

VILLAGE OF ARCANUM

2023 Year End Review

With the November elections over, I would like to thank all the voters who came out to the polls. I personally appreciate your trust and confidence in allowing me to serve as your mayor for another term. The Village has accomplished much in the last 4 years, and I have high hopes that the next 4 years will be even greater.

I want to apologize for not educating the residents enough on the two replacement levies that were placed on the ballot this year. Below is information that I should have shared with you in my last newsletter on the levies.

Both levies failed with the following results: .5 mil (427 for, 432 against) the 1.6 mil (368 for, 479 against). The levies originated in 1976 and 1984, and generated \$26,190 for general operating expenses. With no increase in 40 + years the levies were put on as replacement levies to compensate for appraisal values over the years for operating expenses. The county auditor has calculated the replacement levies as an overall increase of \$63,640 towards increased Village operating costs. With the levies failing, some Village services that residents are accustomed to receiving (daily leaf pick up, street cleaning and patching, curb painting, pool repairs, tree trimming, etc.) could be affected. With this in mind, Council has decided to place both levies back on the ballot for the March Primary Election. Several Town Hall Q&A meetings will be held in February for residents to attend. Those wishing to discuss this prior to the meetings are welcome to contact VA/Police Chief Marcus Ballinger, or myself.

Below is a summary of the Village accomplishments in 2023 outside of the daily and weekly work requirements:

Several alleys repaved, crack sealing of multiple streets with repairs to South West Street, curbs repainted, SCADA system installed in all buildings to improve notification of the mechanical systems for all utilities, updated pool concession area, ball park storage barn and dugout repairs, fencing installed in several areas, construction of a salt building. In Ivester Park & Arcanum Nature Preserve: updates to the gazebo, shelters, and Scout House; completion of a walking path, and two culverts were installed. The Water Department brine tank was cleaned and well pump replacement to ensure safe water conditions. Repairs were made on old water tower with general maintenance required on the park tower. The Utility Department has completed the Dull Road conversion from 2400kv to 7200kv, with the replacement of 47 poles, 21 transformers, and 2.1 miles of line.

Formalized required boards: Board of Zoning Appeals, Planning Commission, Park & Recreation Committee, and a Records Retention Board. The Village revised the entire Planning and Zoning Code, Personnel Policy and Procedure Manual, and instituted a complete asset tagging schedule for insurance purposes.

Village staff have written and submitted for a total of \$104,300 in grant funds to be used toward the Police Department and Parks, with a large Police fleet grant still pending approval.

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Mayor Bonnie Millard may be reached by calling 692-8500 or by email: Mayor@villageofarcanum.com



Over fifty property maintenance violations were issued, with over 95% completed with the remainder scheduled for completion in the spring '24. Approximately thirty residents joined in the Sidewalk Shaving Project on North Main Street and East South Street. The Village THANKS YOU for your voluntary participation.

With the cold and wintry weather upon us, I will leave you with this: My grandmother had shown me that getting older can look however you want it to look, if you are willing to show up and try. We need to be optimistic about everything, not down in the dumps. If you have the strength to get out of bed, get up and enjoy whatever life throws at us.

I'm wishing you all a joyful, happy and Merry Christmas and a safe and Happy New Year. Till next year!



Santa's Mailbox has been delivered to Santa's House downtown. Children can begin mailing their Christmas Letters to Santa!! Be sure to include a return address for a special response.

Live Tree Pick-Up

The Village Street Department will be picking up live Christmas trees on January 9th, 2024, for all Arcanum residents.

Please place all Christmas trees by the curb the night before.



Where: Arcanum Faith UM Church
101 South St (Social Hall)

When: Wednesday, December 6 @ 7:00 pm

Who: You and your friends and family

Why: For fun ! And to celebrate Christmas



AWTHS NEWS

AWTHS house tours Jan. 6, 2024 on the hour (9, 10, 11 am). Come learn about the history of Arcanum and the Deitrich Saloon Building, aka the Wayne Trail Grange and now AWTHS. Built in 1894.