

STATE OF THE CITY BEDFORD, OHIO



AUGUST 24,
2021

PRESENTED BY: MAYOR STAN KOCI &
CITY MANAGER MIKE MALLIS

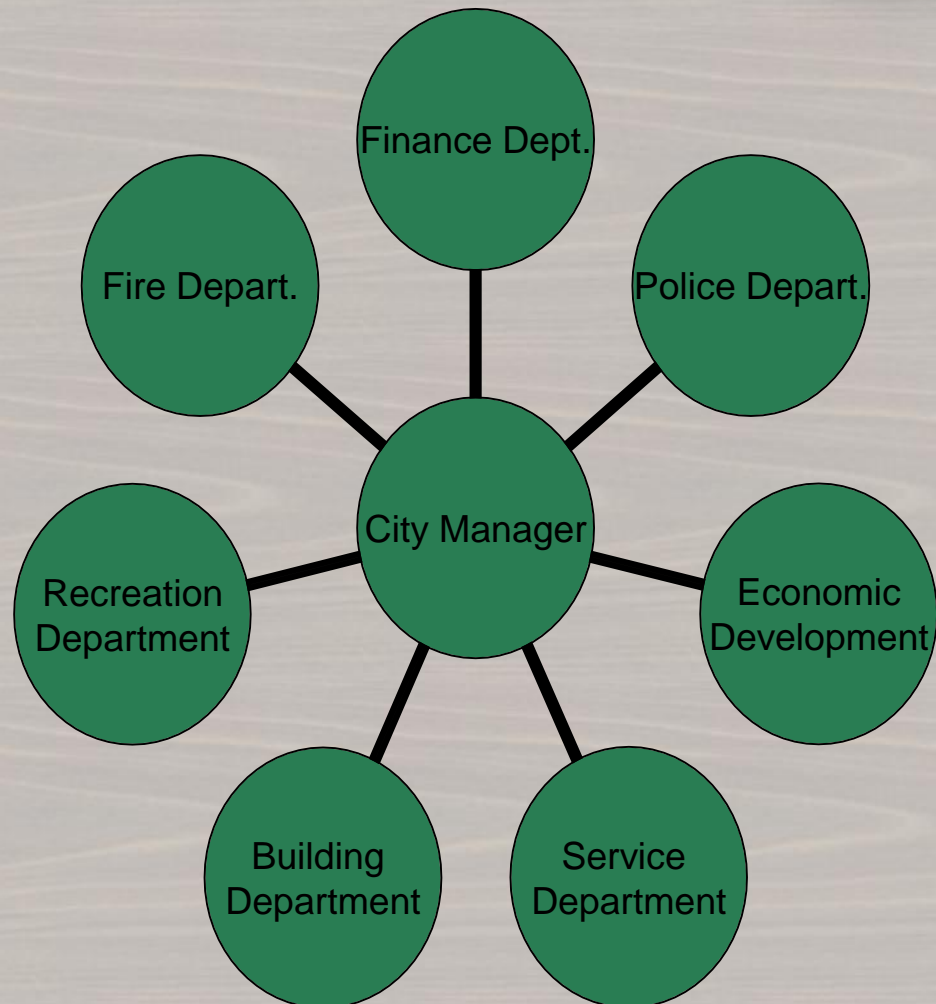
CITY OF BEDFORD





CITY OF BEDFORD

The achievements of an organization are the results of the combined effort of each individual.



CITY OF BEDFORD



The Pandemic & Bedford's Response

- Bedford's Administrative Team identified 3 primary goals:
 1. Reduce the pending financial impact of the pandemic as much as possible
 2. Maintain the workforce = maintain city services
 3. Help the Public



FIRE DEPARTMENT



Chief: Dave Nagy

Asst. Chief: Dan Dopslaf





FIRE DEPARTMENT CONT.

Staffing

- 27 Line Firefighters (25 Paramedics)
 - Firefighters work 24 hour shifts
- 2 Chief Officers (2 Paramedics) 27 Paramedics Total
 - 100% of Department are Certified Paramedics
- 1 Civilian Administrative Assistant



FIRE DEPARTMENT CONT.



2020 Requests for Service

- 2689 Total Requests for Service
- 2071 Requests for Advanced Life Support Rescue Squad
 - Accounted for 77% of department's calls
- 618 Fire / Specialized Rescue Calls





FIRE DEPARTMENT CONT.

2020 in Review

- COVID Challenges
- Placed new Rescue Squad in service in Feb. 2020
 - \$270,000.00
- Placed new Engine in service in May 2020
 - \$658,460.00
- Implemented in house State of Ohio Certified EMS Training Program
- Continued Green Initiative further digitizing Reporting and Recording keeping within Department.



FIRE DEPARTMENT CONT.

2021 Initiatives

- Firefighter health and safety initiatives
- Continue exploring grant opportunities (BWC, etc.)
- Maintain operational efficiency during transition of staffing changes and assignments
- Continued Regional Training and Operations
- Delivery of a business community CPR awareness program
- Maintain the delivery of quality services while facing increased call volume and staffing challenges

POLICE DEPARTMENT



Chief: Martin Stemple

Deputy Chief: Rick Suts





POLICE DEPARTMENT CONT.

Staffing

- ❑ 34 Officers
- ❑ 2 F/T – 5 P/T Correction Officers
- ❑ 4 F/T – 2 P/T Support Staff
- ❑ 25 Auxiliaries
- ❑ 2 P/T Animal Control
- ❑ 3 P/T School Crossing Guards



POLICE DEPARTMENT CONT.



2020 in Review

- ❑ Law Enforcement across the country faced some extreme challenges.
- ❑ In addition, we faced numerous staffing issues this year including retirements, several injuries and some COVID related illnesses.
- ❑ As a result of the Pandemic, we expanded our level of community engagement. The Police Department participated in several drive by birthday parades and makeshift remote and virtual community events. Our officers were able to give some sense of security and relief to our residents during the lockdown.
- ❑ Expanded our training platforms. We focused not only on defensive tactics to keep our officers safe, but also on de-escalation methods to better deal with individuals and to possibly avoid serious conflicts.
- ❑ With our partnership with the Automobile Association, we were able to add a second K9 unit. Officer Stolarik and K9 "Nero" completed their training this summer, and now join Officer Kempinski and K9 "Luca" as our second K9 team.

POLICE DEPARTMENT CONT.



2020 in Review

- With yet another generous donation from the Automile Association, we were able to establish a state of the art camera system throughout the Automile and surrounding areas. This will serve to not only as a deterrent, but will help us to identify suspects and solve crimes.
- The Police Department has also completed an upgrade of the City Hall and Jail camera system.

POLICE DEPARTMENT CONT.



2021 Goals

- Focus on Community Policing: Maintain quality of life.
- Engage the community to become involved through open and honest communication.
- Depending on the status of the Pandemic, Police and Fire Personnel in partnership with Central School, hopefully will continue to engage our young students in monthly visits.
- Continue the deer management program.
- Expand our training to focus on conflict resolution and de-escalation tactics.
- Purchased bodycams for all officers and dashcams for all marked police vehicles.
- Department is fully certified with the Ohio Collaborative Police Advisory Board, meeting all State standards.
- While calls for service have increased, also focused on quality of life concerns: traffic enforcement increased and parking citations tripled

SERVICE DEPARTMENT & PUBLIC WORKS



Director: Clint Bellar

Superintendent of Public Works: Shawn Francis



SERVICE DEPARTMENT & PUBLIC WORKS

- 37 employees in the service, water, waste water and cemetery
- Consistently provide multiple services such as:
 - Operation and maintenance of Bedford Water Dept., Waste Water Treatment Plant & Bedford Cemetery
 - Leaf pick-up, chipper service, tree removal (removed 82 dead or diseased trees and removed 82 stumps.) and snow plowing
 - Sewer (300+ blocked sewer calls), dug 24 sanitary laterals to make repairs in the public right of way
 - Currently maintain 50 miles of roads within the City
 - Numerous road and curb repairs performed in house, 74 roadway repairs resulting from main breaks, sinkholes, and sanitary sewer repairs. Also rebuilt 22 catch basins
 - Landscape/maintain Public Square, Veteran's Park and downtown area
 - Holiday lighting display – converted to 100% LED in 2019 & 2020



Significant Projects Completed in 2020

- Annual Road Resurfacing Program resulted in \$400,000.00 in improvements
 - Reduced from initial plan of \$600K
- Continued a storm and sanitary sewer maintenance program in collaboration with Cuyahoga County
- Waste Water Treatment Plant upgrades – Lab refrigerators upgraded to bio-medical grade, purchase pump and control panel for debris well, upgraded control panel for sand filter pumps, updated signage throughout the plant.
- Continued GIS in the Water and Service Department.
- Completed planting 50 trees from the 2019 grant.
- Bedford Water worked to replace 28+ faulty or inoperable hydrants throughout town, repaired 28 main breaks, repaired 50 main line valves, dug up 15 service line curb stops, and exercised over 268 valves
 - The City's "water loss" is currently at an 25 year low

SERVICE DEPARTMENT & PUBLIC WORKS



Grant Awards

- ❑ Received a \$42,000.00 grant to purchase and plant 100 trees; 50 planted in 2019 and 50 planted in 2020.
- ❑ Through a 50/50 County grant, \$95k in improvements made to Egbert Rd.
- ❑ Union Street sewer repairs and road resurfacing - \$320k in state funding
 - Total project to exceed to \$1.5 mil.
- ❑ Broadway Ave. Improvements - \$300k in state funding
 - Total project close to \$1 mil.





A Plan and Commitment to Infrastructure

- City leaders are following a 5 year Capital Improvement Plan that includes:
 - \$3.0 million in road resurfacing
 - Nearly doubling the investment yearly for road resurfacing
 - Notified ODOT will begin Broadway Ave. – Fiscal year 2023
 - \$100,000 in pedestrian walks over the next 5 years
 - Continue to build out a GIS Mapping System for Bedford
- The City is currently in the process of working with the EPA and conducting an NFA study for the Waste Water Treatment Facility
 - Study will identify a plan for future plant upgrades
- City Leaders will continue to engage County and State officials regarding Solon Road, Northfield Road, Northfield Bridge and other areas in need of improvement



PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT

Director: Erin Fach

Asst. Director: Michael Callahan

The Bedford Parks & Recreation Department strive to provide community spaces and programs that meet the needs and interest of the community in a fun, safe, and enjoyable way while providing great customer service.





PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT CONT.

Fast Facts & Activities

- The City of Bedford has over 27 acres of park lands and facilities including Ellenwood Center and the outdoor municipal pool and skate park
- Ellenwood Center is a great place for Bedford residents to host a banquet or family event for groups of all sizes at an affordable price





PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT CONT.

Fast Facts & Activities

- Ellenwood Center offers multiple classrooms, double classrooms, and a gymnasium to offer a wide variety of programs for youth, adults, and seniors of all ages
- New and updated program information on the City's website at www.bedfordoh.gov
- Bedford Senior Club – meets 2nd and 4th Wednesday at Ellenwood Center – open to all Bedford Residents 55 years of age and older





PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT CONT.

2020 Highlights

- Created & distributed our first recreation brochure to all Bedford households
- Created a number of new virtual and in-person/social distancing program serving over 1,600 participants
- Implemented new on-line registration system with MyRec.com
- Renovated Ellenwood Center's Room 4
- Completed a Parks Inventory Report
- Purchased 12 new roundtop tables for Ellenwood Center
- Purchased 10 new deck chairs for the Municipal Pool
- Installed 160 yards of playground mulch on all playgrounds
- Helped establish and maintain the City's COVID-19 website information page



PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT CONT.

2021 Initiatives

- Re-open Ellenwood Center including all programs and activities
- Continue purchasing and replacing tables and chairs for Ellenwood Center
- Purchase additional deck chairs for the Municipal Pool
- Increase recreation and education opportunities for kids, adults, seniors, and families
- Continue seeking and strengthening relationships with outside groups and organization that provide needed resources and services for the community
- Establish sponsorship opportunities for local businesses as a way to support recreational and educational opportunities; as well as, gain valuable exposure within the community

“ A little progress each day adds up to big results”

BUILDING DEPARTMENT



Commissioner: Calvin Beverly

- ❑ Certified by the State of Ohio in all Commercial and Residential building disciplines.
- ❑ Certified by the International Code Council (ICC) with 13 different certifications.
- ❑ Past President Ohio Chapter IAEL Board of Directors.

*Beautiful Bedford, Ohio
Less than 5 ½ square miles*





BUILDING DEPARTMENT CONT.

- ❑ 4 full time employees
- ❑ 434 Contractors from various disciplines registered with the City
- ❑ The Building Dept. issued non-residential permits with a construction value of \$3,432,215.00 and residential permits with a construction value of \$4,151,340.00 for a total of \$7,583,555.00 in construction.

Nonresidential & Residential inspections of buildings structural, electrical, mechanical, plumbing, and Fire Life Safety systems to include Automatic Sprinkler Systems and Fire Alarm, in addition to property maintenance

- ❑ Performed over 3300 inspections in 2020



BUILDING DEPARTMENT CONT.

Maintaining our Neighborhoods

- ❑ The City of Bedford applied for and received a federal grant to demolish blighted commercial and residential properties in 2019. The grant money was used in cooperation with the Cuyahoga County Land Reutilization Corporation (CCLRC).





BUILDING DEPARTMENT CONT.

Maintaining our Neighborhoods continued.

- ❑ Currently there are 1737 apartments & 900 residential dwelling rental units within the City subject to compliance by City Ordinance
- ❑ The number of vacant homes, which includes bank owned, and estate owned has continued to decline to approximately 150 units.
- ❑ The Building Department will continue to enforce our exterior maintenance and property maintenance programs in 2021 as prescribed by City Ordinances.

FINANCE DEPARTMENT



Finance Director:

Frank Gambosi

- The City of Bedford received its 30th Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada's - Comprehensive Annual Financial Reporting Award. This is the highest achievement award given by the GFOA and less than 5% of State and Local Government Agencies attain this award annually.



2020 YEAR END

- City concluded 2020 with over \$1.3m in general fund cash balance
 - \$5.4 million reserve currently in place
- 2021 Budget is balanced with all current services being maintained
- Administration will continue to review operations in order to operate as efficiently and effectively as possible
- The City Received 5 different CARES Act funding sources in 2020 in the total amount of \$1,161,643 from the US Department of the Treasury. These funds were used for our first responders, disinfecting contract costs, food distributions, and PPE supply costs. The City also received \$11,343 from the Department of Health and Human Services dedicated for ambulance run costs associated with first responders.





FINANCE DEPARTMENT CONT.

- Due to COVID 19, the administration is anticipating negative effects on future income tax revenues in the areas of business net profits and individual unemployment payments. The City set aside funding in the general fund balance and reestablished the \$5.8 million reserve, concluding 2020 with a \$1.3 mil. general fund balance to handle such effects.
- The 2021 Budget is expected to see a negative impact of \$1.25M loss, however all current services being maintained and increased projects are to be completed with other funding sources.



FINANCE DEPARTMENT CONT.

- ❑ 8 full time employees in tax and finance departments
- ❑ The COVID19 virus affected the way we utilize our tax department to file and process tax returns. No more face to face preparation has actually benefited the department, to process faster by utilizing online filing, having no paperwork for most transactions, and it sped up processing. Tax system allows upload of documents.
- ❑ The City maintains an investment board consisting of the City Manager, Law Director and Director of Finance
- ❑ The City currently holds a A1 & AA- bond rating with Moody's and S&P



FINANCE DEPARTMENT CONT.

- Monitor fund balances throughout the year, construction projects and grants while ensuring the necessary reports to the State of Ohio and Federal Government Agencies are completed.
- The City has been working with a private collections company in an effort to collect back taxes. The result of this partnership continues to average of about \$425,000 annually.
- The Tax department has saved roughly \$39,000 from 2014 – 2020 by not issuing tax forms to residents & businesses.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



Jennifer Kuzma: Business Development Liaison
Executive Director, NE Ohio First Suburbs



XELLIA CLEVELAND



- Xellia Cleveland continues to build the foundation for Xellia's future
 - Committed to a future in Bedford (300+ FTE)
 - All U.S. packaging and shipping takes place out of Bedford

Copenhagen, Denmark, and Buffalo Grove, Illinois, US, 17 August 2021 - Xellia Pharmaceuticals ('Xellia'), a global leader in the manufacturing of specialty anti-infective treatments, announces that its manufacturing site in Cleveland, Ohio is now commercially operational and has released the first anti-infectives manufactured at the site, to be distributed for use by US hospitals. The anti-infective is the first drug product to be manufactured at the Cleveland site since it was bought by Xellia in 2015 and extensively rebuilt. The state-of-the-art facility is now commercially active after operations commenced following the passing of a comprehensive cGMP inspection by the FDA in 2020.

XELLIA CLEVELAND





ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CONT.

Meadowbrook Mixed-Use District

- ❑ Industrial Commercial Properties actively working to fill the former Walmart facility
- ❑ Bedford also welcomed the Ohio BMV, Title Bureau, The Boiler 65 and other new businesses to the area





ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CONT.

New Construction - Investment

- BBG, Inc.
 - Acquired the former Mr. G's Tavern in 2019
 - Estimated completion of renovations and occupancy planned for 2021
 - Relocating Insurance Brokerage Firm



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CONT.



Bedford's Partnership with The Auto Mile

- ❑ Collectively City's largest employer and has invested roughly \$50 million into Bedford with various dealer renovations and improvements over the last 7 years
- ❑ Their commitment to Bedford goes beyond that.....



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CONT.



2021 & Beyond

- ❑ Finalizing years of work involving Tinkers Creek Commerce Park
 - Announcements coming by the end of 2021
- ❑ Apec Engineering acquisition and development
- ❑ NOACA Award dedicating funds for the planning of the Connectivity Project.
- ❑ CDSG – benches, public WIFI, charging stations,
 - City Hall and downtown
- ❑ Be a resource for the Bedford School District as it develops a strategy for the former Chanel property – 30 acres
- ❑ Municipal Pool facility improvements



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CONT.



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CONT.





CITY OF BEDFORD

“ People sometimes shy away from big swings because they build a case against trying before they even step up to the plate....

Long shots aren't usually as long as they seem.
With enough thoughtfulness and commitment, the boldest ideas can be executed”.

Bob Iger



CITY OF BEDFORD



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QUESTIONS / COMMENTS

