

PAVING

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City Officials understand the need for paving throughout the city. A paving project is slated to begin this fall for the following streets:

Third Avenue – Pine St to Sycamore St – 1,500' x 3)

Sycamore Street – Second Ave to Fourth Avenue – 800' x 32'

Second Avenue – Sycamore Street to Mill Creek – 1,600' x 38'

Fourth Avenue – Pine Street to Spruce Street – 600' x 30

Chillicothe Road – St Rt 588 to approximately 52 Chillicothe Road – 800' x 18'

This paving project will cost \$343,508 with \$124,999 being grant funded thru the Ohio Public Works Commission (OPWC) and the city share of \$218,509. Of the \$218,509 the city will be paying \$93,510 from the General Fund and the remaining \$124,999 will be a zero-interest loan payable over 15 years. We continue to search and apply for paving grants with very little success as these funds are not as widely available and our matching funds are very limited.

We are again asking for your support for a half (1/2) percent City Income Tax Increase. This would raise our current rate to 1.5% which would add 50 cents per one hundred dollars of **TAXABLE** Income.

Social Security, Pensions and all Retirement Income ARE NOT taxed. Only a third (33%) of our City Residents pay City Income Tax. Two thirds (66%) of the tax are paid by the people who live outside the city but work within the city limits. Corporations that operate inside the city pay income tax as well. These outside companies and workers use our city facilities daily – streets, water, sewer, police and fire.

We have spoken about many upgrades that we have completed within Haskins Park. We would also like to take some of this additional Income Tax and complete even more upgrades in all of our parks. The Shelter Houses need attention, Electrical Upgrades are needed, our ball fields need a little work and our Swimming Pool is running great but operations and keeping it running is expensive. Our Bandstand is needing some restoration work. We are striving for community areas we can all enjoy.

Our plan is to dedicate this additional money to paving our streets. Furthermore, we would make upgrades to our parks and have some funds going towards additional maintenance of our Cemeteries. We will target paving, the remaining portion of Chillicothe Rd, 4th Ave, Pine St, Court St, Locust St and Cedar St with our first additional Tax Revenue. We will then target paving the Maple Shade Areas & accessory streets. Our next target would be paving 1st Ave and the remaining cross streets. With this additional money we will use it to obtain grant money for future paving projects and use as a match to qualify for these grant funds.

Our Cemeteries are in need of financial help. We are currently finishing a Lazarus Online Program to make it easier for everyone to find graves.