

# **Village of New Concord 2020 Annual Report**



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## Village Contact Information

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Mailing Address	P.O. Box 10, New Concord, OH 43762
Physical Address	2 West Main Street, New Concord, OH 43762

## **Village Leadership**

Mayor	Jennifer Lyle	2020 - 2023
President of Council	Kristi Kearns	2019 – 2021
Council Member	Robert Dickson	2020 - 2023
Council Member	Steve Wootton	2018 - 2021
Council Member	Scott Sabino	2020 - 2021
Council Member	Levi Shegog	2020 – 2023
Council Member	Jim Whitehair	2020 - 2021

Village Administrator	Charlotte Colley
Fiscal Officer	Lynn Marlatt
Police Chief	Mindy Peck
Fire Chief	Vacant
Operations Manager	Matt Wood
Water/Wastewater Superintendent	Chris Huebner
Village Solicitor	Scott Eickelberger

### **Planning Commission**

Jim Dooley (Chair), Jennifer Lyle, Greg Wilson, Colleen Heacock, Robert Dickson

### **Design Review Board**

George St Clair (Chair), Jerry Gibson, Sally Brixner, Levi Shegog, Terri Wootton

### **Tree Committee**

Robert Dickson, Levi Shegog, Scott Sabino, Charlotte Colley

### **Harper Cabin Board**

George St Clair, Jordan Stewart, Barb St Clair, Robert Dickson, Sally Spillman, Al Chafee,  
Rita Mitchell

## Executive Summary

Resiliency, the ability to recover from adversity or change. The New Concord community is resilient! In 2020, with the multitude of unknowns, fears, chaos and drastic changes the village was able to come together to ride out the storm. Community partners such as the East Muskingum School District, Muskingum University, NCAARD, the Board of Trade, the New Concord Library and local churches came up creative ways to foster a sense of a tight-knit community in a time when we had to be physically separate. In a time when political divisiveness and social unrest threatened to tear apart peace and security our community came together to embrace our differences and to become more in tune with the need for greater equity and inclusion in all aspects of our lives.

The Village of New Concord was not immune from hardships and trials in 2020. Due to the pandemic the Village experienced revenue shortfalls that had a direct impact on budgeted plans for various projects, improvements and staffing. Early in the year staff worked with elected officials to make targeted reductions in spending to ensure fiscal solvency. The budget for 2021 reflects many of these deferred items as the Village is determined to recover and thrive post-pandemic.

2020 presented many challenges to our community but there were many positive outcomes from the past year as well. The Village received over \$570,000 in grant funds and 0% interest loans for a major waterline replacement project along N. Friendship Drive that will take place in the summer of 2021. Many departments were able to utilize federal and state funds to make improvements to safety procedures and business practices which will allow for greater ease of use for residents and businesses. Traditional events were reimagined, with the help of staff and community partners, and new programs were developed to engage our community and preserve fun!

There are many opportunities for New Concord on the horizon. Opportunities to come together with neighbors and friends to renew the small-town feel and caring atmosphere of New Concord. Opportunities for planned development and growth that will add to the economic base and vibrancy of the Village. Opportunities to collaborate with community partners to ensure the future resiliency of the community whatever the future may bring.



## Message from the Mayor

The global Covid-19 pandemic altered and shaped nearly every aspect of our lives in New Concord. In such unprecedented times, gratitude becomes even more important, and I want to offer appreciation to Village employees, Orbit Media and the New Concord community.

- Village employees have gone above and beyond to continue to provide high quality services while safeguarding the health of the community and keeping themselves and their families safe.
- When the pandemic prevented open public meetings, our longtime partner Orbit Media offered help, and since April, the New Concord Village Council meetings have been broadcast live from the Orbit Media studio at Muskingum University, produced by Dr. Lisa Marshall.
- New Concord voters passed our street levy for the 7<sup>th</sup> time in its 35-year history. You voted to care for our streets, roads and bridges.
- The New Concord community, from residents to businesses, and our school district and university partners, has done its part to reduce spread and keep each other safe throughout the pandemic. This has required sacrifices and compromises on everyone's part and we did it together, the way our community has always come together. New Concord Strong!

People come first, and I would like to pay tribute to the following:

- Fire Chief Brent Gates retired from the Village in December after 42 years. He joined the New Concord Fire Department as a volunteer firefighter and was named chief in 1992. We thank him for his dedication and loyalty.
- We thank Tim Louis of our Operations Department for his 20 years of employment with the Village.
- Scott Sabino and Jim Whitehair were appointed to fill a vacant council seats.
- We honor the lives of departed members of the Village family.
  - ❖ Anna Margaret Castor Glenn. In February we celebrated Annie Glenn's 100<sup>th</sup> birthday at the John and Annie Glenn Museum. In May the world mourned her death.
  - ❖ Ed Stewart, Chief of Police (ret.). Chief Stewart's career with the Village spanned 27 years, serving as Chief for more than 25 years. (1952-2020)
  - ❖ Loas Gerlach, Deputy Village Clerk (ret.). Loas was with the Village for many years and served under Mayors Coleman Knight and R. Gregory Adams. (1932-2020)
  - ❖ Danny Harlow, Cpt, Dresden Police Department. Cpt. Harlow was a member of the New Concord Police Department for a time and remained close friends with all.

2020 had many challenges; we met them and still achieved many things, as you'll see in the department reports. Pandemic and related challenges will continue in 2021, yet we have many wonderful things on the horizon: state level economic development support, swimming pool enhancements and the possibility of further enhancements, major infrastructure improvements, along with our stakeholder partners - new construction at the Garland Development and the rising Health & Wellness Complex on Muskingum's campus.

Together we keep getting better. Thank you.

*Mayor Jennifer Lyle*

## Finance Department

Despite COVID-19's efforts to slow us down, the Village's fiscal year for 2020 continued to remain within budget. We have focused on determining methods that will allow us to provide residents with the best services possible and overcome financial challenges the Village of New Concord will continue its conservative fiscal approach.

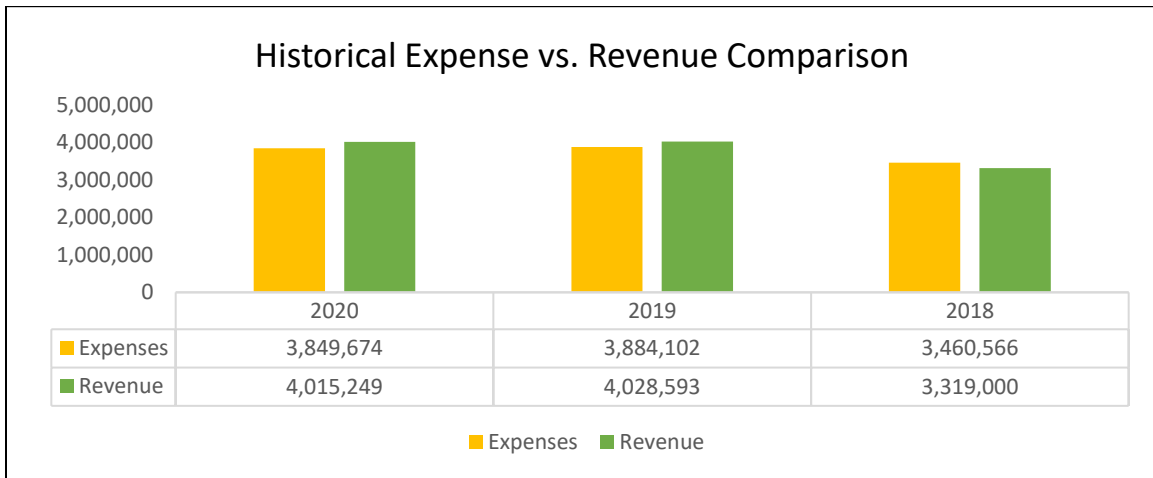
The General Fund accounts for and reports all financial resources not accounted for and reported in another fund. The general fund balance is available to the Village for any purpose provided it is expended or transferred according to the general laws of Ohio. At the end of 2020 fiscal year, fund balance of the General Fund was \$178,670, while the total fund balance was \$782,073.

Budgetary expenditures (that is, disbursements and encumbrances) may not exceed appropriations at the fund, function or object level of control, and appropriations may not exceed estimated resources. The Village Council must annually approve appropriation measures and subsequent amendments.

Estimated resources include estimates of cash to be received (budgeted receipts) plus cash as of January 1. The County Budget Commission must approve estimated resources.

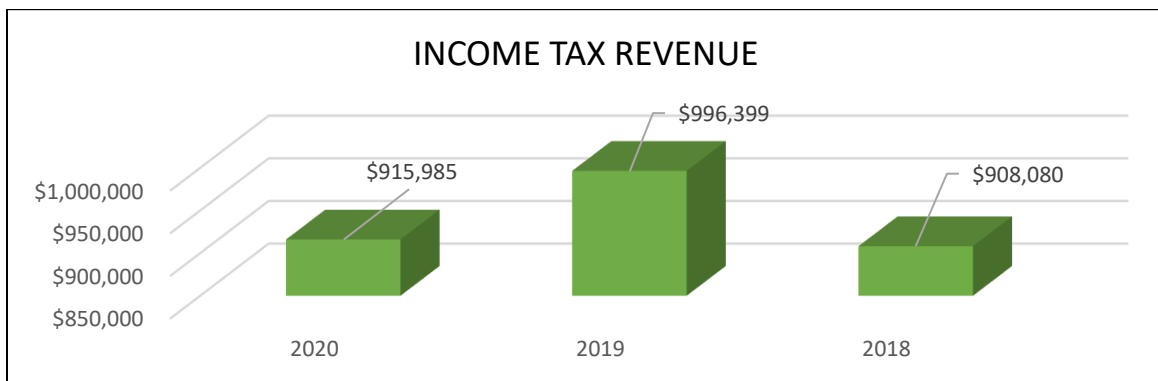
Budgetary activity for the year ending December 31, 2020 follows:

<b>2020 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts</b>			
<b>Fund Type</b>	<b>Budgeted Receipts</b>	<b>Actual Receipts</b>	<b>Variance</b>
General	\$ 1,112,360	\$ 1,222,602	\$ 110,243
Special Revenue	1,370,080	1,363,079	(7,002)
Debt Service	46,973	46,973	-0-
Capital Project	14,000	14,617	617
Enterprise	1,520,652	1,357,600	(163,052)
Custodial	15,000	10,378	(4,622)
Total	<u>\$ 4,079,065</u>	<u>\$ 4,015,249</u>	<u>\$ (63,816)</u>
<b>2020 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures</b>			
<b>Fund Type</b>	<b>Appropriation Authority</b>	<b>Budgetary Expenditures</b>	<b>Variance</b>
General	\$ 1,250,314	\$ 1,185,103	\$ 65,211
Special Revenue	1,512,161	1,270,926	241,235
Debt Service	46,973	46,973	-0-
Capital Project	14,000	11,281	2,719
Enterprise	1,667,736	1,325,013	342,723
Custodial	15,000	10,378	4,622
Total	<u>\$ 4,506,184</u>	<u>\$ 3,849,674</u>	<u>\$ 656,510</u>



The Village levies a municipal income tax of one and a half percent on substantially all earned income arising from employment, residency, or business activities within the Village as well as certain income of residents earned outside of the Village.

Employers within the Village withhold income tax on employee compensation and remit the tax to the Village either monthly or quarterly, as required. Corporations and other individual taxpayers pay estimated taxes quarterly and file a declaration annually.



The total amount of debt issued by the Village in 2020 was \$541,641. Total outstanding debt was reduced by \$305,121. At the end of the fiscal year 2020, the Village of New Concord had total debt principal outstanding of \$2,743,000.

Amortization of debt, including interest, is scheduled as follows:

Year Ending December 31	2011 Sewer Bonds	2014 TIF Bonds	OPWC Loans	OWDA Loans	Leases	USDA
2021	\$ 38,810	\$ 25,811	\$ 39,202	\$ 84,419	\$ 118,942	22,313
2022	38,810	25,811	39,202	38,959	119,502	22,261
2023	38,810	-	39,202	24,675	100,161	22,301
2024	38,810	-	39,202	18,285	100,161	22,341
2025	38,810	-	39,202	17,718	50,001	22,271
2026-2030	-	-	179,744	58,538	100,002	111,505
2031-2035	-	-	141,790	45,660	-	111,508
2036-2040	-	-	141,790	45,660	-	111,508
2041-2045	-	-	99,210	45,660	-	111,492
2046-2050	-	-	79,368	27,396	-	111,546
2051-2055	-	-	-	-	-	14,411
	<u>\$ 194,050</u>	<u>\$ 51,622</u>	<u>\$ 837,912</u>	<u>\$ 406,970</u>	<u>\$ 588,769</u>	



## **Water and Wastewater Treatment Plants**

The COVID-19 pandemic presented many challenges during the year of 2020. Several scheduled projects were delayed causing us to postpone their completion. Smoke testing on our collection system and the water plant clarifier rehabilitation project were postponed. The Village is hoping to complete both projects in 2021. The completion of the WWTP generator project was delayed but was completed by the end of the year. The COVID-19 pandemic caused the overall water production amount to decrease by 11%. Thankfully, the plant staff remained healthy throughout the pandemic and there were no water and wastewater treatment interruptions due to any missed work time.

Both the Water and Wastewater treatment plants operated successfully during 2020. There were no violations at the water plant and there were 4 suspended solids permit violations at the wastewater treatment plant (WWTP). Plant Operators continue to improve plant efficiency and always strive to deliver superior water quality and excellent wastewater services. Over 8,000 analyses were performed on numerous samples over the year for both treatment plants. Plant Operators attended contact hour courses and are renewing their operator certifications. Steve Shriner passed his Class 1 Wastewater Supply Certification exam. All monthly and annual reports were submitted to Ohio EPA in a timely manner.

During 2020, the New Concord area experienced higher than normal precipitation amounts which resulted in several high flow occurrences in the collection system leading to the Wastewater Treatment Plant and there was one overflow incident out of the collection system. Heavy rain events during the year made it very challenging to meet permit limits for suspended solids. Ohio EPA has made recommendations on fixing the collection system to minimize inflow/infiltration. The COVID-19 pandemic put a halt on smoke testing during 2020 but the Village plans to commence work again in 2021 and will work with the Village Engineer to these making the necessary collection system improvements to abate the inflow/infiltration.

The department applied for and received grants to purchase fluoridation pump equipment, chlorine monitoring and turbidity inline equipment from two different agencies. Grants totaled over \$26,000. These upgrades will allow Plant staff to update various systems and increase monitoring resiliency with new technology.

The auxiliary water line connection with Muskingum County was tied into the distribution system and will serve as a backup should there be a need for additional water on an emergency basis. The auxiliary water connection was used for a major water line leak on December 25, 2020.

In addition to the regular day operations and maintenance activities, plant operators mow grass, weed eat and remove snow at both treatment plants. As a team, the Water and Wastewater Department staff continually look for ways to improve operations and services, create efficiencies, and reduce costs without sacrificing quality.

During the year 2021, the Village plans to have the Water Treatment Plant south clarifier repaired, sandblasted and painted to further preserve its integrity and to renew its life cycle. Updates of the Water System Asset Management and our Source Water Protection Plans will occur in 2021. Plant staff will be installing new monitoring equipment for updating our water plant inline monitoring of turbidity and chlorine disinfection during 2021.

## **Water Treatment Plant 2020 Achievements**

- Achieved compliance with all present Ohio E.P.A. drinking water standards.
- Performed drinking water analysis on raw and finish water samples every day of the year.
- Completed monthly scheduled preventive maintenance on all plant equipment.
- Completed monthly laboratory calibrations and all equipment calibrations.
- Replaced the engine block heater on the Garland Booster Pump Station Generator.
- Repaired and replaced raw pump B line shaft rubber bearings.
- Acquired grant money purchasing new inline turbidity, chlorine in-line equipment, a bench top turbidity meter and a fluoride chemical feed pump totaling \$26,000.
- No Cyanotoxin detections in raw water.
- Replaced mechanical seal on west high service pump.
- Installed new steps on the lower reservoir bank for easier access to monitor the reservoir level.
- Replaced front door and painted tank and building structures.
- Completion of Muskingum County Auxiliary water line connection.
- Repaired Carbon Feeder base stand with Unistrut.
- Installed digital raw and finish digital flow recorders.
- Provided safe, continuous supply of water with the exception of 1 major interruption for our customers.

## **Waste Water Treatment Plant 2020 Achievements**

- Achieved 98% removal for CBOD and 97% removal of suspended solids.
- Performed and contracted wastewater analysis on all raw and final samples as required by our NPDES permit.
- Completed monthly scheduled preventive maintenance on all plant equipment.
- Processed 64.64 dry tons of biosolids.
- Replaced the refrigerator skid on the influent autosampler.
- Installed a polymer reaction tank on the filter belt press.
- Cleaned grit from the west oxidation ditch and grit channel.
- Replaced all 40 bulbs on our Ultra Violet Treatment System.
- Painted digester building.
- Installed a new standby diesel fuel generator.

## **Water and Wastewater Department Staff and Certifications**

Chris Huebner	Class 3 Water and Class 3 Wastewater Certifications
Jeff Wiler	Class 3 Water and Class 2 Wastewater Certifications
Kenny McClellan	Class 2 Water and Class 3 Wastewater Certifications
Steve Shriner	Class 1 Water and Class 1 Wastewater Certifications

## **Water & Waste Water Billing**

Water revenue is comprised of water usage billed to residents, bulk water sales, water tap fees, miscellaneous water revenue, and penalty fees. Total water revenue for 2020 was \$560,002. This was a decrease of \$24,097 or a 9% decrease from 2019.

Sewer revenue includes sewer billing, waste hauler fees, sewer tap fees, penalty fees, and miscellaneous sewer revenue. Total sewer revenue for 2020 was \$580,214. This was a decrease of \$20,569 or a decrease of 10% from 2019.

We continue using an email system for water billing. About 276 customers currently are using this feature to receive their water/sewer bills, and all new customers who sign up for water will automatically be enrolled in this program. The online bill pay feature continues to be useful to our residents and now allows for customers to pay with a credit card or an electronic check and this can be set up to be done automatically. An average of 40 residents per billing cycle have used this feature. Staff worked to identify and replace broken or non-working meters. Meter replacements will occur over a number of years, as funding becomes available. The new meters will provide more accurate water and wastewater readings and will allow the Village to more effectively monitor customer usage.

Priorities for 2021:

- Repair/replace all broken meters
- Continue to monitor active water/sewer accounts for accuracy in billing
- Commit to ongoing training and education of our water/sewer system and the reading/billing system
- Continue to replace degraded water and sewer lines with new lines as funds are available

## **Zoning Department**

Zoning inquiries and permits were steady in 2020, despite the pandemic. There were many questions from realtors, and potential buyers, on zoning regulations and allowances for various properties within the Village. Mid-way through the year the Village experienced staffing changes and the Village Administrator assumed the role of Zoning Inspector.

During 2020 the Planning Commission approved the Garland Retail Center to be located along Garland Way. Once completed, this will be a 6,024 square foot retail center with space to hold 3-4 businesses and restaurants. The Planning Commission also approved the temporary use of 172 S. Friendship as Quarantine Housing for Muskingum University. The temporary approval will end on May 31, 2021.

New Residential Construction Permits – 1  
Residential Accessory Structure Permits – 4  
Commercial Accessory Structure Permits - 1  
Sign Permits - 3  
Demolition Permits – 2

## **Operations Department**

The Village of New Concord's Operations Department had a good year in 2020. This department is responsible for maintenance and repair of streets, sewer collection, water distribution, cemetery operation, facility maintenance and oversight of parks and open space.

During 2020 the department repaired 12 different water breaks, replaced 9 water meters, collected 10 dump truck loads of leaves from around the Village, and purchased a used bucket truck to assist with various tasks they perform throughout the year. The asphalt grindings from paving projects that occurred in 2020 were used to overlay the gravel roadways in the New Concord Cemetery. Operations staff also make the Village look beautiful and festive by hanging and watering the flowering baskets on Main Street during the summers and decorating the light poles, entry signs and Village Hall at the beginning of the Christmas season.

Staff members from the Operations Department work closely with Ohio EPA staff. In 2020 lead and copper samples were collected and passed an independent lab review and the OEPA's requirements. Village staff worked with the Muskingum County Water Department to establish an emergency connection for use by the Village in the event that additional water is necessary to ensure proper functionality of the system. This connection was successfully used on Christmas day during a very large water break. The Village also invested in a new traffic control box at the intersection of SR 83 and Main Street and in new water meter reading equipment during 2020.

### **Additional 2020 Operations Department Highlights:**

- Repaired 3 Sewer back-ups
- Installed 14 new ADA accessible picnic tables at the Upper Reservoir, the "S" bridge and Village Park
- Assisted with the revitalization project at the New Concord Pool
- Installed a new culvert on Fairfield Drive
- Installed asphalt over concrete at the intersection of Paden Drive and Lowry Lane
- Worked with Village residents to correct downspouts or other issues identified during 2019 smoke testing
- Added 2 new water service hook-ups

### **2021 Operations Department Priorities:**

- Continue to improve landscape in areas around the Village Hall complex
- Smoke test the remainder of the Village and utilize data to develop a prioritized plan for sewer system repair and maintenance
- Work with approved contractors to upgrade/replace the N. Friendship Drive Waterline
- Install a vehicle lift in the Operations Department garage to allow for additional vehicle maintenance to be done in-house

## **New Concord Fire Department**

2020 was a good year for the New Concord Fire Department (NCFD). Many challenges were presented to the department, including the development and ongoing response to COVID-19, but the staff of the NCFD have met each challenge and responded with a commitment to community safety and professionalism.

The ladder truck that was placed in service in early 2020 is performing as expected and has proven itself a worthy investment for the department. Having the Rescue functioning as designed has allowed for an enhanced response to our more critical incidents. 2020 revealed the need to start planning to replace our aging fleet of vehicles. All three ambulances have over 110,000 miles, and our primary engine turned 22 years old this year, putting it 7 years past its work expectancy. The NCFD is looking forward to working with the village to address these needs and plan for the future.

An area for concern is the frequency of calls that the department has been unable to respond to. While daily staffing is a great asset to our community and contracted partners, the department is often stretched thin. This year there were several calls in our contacted area that the department could not respond to due to being out on additional calls. We added 4 new volunteer members in 2020 and are working to develop a system to optimize our volunteer's response to calls. During 2021 the department will need to look at adding additional part-time employees and focus on recruitment and retention of members.

Due to COVID restrictions, the NCFD and Fire Association were unable to hold our traditional festival or participate in as many community events as we did in past years. Fortunately, the department was able to partner with NCAARD and come up with some creative ways to interact with the community such as the splash attack program and participating in Drive-by birthday celebrations. These activities were enjoyed by members and community members.

Lastly, 2020 saw the retirement of long time chief, Brent Gates. It is hard to imagine the department without his leadership as he was the wind that filled the sails of the department. His leadership and insight will be greatly missed amongst the ranks. We wish all the best to him in his future endeavors.

### **EMS Calls- 818**

Response from page -1:24

Dispatch to on-scene - 5:47

Transports – 606 (74% of calls)

### **Fire Calls- 294**

Response from page – 1:51

Dispatch to on-scene – 5:06

Total fire loss - \$2,090,510.00

## New Concord Police Department

The year 2020 has been tough on everyone, especially law enforcement. The Police Department had to come up with creative ways to host annual events in a safe manner and following health department guidelines.



In 2020, the New Concord Police Department became certified by the Ohio Collaborative. The Ohio Collaborative's goal is to help Ohio law enforcement agencies work towards building police and community relations. This is done by implementing and following standards. The standards include: Bias Free Policing, Community Engagement, Body Worn Cameras, Use of Force, Recruitment and Hiring and Safe Policing for Safe Communities. Each year the police department will have an annual review and must comply with documentation.

In October, Officer Traub and K9 Officer Norco completed their annual re-certification with the state. For a list of drugs recovered and amounts look for the NCPD Year End Review coming in January, 2021. This program is fully funded on donations and fundraisers only. This year our successful K9 yard sale raised over \$6,000. Thank you to all that donated to this program.



The NCPD annual community events include: Bike Helmets giveaway during the Trail of Treats, Splash Attack with the NCFD, Drug Take Back and 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Canned Food Drive that partners with Ohio State Patrol. All proceeds went to College Drive Presbyterian Church's food pantry to benefit local families in need during the holiday season.



Chief Mindy Peck and Sgt Dawson attended RITE Training Academy to become trainers to teach other officers. RITE training is Racial Intelligence Training and Engagement. The RITE program teaches officers about racial and cultural sensitivity along with de-escalation techniques. Chief Peck stated that "As the Chief of Police of New Concord, I saw a need to attend and implement this program for our department."

Along with the RITE training the Police Department has begun roundtable discussion with Muskingum University Students. The Police Chief and Danyelle Gregory (Director of Diversity) saw a need for our local police and the minority university students to come together and discuss concerns and get a better understanding of each other. This roundtable discussion will hopefully continue into the future.

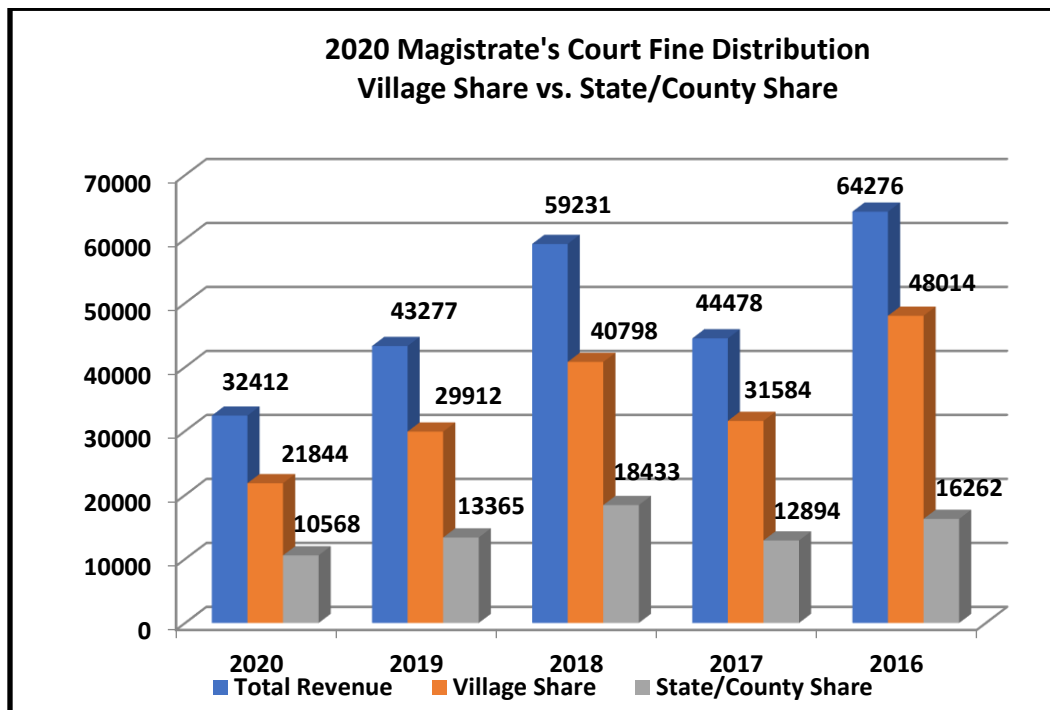
## Magistrate's Court

The purpose of the Magistrate's Court is to ensure prompt, fair and impartial hearings for persons cited for violating Village of New Concord municipal ordinances. Attorney Steven Baldwin continues to serve as the Village Magistrate in 2020, administering both the procedural and punitive functions of the court. The Magistrate's Court is staffed by the magistrate and the clerk of court.

The court revenue for 2020 was \$32,412.00. This was a decrease of \$10,865.00 from the prior year. Our officers did a great job of maintaining the safety of the Village and the viability of the Department despite all of the changes due to COVID.

Collection of fines remains a challenge due to the financial hardships that many of the defendants' face. In addition, especially in regard to criminal offenses, the court has limited measures that can be taken to penalize defendants for defaulting on their payments. We have also implemented the service for online payments for citations written within the Village. This was partially due to COVID, but also as a convenience for the individual cited. In hopes to increase our revenue in collecting on these citations.

Education and training continue to remain a high priority for court personnel. The Magistrate's Court will continue to avail itself of resources for education and training in court procedures. These include, but are not limited to; seminars, printed materials and online resources.



The following is a list of priorities for 2021:

- Ensure fine payments are collected and past due amounts to the court are collected and utilize resources to assist with these efforts, such as our affiliation with Capital Recovery collection services
- Pursue education and training opportunities



## **Celebrate New Concord**

Celebrate New Concord (CNC) began informally in 2000 with a free performance in Village Park by the Muskingum College Faculty Brass Quintet, which was then directed by the late Dr. William Schlacks. Based on the response that year, Celebrate New Concord officially became a Village sponsored organization in 2001, with Bill as its founder. Since then, CNC has grown to six performances each summer, on the second and fourth Tuesdays of June, July, and August, at 7:00 PM in Village Park in downtown New Concord.

CNC has reached over 17,000 audience members since 2001, with a mix of music, theater, educational programming and magic, and has become a regular part of summer in New Concord. CNC is supported entirely by contributions from individuals and organizations to the Celebrate New Concord Patronage Program, and every dollar received goes to support the series. No one involved in the organization of CNC is paid for their time or efforts. In 2019, Celebrate New Concord set up an endowment fund through the Muskingum County Community Foundation to help to ensure that the patronage money continues to be sustainable.

Due to COVID-19 and concerns over large gatherings, the 2020 season was cancelled with the exception of Adam Calvert's performance at the Fireman's Festival. Despite this, the patronage program brought in \$4495.00 to support the season. A total of \$1,100 was spent on performances, mailings, marketing, and technical assistance.

## **New Concord Area Arts and Recreation District (NCAARD)**

NCAARD enthusiastically offered arts, fitness, and recreation programs for the community of New Concord and beyond despite having its second transfer in leadership in two years on February 10th, 2020. NCAARD offered a total of 32 programs in 2020. These programs were comprised of 16 in-person classes as well as 16 virtual programs for individuals and families. Most of these programs required creative rethinking of past “usual” ways of organizing them as well as reinventing brand-new programs to help build community through the pandemic. Although unclear on exact numbers due to the nature of virtual events, these NCAARD programs reached a vast number of individuals and families residing in and around New Concord, not to mention a farther-reaching audience outside of the school district.

NCAARD also increased its presence on Facebook by adding over 300 people for a total of 1,368 followers! Furthermore, the email database has been updated and utilized, website re-energized, and we have established a presence on other social media outlets.

Lastly, NCAARD increased its connection in the community by teaming with the New Concord Area Board of Trade to help promote “Trail of Treats” and “Christmas in the Village” and being included in monthly board meetings.

### **Community Outreach Programs**

In addition to the aforementioned community programs, NCAARD increased its outreach in the following areas:

- NCAARD created and established a new community group, complete with a Facebook presence, called AWARE which focuses on multicultural awareness and education. The program is maintained by Amanda McClelland as an emerging subdivision of NCAARD.
- NCAARD partnered with Beth Ingram, founder of “I AM a Warrior” (against suicide), to recognize and thank our local first responders.
- NCAARD helped to promote several major community events including Story Fest, Keagan Meek’s homecoming, N.C. Food Pantry, and the East Muskingum School District meal plan.
- NCAARD also virtually provided resources for our community including a COVID-19 Time Capsule, educational and mental health resources, craft/food/activity/fitness ideas and general things of interest for continued community connection.
- NCAARD was highlighted in the “What If We Innovate Together?” Zoom session of Sustainovation, Nick Kittle, CEO, for its virtual spring programming.
- NCAARD’s Program Director was also featured in Drew Bracken’s “Aces of Trade” series in the Zanesville Times Recorder and the Cambridge Jeffersonian.
- NCAARD’s Program Director was chosen to present “Connecting Your Community through Programming during COVID-19” at the Ohio Parks and Recreation Association’s Small Agency Forum April 26, 2021.

### **NCAARD Programming**

Several programs and events were scheduled for the spring and summer, but canceled due to COVID. These included all spring “After School with NCAARD” programs - Generation POUND (LMIS/EMMS), Homework Help (EMMS), Snap Circuits (LMIS), Spring Kicks (LMIS), N.C. Library Activity Club (K-2).

Additional programs canceled or interrupted included: MU Investigation Fair, MU Science Discovery, all fitness classes (step aerobics class, yoga, POUND, martial arts, volleyball), painting class, Toddler Time, School's Out Summer Bash, Outdoor movies, and N.C. Pool.

Numerous programs were created and/or implemented differently during the pandemic to bring the community together including: NCAARD-io Challenge, Let's Pick It Up New Concord / New Concord Strong shirts / video, Hop Around the Block, Support Hearts, Mother's Day Contest, resurgence of Free Little Library, support cards for senior citizens (Beckett House & Evergreen Village), Fishing Derby, Back-to-School BINGO, Fall in "love" with N.C., Paint at Home options, Winner! Winner! Chicken Dinner!, Sunday Night Stories series, Christmas Eve Jingle, and Goodbye 2020 New Year's Eve Raffle.

\*Many videos commemorating events were created and posted on social media outlets.





## New Concord Area Pool Revitalization Project

In 2019 the Village was awarded a NatureWorks grant of \$63,506.00 to revitalize the pool complex. This project comes with a 25% match from the Village which can be made with cash, in-kind donations, Village staff labor or volunteer labor. The start of the project was delayed in 2020 due to pandemic concerns. However, many of the larger items, such as the retaining wall demo and installation and installation of an ADA compliant entryway going from the parking lot to the pool deck, were completed.

Beginning in late March contractors will be back on-site to continue working on the project. The remaining items include a new sand volleyball court, drainage work to deflect stormwater runoff from the skate park and pool complex, completion of concrete work, new fencing and shade material for the kiddie pool pergola. The Village, in coordination with NCAARD, will be reaching out to the community to request volunteer assistance for tasks like painting, hardware installation at the basketball court and volleyball court and landscaping in the spring.



New retaining wall with drainage



ADA compliant parking pad and ramp



Pool entrance before new concrete ramp



New pavilion under construction



Old fence to be replaced