## MAHONING COUNTY GENERAL FUND REVIEW October 15, 2014: Issue 1

# MAHONING COUNTY SHERIFF OPERATIONS: "MORE THAN A JAIL"



**Mahoning County Justice Center** 

## "MORE THAN JUST A JAIL"!

This is the sentiment
expressed by those that have
participated in meetings that
Sheriff Greene has held as
part of a community awareness program. Many are
unaware of the collaborations
that exist between jurisdictions.

#### Did you know the Sheriff's Office provides

 Primary law enforcement, patrols and investigations for all unincorporated areas in Mahoning County, as well as assisting all other Law Enforcement Agencies in the County.

- Sex Offender registration and notification to all Mahoning County residents.
  - The identification of inmates fraudulently collecting SSI benefits and public assistance while incarcerated in the Mahoning County Jail saving taxpayers dollars.

- Specialized investigators for child abuse and internet crimes.
- Senior Services
   Program that
   assists Mahoning
   County Seniors that
   have nowhere else to
   turn.
- Monitoring and issuance of all Carry Conceal Handgun Licenses and Permits.
- Security and transportation of inmates to all County courts including transportation of inmates to penitentiaries.

These are just a few of the services that are offered by the Sheriff.



Sheriff Jerry Greene

## SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Deputies assigned to multiple federal, state and local law enforcement task forces.
- Day Reporting
  program utilizing
  non-violent offenders to fill pot holes
  and pick-up litter
  and recyclable
  items around
  Mahoning County.
- A fully functioning jail (now fully open) which houses prisoners for all townships, cities & villages in Mahoning County.
- 30% reduction in staffing from 2008 to 2013.

#### GENERAL FUND DEPARTMENTS

General Fund Departments, where your tax dollars were allocated in 2013:

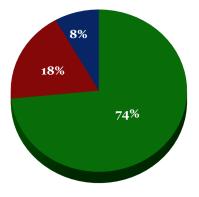
Service Departments: <u>8%</u> of the GF

Auditor, Commissioners Office, Treasurer, Data Processing, Planning, Microfilm & Recorder

## Public Safety/ Judicial: 74% of the GF

Bailiffs & Area Courts, Clerk of Courts, Common Pleas Courts, Coroner, Domestic Relations Court, Emergency 9-1-1, Juvenile Court, Probate Court, Municipal Courts (county share 40% of key positions), Probation, Prosecutor's Office & Sheriff Ohio Revised Code Mandated Funding/ Grant Local Match/ Facilities: 18% of the GF

Veteran Services Commission, Board of Elections, General Admin & Facilities



### DID YOU KNOW.....

# PUBLIC SAFETY/ JUDICIAL ACCOUNTED FOR 74% OF 2013 GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES?

# MAHONING COUNTY PROSECUTOR: "Justice Delayed is Justice Denied"



**Mahoning County Court House** 

The Mahoning County Prosecutor is the County's Chief Criminal and Civil Attorney.

## The Mahoning County Prosecutor's Office is:

- Committed to seeking justice in criminal cases.
- Committed to providing legal representation to all townships, County agencies, departments, and officials.

 Committed to punish offenders, protect the rights of victims and safeguard the public.

#### The Prosecutor also:

• Provides 24 hour a day legal assistance and advice to all local, state and federal law enforcement to maintain zero tolerance on public corruption, gangs and violent crimes, particularly those involving a gun.

- Provides legal services in the preparation of all arrest and search warrants.
- Provides legal services such as those found in the private practice of law, civil rights violations, personal injury claims, and real property & business law.
- Cold Case Convictions. 1985 murder of a 19-year old YSU student, 1974 Murder of a Canfield Family.
- With stable funding and staffing, moves cases and moves inmates out of the County Jail and to prison. Avoids overcrowding and consent decrees.



Prosecutor Paul Gains

#### Quick Highlights

In-house representation saves the County and townships millions in legal services fees.

The Civil Division handles hundreds of matters for the townships, saving millions in legal fees; freeing up these funds for township roads, police & fire.

#### Civil Division

- Contract Review
- Collection of Delinquent Taxes
- Negotiate Contracts
- Litigation
- Opinions

#### TECHNOLOGY/ EFFICIENCIES—MOVING FORWARD

**E-Filing:** Professional Services Agreement for review and development of an e-filing and court-related document handling system.

#### LGIF grant application: to

the Ohio Development Services Agency to participate in a feasibility study for 9-1-1 Mutual Aid Dispatch. **Microfilm:** Records archiving restructuring and technology upgrade.

**JJC Telephone Upgrade:** Antiquated system being replaced.

#### **Protective Order Card:**

Domestic Relations Court created a protective order registration card for victims, 1st in State. **JJC Security Camera:** Enhanced security of the Juvenile Justice Center.

#### **Future Initiatives:**

- Overhaul County Website:
   Upgrade to user friendly software and citizen access.
- Receipt of credit cards for payment of County services.

- Online Employee Benefit Enrollment Module.
- Electronic scanning of tax receipts and payments processed through the Treasurer's Office.
- Air Induction system and renovations in Coroner's department for upgrades and to bring a Life Banc partnership to the County.

# DID YOU KNOW....... OF THE 7% SALES TAX 5.75% OF THE SALES TAX GOES TO THE STATE AND .25% TO WRTA, ONLY 1% TO MAHONING COUNTY?

# COMMISSIONERS: MEETING SPOTLIGHTS



#### Mahoning County Sales Tax Impact Statement:

Mahoning County is the home to over 238,000 residents. Over the years, we have had many challenges. The last seven years have especially been challenging not only for residents, but also for our local governments.

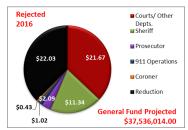
The reduction in various 
revenue sources has left
the County scrambling

to survive and to provide a minimum level of stability to County government for the security of the taxpayers.

- This stability is supported by sales tax revenues which are the life line of the County's General Fund services.
- The proposed levy is critical to this stability.

Justice Tax: Ballot Issue #1: restricted by the Ohio Revised Code and ballot language to the offices of the Sheriff, Prosecutor, Coroner and 9-1-1 Operation Center. The tax is the combination of a 1/2% renewal and a 1/4% additional tax, both for a five (5) year period.

## If Rejected: GF Projected Shortfall in Black (in millions)



County Affirms Bond Rating at A+: County Officials were able to affirm the County's Bond rating with S&P with a stable outlook, no small feat. Maintaining the rating is contingent on passage of ballot issue #1, Justice

#### Quick Highlights

Resolution to put Sales Tax on Nov. 4th ballot at 1/2% renewal and 1/4% additional for a five (5) year period.

Adopted Emergency Resolution to repair flood damages at the County Jail.

Awarded Courthouse security & holding cells facilities enhancement project.

Award architectural contract for Courthouse restoration and major repairs.

Projected deficit of revenues over expenditures in excess of \$5,000,000 for 2015.

Auctioned South Side Annex building on Market Street: high bid went to Banner Supply

Countywide staffing reductions of 296 positions since 2008

All Board meetings are online at www.youngstown happenings.com

#### GENERAL FUND REVENUE FACTS

#### Major Revenue Losses/ Cuts: 2008 to 2013

- House Federal Inmates: (\$4,000,000), new initiative limited restore.
- ♦ Investment Income: (\$3,200,000) reduction.
- Local Government Funding: 50% State reductions (\$2,900,000).

#### **Sales Tax Revenues:**

- ◆ The **County's** voted rates are 1/2 % cont. & 1/2% renewal = 1% total.
- ♦ 61 Counties have a higher rate than 1%; 14 are at 1.25% & 47 are at 1.50%.
- It is estimated that 30% of Sale Tax revenue generated in the County comes from non-residents.
- ◆ The 1/4% additional tax is \$25 on every \$10,000 spent on taxable items.
- Proactive services are vulnerable to reductions during revenue shortfalls.
- Ohio Revised Code mandated funding levels cannot be reduced for budget shortfalls.

# MAHONING COUNTY 21 WEST BOARDMAN STREET YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO 44503

#### **COMMISSIONERS**





LOT LANGUAG



David Ditzler



Anthony Traficanti



#### **GENERAL FUND OFFICES**

9-1-1 Operations	911
Auditor	330-740-2010
Board of Elections	330-783-2474
Commissioners	330-740-2130
Coroner	330-740-2175
Microfilm	330-740-2303
Planning Commission	330-270-2890
Prosecutor	330-740-2330
Recorder	330-740-2345
Sheriff	330-480-5000
Treasurer	330-740-2460
Veteran Services	330-740-2450

#### GENERAL FUND COURTS

Austintown	330-740-2001
Boardman	330-726-5546
Canfield	330-533-3643
Clerk of Courts	330-740-2104
Common Pleas	330-740-2158
Domestic Relations	330-740-2208
Juvenile	330-740-2278
Probate	330-740-2310
Sebring	330-938-9873

This is an informational newsletter distributed by the Mahoning County Commissioners Office.

# ISSUE 1 PROPOSED SALES AND USE TAX (RENEWAL AND ADDITIONAL) JUSTICE TAX MAHONING COUNTY A majority affirmative vote is necessary for passage.

The Board of County Commissioners of Mahoning County proposes the continuation of an existing levy for sales and use tax in the amount of 1/2 percent commencing October 1, 2015 and an additional 1/4 percent commencing on April 1, 2015 both for the purpose of providing criminal and administrative justice services of the Sheriff, Coroner, and Prosecutor and for 9-1-1 for a five (5) year period of time.

SHALL THE RESOLUTION OF THE MAHONING COUNTY COMMISSIONERS PROPOSING THE CONTINUATION OF AN EXISTING 1/2 PERCENT AND AN ADDITIONAL 1/4 PERCENT SALES AND USE TAX BE APPROVED FOR A FIVE (5) YEAR PERIOD?



YES



NO

Justice Sales Tax 100% Earmarked for Sheriff, Prosecutor, 9-1-1 & Coroner



A Yes Vote Will Increase Your Sales Tax by 1/4 of a Penny!

Groceries, Rent, Prescription Drugs, Utilities are <u>not</u> taxed