# AGENDA REGULAR MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL FEBRUARY 2, 2023, at 6:00 P.M.

- 1. Mayor Smith calls the meeting to order
- 2. Roll Call:

Linda Allen Maryan Harrison
Linda Burke Bill Madison
Brenda Combs Rolin Spicer

- 3. Pledge of Allegiance
- 4. Guests: Major Steve Arrasmith with the Warren County Drug Task Force
- 5. Floor open to the public
- 6. New Business: Emergency Resolution 2023-07 authorizing an agreement with Snider Recreation

for the purchase of playground equipment through Ohio State Contract for

Memorial Park

Emergency Ordinance 2023-03 acceptance of the Lenig Annexation of 1.003

acres of property located in Union Township

Authorization of Invoices

Approval of the December Financial Statements

Approval of Meeting Minutes:

Regular Meeting – January 19, 2023

7. Old Business: Resolution 2023-02, Third Reading, approving Council's intent to sell unneeded,

obsolete, or unfit property by internet auction and entering into a contract with

GovDeals

Ordinance 2023-01, Third Reading, to confirm the correct spelling of "Forest"

Avenue in the City of South Lebanon

Ordinance 2023-02, Second Reading, approving zoning map amendment for

10.655 acres of property located on State Route 48 (Parcel #12-01-451-002)

8. Communications and reports from City Officials and Committees:

a. Mayor

e. Solicitor

b. Fiscal Officer

f. Sergeant

c. Administrator

g. Council Members

- d. Asst. Administrator
- 9. Executive Session
- 10. Adjournment



#### City of South Lebanon 10 N. High Street, South Lebanon, Ohio 45065 513-494-2296 fax: 513-494-1656 www.southlebanonohio.org

#### **MEMORANDUM**

To: Mayor & City Council

CC: Tina Williams, Fiscal Officer

From: Jeff Boylan, Assistant Administrator

**Date**: 1-25-2023

**Subject**: Memorial Park Playground Project

In late 2021, staff applied through the State of Ohio Capital Budget for \$105,000.00 to be used to replace our playground equipment at Memorial Park. Late last year we were awarded \$110,000 for this project. The current cost for this project is \$241,091.00. This project cost is included in the temporary appropriations for this year. Resolution 2023-07 will allow a purchase order to be issued for the total cost, so the equipment can be ordered and installed this year.

# CITY OF SOUTH LEBANON, OHIO RESOLUTION NO. 2023-07

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND FISCAL OFFICER TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH SNIDER RECREATION, INC. FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE MEMORIAL PARK PLAYGROUND REPLACEMENT, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

**WHEREAS**, the City staff has recommended the replacement of the Memorial Park Playground equipment due to its age and current condition; and,

**WHEREAS**, Snider Recreation, Inc. submitted a quote of \$241,091.00 under Ohio State Contract CTR001092-A2 for the purchase and installation of the playground equipment and surfaces; and,

**WHEREAS**, the City received grant funding from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources to be applied to the memorial park playground project in the amount of \$110,000.00; and,

**WHEREAS**, because the order must be placed before the Ohio State Contract expires in March and to ensure the equipment is received in a timely manner, immediate action is required and such action is necessary in order to preserve the public peace, health, safety or welfare of the City.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Council of the City of South Lebanon, at least two-thirds of all members elected thereto concurring:

<u>Section 1</u>. That the Mayor and Fiscal Officer are hereby authorized to issue a purchase order to Snider Recreation, Inc. in the amount of \$241,091.00 for the purchase and installation of the playground equipment and surfaces.

<u>Section 2</u>. That the recitals contained within the Whereas Clauses set forth above are incorporated by reference herein.

#### Resolution 2023-07 Page 2

<u>Section 3</u>. That this Resolution is hereby declared to be an emergency measure in accordance with Ohio Rev. Code § 731.30 for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, safety and general welfare; and, this Resolution shall be in full force and effective immediately upon its passage.

<u>Section 4</u>. That it is found and determined that all formal actions of the Council concerning and relating to passing this Resolution were adopted in an open meeting of Council in compliance with all legal requirements, including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

Adopted this 2nd day of February 2023.	
Attest:	
Petrina D. Williams, Fiscal Officer/C	lerk James D. Smith, Mayor
Rules Suspended: / /2023 (if applicable	Effective Date - / /2023
Vote Yeas Nays	
First Reading – / /2023 Second Reading – / /2023 Third Reading – / /2023	Effective Date - / /2023
Vote Yeas Nays	
Prepared by and approved as to form:	
ANDREW P. MEIER	
CITY SOLICITOR	
SOUTH LEBANON, OHIO	
By:	
Date:	<del></del>



# Snider Recreation Inc.

10139 Royalton Road #K Snider Recreation N. Royalton, OH 44133

# **Estimate**

Date	Estimate #
6/21/2022	11817

Ph (440)877-9151 Toll Free (800)888-2889 Fx (440)877-9159 www.cvsnider.com info@cysnider.com

intowecvsinger.com	
Name / Address	Ship To
South Lebanon 10 N. High St. South Lebanon, OH 45065	South Lebanon Parks & Recreation 10 N High St South Lebanon, OH 45065

Terms	Rep	Customer Phone	Customer Fax	Tax Exempt Number	County
*Due on Receipt*	JD				Warren-OH

Item	Description	Qty	Rate	Total
Design	BCI Burke Design127-144822-3	1	131,224.00	131,224.00
Freight	Shipping Charges	1	6,026.00	6,026.00
Border 12"	12" Playground Border	53	45.00	2,385.00
SRI	Wood Fiber - 5375 sq. ft at 12" includes drainage and felt liner	1	12,132.00	12,132.00
SRI	Poured-In-Place- PIP rubber at 1,850	1	34,724.00	34,724.00
Installation	Install all equipment including drainage, stone, mulch and borders *Includes excavation	1	54,600.00	54,600.00

If tax exempt certificate is not provided appropriate sales tax will be charged. Quote valid for 30 days.

Freight subject to fuel charge. Payment via credit card will incur an additional 3% administrative fee.

Subtotal	\$241,091.00
Sales Tax (6.5%)	\$0.00
Total	\$241,091.00









City of South Lebanon 10 N. High Street, South Lebanon, Ohio 45065 513-494-2296 fax: 513-494-1656 www.southlebanonohio.org

#### MEMORANDUM

To: Mayor & City Council

From: Jerry Haddix, City Administrator

**Date**: January 30, 2023

**Subject**: Lenig Annexation Ordinance

Attached is an ordinance for the Lenig Annexation of 29.2093 acres in Union Township. The County Commissioners approved the annexation on November 29, 2022, and the Commissioners Clerk delivered the record of the proceedings to the City Fiscal Officer on December 2, 2022. Per ORC 709.04, after sixty (60) days from the date of the delivery, the City Council can officially accept the annexation. It is presented as an emergency ordinance to expedite the property owner's necessity to connect to the City's sanitary sewer system.

Let me know if you have any questions or need additional information.

# CITY OF SOUTH LEBANON, OHIO ORDINANCE NO. 2023-03

# AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING THE ANNEXATION OF 1.003 ACRES IN UNION TOWNSHIP, WARREN COUNTY, OHIO TO THE CITY OF SOUTH LEBANON, OHIO AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, a petition for annexation of approximately 1.003± acres in Union Township, Warren County to the City of South Lebanon described in attached Exhibit A and shown on the map or plat attached as Exhibit B was filed with the Warren County Commissioners on October 19, 2022. The petition followed the expedited type 2 annexation process provided for in Ohio Revised Code Section 709.023; and

**WHEREAS**, the petition was signed by all of the owners of real estate in the unincorporated territory of the township proposed for annexation; and

**WHEREAS**, by resolution adopted on November 29, 2022, the Board of County Commissioners of Warren County, Ohio approved the annexation of that 1.003± acres in Union Township to the City of South Lebanon, Ohio; and

WHEREAS, the clerk of the Warren County County Board copy Commissioners had certified record of annexation of the the proceedings, including all resolutions of the Board held in connection with the 1.003± acre annexation, delivered to the Fiscal Officer on December 2, 2022; and

WHEREAS, more than sixty (60) days from the date of delivery of the record of the annexation proceedings to the City has elapsed in accordance with provisions of Section 709.04 of the Ohio Revised Code and the Fiscal Officer has now laid the resolution of the Warren County Commissioners granting the annexation and the annexation papers before Council at this next regular scheduled meeting to accept or reject the petition for annexation; and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the owners, and in the interest of the City, that all municipal ordinances and powers be immediately effective in the annexed territory, that City services be immediately available to the territory and that the territory immediately be within the City so that the City can begin providing services and for the preservation of the peace, health, safety and welfare of the annexation territory, the City and its residents.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED** by the Council of the City of South Lebanon, Ohio, at least two-thirds of all members elected thereto concurring:

<u>Section 1.</u> The annexation of 1.003± acres described in Exhibit A and shown on the map or plat labeled Exhibit B previously approved by the Warren County Board of County Commissioners by Resolution on November 29, 2022 be and is hereby accepted by the City.

Section 2. The Fiscal Officer is hereby directed to make three copies containing the petition, the map or plat accompanying the petition, a transcript of the proceedings of the Board of County Commissioners, and resolutions and ordinances in relation to the annexation, including this Ordinance. The Fiscal Officer shall then deliver one certified copy to the Warren County Recorder for recording it in the Recorder's official records. The other two copies shall be certified by the Fiscal Officer and forwarded to the Ohio Secretary of State and the Warren County Auditor. The Fiscal Officer shall pay any associated fees and costs and to take any other action required by statute.

<u>Section 3</u>. The Fiscal Officer is further directed notify the Warren County Board of Elections of the changes in the boundaries of the City in writing which shall include a certified copy of this Ordinance with its attached exhibits, including the legal description and annexation plat, within thirty (30) days of the adoption of this Ordinance.

<u>Section 4.</u> That the recitals contained within the Whereas Clauses set forth above are incorporated by reference herein.

Section 5. This measure is hereby declared to be an emergency measure in accordance with Ohio Rev. Code § 731.30 that is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, safety or welfare of the City and its residents for the reason the annexation territory has an immediate need for City services, the owners of the annexation territory desire to have the property immediately subject to the City's authority and for City services immediately available to the property. In addition, it is in the interest of the City and its residents and inhabitants to have its municipal ordinances, powers and services immediately applied throughout the municipality without

delay, including in newly annexed territories; and this Ordinance shall be in full force and effect immediately upon its passage.

<u>Section 6.</u> That it is found and determined that all formal actions of the Council concerning and relating to passing this Resolution were adopted in an open meeting of Council in compliance with all legal requirements, including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

Adopted this day of	_, 2023.
Attest:	
Petrina D. Williams, Fiscal Officer	James D. Smith, Mayor
Rules Suspended: / /2023 (if applicable)	Effective Date - / /2023
Vote Yeas Nays	
First Reading – / /2023	Effective Date - / /2023
Second Reading – / /2023 Third Reading – / /2023	
Vote Yeas Nays	
Approved as to form:	
ANDREW P. MEIER CITY SOLICITOR SOUTH LEBANON, OHIO	
By:	-
Date://2023	

Exhibit "A"

**DESCRIPTION FOR: CITY OF SOUTH LEBANON** 

LOCATION: **LENIG ANNEXATION** 1.003 +/- Acres

Situate in Section 1, Town 4 East, Fractional Range 3 North, Union Township, Warren County, Ohio and being all 1.003 acres of Lot 1 of Barrett Subdivision recorded in Plat Book 12, Page 74 (all records of the Warren County, Ohio Recorder's Office), as conveyed to Michael Lenig and Kimberly Lenig in Document Number 2022-009894 and also being more particularly described as follows:

Beginning at a point in the existing corporation line of the City of South Lebanon, located at the southeast corner of said lot and being the intersection of the north right-of-way line of Mason-Morrow-Millgrove Road (Co. Rd. No. 38) dedicated in Plat Book 12, Page 74 and west line of a 12' alley as dedicated in Plat Book 2, Page 182;

Thence along said corporation line and north right-of-way line of Mason-Morrow-Millgrove Road, North 85°15'00" West, 140.00 feet to the southeast corner of 0.0607 acres dedicated right-of-way in Plat Book 86, Page 23;

Thence continuing along said corporation line, in part with the east line of said 0.0607 acres dedicated rightof-way and in part with an east line of Lot 2A of Barrett Subdivision- First Revision, being a 3.8689 acre lot recorded in Plat Book 86, Page 23, North 04°35'00" East, 312.00 feet;

Thence continuing along said corporation line and with a south line of said Lot 2A, South 85°15'00" East, 140.00 feet to the aforesaid the west line of aforesaid 12' alley;

Thence leaving said corporation line, along the west line of said 12' alley and with the South Lebanon proposed corporation line, South 04°35′00″ West, 312.00 feet to the point of beginning.

Containing 1.003 acres, more or less, of land.

Subject to all legal highways, easements and restrictions of record.

The above description is the result of a Plat of Annexation by McGill Smith Punshon, Inc. under the direction of Richard D. Nichols, P.S. No. 7929, dated the 29th of July 2022. The bearings in the above description are based on Barrett Subdivision record plat as recorded in Plat Book 12, Page 74, record of the Warren County, Ohio Recorder's Office.

Prepared by: McGill Smith Punshon, Inc.

Date: 29 JUL 2022 06308.29 MSP No.:

06308293-CLI-LEG-Lenig Parcel



## Exhibit "B"



EX. CITY OF SOUTH LEBANON CORP.

AREA TO BE ANNEXED TO THE CITY OF SOUTH LEBANON

TOTAL AREA IN PROPOSED ANNEXATION: 1.003 ACRES ±

# TOTAL AREA IN PROPOSED ANNEXATION: 1.003 ACRES ±

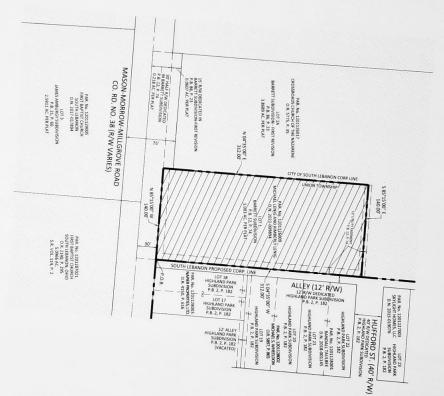
ACREAGE BREAKDOWN (BASED ON RECORDS AND SHOULD BE CONSIDERED APPROXIMATE)

 PARCEL
 OWNER
 DEED REFERENCE
 ACRES

 1201126099
 MICHAEL LENIG AND KIMBERLY LENIG
 D.N. 2022-009894
 1.003 AC. ±

 1.003 AC. ±
 1.003 AC. ±
 1.003 AC. ±

LENGTHS OF EACH ROAD IN TERRITORY:



COUNTY, CHOOCHESE MAPPION THE PLAT ON THE SALT ON THE

1) ho

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS:

VICINITY MAP

I NOWARII

NOW O

SCHWEST PO MO

CITY APPROVAL:

COUNTY RECORDER

NOSD IN PLAT BOOK NO.

THIS PLAT WAS PREPARED FROM EXISTING DEEDS, PLATS AND SUNOTED HEREON, AND IS NOT THE RESULT OF A FIELD SURVEY.

RELITABLE 11/10/22



CERTIFICATION

# CITY of SOUTH LEBANON PLAT OF ANNEXATION "LENIG ANNEXATION"

COUNTY AUDITOR

VIDE30

WARREN COUNTY AUDITOR

SECTION 1, TOWN 4 EAST, FRACTIONAL RANGE 3 NORTH BETWEEN THE MIAMIS, UNION TOWNSHIP WARREN COUNTY, OHIO

 Drawn By
 CMB
 Proj. Mgr.
 RDN

 Survey Database
 N/A

# **OLD BUSINESS**

# CITY OF SOUTH LEBANON, OHIO RESOLUTION NO. 2023-02

A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE COUNCIL'S INTENT TO SELL UNNEEDED, OBSOLETE OR UNFIT PERSONAL PROPERTY BY INTERNET AUCTION AND REQUIRING PUBLICATION OF THE SAME; AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND FISCAL OFFICER TO EXECUTE ON BEHALF OF THE CITY A CONTRACT WITH GOVDEALS, INC. FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR 2023

**WHEREAS**, the City is empowered to sell tangible items of personal property belonging to the City that is no longer needed for any municipal purposes, in accordance with sections 721.01 – 721.26, inclusive, of the Revised Code; and,

WHEREAS, section 721.15 (D) of the Revised Code specifically empowers the Council to sell, regardless of the property's value, personal property, including [but not limited to] motor vehicles acquired for the use of municipal officers and departments, and road machinery, equipment, tools or supplies, which is not needed for public use, or is obsolete or unfit for the use for which it was acquired, by internet auction upon the adoption, *during each calendar year*, of a resolution expressing the Council's intent to sell such property by internet auction; and,

WHEREAS, the Council desires to enter into a contract for calendar year 2023 with Govdeals, Inc. for conducting the internet auction for the disposition of unneeded, obsolete or unfit personal property that includes the general terms and conditions of sale; and,

WHEREAS, the Council requires the contract specifically provide: (i) that the internet auction shall satisfy the statutory minimum of ten (10) days (including Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays) for bidding on the property, and (ii) that the Council reserves the right to set a minimum price to be accepted for specific items and any other terms and conditions for a particular sale, such as requirements for pick-up or delivery, method of payment, and sales tax, if it so elects and notifies Govdeals, Inc. of the same which shall be provided on the internet at the time of the auction, and, (iii) that all internet sales shall be paid by the buyer directly to GovDeals, Inc., and (iv) all proceeds shall be delivered to the Fiscal Officer by electronic transfer from GovDeals and posted to the appropriate fund(s) by the Fiscal Officer; and,

WHEREAS, the Fiscal Officer shall cause notice of the Council's intent to sell unneeded, obsolete or unfit municipal personal property by internet auction, to be published, twice, in a newspaper of general circulation in the City, including a summary of the information contained within this Resolution, and the second publication shall be published not less than ten (10) or more than twenty (20) days after the initial publication; and,

**WHEREAS**, upon the effective date of this Resolution, the Fiscal Officer shall cause notice of this Resolution and the website address for Govdeals, Inc. to be posted continually throughout the calendar year in a conspicuous place in the offices of the City, as well as continuously throughout the calendar year on the City's website; and,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Council of the City of South Lebanon, at least a majority of all members elected thereto concurring:

<u>Section 1</u>. That the Council approves the Contract with Govdeals, Inc., a copy of which is attached hereto and made a part hereof.

<u>Section 2</u>. Upon completion of the required publication and approval as to form by the City Solicitor, and no sooner than the effective date of this Resolution, that the Mayor and Fiscal Officer shall execute the said Contract and the City Administrator shall process the Contract to Govdeals, Inc. without further delay.

<u>Section 3</u>. That the recitals contained within the Whereas Clauses set forth above are incorporated by reference herein.

<u>Section 4</u>. That it is found and determined that all formal actions of the Council concerning and relating to the adoption of this Resolution were adopted in an open meeting of Council in compliance with all legal requirements, including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

Adopted this	day of, 2	2023.	
Attest:			
Petrina D.	. Williams, Fiscal Officer/Cle	erk James D. Smith, Mayor	

Rules Suspended: / /2023 (if applicable)	Effective Date - / /2023
Vote Yeas Nays	
First Reading – / /2023	Effective Date - / /2023
Second Reading – / /2023	
Third Reading- / /2023	
Vote Yeas	
Nays	
Prepared by and approved as to form:	
ANDREW P. MEIER	
CITY SOLICITOR	
SOUTH LEBANON, OHIO	
By:	
Date:	<u> </u>

# ORDINANCE NO. 2023-01

# AN ORDINANCE CONFIRMING THE SPELLING OF FOREST AVENUE IN THE CITY OF SOUTH LEBANON

- **WHEREAS**, City staff was recently notified by the Warren County Engineer's Office that are multiple spellings in County records of Forest Avenue;
- **WHEREAS**, the street in question was platted as "Forest Avenue" on the Snook Brothers' plat in 1897;
- **WHEREAS**, said street was platted as "Forrest Avenue" on the Willoughby's plat in 1916;
- **WHEREAS,** City staff has confirmed with the U.S. Post Office that it is spelled "Forest" in their records;
- **WHEREAS,** City staff recommends confirming "Forest" as the correct spelling of Forest Avenue in the City of South Lebanon.
- **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED** by the Council of the City of South Lebanon, Ohio, at least a majority of all members elected thereto concurring:
  - <u>Section 1</u>. That the Council does hereby confirm that "Forest Avenue" is the correct spelling of said street in the City of South Lebanon.
  - <u>Section 2</u>. That the Fiscal Officer certify a copy of this Ordinance to the Warren County Engineer.
  - <u>Section 3</u>. That the recitals contained within the Whereas Clauses set forth above are incorporated by reference herein.
  - <u>Section 4.</u> That it is found and determined that all formal actions of the Council concerning and relating to the adoption of this Ordinance were adopted in an open meeting of Council in compliance with all legal requirements, including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

# Ordinance 2023-01 Page 2

Adopted this day of	, 202	3.
Attest:		
Petrina D. William	s, Fiscal Officer/Clerk	James D. Smith, Mayor
Rules Suspended:	(if applicable)	Effective Date - / /2023
Vote Yeas Nays		
First Reading – / /2023 Second Reading – / /2023 Third Reading – / /2023	23	Effective Date – / /2023
Vote Yeas Nays		
Prepared by and approve	ed as to form:	
ANDREW P. MEIER		
CITY SOLICITOR		
SOUTH LEBANON, OHI	O	
By:		
Date:		

# ORDINANCE NO. 2023-02

# AN ORDINANCE APPROVING ZONING MAP AMENDMENT TO A CERTAIN PROPERTY IN THE CITY OF SOUTH LEBANON, CONSISTING OF 10.655 ACRES FROM R-1 [SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT] TO B-2 [GENERAL BUSINESS DISTRICT]

**WHEREAS**, Gayle Froehlich has submitted an application for a zoning map amendment for certain properties on State Route 48 (Parcel# 12-01-451-002) consisting of 10.655 acres from R-1 [Single Family Residential District] to B-2 [General Business District]; and,

WHEREAS, in accordance with Section 15.7.7 of the City of South Lebanon Zoning Regulations, on January 10, 2023, the City Planning Commission, heard the aforementioned Rezoning Application and issued its recommendation to the City Council that the zoning amendment be granted, as requested; and,

**WHEREAS**, in accordance with Section 713.12 of the Revised Code and Section 15.7.8 of the Zoning Regulations, the City Council scheduled the Rezoning Application for a public hearing; and,

**WHEREAS**, the City Council held the public hearing on February 23, 2023 at 6:00 P.M., after publication and other proper notice thereof, to consider the recommendation of the Planning Commission; and,

WHEREAS, upon considering the recommendation of the Planning Commission, a copy of which is incorporated by reference herein, and the testimony given during the public hearing, the Council finds the process has been in accordance with Article 7 [Amendment Procedures], and adopts the recommendation of the Planning Commission; and,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED** by the Council of the City of South Lebanon, Ohio, at least a majority of all members elected thereto concurring:

**Section 1.** That the Council does hereby amend the official Zoning Map of the City of South Lebanon, Ohio, as follows:

# Ordinance No. 2023-02 Page 2

Property Ad	<u>dress</u>	Parcel No.	<u>Acreage</u>	Zoning Classification
State Route 4	18-	12-01-451-002	10.655 ac.	from R-1 [Single Family
South Leban	on, OH 45065			Residentiall] to B-2 [General Business District]
Section 2.	effective date be days of the eff Official Zoning	eing 30 days afte fective date, the Map to reflect th	er the date of Zoning Ada he zoning cha	ndum provided by law (the adoption), within fifteen (15) ministrator shall amend the anges in accordance with Sec. ning Regulations.
Section 3.		s contained with reference hereir		as Clauses set forth above are
Section 4.	concerning and an open meeting	relating to the a	doption of thi compliance	ormal actions of the Council s Ordinance were adopted in with all legal requirements, Code.
Approved th	is day of _	, 2023.		
Attest:				
	na D. Williams, F		rk James	D. Smith, Mayor
Second Read		3	Effe	ective Date – / /2023

Ordinance No. 2023-02 Page 3

Prepared by and approved as to form: ANDREW P. MEIER CITY SOLICITOR SOUTH LEBANON, OHIO

Ву:		
Date:		



# **2022 Annual Report**

822 Memorial Drive, Lebanon, Ohio 45036 Office: 513-695-0070, Fax: 513-336-9097 www.wcdtf.org

#### **ABOUT US...**



The Warren County Drug Task Force is a multi-jurisdictional unit specializing in the investigation of drug trafficking, prescription drug diversion, money laundering and other drug related crimes. Our area of operation is all of Warren County and the City of Wilmington in Clinton County.

The Warren County Drug Task Force is an initiative of the Ohio High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA), based in Cleveland, Ohio. The HIDTA program provides assistance to local, state and federal law enforcement agencies operating in areas determined to be critical drug trafficking regions of the nation. HIDTA assistance is granted through the Executive Office of the President of the United States, Office of Drug Control Policy. Our Drug Task Force has been a HIDTA Initiative since 2004.



As a result of the HIDTA program, the Warren County Drug Task Force includes multiple local, state and federal law enforcement agencies, combining resources and working together toward a common goal which allows us to operate more efficiently. This allows us to target larger criminal organizations, some stretching to our southern-most borders of the United States and beyond. This collaboration of resources results in a better coordinated effort to address all levels of drug trafficking and abuse, with a concentrated effort toward mid to upper level offenders.

The Warren County Drug Task Force provides specialized drug enforcement services including a team of detectives & agents with advanced training in the area of covert law enforcement operations. This team uses a variety of techniques and tactics to target those involved in drug trafficking activities in our community. Also serving our jurisdiction is a fulltime detective specializing in the investigation of prescription drug diversion crimes.

We continue our highway interdiction efforts with the assistance of our Ohio State Highway Patrol partners who provide a uniformed interdiction team with K9's to our task force. This highly trained team aggressively patrols the roadways of Warren County and southwest Ohio focusing on bulk shipments of illegal drugs in transit from various source cities across the United States. This team also provides consistent



support to task force operations, as plain clothes investigations oftentimes move rapidly from jurisdiction to jurisdiction.

Enforcement and Investigative Operations are supported by a Criminal Intelligence Analyst provided by the Ohio National Guard Counter Drug Unit, and an Investigative Assistant from the Warren County Sheriff's Office. These support personnel provide ongoing assistance to investigators and are valued members of our unit.

## **POLICY BOARD**

The Warren County Drug Task Force is governed by a controlling authority known as the Policy Board. Our Policy Board currently consists of the Warren County Sheriff, Warren and Clinton County Prosecutor's, Carlisle Police Department, Clearcreek Township Police Department, Franklin Police Department, Hamilton Township Police Department, Harveysburg Police Department, Lebanon Police Department, Loveland Police Department, Mason Police Department, Monroe Police Department, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI), Springboro Police Department, Waynesville Police Department and the Wilmington Police Department.

The Policy Board provides ongoing input and oversight regarding all Drug Task Force operations. It also establishes the policies under which our Drug Task Force operates. The Drug Task Force Commander reports directly to the Policy Board, and ensures the board remains fully briefed on all Drug Task Force activities during monthly Policy Board meetings.

#### DRUG TASK FORCE PERSONNEL

The Warren County Drug Task Force could not operate without the dedicated men and women assigned to our unit. During 2022 our staff consisted of **20** law enforcement and support personnel provided by the Warren County Sheriff's Office, Warren County Prosecutor's Office, Springboro Police Department, Lebanon Police Department, Franklin Police Department, Wilmington Police Department, Monroe Police Department, Hamilton Township Police Department, Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI), Ohio State Highway Patrol (OSP) and the Ohio National Guard Counter Drug Unit.

We are fortunate to have such a diverse and talented team of law enforcement professionals working to reduce the supply of illegal drugs in our jurisdiction. These dedicated men and women are committed to improving the quality of life in our communities and are proud to serve the citizens of Warren County and the City of Wilmington in Clinton County.

We would like to thank the above agencies for their continued support, and for providing these specially trained, dedicated and professional individuals.

# DRUG TASK FORCE FUNDING

Most personnel assigned to the Drug Task Force are fully funded by their home agencies. Because of the unique structure of our unit, some personnel as well as all operating expenses are funded by other means, such as grants and governmental entity contributions. The long-term sustainability of our task

force remains challenging, however the commitment from our local communities and the Warren County Commissioners remain strong. Annual contributions are requested based upon one-dollar per resident, using the most recent Census numbers. Without these additional funds, our Drug Task Force would be unable to safely and effectively operate. Additional funding sources for the Drug Task Force include the Ohio HIDTA program, the Justice Assistance Grant (JAG), the Drug Law Enforcement Grant (DLE), the Recovery Ohio Law Enforcement Fund, as well as annual contributions from the Warren County Commissioners.

As a result of inconsistent funding sources, we continue to ask each of our community partners to consider increasing their contribution toward our overall funding. We remain thankful to each jurisdiction for their financial contribution each year, and for this continued partnership. The ongoing assignment of full-time personnel coupled with the financial contributions from each of our communities send a clear message of commitment to the mission of the Warren County Drug Task Force. During 2022, we received <u>financial contributions</u> from the entities listed below. Those who made an increased contribution, exceeding the one-dollar per resident request, or who provide a full-time detective plus a financial contribution are recognized in **bold**.

- Board of County Commissioners (Warren County)
- Butlerville
- City of Carlisle
- Clearcreek Township
- Village of Corwin
- Deerfield Township
- City of Franklin
- Franklin Township
- Hamilton Township
- Harlan Township
- Village of Harveysburg
- City of Lebanon
- City of Loveland
- Village of Maineville
- City of Mason
- Massie Township
- City of Monroe
- Village of Morrow
- Salem Township
- City of South Lebanon
- City of Springboro
- Turtlecreek Township
- Union Township
- Washington Township
- Wayne Township
- Village of Waynesville

Thank you for your continued support. The Warren County Drug Task Force remains committed to providing specialized drug enforcement services to the communities we serve. This continued partnership remains essential to our existence and is sincerely appreciated.

## **CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS**



The Warren County Drug Task Force remains the only unit within our jurisdiction conducting specialized drug investigations on a full-time basis. Our investigations continue to target all levels of drug trafficking with an emphasis on felony crimes, from the lowest level felonies to long-term federal conspiracy cases. The drug trafficking activities occurring in our jurisdiction remain much different than the open-air trafficking common in larger metropolitan areas. These factors contribute

to the difficulty and length of time of our investigations. Consistent with past years, many cases that began in 2022 will continue into 2023 and beyond.

Drug trends in our jurisdiction remained consistent during 2022 with high availability of methamphetamine, heroin/fentanyl, cocaine, and marijuana. Our investigations continue to identify Mexico as a primary source of supply for the methamphetamine, fentanyl and most drugs seized in our area. Drugs arriving from the southwest border and various west coast states continue to flow through the Cincinnati and Dayton areas, and remain readily available for use by our addicted population. Mid-December 2022 seizure data, as reported by the Ohio Department of Public Safety, indicate Warren County as the **8th** highest county in the State of Ohio for methamphetamine seizures, **15th** highest for fentanyl seizures, **4**th highest for cocaine seizures and **5**th highest for marijuana seizures.

The investigation of prescription drug diversion crimes remain a priority for the Drug Task Force. During 2022, Warren County ranked **2nd** in the State of Ohio for the highest number of prescription drug seizures. Prescription drugs remain common drugs of abuse for many, especially those employed within the medical profession with increased accessibility to prescription drugs. This specialized area of investigation directly impacts the continued addiction crisis involving prescription opiates. The Warren County Drug Task Force remains one of the few Drug Task Forces in the State of Ohio providing a full-time investigative focus to drug diversion crimes.

As specific drug threats change, our commitment to target drug trafficking activities is unwavering. The investigation of drug trafficking offenses remain challenging as drug traffickers continue to evolve and learn many of the covert tactics commonly utilized by law enforcement. The ongoing specialized enforcement efforts of the Warren County Drug Task Force are critical as drug traffickers' prey upon our addicted population, and directly impact the quality of life in our communities.

During 2022, the investigative activity of our staff resulted in **437** new cases. These investigations resulted in **134** felony arrests, and **86** misdemeanor arrests. Overall enforcement efforts led to **132** search warrants, **79** firearms seized, and **1,914** traffic stops.

## PRESCRIPTION DRUG TAKE-BACK

The Warren County Drug Task Force continues to collaborate with the United States Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) to encourage all citizens to properly dispose of unwanted prescription medications. The correlation between prescription drug abuse and heroin/fentanyl abuse remain obvious, as many people who abuse these drugs report prior misuse of prescription pain medications.

The Warren County Drug Task Force and many local law enforcement agencies participated in two national drug take-back events during 2022. Many jurisdictions throughout Warren County offer 24/7 access to drug take-back boxes allowing citizens to dispose of prescription medication throughout the year at their convenience. To find the closest drug drop box please visit <a href="https://www.rxdrugdropbox.org">www.rxdrugdropbox.org</a>

#### **EDUCATION & PREVENTION**

We continue to support and participate in drug education & prevention efforts throughout our combined jurisdictions. The Drug Task Force recognizes that drug education for our community, especially for our youth, must remain a priority. We are committed to this ongoing process of stopping addiction before it starts, and realize that aggressive enforcement efforts alone remain insufficient.

The Warren County Drug Task Force continues to collaborate with the Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition of Warren County, and all DARE programs throughout the county. This ongoing collaboration resulted in <u>84 education and prevention events</u> reaching approximately <u>5,253 attendees</u> to include students, teachers, parents and other members of our community.

We continue to update our web page with current educational information for parents, teachers and students. Please visit our web page at <a href="https://www.wcdtf.org">www.wcdtf.org</a>

## THANK YOU!

The Warren County Drug Task Force recognizes that in order to be truly successful in our endeavors, the support and assistance of the general public, our local governmental entities and the Warren County Commissioners is essential. We thank you for your continued support and look forward to serving you in 2023.

Please continue to report drug tips to the Drug Task Force or to your local law enforcement agency. No one can identify suspicious activity in our neighborhoods better than those who live there. Please contact us by email at <a href="mailto:drugtips@wcdtf.org">drugtips@wcdtf.org</a> or call our office at <a href="mailto:513-695-0070">513-695-0070</a>.