



City of
WHITEHALL
Opportunity is Here

2015 Annual Report

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City Council

Whitehall City Council is the legislative body of the City of Whitehall and consists of 8 elected members. The Council is made up of a Council President, 4 ward Council members with one from each ward, and 3 at large Council members representing the entire community. Your City Council members are:

The City Council meets on the first and third Tuesday of every month at 7:00 p.m. for regular meetings. Council encourages public participation and input. Two opportunities exist for the public to speak at each of the regular meetings.

The Council also meets on the second and fourth Tuesday of every month at 6:30 p.m. for the Council Standing Committee meetings. Each of the committees meets to discuss issues and legislation as they relate to the operation, health, welfare and safety of the City.

All Codified Ordinances are available on the City's web site (www.whitehall-oh.us) for your convenience.

Please feel free to contact the City Council office at 614-237-8614 or you may contact specific Council members directly by using the above telephone numbers. If you wish to email the Council office you may at carol.churchman@whitehall-oh.us.

Please plan to attend an upcoming meeting to learn more about your city government.

The following is a breakdown of action on legislation presented for consideration during 2015:

LEGISLATION

ORDINANCES

Total Introduced	116
Total Adopted	111
Withdrawn	4
Tabled Indefinitely.....	1

RESOLUTIONS

Total Introduced	37
Total Adopted	36
Withdrawn.....	1

Clerk of Court's Office

<u>CASE TOTALS</u>	
OMVI	71
TRAFFIC	1155
CRIMINAL	633
PARKING	84
TRANSFER TO FCMC	122
APPEAL	2

BOND MONEY RECEIPTED	\$ 35,530.50
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<u>MONEY RECEIPTED/DISBURSED</u>	
CITY OF WHITEHALL ACCOUNTS	\$ 249,602.47
STATE OF OHIO ACCOUNTS	\$ 58,178.55
FRANKLIN COUNTY MUNICIPAL COURT ACCOUNT	\$ 1,675.25
COLLECTION AGENCY FEES	\$ 2,313.08
TOTAL	\$ 311,770.35

City Financials

Major Sources of Expense	
Type of Expense	Dollar Amount
Wages and Salaries	\$ 12,342,179.00
Self-Funded Insurance	\$ 2,216,071.00
Police and Fire Pension	\$ 2,049,632.00
Capital Improvements	\$ 801,686.00
P.E.R.S.	\$ 814,756.00
Utilities	\$ 673.56
Technology	\$ 413,619.00
Worker's Comp	\$ 265.52
Debt Service	\$ 415,245.00
Gasoline and Oil	\$ 148,207.00
Boarding of Prisoners	\$ 126,055.00
New Equipment	\$ 699,464.00

Major Sources of Revenue	
Type of Income	Dollar Amount
Income Tax	\$ 22,539,373.00
Local Government Assistance	\$ 763,159.00
EMS Services	\$ 759,226.00
Gas Tax and Street Repair	\$ 802,899.00
Real Estate Tax	\$ 289,707.00
Mayor's Court	\$ 211,540.00
Special Assessments	\$ 116,278.00
Parks and Recreation Income	\$ 75,362.00
Cable TV Franchise	\$ 211,021.00
Hotel / Motel Tax	\$ 81,449.00
Investments / Cash Management	\$ 70,007.00

Public Service Department

The following facts and figures represent the hard work of those in the Public Service Department to make Whitehall a better place to live and work.

Capital Improvements

Projects

Ross Road from Rickenbacker Avenue to Main Street Resurfacing	\$105,000.00
Fountain Lane, etc. (the Loop) Resurfacing	\$225,000.00
Langley Avenue from Hamilton Road to Country Club Road Resurfacing .	\$32,000.00
Martha Lane, Faith Avenue, Louise Avenue, Jae Avenue Resurfacing	\$65,500.00
Valerie Resurfacing	\$9,500.00
Westphal Curb/Gutter from Etna Road to Broadhurst Drive (70 percent CDBG money, 30 percent City funding).....	\$106,400.00
Pineview Drive Curb/Gutter	\$85,000.00

Building Business

The Division of Building & Zoning is responsible for issuing residential and commercial permits to insure the life safety and property values of the citizens in our community.

Permits (Construction/Zoning)

Residential	144
Commercial	96
Business Occupancy	62
Zoning	190

Most popular home improvements included HVAC systems, electrical and plumbing, roofs, fences, patios and decks, room additions, sheds and garages.

CONSTRUCTION

<u># of Permits</u>	<u>Construction</u>
	<u>Value</u>
492	\$26,761,394

Property owners in our city are vigilant in their efforts to maintain and improve their buildings which are reflected in the construction activity.

Whitehall Code Enforcement

The vitality of our neighborhoods is dependent upon the care each resident puts into his/her property. The quality of life in our City is enhanced by the overall appearance of our commercial and residential districts. When residents or business owners fail to maintain their properties, then it falls upon the City to step in and enforce property maintenance standards.

In 2014, in addition to responding to many citizen inquiries, the Code Enforcement Officer, Animal Control Officer, Service Director and Building Inspector:

- Investigated code violations and issued 2,779 warning letters to responsible property and/or building owners: (Code Enforcement 2,458; Animal Control 277; Director 33; Building Inspector 11)
- Executed 102 code violation citations (Code Enforcement 89; Animal Control 11; Building Inspector 1; Director 1)

For the most part, violations involved sanitation, prohibited signs, weeds/grass, storage of garbage, junk/abandoned cars, parking on the grass, painting violations, deteriorated roofs and gutters, and animal complaints including running at large, barking, registration, etc.

City Roadways

For years, the Street Division has maintained 133 lane miles in the City. In 2014, 2,500 tons of rock salt was used to clear our streets of snow and ice. In the fall, leaf collection was carried out citywide. As a result, leaves filling 25 roll-off dumpsters, having a 40-yard capacity, were taken to be converted into mulch.

Traffic Lights

The Street Department is committed to ensuring traffic lights work and meet the traffic needs of the City. Traffic lights control 25 intersections in the City, including two school zones. In 2014, 113 traffic lights were repaired and 24 additional repairs were referred to the Columbus Division of Traffic. Thirty-one bulbs/bollards on South Yearling Road and six more in the Langport Subdivision were replaced.

Signage

Another Street Department responsibility is installing and maintaining traffic control signs. Twenty different types of signage, totaling 69 separate signs, were replaced citywide or received maintenance.

Sewers and Hydrants

On average, 35 inspections per week were made on troubled spots in the sanitary and storm sewer systems. This preventative measure allows the City to remedy blockages before they become a problem. Throughout the year, 75 storm sewers were cleaned, 58 sanitary sewer locations were cleaned and flushed and 55 storm sewer inlets were repaired. 27 fire hydrants in the City were repaired and eight were replaced.

Planning Commission

The Whitehall Planning Commission heard 10 orders of business in 2014. Two of the 10 cases were withdrawn.

Lot Splits	3	Rezoning	3
Special Overlay	2	Special Permit Applications	1

Board of Zoning and Building Appeals

The Whitehall Board of Zoning and Building Appeals heard 23 orders of business in 2014. Of the 23 requests entertained, 22 were approved and one was denied (administrative appeal).

Parking Space Variance	1	Side Setback Variance	2
Rear Setback Variance	1	Signage Variance	4
Tree Placement Variance	1	Parking Area Buffer Variance	1
Fence Variance	10	Administrative Appeal	1
Front Setback Variance	1		
Parking Area Setback Variance	1		

Outlook 2015

In 2015, resurfacing is planned for Andrus Court, Maplewood Avenue, Pineview Drive, Westphal Avenue from Etna Road to Broadhurst Drive, and Fairway Boulevard from Broad Street to Hamilton Road. Additionally, curb and gutter improvements are planned for Anthony Court North and South, and Medway Avenue.

Division of Police

Division of Police

Law enforcement, at its best, is the result of collaborative efforts within the Police Division as well as all sectors of the community.

Law Enforcement Training

In 2015, Division of Police used \$25,384.15 of the \$27,315.00 allocated for training. Division of Police employees, including Officers, Supervisors and Staff attended 103 outside training classes. 59 of the training classes attended were free training. In addition to the outside training, the Division of Police hosted Verbal Judo training which all police officers and some City administrative employees attended.

Firearms Training

All sworn police officers qualify annually with their handgun and shotgun. Additional training and qualifications are conducted in-house on semi-automatic and fully automatic weapons. In addition to firearms, all sworn officers receive training and/or qualified in the use of less lethal weapons such as TASERS, O.C. Sprays and ASP Batons.

Whitehall Police S.W.A.T Team

17 missions were conducted by the S.W.A.T. in 2015. Of the 17 missions, 14 involved narcotics, 1 was a search warrant out of robbery investigation, 1 was out of a theft ring, and 1 was for a homicide suspect. 5 of the 17 missions involved mutual aid requests from Reynoldsburg and the OSU task force.

Narcotics Unit Activity

In 2015, our restructured Narcotics Unit took 46,717 grams (or 103 pounds) of drugs off the streets. A breakdown of the drugs recovered is as follows:

Marijuana – 29,406 grams

Marijuana Plants – 14 plants

Methamphetamine – 6,950 grams

Heroin – 3,958 grams

Cocaine – 1,738 grams

Pills* - 4,665 grams

*Pills recovered include: Oxycotin, Ecstasy, Hydrocodone, Xanax, Methadone, Percocet, Morphine, Suboxone Strips, etc.

Firearms Seizures

In 2015, the Division of Police seized 177 guns.

Junk Car Titles

The Division of Police forced title on 98 junk vehicles in 2015.

<u>Police Activity</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>
Complaints	3,168	2,892	3,202
Juvenile Runaways	238	141	144

<u>Arrests, Citations & Charges</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>
Moving Traffic	1,754	120	1,446
All Other	1,373	1,212	740
Total	3,127	3,332	2,186

<u>Accidents</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>
Non-Injury/Property	386	479	433
Injury	169	155	169
Fatal	1	1	1
Unknown	1	-	-
Total	557	635	603

Number of Persons Killed	1	1	1
Number of Persons Injured	169	71	169
Number of Pedestrians	20	33	23
Number of Hit & Runs	18	27	20
Number of Juveniles	39	35	32

<u>Detective Bureau Cases</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>
Death Related	13	14	27
Assault Related	119	154	140
Kidnapping Related	2	9	10
Sex Offenses	41	40	35
Fires/Arson	7	2	5
Robbery	93	107	115
Burglary Related	373	303	327
Thefts	354	364	327
Check/Credit Card Theft/Fraud	197	187	182
Weapons Related	32	35	24
Narcotics Offenses	104	139	143
Liquor Offenses	-	-	-
Missing Person Investigations	109	72	84
Offenses Against Persons/Property	11	22	20
Offenses Against Public Peace	12	20	23
Offenses Against Justice/Administration	-	-	-
Miscellaneous	98	182	152
Total	1,565	1,650	1,614

<u>Radio Calls Dispatched & Received</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>
Priority 1 – Urgent	4,099	3,967	3,949
Priority 2 – Requires 2 Cars	20,156	19,852	19,065
Priority 3 – Requires 1 Car	6,215	5,898	6,371
Total	30,470	29,717	29,385

<u>Arrest Summary</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>
January	239	227	194
February	206	288	229
March	239	323	250
April	224	283	240
May	232	295	222
June	241	263	238
July	255	269	2,844
August	255	245	270
September	237	266	274
October	230	249	234
November	200	235	261
December	218	186	230
*Total	2,776	3,119	2,926
*Does not include private party filings by super users.			

Division of Fire

2015 was a very exciting year for the Whitehall Division of Fire. Development and change were highlighted with many enhancements to the daily routine and coordination of work effort. Annual run volume increased over 2.5%.

Work processes and procedures were continually challenged to ensure that the most proficient and efficient manner to complete a task was employed.

The budgeted appropriations were stretched to the max and the monies were distributed in a manner that enhancements were made in our continuing education process, records keeping management programs, technology in our apparatus, personal protective equipment maintenance, general preparedness and service delivery.

Administratively, the Division increased its staffing by one as it created the forty hour position of EMS Coordinator. Two personnel were hired to bring the operational staffing to full capacity. Concentration on HIPAA and new records managing software increased our compliance with state and federally mandating reporting procedures.

<u>Year:</u>	<u>2012</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>
EMS Runs	6,212	5,855	6,234	6,399
Fire Runs	996	856	1,023	1,057
Total Runs	7,208	6,711	7,257	7,456

Top 5 EMS Incident Types		
<u>EMS Run Type</u>	<u># of incidents</u>	<u>% of runs</u>
General Illness	1,097	17.2%
Injury or Assault	879	13.7%
Respiratory	691	10.8%
Chest Pain	438	6.8%
Motor Vehicle Crash	203	3.1%

Top 5 Fire Incident Types		
<u>Fire Run Type</u>	<u># of incidents</u>	<u>% of runs</u>
EMS Assists	1356	53.2%
Canceled en route	301	11.8%
Fire Alarms	208	8.1%
Motor Vehicle Crash	135	5.3%
Odor of Smoke	51	2.0%

Transports	
3,196	52.35% transport rate
Non-Transports	
2,909	47.65% non-transports rate

Parks & Recreation Department

Park Improvement Projects

John Bishop Park

The Parks and Recreation Commission selected a design team led by MSA Sport, Water Technology Inc. and MKSK landscape architects for a \$1 million dollar spray ground project. Conceptual design was completed, which implements the following cost-saving measures: an existing park shelter will be repurposed as a support facility with four family bathrooms, outside mini-lockers and a shaded seating area, and the junior high lot will be utilized for parking. The target opening for the new spray ground is the summer of 2016.

The city's consulting engineer firm EMH&T began preparing bid specifications for abatement and demolition of the former US Army Reserve armory. The main building is scheduled to be razed in the spring of 2016. And the 3,200 square foot drill room will be repurposed as a park maintenance facility.

Whitehall Community Park

A conceptual design plan for a \$4 million dollar renovation of the Activity Center was completed. Final design and construction of the multi-purpose facility are scheduled for 2016.

Professional disc golf course designer Daniel Boutte completed conceptual design for ten new holes and tweaks to eight existing holes. Final design and installation of tees, baskets and course signage are scheduled for 2016.

Park maintenance staff razed the following buildings/structures that were identified in the park master plan for removal: Buckeye Building, Civil Air Patrol buildings, three outside restrooms and two park shelters.

Robinwood Park

Staff installed a new arch swing set and a contractor installed new black vinyl chain link fence along the creek. Staff will complete the project by building a four-rail wooden fence adjacent to Robinwood Avenue during the spring of 2016.

Recreation Programs

The department offered the following youth programs: ballet, tap dancing, karate and golf lessons, summer playground, COSI's summer science camp, and a basketball camp and a football camp conducted by the WYHS coaching staffs.

Adult program offerings included: aerobics, yoga, workout room memberships, golf lessons and summer softball leagues.

Youth Sports

Staff shared 22 draft recommendations for improving youth sports with our youth leagues and the Parks and Recreation Commission. League officials were asked to submit written comments and the commission will begin formal discussions regarding these recommendations in the first quarter of 2016.

Senior Citizens Club

The Whitehall Senior Citizen Club, which is open to all Whitehall residents 55 years and older, sponsored the following activities: arts and crafts, cards, billiards, exercise, line dancing, potluck dinners and OSU tailgating parties, and several day and overnight trips throughout the year.

Music in the Park

Crowds of 200-250+/- attended six summer concerts at the John LaCorte Amphitheater. The free shows featured two national touring tribute bands and four central Ohio cover bands.

Special Events

The department provided support for Whitehall's July Fourth celebration, Food Truck and Fun Festival and National Night Out.

Human Resources

2015 Employment Actions

Full Time Hiring 9

Promotions 0

Permanent Part Time 4

Auxiliary Hiring 2

Seasonal Hiring 12

On-Line Applications 634

Profile of Full Time Employees

Average Age 45.05 Yrs.

Percent Represented by Unions 78.5 %

Percent Minorities/Females 24.3%

Annual Turnover Rate 10.7 %

Key Positions in 2015

2 Firefighters - 36 current firefighters

1 Dispatcher - 6 current Dispatchers

1 Director of HR

2 Police Officers - 42 Police Officers

1 Economic Development Specialist (EDS)

2 Administrative Assistants

Creation of the EDS

*experiencing increased economic growth within the last three years

*need to prepare and position ourselves for future economic growth

Creation of the EMS Coordinator

*purpose is to serve as the Division of Fire liaison with outside agencies

*Schedule and record all EMS continuing education, identify and seek to correct maintenance and preventative maintenance issues involving all EMS vehicles

Creation of the Crime Analyst

*experiencing increased targeted crime areas within the city limits

*criminal activity and crime trends dictate a constant surveillance of social media sites, online communication and monitoring of dark web sites for crime prevention

Department of Economic & Community Development

The Department of Economic and Community Development made strides in 2014 in bringing committed businesses and residents to the Whitehall community.

In 2014, 62 occupancy permits were issued. New businesses include Rite Rug, Lubell Labs on Yearling Road, Metro PCS on Main Street, Bimbo Bakeries on Poth Road and SPOC Fit Studio on Yearling Road.

In February 2014, the City unveiled its Airport South Commerce and Tech Park, located on Poth Road between Hamilton and Yearling roads. Some of the amenities the business park offers include move-in ready, customizable facilities; a competitive tax rate; prime location near the airport for distribution and travel; railroad access and ample space to expand.

The first big success for the business park came during Summer 2014, when the City of Whitehall and the Whitehall Community Improvement Corporation brokered a deal to redevelop approximately 35 acres of the Airport South Commerce & Tech Park. The Mark F. Taggart Company and Fed One Dublin purchased approximately about 30 acres of the park for a three-phased development plan, the first of which includes a 140,000-square-foot Class A manufacturing and distribution facility. Simultaneously, Byers Auto purchased 5 acres to expand its imports dealership.

The Development Department is constantly working with all City departments to find the best and most creative way to attract new businesses to the area and encourage existing business owners to grow their organizations here in the City of Whitehall.

Top 10 Employers in Whitehall (listed alphabetically):

Accenture
Alliance Data Systems
American Health Network
Byers Auto
Dave Gill Chevrolet
Defense Supply Center Columbus
Franklin County Children's Services
FedEx Ground
Glazer's Distribution
Kroger
OhioHealth
PNC Bank
Target
Walmart
Whitehall City Schools

My Home Program

The My Home Program came to a conclusion in December 2014. Over the course of the nearly two and a half years, 72 homeowners received down payment assistance from the City of Whitehall. Many of these homes were converted from rental properties to owner-occupied homes.

- The average Whitehall down payment assistance granted was \$3,368.
- The average home purchase price was \$91,054.
- The average buyer's household income was about \$44,000.
- The City of Whitehall designated \$250,000 for the My Home Program.

Not only did the partnership between the City, Huntington Bank and Apprisen help potential residents find homes in Whitehall, it also helps build community by ensuring the new residents live in their homes for at least five years.

Home Reinvestment Program

The City of Whitehall launched its Home Reinvestment Program in June 2014. The Home Reinvestment Program offered homeowners 50 percent reimbursement grants, up to \$7,500, for exterior home remodeling projects that included new doors, windows, siding, landscaping and driveways.

The excitement for the program drew attention from the local media and resulted in unprecedented interest in the program. The City put forward \$100,000 for the program and was able to assist 22 residents with projects that totaled a more than \$206,000 investment in the community. The Department believes that the program created a snowball effect for other residents to complete their own projects, even without financial assistance from the City. The City is gearing up for the 2015 Home Reinvestment Program, which features similar guidelines.

Community Events

The City takes pride in its premier events that showcase Whitehall to the entire central Ohio community. The 2014 Food Truck and Fun Festival, which was held on Saturday, July 26, had more than 10,000 people in attendance and featured 25 food trucks and 11 bands. In the second year of the event, both fundraising efforts and drink sales increased, allowing the City to make just over \$7,000 on the event.

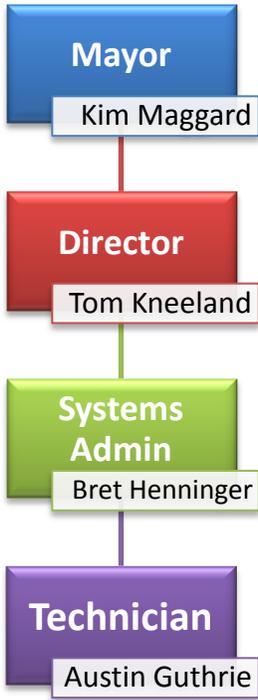
Media

Both the My Home Program and the Home Reinvestment Program received ample attention from local media outlets in 2014. The Columbus Dispatch, Channel 4 and Channel 10 were on hand on June 4, 2014, the day the Home Reinvestment Program launched. Whitehall also collaborated with Columbus Business First to publish a 12-page section focusing on Whitehall economic and community development. The advertorial section was published on Oct. 17, 2014 at no cost to the City of Whitehall. The cost of the section was fully paid for via ad sales. Local news media also focused coverage on the City's new technology in police and fire vehicles as well as the rebranded Airport South Commerce and Tech Park along Poth Road.

Department of Information Technology

Department Overview

In 2008, the Technology Department was officially formed and had one employee. Since then, there have been two positions added, one fulltime and one part time due to the exponential growth and complexity of the technology being used.



Performance Overview

The Department of Technology is developing performance metrics and measurements as a permanent method to track and record the following categories:

- Department performance
- Technology performance
- Operational costs
- Technology costs
- Customer service

This report will provide a historical view of costs and performance as well as a standard process for collecting, evaluating and reporting future data.

Technology Detail

Managed Technology Components	
Total number of network ports	637
Total number of telephones	102
Total number of desktop computers	90
Total number of laptop computers	6
Total number of mobile data terminals	35
Total number of servers	33
Total managed storage capacity	85 Terabyte
Total number of buildings supported	6
Total number of mobile systems supported	21
Total mobile users	90
Total number of users	180

The department is responsible for a wide range of technologies including network ports, computer workstations, computer servers, computer storage

systems, and telephone systems just to name a few. The above table highlights the most important pieces that the city and its employees depend on daily.

Lifecycle Replacement Strategy

Lifecycle Replacement Plan	
Lifecycle replacement for critical servers	3 years
Lifecycle replacement for non-critical servers	5 years
Lifecycle replacement for desktop and laptop	5 years
Lifecycle replacment for mobile data terminals	3 years
Lifecycle replacement for storage	8-10 years
Lifecycle replacement for telephone system	5 years
Average workstation age in years	3.54583333

The technology environment fills a very important role for all departments and in some cases plays a life or death support role for applications like E-911. To maintain a predetermined level of reliability these resources must be maintained and replaced on a regular basis and because of the cost associated with some of the technology there needs to be a well thought out lifecycle funding and implementation plan. The table above reflects the lifecycle plan currently being used for critical components.

Customer Service

The following table captures data points relevant to measuring cost, reliability and customer satisfaction. Data for these measurements began in 2012 and 2013 which are the benchmarking and transitional years. Data gathered for 2014 will more accurately reflect actual measurements when considering the maintenance dollars per employee ratios. In 2015 the department will also be capturing and reporting performance measurements for Uptime, Mean-time to restore and Average Clearing Time to give a clearer perspective on customer service levels and expectations.

Customer Service Performance Measurements			
Measurable	2012	2013	2014
Total number of tickets submitted	170	242	591
Technician to trouble ticket ratio	85	121	236.4
Number of users	180	180	180
Total technology technicians	2	2	2.5
User to technician ratio	90.0	90.0	72.0
Average hours to restore	TBD	TBD	0.919512195
Uptime	TBD	TBD	TBD
SLA performance measurement			
Maintenance dollars per employee	\$606.52	\$670.49	\$1,612.60
Total maintenance dollars	\$109,174.00	\$120,689.00	\$290,268.48
	Benchmarking and adjustment years		Begin measurement

Technology Purchasing Strategy

Workstation Replacement

The city currently has 100+ computer workstations. Most are located in the main campus buildings with the balance being distributed in remote locations or in vehicles used by safety and service employees.

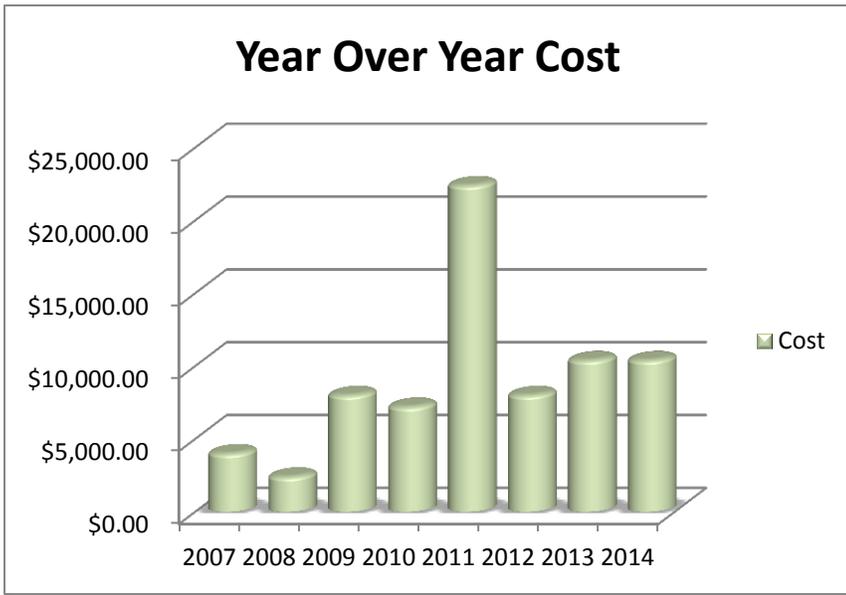
Based on the chart below there has not been a standardized lifecycle replacement practice that proactively predicts and budgets for regular replacement of these resources and as noted there are large spikes in our purchase history causing budget efforts to be difficult and unpredictable.



The technology department has established a lifecycle replacement plan for 2015 that will smooth out the purchase habits of the past and allow for closer monitoring of the assets with the intent of being able to extend the expected life of these devices and reduce overall costs but still maintain a high level of reliability.

Cost Versus Time

The annual spending history for replacement equipment matches the previous replacement cycle which was a "Best Effort" approach instead of a predictable method.



By establishing a regulated, pre-determined lifecycle replacement program the city can more accurately predict expense associated with hardware replacement which should eliminate the spikes in spending.

Technology Projects

2014 Projects by Department

The Technology Department completed a number of major projects in 2014. These projects met a number of milestones including cost savings, municipal collaboration, disaster recovery, and improved work environment and work related efficiencies.

Project List

- Server virtualization for higher reliability and overall lower year-over-year cost
- Virtual Desktop implementation to support safety services collaboration
- Test and validation of the collaborative Police Dispatching system and operation
- Installation and migration of new zoning software from an older less functional system
- System update to the city financial software system
- Evaluation and implementation of new lower cost computer technology for Fire/EMS and police ,mobile systems
- Installation of a video recording system to allow council meetings to be posted for playback on the Internet
- City hall, fire department and police building security access system installation
- Re-inventoried all technology equipment and created a database for continued tracking and value assessment

The department also implemented new measurement and analysis tools that provide data and details that reflect specific related performance measurements and allow the department to establish a set of metrics to help improve customer service and control cost.

City Attorney's Office

Michael T. Bivens, City Attorney

The office of City Attorney had a busy and very productive year in 2015.

Mission Statement

To provide legal counsel to the Mayor and City Council; to provide legal advice/services to all City officers and departments; to prosecute all misdemeanor criminal/traffic cases in Mayor's Court and Franklin County Municipal Court; and to represent the City of Whitehall in all courts of justice.

City Personnel

Michael T. Bivens is the Whitehall City Attorney. He was elected to office for the term commencing January 1, 2016. His staff consists of Bradley S. Nicodemus, Assistant City Attorney; Kylie Keitch and Charles R. Ellis as Prosecutors; Cynthia L Newsome, the Domestic Violence Victim's Advocate; Julie A. Harris, Legal Assistant and Tracy Wentz, Part-Time Administrative Assistant.

Court Activity

In Mayor's Court, there were a total of 1943 local cases filed. These cases consisted of 1,226 traffic (including 71 OVI cases), 633 criminal (including tax and code violation cases) and 84 parking cases. (122 local cases were transferred and 2 were appealed). In Franklin County Municipal Court, there were a total of 1143 cases filed that consisted of 278 traffic, 828 criminal (including 181 domestic violence cases) and 37 environmental cases.

Future Outlook

There is an emphasis to retain local control over misdemeanor cases. This resulted in an increase in Mayor's Court cases and decrease in Municipal Court cases, with fine monies remaining in Whitehall. This office continued rigorous prosecution of domestic violence cases and also to prosecute code enforcement cases which affect the public safety, health and welfare of our citizens.