

Delaware County Commissioners

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County Administrator Tracie Davies Deputy Administrators Dawn Huston Aric Hochstettler

Clerk to the Commissioners Jennifer Walraven

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Nov. 20, 2023 Contact: Jane Hawes, Communications Director, <u>jhawes@co.delaware.oh.us</u>, 740-833-2109

Delaware County Commissioners Approve Budget for 2024

DELAWARE, Ohio — The Delaware County Board of Commissioners today approved its general-fund budget for 2024. The \$143,814,358 figure approved is a 5.1% increase over the 2023 budget of \$136,847,303 for operating and capital expenditures.

The County is projecting revenues of \$143,814,358 in 2024, an increase of 6.1% from \$135,524,347 projected for revenues in 2023. Through Oct. 31, the County's actual revenues have been \$124,154,586.

"Thanks to our conservative fiscal management," said Commissioner Jeff Benton, President of this year's Board, "we're able to maintain our AAA bond rating while increasing spending on transportation. We have also opened the new Byxbe Campus without incurring debt and we have provided raises to our outstanding staff while absorbing a large increase in healthcare costs. Plus, we were able to fund a \$6.5 million rollback in property taxes to help our taxpayers."

Other factors impacting the 2024 budget were:

- Increased staffing in the Clerk of Courts' office, Domestic Relations Court, Sheriff's Office, the Commissioners' Economic Development Department, Emergency Communications (911), Treasurer's Office, Auditor's Office, and Facilities Management staff for the Byxbe Campus.
- An increase of \$5,284,301 or 38.7% in investments in roadway and bridge improvements throughout the County.

Commissioner Gary Merrell said: "Preparing a budget for a county growing as fast as Delaware County has always been a challenge. The needs inevitably exceed the resources. But, once again with good stewardship, we have produced a balanced budget, in no small part due to the support of our elected officials and department heads."

Added Commissioner Barb Lewis: "We are indeed fortunate in Delaware County to be able to manage our budget prudently while continuing to invest in a quality of life that our residents and business owners deserve. This requires investment not only in capital projects, but in the staff members of county government who provide so many essential services to the public, day in and day out."

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	2022 enneoud	2024 enneoud	% change from
	2023 approved budget	2024 approved budget	2023 budget
Auditor	\$ 1,895,890	\$ 2,209,732	16.6%
Commissioners	\$ 49,613,401	\$ 47,698,498	-3.9%
Clerk of Courts	\$ 1,362,516	\$ 1,468,254	7.8%
Common Pleas (General)	\$ 3,266,322	\$ 3,466,538	6.1%
Coroner	\$ 719,950	\$ 726,706	0.9%
Court of Appeals	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000	0.0%
Domestic Relations	\$ 2,290,757	\$ 2,748,615	20.0%
Engineer	\$ 19,719,391	\$ 27,836,484	41.2%
Juvenile/Probate	\$ 5,001,009	\$ 5,557,813	11.1%
Municipal Court	\$ 591,980	\$ 591,980	0.0%
Prosecutor	\$ 3,770,283	\$ 4,219,973	11.9%
Recorder	\$ 714,221	\$ 529,620	-25.8%
Sheriff	\$ 33,510,632	\$ 37,461,314	11.8%
Treasurer	\$ 919,537	\$ 1,052,124	14.4%
Board of Elections	\$ 3,429,753	\$ 4,040,082	17.8%
Public Defender	\$ 2,237,662	\$ 2,363,100	5.6%
Veterans Service	\$ 1,502,898	\$ 1,793,525	19.3%

For more information about Delaware County, please go to <u>www.co.delaware.oh.us</u>.

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Attachment: 2024 BUDGET RESOLUTION. Please note that individual department budgets headed by the digits "100" are those included in the General Fund, which is administered by the Delaware County Board of Commissioners. Departmental budgets headed by different digits or funded by tax levies are not included in the General Fund.

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