



VILLAGE OF GREENWICH – STATE OF OHIO

45 Main Street. Greenwich, Ohio 44837 (419) 752-2441

STATE OF THE VILLAGE OF GREENWICH 2013

Council members, Village employees, and residence if the Village of Greenwich as Mayor, I am pleased to review the “State of The Village” with you.

I will review several issues in my address, finances of the village, EPA issues, and the general state of the village.

With unemployment being 8 percent plus throughout the 2012 year, this has a real effect on the Village finances. The local factories and surrounding area have reduced workforces which affect the revenue for the Village. Since a large amount of the Village funding is by municipal income tax.

As normal the utility department had their share of water line repairs, sewer line repair and electric line repairs. The utility department is in the process of having the electrical system of the village evaluated to have a better understanding and cost that would be incurred to update the total system within the village, which includes the cost of installation of security lights. The Village of Greenwich is a nice, pleasant place to live. Your help is needed to continue to make the Village a nice pleasant community.

The water treatment plant which was constructed in 1934 has much of the original components. These parts and electrical components are no longer available. At this point, the plant is still functions; however, some though needs to be given to total plant replacement. The village needs to plan for such expenditure; this would be a large cost over several year period of time. The village is now connected to Northern Ohio Rural water on alpha road. This connection is for emergency situation, should the local village water supply fail.

The village has two water towers, 250,000 gallon tank located on Maple Street constructed in the 60’s and a 100,000 gallon tank located on New Street, which is about 10 years old. Council has entered into a 10 year repair and maintenance agreement to restore the Maple Street tower. This will cost the village \$15,000 plus per year. Grants and loans were not available for this project. The repair and maintenance on the New Street tower will be consider in 3 to 5 year.

Securing grants and low interest loan for the water department is very difficult, due to the fact the village water rates are such the village is not contributing to the overall up keep of the system. The village resident pays \$335 below the state average rate, Village residences are paying \$503 per customer for water per year.



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It was necessary to employ McGee Water Testing service for a period of six (6) months to do the drinking water testing while the local utility workers were completing their certification. At present the village has two individuals with Class 1 water certification.

The village is working closely with the EPA to reduce the number of CSO (combine sewer overflows) through the village. We have just completed a CSO project (Maplewood, Beachwood, New Street, Pleasant, County Side Drive and new pumping station off North Pleasant Street). Another project is Townsend Street from Seminary Street North to the Railroad under pass. The New Street CSO project is nearly completed several areas to be reviewed and completed in the spring of 2013.

There are several other areas that need to have the sewer/surface water separation completed. The East side of the village from Senior Drive East to corporation limits and South of 224 from Townsend Street East to the corporation limits.

Street improvement included Orchard Street with the old surface ground off and resurfaced from South Kniffin Street to Senior Drive. A new Caught basin installed at the corner of Senior Drive and Orchard Street.

As council is preparing the 2013 budget, funding is a major concern. During the past year the State has reduced their share of funding by 25 percent (25%) and will continue during the 2013 budget year. The new levy approved in May 2012, will go into effect June 2013, this will generate \$20,000 additional funds for the general fund. However, the reevaluation of the real estate has reduced the property values in the village, reducing the inside millage revenue by \$3800 for the village general fund.

The high rate of unemployment in the area the local factors work force is down, thus affecting the amount of income tax that is generated. The way the village income tax is set up, 75 percent (75%) of the income tax goes to the general fund 25 percent (25%) goes to the street fund. This will cause a short fall of revenue for the general fund.

What does this mean for the operation of the village? The general fund supports the police department, general operation and maintenance of the municipal building and some personnel costs.

What is the answer to the financial situation? Increase the outside millage to generate more revenue for the general fund, increase income tax, and reduce spending.

It was stated the village has to reduce spending, one way is to reduce service, cut spending in the general fund, would be to reduce police protection to the residence, reducing this service would create an unwanted problem for the village. The police department at this time has reduced one full-time officer and the utility department has reduced one full-time person. The



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The State has reduced the funding by 25% the past two year. To add to the finical problems, the State is in the process of taking over the collection of the municipal income tax from the municipalities and moving it to the State for collection. This will mean a loss of revenue to the village. The State taking over the collection of Municipal income tax has been placed on hold, until a new House Bill is introduce.

During this past year, the Village was able to secure an addition siren through the Huron County Emergency Management Agency grant. The Village paid one half the costs which was \$7500. The siren has been installed in the park area so the emergency signal would be more audible for the residences in the New Street area.

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