

Mayor Steven L. Schag

ANNUAL REPORT TO COUNCIL

**State of the City**

February 6, 2017

Please allow me to preface this Annual Report with a few words of recognition and appreciation. I would like to thank the members of Shelby City Council for their dedication, careful deliberations, and spirit of cooperation. The progress that was made in 2016, in large part, is due to a City Council that is skilled in creating and passing legislation that puts Shelby on the road to stability and success. I want to publicly thank Mr. Joe Gies, our Project Coordinator, Mr. Steve Lifer, our Director of Finance, Mr. Gordon Eyster, our Law Director, and Mr. John Ensmann, our Deputy Director of Public Service. I also want to express my appreciation to Chief Lance Combs and Chief Mike Thompson for providing inspiring leadership in their respective Departments. I do not have time to properly recognize all the men and women who make up the extraordinary team that serves the citizens of Shelby on a daily basis.

I am pleased to report to City Council that the state of the City is healthy and stable.

Last year we celebrated a good many accomplishments, some of which will actually bear full fruit in 2017. Please allow me to highlight some good things that happened in the year 2016.

Ms. Andrea Barnes was hired as the Shelby City Health Department's full-time Environmental Health Director.

The Shelby Historic Preservation Commission organized on April 20<sup>th</sup>, 2016.

The Shelby Health and Wellness Center opened on Main Street. They are now providing accessible care to the underserved of our community and surrounding communities as well.

We purchased and put in place a used 2 megawatt CAT diesel generator for peak shaving and emergency outage generation.

We purchased a parcel of ground on Progress Drive for the location of a long term Generation Station.

Two extremely important sewer projects were completed in 2016, namely - The Monroe Avenue Project and The Hartman Bargahiser Ditch Project.

Shelby Municipal Court now has a Drug Treatment Court in place to offer a unique option to qualified drug offenders.

City Council authorized AEP On-Site Partners to conduct a feasibility study in regard to constructing a 3 megawatt solar field near our Wastewater Treatment Plant.

We welcomed new business ventures including some downtown establishments, a restaurant, and insurance agency, and a miniature golf course.

With Council's authorization, we put out to bid a major Wastewater Treatment Improvement Project.

Nearly half of the Mansfield Avenue Project was completed, giving us an idea of how beautiful our southern gateway to the City will be upon its completion this year.

The Muskingum Watershed Conservancy District finalized proposed solutions to flooding and water quality issues that we encounter in the Black Fork Sub-District.

Council also approved a \$25,000 investment in an economic development study to be performed by the Montrose Group from Columbus, Ohio.

At the end of the year, we were in a financially stable position due to an uptick in revenues and fiscal restraint by all departments. All in all, 2016 was a good year for the City of Shelby and that enables us to enter 2017 with guarded optimism.

I look forward to a year where we can see tangible and measurable effects of true community and economic development in Shelby.

Ongoing challenges and financial limitations will call for a united effort in finding ways to optimize revenues and provide public services prudently and responsibly.

It has been said that good government happens when the people working in it do their jobs, and do them well. Gentlemen, please join me in a solemn pledge that we will endeavor, not only to do our jobs, but indeed, do them well in 2017.

May God bless you, and may God bless the City of Shelby, Ohio.