## BLV Mayor's Report January 14, 2019

- 1. Happy New Year everyone! I'm looking forward to a cooperative and productive year.
- 2. Thanks to Street Supervisor Randy Bucy for doing a great job over the weekend managing our first significant snowfall.
- 3. Two new full-time employees started today. Jeremy Jackson is a new full-time police officer. He was extensively vetted by Police Chief Wardlow. Officer Jackson serves in the Army Reserve as a military police officer. He has two years of college and has been a certified police officer since 2015 with 3.5 years of full-time experience in law enforcement. He has a dozen additional certifications and training including 37 hours of crisis intervention training, managing property and evidence room training, LEADS/N.C.I.C. certification, community policing relations training and Doppler Radar and L.I.D.A.R. certification. Samantha (Sam) Millfelt started today as water department clerk. She has a BA in Communications Technology from The Ohio State University. Sam has considerable experience in customer service, social media management and merchandising. She is also very computer proficient. Sam is filling Michelle's position.
- 4. Two part-time employees will be given the oath of office during tonight's council meeting. Trent Cowgill is our new Zoning Officer. He lives in Baltimore and served six years in the military, leaving as a Sergeant. Trent is trained in building inspection, code/zoning compliance and human resources. He was previously employed by the City of Reynoldsburg as a Code Compliance Officer. Trent also runs his own home inspection business. Scott Hite will serve as a part-time Firefighter/Paramedic and will serve as our department's fire inspector. He has 31+ years' experience in the fire service. He currently is a full-time Firefighter/Paramedic and the Fire Marshal at Madison Township Fire Department (Groveport). Scott is a former assistant fire chief for the Thurston/Walnut Township Fire Department.
- 5. I reached out last week to our State Representative Larry Householder and congratulated him on this election as Speaker of the House. He has one of the most powerful positions in state government.
- 6. We continue to benefit furniture/fixture-wise from State Farm's generosity as they downsize their Newark office. My sister recently donated eight office chairs, two locking mailboxes and numerous hanging files as she upgrades her Columbus office.
- 7. Our OPEC- HC intervenors' group (includes Village of Hebron and Licking and Union townships in Licking County) and the larger Stark County General Health District group are appealing the December 11, entry in the Franklin County Court of Common Pleas that would allow the appointed receiver to pay non-medical bill debts of OPEC-HC. Since funds on hand are nearly exhausted, the receiver could begin assessing former members, like ourselves, to pay these claims. Frank Harmon, the architect of OPEC-HC and its collapse, is trying to get the receiver to get the fraud claims pending against him in Stark County indefinitely stayed while accessing members to pay more than \$10 million in outstanding claims. The judge issuing the December entry now being appealed retired at the end of the year. A first-time judge will now hear the case in Franklin County. Our potential liability, if the receiver is able to assess former members to pay all outstanding debts, could be another \$25,000 or so.
- 8. In 2018, we issued 87 zoning permits and collected \$12,016. 45.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mayor Peggy A. Wells