

State of the City 2021

Out of a total of 114 authorized full-time positions, our local government operated with 99 full-time employees, 2 part-time employees, and 70 Seasonal staff during 2021.

FINANCIAL STABILITY

For the 11th year in a row, Council unanimously passed a balanced budget for 2021 of \$45.39M for City operations and expenses for 2021, which was approximately 5.8% below total projected revenue of \$48.06M. Actual revenue exceeded projections by approximately 10% for a total of \$52.88M.

The General Fund showed an approximate 33% increase of projected Municipal Income Tax revenue of \$3.57M for an end-of-year revenue balance of approximately \$4.75M. While projected General Fund revenues for 2021 were \$7.33M, the actual collections totaled \$9.017M, or an increase of approximately 23%.

The additional .5% Supplemental Income Tax generated 2.349M, or 31% above the projection of \$1.785M, which was predicated on pandemic impacts to employment. KWH Tax of \$618,584 was deposited into the General Fund and approximately 1.4% above projections.

As of December 31, 2021, an estimated year-end balance of approximately \$4.42M in the General Fund, or \$2.42M above the baseline of \$2M.

General Fund Expenditures for 2021 were approximately \$10.65M, or 6.7% less than collected. Multiple revenue sources for the General Fund saw revealed an overall increase of \$1.69M, which represented a 28.7% increase over 2020.

End of year debt was approximately \$6.73M, which represents an approximate 27% reduction from 2020. Significant debt reduction updates are as follows:

- The final Principal payment of \$495K plus interest and attorney's fees were paid by the Bryson Trust against the remaining debt of \$495K for the 8 acres of waterfront land adjacent to Lake Shore Drive. This debt was paid.

- Remaining GAC Plant debt of approximately \$3.44M was reduced by \$426K from the GAC billing assessment. Outstanding debt is \$3M & is to be paid off in 2028.
- The 2011 Wastewater Plant Improvement remaining debt of \$852K was reduced by \$169K. This debt matures in 2026.
- Collective debt payments from the 9 TIF Districts were \$313,217 against approximately \$2.42M of several capital improvement projects, including the new Industrial Park Water Tower project with 20-year loan of \$2.36M through the State's 0% interest HAB program.
- Electric Funds paid the remaining \$784,379 toward the outstanding rate levelization costs implemented in 2018. This debt was paid off early.

The City was awarded \$1,092,029.80 by the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) and received the first half, or \$546,014.90 in September, which was awarded through Congressional action to assist the communities as a result of pandemic financial impacts.

INCOME TAX

The Income Tax Department collected a total of \$7,099,785, or a 10.2% increase from 2020. Out of 6,724 active Accounts, including 1,294 non-resident businesses and individuals, there remained only \$48,612 to be collected for the period of 2011-2021.

The 2021 General Fund carryover balance of \$4.428M provided for transfers into designated Savings Accounts for future expenses of the Police & Fire Departments, and the Street Reconstruction Program. The total transferred into these accounts included some 1% General Fund revenue in addition to the restricted .5% Supplemental Income Tax. Of note:

- \$350K was transferred to the Police Capital Fund for future capital needs

- \$450K was transferred to the Fire Capital Account for future capital needs
- \$150K was transferred into the Parks Capital Fund
- A total of \$3.2M was transferred to the Capital Street Program Fund

FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Fire Department had a budget of \$1.37M budget. Continuing strategic planning and reciprocal service agreements throughout the County maintained a higher ISO rating of 4 and 4Y that provided an estimated 15% insurance premium savings for businesses.

During 2021 CFD made 1,790 Squad runs (app. 6% increase from 2020), 95 Squad runs for Coldwater and Rockford in addition to emergency rescue support to Chattanooga, Mendon, Montezuma, and St Henry, and 352 Fire runs (app. 5.7% increase from 2020) with Fire loss calculated to be approximately \$485,650.

Donations of \$10,900 were received through the generosity of local residents and businesses toward capital expenses not included in the budget.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Celina's Police Department had a budget of approximately \$1.65M, which includes a newly-created School Resource Officer position. There were 15,452 calls for service; issuance of 510 traffic citations (a decrease of 32% from 2020) and 433 warnings. 295 traffic reported accidents with one (1) fatality. There was a 55% increase in Criminal Arrests from 2020 with 261 adults and 54 juveniles. Illegal Drug activity continues to be a priority for our Department and the County Drug Task Force with 196 drug and alcohol-related arrests during 2021. Of particular concern is that over \$500,000 has been lost to scammers from our residents.

PUBLIC WORKS

The Public Works Department had Budget Appropriations of \$2.05M and \$788K for Parks. Department personnel has maintenance responsibility for all streets and alleys, storm and sanitary sewer, and North Grove cemetery.

We maintain approximately 111 miles of sewer lines, approximately 63 miles of streets, and 20 miles of alleys. Of note:

- Crews poured 600 yards of concrete panels and curb at a cost of approximately \$69K and laid 627 tons of asphalt at a cost of approximately \$42K.
- The Administration Building's parking lot rebuilt at a cost of \$86,322, which also included the Municipal parking lot at Walnut and Market Streets.
- Crews televised approximately 20,100 feet of sewer lines to provide documentation for both needed repairs and scheduled replacements.
- Crews removed a blighted structure at 130 Hamilton Street at a cost of \$8,781.
- Personnel worked over 400 hours in support of Lake Festival, Taste of Celina, and Grand Lake Marathon events.

PARKS & RECREATION

The City's Parks and Recreation Department had an approximate \$700K budget, which included a General Fund Transfer of \$474K. The Department spent approximately 74.6% of its budget in maintaining 135 acres of parks & facilities. Spring activities include Rec Sports, Baseball, Girls' softball, and both the Grand Lake Mariners and Wright State Lakers baseball teams. Rec programs consisted of soccer, football, baseball and softball with 731 participants,

which was an 80% increase from 2020 as a result of lessened pandemic restrictions. Programs were directed by 112 coaches and volunteers, 22 umpires, and 20 referees. Of note:

- The National Park Service’s “Land and Water Conservation Fund” (LWCF) Grant in the amount of \$500,000 was used in matching funds included construction of a new restroom facility in the Bryson Park District at a cost of \$209,540 that is now complete.
- The Bryson Trust funded new playground equipment (GT Wave) and three (3) Zip lines in the Park District at a cost of \$274, 962.
- A full-length basketball court was designed and construction awarded to Degen Excavating in the amount of \$86,502.

UTILIY DEPARTMENTS

CUSTOMER ACCOUNTS

Customer Account staff read electric and water meters, prepare billings, and collected payments from customers for all city-owned utilities with 80, 948 Billings. There were 5748 inside (2.6% increase) and 2,198 outside (1.1% increase) Residential Electric meters; 4,591 inside and 575 outside Water meters; and 4,571 inside and 532 outside Wastewater customers.

Staff continue to collect unpaid debt from previous years, which included over \$63,236 in aging Delinquent Accounts.

ELECTRIC DISTRIBUTION

Total combined budgeted expenses for Electric Distribution were approximately \$26.3M with total combined revenues of approximately \$23.1M, of which \$20.6M was purchased power cost (\$20.6M was budgeted). Final expenses were \$25.1M. The Electric Fund realized a planned negative cash flow of approximately \$2M for an end-of-year balance of \$9.45M.

Personnel are responsible for our Electric Distribution system with 10 miles of Transmission lines, 685 miles of Distribution lines, 12 miles of Fiber Optic lines, and 4 Electric Substations, 1,020 Street Lights and over 10,000 utility poles.

Of special note, Electric crews installed 2,150 Radio-read meters with Cares Act revenue with the purpose of preventing unnecessary public exposure to COVID-19 by personnel.

WATER TREATMENT PLANT

The Water Treatment Plant had operating expenses of approximately \$4.42M and Water Distribution at \$1.168M. Actual revenues were approximately \$4.463M. The end-of-year Water Fund balance was approximately \$4.235M. The plant processed approximately 369.28MG of raw water and sold 296.31M gallons of finished water (approximately .81MGD).

The City utilized the remaining proceeds of the \$8M Water Solutions Grant received in 2016 to complete Water Plant improvements and expansion with a new DAF (Dissolved Air Flotation) process that pretreats raw water and reduces overall treatment costs.

WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT

The Wastewater Treatment facility is rated as a 3MGD Treatment Plant. IN 2021 the plant treated an average of 2.4MGD of effluent, of which an estimated two-thirds of flow is attributable to groundwater (infiltration) and sump pumps/downspouts (inflow). The Plant had approximately \$1.865M in operating expenses and revenue of \$2.63M. End-of-year fund balance was \$6.11M with a positive end-of-year cash flow of \$103K.

Operators maintain 13 sewerage Lift Stations and provides service to 5,162 customers. Inclusive of over 41" of precipitation during 2021, the wastewater treatment plant processed approximately 812.69MG.

ENGINEERING CAPITAL-CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

During 2021, the following Permit activity occurred:

- 10 Single family dwellings, 13 additions, and 2 Duplexes
- 14 Apartments, 5 Non-residential Buildings and 3 Expansions
 - Dunkin started construction of a new facility on Haveman Road
 - Grand Lake Eye Care started construction a new facility on Holiday Drive
 - Versa-Pak expansion of 52,000 square feet

Notable projects in 2021 include:

- The City's 2021 Street Resurfacing Program included 26,617 feet (5.04 miles) of secondary street resurfacing for Irmscher Blvd, Majorki St, Eaglebrooke Pkwy, Eaglebrooke Blvd, Linden, Willow, Maple, Spruce, Ash, Armstrong, Lilac, Riley, Deford, Cron, Mercer, Pine, South, and Hemlock Streets, and County Road at a total cost of \$1,378,650. Program funded by the .5% Supplemental Income Tax.
- An Electric storage facility was completed at a final cost of \$335,896.
- In partnership with Mercer County Economic Development Office, City Council authorized Revolving Loan Fund expenditures of approximately \$60K toward demolition at 509 West Fulton Street, (formerly known as Stokely Building).

COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The City was pleased to have the following new businesses choose Celina:

- Kessler Plaza
 - KUHN'S NEST
 - BEE'S STYLIN'
- Downtown
 - FLOCK MERCANTILE

- THE ANCHOR
- MADE APPAREL

- Wal-Mart Plaza
 - QUEEN NAILS

COURTS

Municipal Court Judge Kathryn Speelman continues to provide judicial leadership to Celina and Mercer County. In their annual report of new cases filed, the Municipal court received 4,409 Traffic Cases (22% increase from 2020); 602 Criminal cases (3% decrease); 71 Small Claims cases (29% increase); and, 565 Civil Cases. In total, there were 5,667 new cases filed at Celina Municipal Court, which represents an approximate 14.9% increase overall.

CONCLUSION

The City of Celina remains committed to its citizens and businesses that their government is fiscally sound, responsibly managed with transparency, and proactive in reinvestment in our infrastructure. Completing the final year of the 7-year 0.5% Supplemental Income Tax cycle, we continue to remain resolute in restricting this revenue source to only supporting Fire and Police Departments, and the Street Repair/Resurfacing program to keep its residents safe while making necessary improvements.

We are partners with our community and to seek ways to improve and promote Celina. Thank you for allowing me the honor of serving our community. In service to others, I am

Jeffrey S. Hazel
Mayor