



The Good Life

Report to the Citizens 2013





Lebanon is home to many widely attended outdoor festivals. In 2013, a new festival premiered in the city. The Country Music Festival was held on June 8, 2013 to record crowds for a first annual event.



"The City of Lebanon staff is dedicated to improving our citizen's quality of life by delivering outstanding services and ensuring the efficient use of our resources. The purpose of this report is to provide an overview of the efforts made to accomplish this goal and to foster an environment of open and ethical government."

Pat Clements
City Manager

A Message from the Mayor



We are very fortunate to be able to call our world-class city home. We certainly do *live the good life*, with all of the amenities our community has to offer, continuing infrastructure improvements, growing tax base, and recreational opportunities that are second to none.

During 2013 we opened the first park of its kind in our community, the Miller Ecological Park. The park boasts many amenities including, walking and hiking trails, shelters, playscape area, wildflower prairies, re-forestation areas, wetlands, and various wildlife habitat areas . We completed the complete reconstruction of East Warren Street and Oakwood Avenue, and also became the proud home of the future INX International, the third largest producer of inks in North America.

The City Council and I remain committed to ensuring that our community continues to attract the kinds of quality development that will allow us to maintain the high quality of life for all residents and business operators.

I encourage you to get involved in your government by staying informed, letting us know what you think about our services, or by serving on one of the many City Boards or advisory Commissions. Lebanon's future continues to look bright and the City Council and I greatly appreciate your support and participation.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Amy Brewer".

Mayor Amy Brewer



Your Local Government

The City of Lebanon Charter, adopted by the voters on October 4, 1960, mandates the Council-Manager form of government. The Council-Manager form is used by over 3,700 cities because it combines the political leadership of elected officials with the managerial experience of an appointed manager.

The Council members are the leaders and policy makers elected to represent the needs of the community. As a legislative body, the City Council determines policies, which direct the actions of government. Council members are elected, at-large, for four-year staggered terms. The Mayor is selected by a vote of Council.

The City Manager is appointed by the Council to serve as the chief executive officer of the City and to manage the daily operations of the City. The Manager is responsible for the development and execution of policies, administration of personnel, allocation of resources, and enforcement of the City's laws.



Voice Your Views

Residents of Lebanon are encouraged to participate in the decision-making process by participating in public hearings, and by offering comments during appropriate opportunities at City Council meetings and all Board and Commission meetings.

Boards & Commissions Members

Boards and Commissions offer City of Lebanon residents the opportunity to become involved in local government.

Board of Festivals and Tourism

Mary Alice Leasure,
Mary Klei, Phyllis
Wyatt, Michele
Abrams, Raye
Kimberlin, Darrell
Tucker, Elizabeth
Clarke

Board of Zoning Appeals

Thomas Siehl, John
Magness, Robert
Kaufman

Citizens Housing Committee

William Ford, Doug
Sibcy

Civil Service Commission

Brad Knapp, Bradd
Testerman, Mary Ann
Mulford

Lebanon City Council



Top: Stephen Kaiser, Vice Mayor Mark Messer, Matthew Rodriguez
Bottom: Jim Dearie, Wendy Monroe, Mayor Amy Brewer, James Norris II

Library Board

Wesley Kay Turner,
Bonnie Ariss, Marilyn
Russell, Gary Kuntz,
Lee Weiderhold, Gail
Rose, Connie Collins

Planning Commission

Michael Murphy,
Richard Fair, Michael
Willis, Kevin Glardon,
Mayor Amy Brewer

Recreation Board

Beverly Ikenberry,
Donna Prater, Todd
Balzer, Mike Evans,
Jeff Napier, John Leo
Cronin, Jane Davis,
Michael Shinski,
Bernie Uchtman

Shade Tree Commission

Hewett Mulford,
Mickie Marquis, Sara
Timmerman, Casey
Burdick, Jim Ludwick,
Randy Duff, Margaret
Uchtman

Improvement Projects

Annual Street Resurfacing
\$444,038
Resurfaced 1.6 centerline miles of roadway

East Warren Street Reconstruction
\$625,571
Completed November 2013

Oakwood Avenue Reconstruction
\$1,092,257
Completed December 2013

SR 123/63 Connector
\$5,759,114
Ongoing

2013 Year in Review

City Completes Roadway Reconstruction

Lebanon completed the reconstruction of two roadways during 2013. Reconstruction of East Warren Street, from Columbus Avenue to Mound Street, was completed in November 2013 and included the installation of a new storm sewer system and replacement of the sanitary sewer main. Total project cost was \$625,571.

Reconstruction of Oakwood Avenue, from Water Street to Broadway, included the installation of a new storm sewer system, the rehabilitation of the sanitary sewer main, and the replacement of the traffic signal at the intersection of North Broadway. The project cost \$1,092,257, and the City received a state grant for \$386,000 to assist with the project.



Miller Ecological Park Opens

The City of Lebanon and the Miller Park Trustees officially opened the Miller Ecological Park in May 2013 with a public dedication ceremony that included a day filled with free activities and displays.

Since its opening, the City received a \$550,000 state grant to purchase 51.5 acres immediately adjacent to the existing park. The acquisition of this land expands Miller Ecological Park to 97 acres of park space that includes walking and hiking trails, shelters, playscape area, wildflower prairies, re-forestation areas, wetlands, and various wildlife habitat areas.

In addition to state funding, donations from the non-profit Miller Ecological Park trust Fund and Harmon Civic Trust made the purchase of this property possible.

The community has overwhelmingly supported the new park offering. Local Eagle Scouts have completed five projects throughout the park over the past several years, and volunteers have planted over 2,000 seedlings in the park. The park has become a tremendous asset for Lebanon, and plans are being developed to expand the walking trails through the newly acquired land.



Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) Completed

During 2013, the City completed the installation of over 9,000 AMI electric meters and 7,000 AMI water meters to better serve our customers. AMI is a system that uses wireless and fiber optic technology to send meter readings directly to the City. The deployment of the AMI system enhances the safety, reliability, and efficiency of the electric and water utilities. It also allows the City to eliminate a third-party meter reading contract, which results in savings of \$132,000 per year. The new \$2.1 million AMI system allows for the reduction in meter related staffing, and will pay for itself in about seven years.

AMI includes several customer service enhancements, including real-time electric and water consumption information, which allows City staff to better serve our customers by identifying potential problems such as service disruptions and water leaks. Abnormally high water usage accounts are automatically red-flagged in the AMI system as well, which can then be further researched by Service Department staff and the property owner. Through the deployment of this technology, the City continues to strive for effective and efficient service delivery.

Awards

Lebanon received its 22nd consecutive "Tree City USA Award" by the National Arbor Day Foundation for its concentrated street tree management program.



Public Safety

Click It or Ticket Program Produces Results

Lebanon Police Department enforced the *Click It or Ticket* Program from May 20 - June 2, 2013. The program yielded outstanding results with over 200 traffic stops that included DUI arrests, speeding violations, curfew enforcement, and a felony arrest.

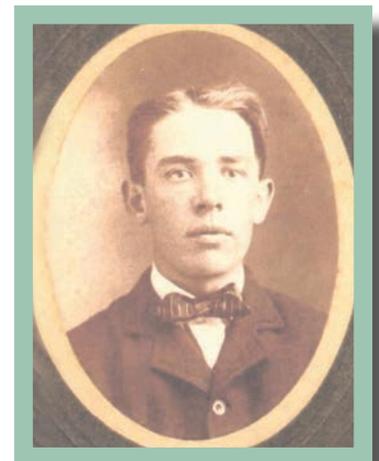
Click It or Ticket is a National Highway Traffic Safety Administration campaign designed to raise safety belt usage and save people from death and serious injury on the streets and highways.



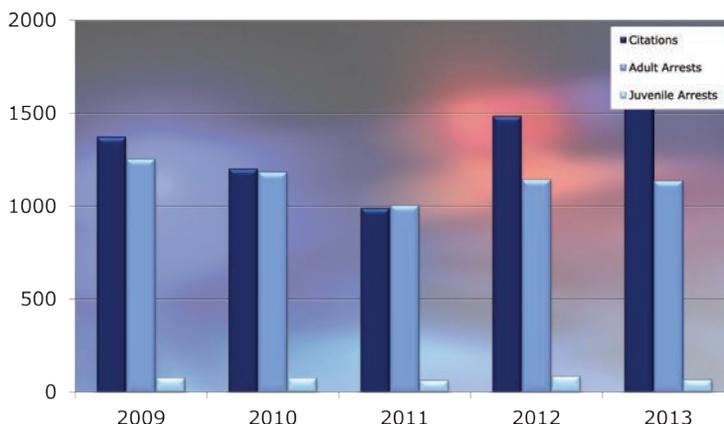
Lebanon Officer Chronicles History of Department

Lebanon Communications Officer Traci Gallagher undertook the challenge of researching and chronicling the history of the Lebanon Police Department. Gallagher was able to trace many former employees of the department, including former Village Marshalls. The Lebanon Police Department honored former Lebanon Village Marshall Thomas J. Starry during 2013 National Police Week.

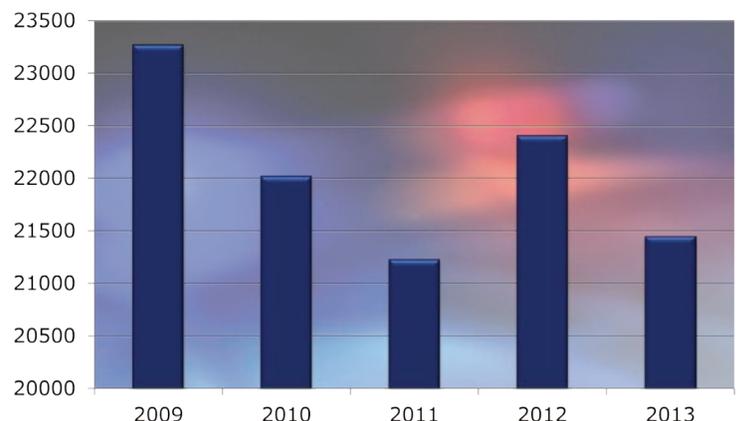
Starry served as Lebanon Village Marshall from April 1888 to March 1891, and after serving as Lebanon Postmaster, was again elected Village Marshall, serving from May 1896 to April 1903. He was elected a total of six times and served a combined ten years as Village Marshall. Marshall Starry lived with his wife and four children at 224 East Mulberry St. in Lebanon until his death in 1916.



2013 Citations & Arrests



2013 Calls for Service



Lebanon Selects New Fire Chief

The City began its recruitment efforts during 2013 to replace 30-year veteran, Chief Michael Hannigan. The City selected Chief Perry Gerome to lead the Lebanon Fire Division.

Chief Gerome has been a member of the fire service for 30 years and previously served as a Lieutenant with the Anderson Township Fire Department, a Captain with the Union Township Fire Department, and as the Chief of the Sycamore Township Fire Department. Chief Gerome holds a Bachelor's degree in Fire Safety Engineering from the University of Cincinnati, a Master of Science degree in public administration from Northern Kentucky University, and is a graduate of the Ohio Fire Executive Program at Ohio State University.



Municipal Court

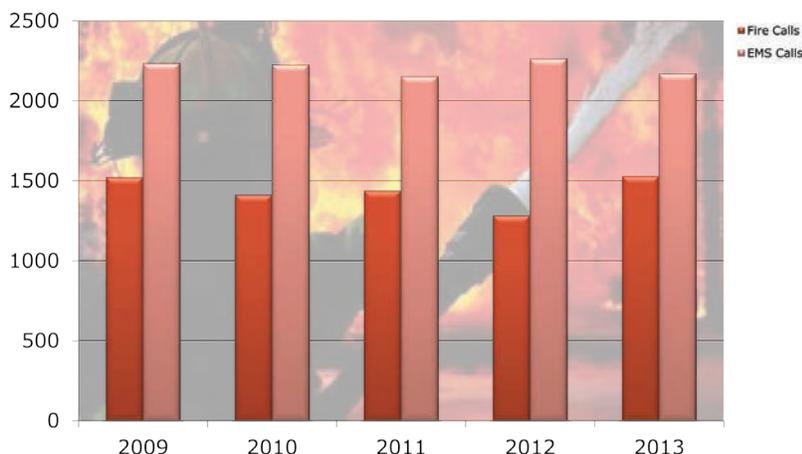
Judge Mark Bogen has served as Lebanon Municipal Judge since 1998. His court serves Lebanon and Turtlecreek Township. The Municipal Court staff includes five court clerks and two probation officers.

The Court handled 6,026 cases in 2013, which consisted of: 1,475 felony & misdemeanor cases, 215 DUI's, 3,680 traffic cases, 656 civil cases & small claims filed.



Judge Mark Bogen

2013 Calls for Service



Financial Review

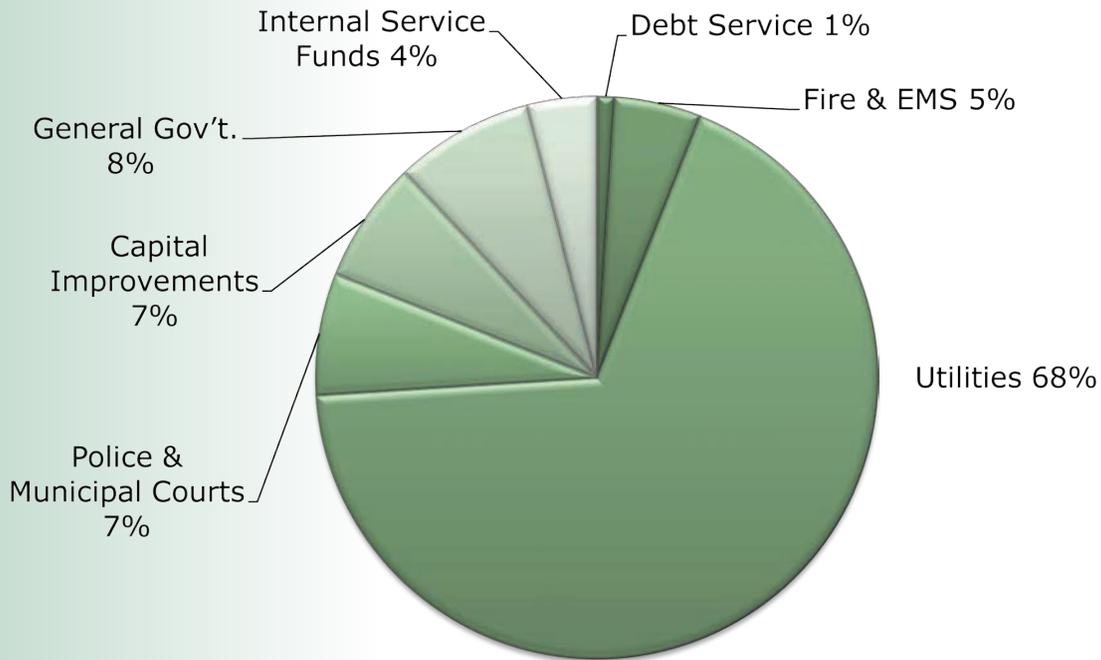
Lebanon's 2013 Operating Budget totaled 72.8 million. In addition to regular operations, the City Council approved a Five-Year Capital Improvement Plan totaling \$45 million.

The City ended 2013 with a General Fund balance of \$4.5 million, which is equivalent to about 180 days of operating expenses.



Lebanon has received the "Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting" from the Government Finance Officers of the United States and Canada for 22 consecutive years.

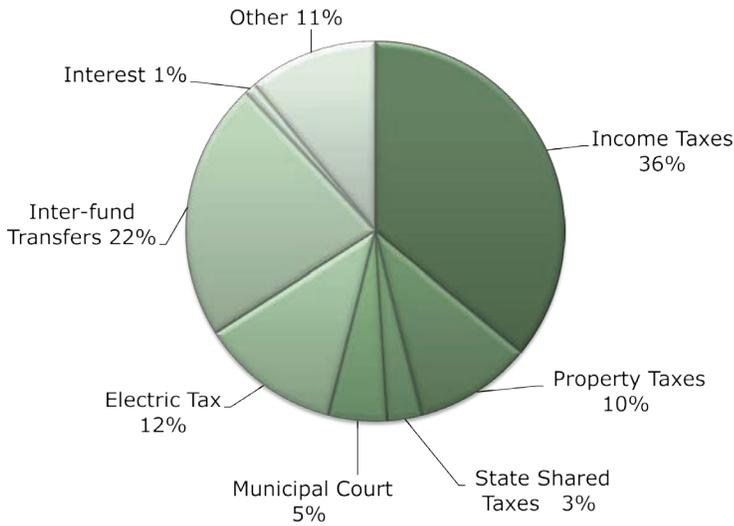
Total Operating Budget \$72.8 Million



"The mission of the Finance Department is to develop sound fiscal policies, fiscal management and integrity, maintain cash reserves, develop and implement financial accounting policies, and protect and optimize the financial resources and assets of the City.

Sharee Dick
City Auditor

2013 General Fund Revenue



Revenues

Income Taxes: Funds generated from the City's 1% earnings tax.

Inter-fund Transfers: Payments made by the various utility funds to reimburse the General Fund for the cost of administrative support.

State Shared Taxes: Revenues from the Local Government Fund and Homestead Rollback Tax.

Municipal Court: Court fees, fines and probation department reimbursement.

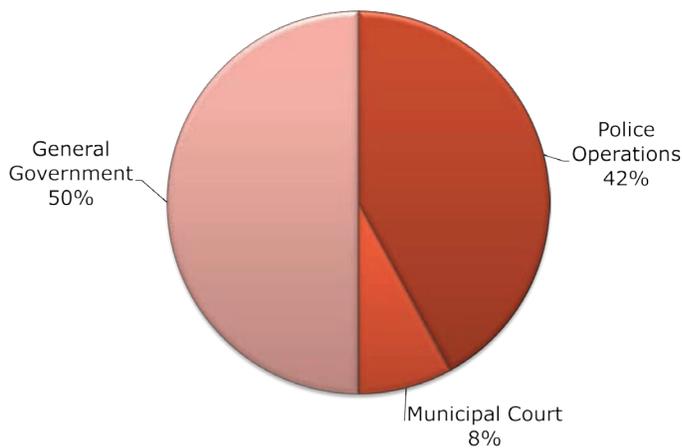
Property Taxes: Revenues from collection of tax on real estate and personal property.

Electric Tax: Revenues from the collection of the Kilowatt Hour tax from the City-owned electric utility.

Other Receipts: Interest, charges for services, cable TV franchise fee and miscellaneous receipts.

Building Permits: Inspection and permit fees.

2013 General Fund Expenses



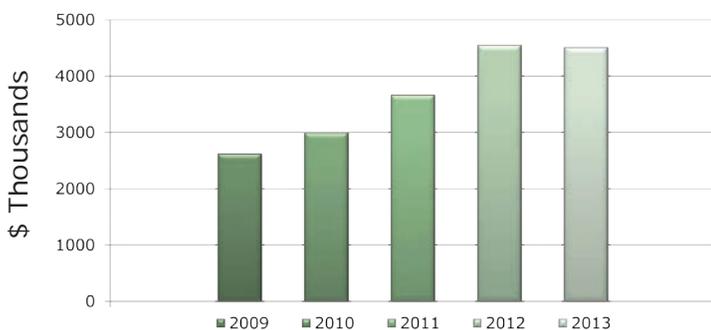
Expenses

General Government: Expenses associated with the administrative functions of the City including: legal expenses, building inspections & code enforcement, City Council, finance & accounting, city administration, facility maintenance, engineering, marketing, and economic development.

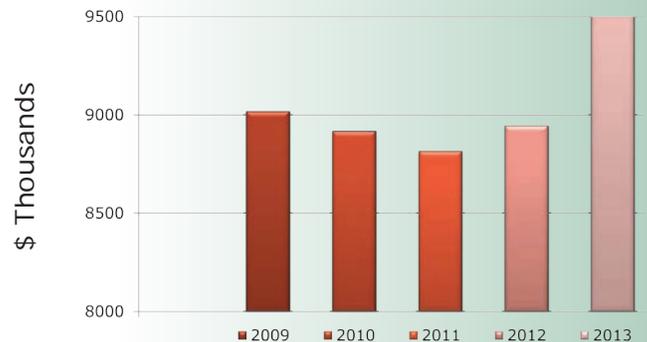
Police Operations: Police & emergency communications center operations.

Municipal Court: Expenses associated with the municipal court & probation department.

General Fund Cash Reserves



General Fund Expenses



Financial Review

Where Do Your Property Taxes Go?

A home with a market value of \$200,000 generates about \$4,284 in property taxes each year, not including special assessments. The City's share of a property tax bill is only about five percent, with nine percent going to fire service. The local school districts receive 70 percent, special districts receive four percent, while the remaining 12 percent goes to Warren County.

Property tax revenues, minus any special assessments, allocated to the City are used to support a wide range of local government services including; police, fire & emergency medical services, street maintenance, code enforcement and general administration. Since property taxes provide a very small portion of the City's overall revenue, the City relies heavily upon the revenue generated from the one percent earnings tax.

70%
Public School Districts
*Includes Lebanon City Schools, Joint Vocational School,
and Kings Local School Districts.*

12%
Warren County



9% Fire Levy (5.5 mills) ↑

5% City of Lebanon ↑

4% Special Districts ↑

Economic Development

Local Industry Recognized

Industrial Development

INX International

The Ink manufacturer began construction in December 2013 on a new 62,000 square-foot facility in Lebanon Commerce Center. INX is the third largest producer of inks in North America, and a global supplier, as part of the Sakata INX worldwide operations.

The new INX facility will have 33 employees when the plant opens, with the capability to expand operations and create additional jobs over the next five years.

VisTech, Inc.

The automotive interiors manufacturer relocated its operations from Lebanon Commerce Center to an existing facility at 265 S. West Street. The new space will allow VisTech to grow their business and expand their operations in the coming years.

VisTech currently employs 39 people, and will create up to 20 additional jobs with the relocation.

Siemens Industry Inc. was named, Industrial Business of the Year, by the City of Lebanon at the 2013 Lebanon Area Chamber of Commerce Annual Business Awards Ceremony.

Siemens is a world-wide leader in the repair and maintenance of electronic components. The company opened its facility in the Kingsview Business Park in 2011 and has demonstrated outstanding success in job creation.



Joint Economic Development District (JEDD)

The City of Lebanon and Turtlecreek Township established the Lebanon-Turtlecreek JEDD at the I-71 and SR 123 Interchange in 2013. A JEDD is designed to encourage cooperation among local communities to enhance development opportunities that mutually benefits the economic vitality of an area.



To assist in the development strategy for the JEDD, the City worked in conjunction with the Township and Warren County to create the 71/123 Area Plan. The plan will direct growth and investment to ensure sustained development at the interchange.

The City and Township will provide essential services, such as utilities and infrastructure, to enhance the economic environment of the interchange, and attract high-quality industrial and commercial businesses to the area.



City Departments

City Manager	228-3101
City Auditor	228-3163
Municipal Court	933-7210
Probation	228-3190
Fire Department <i>non-emergency</i>	932-6119
Police Department <i>non-emergency</i>	932-2010
Customer Service (8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., M-F)	933-7200
After Hours Service	932-2010
Economic Development	228-3172
Electric	228-3200
Engineering	228-3130
Inspections & Permits	228-3171
Marketing & Events	228-3110
Planning & Zoning	228-3171
Public Works	228-3701
Solid Waste	933-7200
Tax	228-3121
Water & Wastewater	228-3601

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