicles:	6
Total Property Maintenance violations:	136

City work crews were sent to mow high grass or trim back vegetation from city rights-of-way a **total of 16 times** where property owners failed to comply with cleanup orders. These property owners were billed for our services. Some chose not to pay the bill and assessments were requested to be placed on their real estate taxes.

4 property owners paid for a total of \$820.00 collected
12 property owners did not pay for a total of \$3,397.50 in assessments

BUILDING/HOUSING

Both our local codes and the International Property Maintenance Code (IPMC) are used to identify unsafe/unsanitary structures within the city and to order the corrections of any violations. These violations can range from a single necessary correction to an entire structure needing to be repaired or demolished. There are some properties we were working with in 2022 that carried into 2023. Those results are included in this report.

Repairs in progress:	5
Violations corrected/Structures repaired:	10
Structures demolished by the property owner:	2
Structures demolished by the City:	0

Code cases were closed on three apartment units because of contact being lost with the complainants after several attempts to re-establish communications to check on progress.

Total issues with Buildings/Houses: 23

OTHER

The codes enforced are scattered throughout the City’s Codified Ordinances. The violations listed below come from chapters other than those reported above. The following consist of animal, garage sale, sidewalk, and SWP3 (Storm Water) violations.

Animals:	2
Garage Sale:	1
Sidewalk:	1
SWP3:	1
Total Other violations:	5

TOTAL CODE VIOLATIONS IN 2023: 186

GENERAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT – Superintendent Ray Grewell

In 2023, the following purchases were made in the Street, Sanitation and Traffic Divisions:

- 2024 GMC Sierra pickup \$49,986.50
- 2024 GMC Sierra pickup \$50,000.00
- 1999 New Holland Boom Mower \$7,000.00
- Landscaping Trailer \$2,850.00
- New Steiner 60” Deck mower \$3,700.00



- Sanitation Truck #114 New Cart Tipper \$5,026.27
- A decorative light pole with top caps for crosswalk flashing lights \$6,400.00
- Battery Backup System for the South Broadway & Graff Rd SE Traffic Signal \$8,865.00
- R.J. Wright and Sons LTD Fuel - \$205,736.75
- Salt purchased for 2023 winter – 700.84 Tons - \$40,570.19
- Salt Used – 212.3 Tons

These repairs were made:

- Building Repairs on Sanitation garage with new support beams to straighten and jack up roof line. Also replaced roofing \$56,827.00
- Sanitation Truck #114 Slide Panel Assembly and Labor \$9,643.71
- Truck #01 Replacement of Camshaft and Lifters \$5,196.83

SANITATION DIVISION

- Garbage taken to the Kimble landfill – 9,988.31 Tons - \$ 127,106.29
- Recyclables – 445.29 Tons - \$ 10,736.16
- Street Sweepings – 182.11 Tons
- Extra Trash/Brush Pick-ups – 1,919
- Bull Country Compost – 78 Brush Hoppers - \$12,330.00

STREET DIVISION

- Newton Asphalt Hot Mix purchased to fill potholes – 175.35 Tons - \$13,501.95
- Street paving – 5,155.83 Tons - \$509,160.21
- Tuscarawas County Engineer Cold Mix – 17.51 Tons - \$1,367.53
- HFRS2 – None

TREE CREW

- Stumps removed – 56
- Trees trimmed – 61
- Trees cut down – 46

WATER OFFICE / WATER SUPPLY / WATER DISTRIBUTION – Superintendent Scott DeVault

In 2023, the City’s Water Department continued making many improvements to its Distribution System. Major work included replacement of a 12” watermain under State Route 250 servicing the south side of New Philadelphia. This project was completed due to a deteriorating 12” main. In

addition, a 6" watermain project was completed by Water Department personnel on 2nd St. SW replacing a deteriorating 2" watermain.

In 2023, the City's Water Billing Office took on a complete billing software update, switching to VIP Utility Billing. Water Office personnel took on this challenging project and completed on time and without any disruption to the billing process.

Other improvements to the Distribution System included hydrant replacement, valve replacement, service connection renewals, new taps, new mains, and new service installations all across the City.

The City Water Plant continued efficient production of safe, clean drinking water to the residents and businesses of New Philadelphia. Inspections of the reservoirs and clearwells were completed as well.

The following report shows the operation of the City's Water Office, Water Supply, and Distribution System departments in 2023.

2023 WATER DEPARTMENT IMPORTANT STATISTICS

WATER OFFICE

JANUARY 1, 2023 - DECEMBER 31, 2023

TOTAL NUMBER OF SERVICE CONNECTIONS

SPRINKLING METERS	386
WATER ONLY ACCOUNTS	171
SEWER ONLY ACCOUNTS	12
ACH ACCOUNTS	1,945
WORK ORDERS	2,078
AMR WORK ORDERS	25

8157 - ACCOUNTS INSIDE CITY

219 - ACCOUNTS OUTSIDE CITY

8376 - TOTAL ACCOUNTS

AS OF 2018 ALL ACCOUNTS ARE ON THE AUTOMATIC METER READING SYSTEM (AMR)

WATER SUPPLY

JANUARY 1, 2023 - DECEMBER 31,

PUMPED FROM WELLS	793,295,193 GALLON
PUMPED TO DISTRIBUTION	715,493,897 GALLON
CHLORINE USED	4418 POUNDS
PERMANGANATE USED	876 GALLON
SALT USED	3,929,473 POUNDS
CARBON DIOXIDE USED	122,654 POUNDS
TOTAL HOURS OPERATIONAL	5890

WATER DISTRIBUTION WORK STATISTICS

JANUARY 1, 2023 - DECEMBER 31, 2023

LEAKS MAIN	LEAKS SERVICE	NEW SERVICES	RENEWED SERVICES	NEW OR REPLACED HYDRANTS
26	10	13	11	11

WATER IMPROVEMENTS

JANUARY 1, 2023 - DECEMBER 31, 2023

WATER DISTRIBUTION

REPLACED 6 - 6" MAIN VALVE	INSTALLED 1434 - NEW 6" WATER MAIN
INSTALLED 11 - NEW 12" MAIN VALVE	INSTALLED 2207' OF NEW 12" WATER MAIN
INSTALLED 9 - NEW 6" MAIN VALVE	

WASTEWATER/SEWER DEPARTMENTS – Superintendent Brian Myers

WASTEWATER DEPARTMENT

In 2023, the City’s wastewater treatment plant treated 976 million gallons of raw sewage, averaging 2.67 MGD (million gallons per day) with 5.58 MG (million gallons) of sludge produced as a result. The sludge was run through a filter press and 430.1 dry tons of sludge were disposed of at Kimble’s landfill.

Projects completed in the department included:

- A new control panel along with a complete rehab of the belt filter press.
- A new scada system upgrade that was started in 2022 for all the buildings and equipment at the sewer plant.
- The storm sewer on Ann Circle NE was replaced from the catch basin to the outfall.

- Phase I of Franklin Square (4th St. and West High) storm sewer project
- Glen Drive NE storm sewer project
- A new Gradall Vacall used for cleaning and general maintenance of the sewer system (the machine was delivered in January of 2023)
- The department continued to work with Alec Hillyer to keep both the lagoon and park pond free of algae and duckweed.

SEWER DEPARTMENT

The Sewer Department raised 57 manholes throughout the city and rebuilt 24 catch basins. Other regular duties performed included:

- Handling all OUPS tickets
- Daily cleaning of catch basins.
- Each month, jetting and cleaning out hot spot areas to ensure that the sanitary system worked properly.
- Answered 17 sewer calls resulting in only 3 lines needing jetted to help flow.
- Smoke tested North Ave NE to Donahey Dr on 2nd Dr, 3rd and 4th St NE looking for inflow and infiltration to satisfy EPA requirements.
- Opened numerous manholes and jetted for the gas company projects.
- Fixed several sink holes.
- Used the sewer jetter to help the Water Department replace hydrants and services along with multiple leaks throughout the year.
- Sucked out and cleaned grease tanks throughout the year at Tuscora Park and at Maggoo's Restaurant at the airport.
- Plowed snow.
- Mapped all new sewer laterals.
- Continued work on the storm water management and FOG programs.

FIRE DEPARTMENT – Chief Jim Parrish

2023 was another challenging year in the New Philadelphia Fire Department. The men and women of the NPFDD responded to 3,578 calls. The call volume for 2022 was 3,673. Approximately 37% of the EMS calls we responded to were related to mental health and chemical dependency, I attribute the decrease in calls to the ongoing efforts with our Police Department and Quick Response Team to assist individuals with addiction issues to get the assistance they desperately need. The other factor in the decrease in call volume was Paula Lancaster's work with our Community Access Resource Education and Solutions or C.A.R.E.S. Program (see her annual report below).

City Fire Inspector Captain Jim Sholtz continued to do annual Fire Safety Inspections in all of our businesses. He also had most of our pre-plans done for the businesses. In 2023, we started investigating the cause and origin of fires ourselves. Previously we utilized the Ohio Fire Marshal's Investigator.

In 2023, firefighters averaged 420 hours of monthly on-duty training. The Fire Department implemented an online Blue Card Command class to develop our Captains and Lieutenants abilities to become better Incident Commanders. Plans are to complete the assessment center portion of the class in 2024.

The City's Fire and Police Departments worked together to create a Rescue Taskforce. This system is recognized as the "Best Practice" for handling victims of mass shooting incidents.

Here is a summary of the Fire Department's activities in 2023:

CALL VOLUME
1/1/2023 – 12/31/2023

MONTHLY		DAILY		PER SHIFT	
January	294	Sunday	474	1 st	1,182
February	267	Monday	516	2 nd	1,191
March	327	Tuesday	533	3 rd	1,204
April	282	Wednesday	501		
May	285	Thursday	544		
June	307	Friday	521		
July	321	Saturday	489		
August	270				
September	303				
October	296				
November	292				
December	334				
TOTAL	3,578		3,578		3,577

INCIDENT SUMMARY

1/1/2023 – 12/31/2023

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE

321 EMS Call Non-MVA	2,777
533 Public Service	27
322 Motor vehicle accident with injuries	21
324 Motor vehicle accident no injuries	4
554 Assist invalid	2
550 Public service assistance, other	1
323 Motor vehicle/pedestrian accident	1
TOTAL	2,333

Non-EMS

321 EMS Call Non-MVA	313
553 Public Service	308
611 Dispatched & cancelled en route	91
311 Medical assist, assist EMS crew	48
554 Assist invalid	45
735 Alarm system sounded due to malfunction	29
322 Motor vehicle accident with injuries	29
444 Power line down	27
111 Building fire	25
622 No incident found on arrival at dispatch address	24
745 Alarm system activation, no fire – unintentional	23
651 Smoke scare, odor of smoke	23
424 Carbon monoxide incident	23
412 Gas leak (natural gas or LPG)	23
324 Motor vehicle accident with no injuries	10
118 Trash or rubbish fire, contained	16
131 Passenger vehicle fire	12
600 Good intent call, other	11
440 Electrical wiring/equipment problem – other	11
733 Smoke detector activation due to malfunction	10
445 Arcing, shorted electrical equipment	10
113 Cooking fire, confined to container	10
743 Smoke detector activation, no fire – unintentional	8
561 Unauthorized burning	8
550 Public service assistance, other	8



551 Assist police or other governmental agency	6
140 Natural vegetation fire, other	5
740 Unintentional transmission of alarm, other	5
736 CO detector activation due to malfunction	5
631 Authorized controlled burning	5
552 Police matter	5
400 Hazardous condition, other	5
744 Detector activation, no fire – unintentional	4
300 Rescue, EMS incident, other	4
741 Sprinkler activation, no fire – unintentional	3
381 Rescue or EMS standby	3
352 Extrication of victim(s) from vehicle	3
143 Grass fire	3
746 Carbon monoxide detector activation, no CO	2
710 Malicious, mischievous false call, other	2
520 Water problem, other	2
511 Lock-out	2
462 Aircraft standby	2
350 Extrication, rescue, other	2
323 Motor vehicle/pedestrian accident	2
251 Excessive heat, scorch burns with no ignition	2
154 Dumpster or other outside trash receptacle fire	2
150 Outside rubbish fire, other	2
700 False alarm or false call, other	1
672 Biological hazard investigation, none found	1
542 Animal rescue	1
531 Smoke or odor removal	1
522 Water or steam leak	1
413 Oil or other combustible liquid spill	1
363 Swift water rescue	1
360 Water & ice related rescue, other	1
351 Extrication of victim(s) from building/structure	1
160 Special outside fire, other	1
151 Outside rubbish, trash or waste fire	1
142 Brush or brush and grass mixture fire	1
138 Off-road vehicle or heavy equipment fire	1
132 Road freight or transport vehicle fire	1
TOTAL	3,578

MUTUAL AID GIVEN BY TYPE

1/1/2023 – 12/31/2023

Fire Department/Ambulance Service	EMS	Non-EMS
Dover	3	27
Uhrichsville	0	7
York Township	0	4
Fairfield Township	0	2
Smith Ambulance	0	1
Stone Creek	0	1
Bolivar	0	1
Strasburg	0	1
TOTALS	3	44

MUTUAL AID RECEIVED BY TYPE

1/1/2023 – 12/31/2023

Fire Department/Ambulance Service	EMS	Non-EMS
Dover	0	33
Smith Ambulance	6	24
Uhrichsville	0	21
York Township	0	2
Strasburg	0	2
Dennison	0	2
Bolivar	0	2
Sugarcreek	0	1
Medflight	1	0
TOTALS	7	87

C.A.R.E.S. PROGRAM

1/1/2023 = 12/31/2023

CATEGORY	INDIVIDUALS ASSISTED
Adult Education	6
Behavioral Health/Drug Addiction/Crisis	26
Developmental Referral	1
Domestic Violence	2
Educations	3,024

Employment	4
Face to Face	756
Fall Assessment/Home Assessment	101
Family Planning	5
Food	54
Handrails	29
Health Insurance/Medicaid	36
Home Health	40

POLICE DEPARTMENT – Chiefs Mike Goodwin and Tessa Pohovey*

***Chief Mike Goodwin retired on July 7, 2023.**

A great deal of change occurred, and several achievements were attained at the New Philadelphia Police Department in 2023.

We had three long-time members retire in Chief Michael Goodwin, School Resource Officer Jennifer Homer, and records clerk Holly Boylan.

We added five new members in Officer Jena Dugan, Officer Joshua Shaffer, Officer Kyle Mears, Officer Dakota Garabrandt Hill, and records clerk Heather Bair. A second K9 unit was also added in K9 Pablo who finished training and is now in service with his handler Officer James Miller.

Our department saw an increase in overall calls for service from the previous year. In 2023 we handled 12,065 calls for service resulting in 1,553 cases being sent through Municipal Court and 154 felony cases sent to the Tuscarawas County Prosecutor's Office for review. We also handled 815 traffic accidents within the city. Additionally, 183 prisoners were housed in the city jail amounting to nearly 50 more than the year prior.

Our department continues to provide extra security for many entities within the community. These security details include the Tuscarawas County Public Library, The KSU-Tusc Performing Arts Center, New Philadelphia City Schools events, Tuscarawas Central Catholic events, Buckeye Career Center events, Shel-Mar, Run for Home, Wal-Mart, UPS, PetCo, Tuscarawas County Coin Club, McInturf Realty, and numerous traffic control details. Our officers totaled nearly 1,500 hours in off-duty security details for the year.

The LEAD task force continued its effort to combat the drug issues in our area. Drug related search warrants were executed 10 times in New Philadelphia and the surrounding area, five drug interdictions were done in the county, New Philadelphia had three indictments for drug trafficking, and our officers responded to over 100 drug related calls and 33 overdose calls. The interdiction done in New Philadelphia ended with 17 citations, 21 warnings, 4 warrant arrests, 3 suspected Fentanyl seizures, 2 Methamphetamine seizures, and 2 marijuana seizures. Additionally, members of the task force often participate in drug awareness presentations throughout the community.

The abundantly used drug take-back box located in the lobby of the police department continues to be an asset to the community. The box is emptied regularly and unloads approximately 100 pounds or more per month. This box will continue to be available for the safe disposal of unused prescription drugs.

Our department brought in \$125,785.31 in 2023 with \$15,837.92 collected on parking tickets, and \$109,947.39 in miscellaneous funds.

The department's Auxiliary Officers continue to play a vital role in providing additional protection to the citizens of New Philadelphia. Currently, there are 13 members who collectively worked 2,705 total patrol hours alongside the full-time officers. In addition to providing back-up to the full-time officers, the auxiliary officers will routinely conduct business and vacation checks, and work at the park during the major events such as First Town Days and McInturf Realty's Christmas in the Park.

The phasing in of a new, more visible cruiser design began in 2023 and will continue as our fleet grows and older cruisers are replaced. A dash camera system upgrade was implemented to replace the outdated system that was failing. A body worn camera grant was applied for to work in conjunction with the new camera system, and we are hoping to hear results by Spring of 2024. Medical kits were added to each cruiser to allow officers to properly conduct first aid when needed.

The New Philadelphia Police Department remains dedicated to providing the community with the service and protection that it expects and deserves. Our officers will remain proactive and responsive to community needs and strive to keep the city one of the safest in the state.

TOP CALLS FOR 2023

911 Related/Hang Up	1,308
Suspicious Nature	849
Welfare Check	697
Vehicle/Resident Lockout	571
Suspicious Person	567
Accident/Crash w/o Injury	443
Traffic Related	360

Civil Matter	301
Disorderly Subjects/Subjects	293
Assistance Rendered	276
Parking Related	268
Juvenile Related	267
Animal Related Complaint	223
Theft	210

NEW PHILADELPHIA CITY JAIL

The New Philadelphia City Jail housed 183 inmates in 2023, an increase of 46 inmates from 2022.

L.E.A.D. TASK FORCE GENERAL STATISTICS INVOLVING IN THE NPPD IN 2023

Drug Related Search Warrants	10 (New Philadelphia & surrounding area)
Drug Awareness Presentations	5 (New Philadelphia only)
Drug Interdictions	5 (Task Force in Tuscarawas County)
Drug Trafficking Indictments	3 (New Philadelphia only)
Drug Related Calls	100+ (New Philadelphia only)
Overdose Calls	33 (New Philadelphia only)
Agent Total Cases Worked	40
Drug Related Official Cases	12

L.E.A.D. TASK FORCE CRIMINAL INTERDICTION 6/22/2023

Hours of operation	1200 hrs – 2200 hrs
Location: New Philadelphia area	
Officers dedicated to interdiction	6
Citations	17
Warnings	21
Warrant arrest	4
Suspected Fentanyl seizures	3
Methamphetamine seizures	2
Marijuana seizures	2

EXTRA DETAIL/SECURITY DETAILS

New Philadelphia Police Officers were contracted and provided approximately 1,488 hours of off-duty security services to the following community entities during 2023:



ShelMar	UPS
New Philadelphia City Schools	Tuscarawas County Public Library
Orion Securities	Kent State Performing Arts Center
AWP Traffic Control	Tuscarawas Central Catholic High School
Run for Home	Buckeye Career Center
Art on the Alley	Conotton Valley High School
Bolon Traffic Control	PetCo
Dominion Energy	Tuscarawas County Coin Club
Gradall Industries	Shelly Company
Walmart	Dover Board of Education
McInturf Realty	

2023 AUXILIARY POLICE REPORT – Detective Ty Norris, Auxiliary Liaison

2023 was a great year for the Auxiliary from a participation standpoint. The Police Department received 2,705 total patrol hours. These hours were completed on patrol either by an Auxiliary Officer on solo patrol or riding with a full-time officer providing back-up and assisting in various capacities. If these hours would have been worked by a full-time patrolman, the total salary minus any benefits would have equaled \$82,571.86 at the current pay rate. This clearly was a cost-effective way of increasing our visibility and response to the citizens of New Philadelphia.

This participation substantially increased the safety of the full-time officers of this department and undoubtedly reduced the threat of assault to officers and citizens alike. The Auxiliary continued to complete our business and vacation checks with members completing 3 checks on every shift that is worked. I believe this was instrumental in making our local businesses safer when they are not open and unoccupied.

Each auxiliary officer worked a shift at the First Town Days Festival and McInturf Realty’s Christmas in the Park, the two largest annual events held within the city. The extra manpower and police presence during these events absolutely created a safe, family friendly experience for all who attended.

Every officer of the Auxiliary worked a minimum of 3 unpaid off-duty details throughout the course of the year. These events included parades, New Phila Schools sporting events, Tuscarawas Central Catholic sporting events, Performing Arts Center shows and numerous 5k events hosted in the city. This certainly increased the safety for all participants.

In 2023, nearly all officers were certified in the use of Less-Lethal beanbag deployment and became Taser X2 certified. The Auxiliary also received a local grant which was used to purchase new ballistic armor for every officer of the unit.

For 2024, I anticipate the same amount of participation from the current members. They will continue to improve upon the services provided to this police department and the city. The Auxiliary will continue to meet on a regular basis and discuss where it can make the most difference. I will continue to oversee and ensure that the Auxiliary and this department work seamlessly together as one.

PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT – Superintendent Rod Miller

2023 was another busy and exciting year for the City’s parks system. Here were some of the highlights:

- Adam Fulton was hired as Assistant Parks Superintendent
- Infield renovations were completed for baseball and softball fields.
- The swimming pool at Tuscora Park had one of its best years due to a lack of rain and hot summer weather.
- The four new pickleball courts on Al Maloney Drive drew players from throughout the county.
- The first Trout Fishing Derby at Tuscora Park was a huge hit.
- RTY’s rides and Summer Showcase remained popular attractions at Tuscora Park.

SOUTHSIDE COMMUNITY PARK

- The Tuscarawas County Public Library installed a children’s book story walk in the pollinator garden.
- The dog park, pollinator garden and walking trails at the Southside Community Park remained popular destinations for our four-legged friends and their owners.
- Additional trees were planted along the main entrance road during the City’s annual Arbor Day celebration.

WATERWORKS PARK AND STATE ROUTE 416 BOAT RAMPS

- The boat ramp designations on the Tuscarawas River Water Trail Map resulted in more watercraft activity throughout the spring, summer and fall months.

CRIDER AVENUE NE WALKING TRAIL

- The Parks and Recreation Department made trail surface repairs and cleared drainage ditches during the year.

CITY PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD

The Parks and Recreation Board held nine meetings in 2023 and took the following actions:

- Approved RTY’s proposed price increases for concessions at Tuscora Park

- Approved construction of a children’s book Story Walk in the pollinator garden at the Southside Community Park
- Elected officers: Jan McInturf, president; Jim Range, vice-president; Bill Morgan, secretary
- Approved a new entrance sign for Waterworks Fields Park
- Approved a pickleball tournament fundraiser for United Way held on Labor Day
- Approved the use of the Waterworks Fields Park Skatepark for an October 7th special event
- Approved a request by Tim Fortney, New Philadelphia High School Athletic Director, to construct fencing and signage at the Southside Community Park soccer fields
- Approved locating two communication boards in Tuscora Park, donated by LaceyPAC’s Adaptive Movement Center
- Approved the Tuscora Park tennis courts use agreement between the City and New Philadelphia City Schools

CEMETERY DEPARTMENT – Superintendent Kelly Herron

The efforts of Superintendent Herron and members of the City Cemetery Board continued to improve the operation of the City’s cemeteries and spur an increase in lot sales. 2023 statistics included:

- 90 burials: 50 full burials, 40 cremations
- 40 grave spaces sold: 33 full spaces, 7 columbaria niches
- 41 gravestone foundations poured

In addition, 15 damaged trees were replaced at Schoenbrunn Meadow Cemetery. And 30 tons of leaves were picked up.

CITY CEMETERY BOARD

The City Cemetery Board held 7 monthly meetings in 2023. Troy Pallotto was welcomed as a new member in February.

CITY HEALTH DEPARTMENT - Commissioner Vickie Ionno, RN

I am pleased to present key 2023 highlights from the New Philadelphia City Health Department. A full annual report with more details will be available soon.

In 2023, NPCHD added two new programs to the Department:

In 2023, NPCHD Director of Nursing Nichole Bache, BS, RN, and Bilingual Health Educator Itati Lopez, ASW, completed an intensive training program to become certified Child Passenger Safety Technicians. NPCHD nationally certified child safety technicians are available by appointment to assist the

community in both English and Spanish languages to ensure proper installation of car seats with the goal of decreasing childhood injury and fatality cause by the misuse of car seats. NPCHD offers FREE car seats for those who qualify. Give us a call at 330-364-4491 ext. 1208 to learn more.

Also in 2023, the NPCHD Environmental Health Division partnered with the Stark-Tuscarawas-Wayne Recycling District to offer a FREE ongoing residential tire disposal program. NPCHD EH Division collected 1646 scrap tires from community members, reducing potential mosquito breeding grounds and eliminating toxins and metals that may leach into the environment.

To dispose of residential tires with NPCHD:

- Appointments are required. Please call us at 330-364-4491 ext. 1206 for more information or to schedule an appointment.
- All on or off-rim tires for personal vehicles, and home equipment such as passenger, light truck, lawn mower, ATV and motorcycle tires are accepted.
- Residents are permitted to dispose of up to 10 tires per person, per year.
- By law, you may only transport 10 tires or less at a time.
- You must have your state issued ID with you.

2023 NPCHD Clinical Division highlights include:

- 254 vaccinations given (not including COVID-19 vaccinations), an increase of 14.74% over 2022, building resilience within our communities.
- Vaccinated patients from over 31 unique zip codes (10 different counties represented), showing the impact NPCHD provides to the community and areas beyond its borders.
- 29.4% increase in new and returning Hispanic patients over 2022, reducing health inequalities within our communities.
- Added multiple new vaccines for our patients, including RSV and Prevnar 20 vaccines for adults and children, increasing our services provided to the community.

2023 NPCHD Environmental Health Division highlights include:

- Passed Ohio Department of Agriculture Retail Food Establishment and Ohio Department of Health Public Swimming Pool surveys, outlining NPCHD EH Division is operating these programs as intended by Ohio Code.
- Opening 10 new licensed food service facilities, a combination of mobile units, food service operations and food handling establishments.
- 29 animal bite investigations, a 32.5% decrease over 2022, providing rabies and tick education to animal owners.
- Sprayed 5491.3 acres throughout summer breeding months as part of our mosquito abatement program.

NPCHD 2024-2027 Strategic Plan

NPCHD also worked to complete an updated strategic plan. The NPCHD 2024-2027 Strategic Plan results from a deliberate decision-making process and defines the future for NPCHD over the next

three years. Like a road map, the NPCHD 2024-2027 Strategic Plan indicates NPCHD’s current position and the directions the agency can follow to achieve its goals. NPCHD completed the strategic plan to:

- State the top priorities NPCHD will focus on over the next three years.
- Outline the goals NPCHD would like to accomplish while working on the top priorities over the next three years.
- Set measurable action steps or objects to reach those goals.
- Clearly communicate NPCHD’s purpose and goals to internal and external stakeholders over the next three years.

The full NPCHD 2024-2027 Strategic Plan can be found at: [https://www.newphilaoh.com/Health-Department- Strategic Plan](https://www.newphilaoh.com/Health-Department-Strategic-Plan)

Public Health Accreditation Board Updates

State law now mandates that health departments in Ohio become accredited to show that they meet or exceed a common set of national standards. Members of PHAB completed two sites visits with NPCHD, one occurring in November 2023 and the second occurring in December 2023. The first visit was completed virtually, with PHAB specialists reviewing submitted documents and interviewing staff. The second visit was completed in person, with PHAB specialists touring the NPCHD facilities, and meeting the NPCHD Board of Health and community stakeholders. NPCHD should learn by March 2024 if we earned accreditation status or if we will receive a work plan for additional documentation needed.

NEW PHILADELPHIA MUNICIPAL COURT – Judge Nanette DeGarmo Von Allman

When published, New Philadelphia Municipal Court’s 2023 annual report will be posted on its website at www.npmunicipalcourt.org.

CONCLUSION

As the county seat of Tuscarawas County, New Philadelphia is expected to provide leadership and direction to the entire county. We humbly accept this responsibility and remain forever mindful of it.

The achievements made by the City in 2023 would not have been possible without the commitment to serve made by the members of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees Local 1958, the Fraternal Order of Police and the International Association of Firefighters Local 1501.

The commitment to serving the people of New Philadelphia is deeply ingrained in the hearts of the City’s department heads and employees, reflecting their genuine care for the community. Credit is also

due to the members of New Philadelphia's City Council and my fellow Administrators, whose unwavering guidance and support have been instrumental. In 2023, we operated as a cohesive team, and we are committed to maintaining this strong working relationship in 2024. Serving as the Mayor of New Philadelphia is a profound honor, and I am grateful for the opportunity to continue working for you.



Joel B. Day, Mayor