

**STATE  
OF THE  
CITY**

**2016**

Presented by:  
Mayor John M. Stanforth

February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2017



## **CODE ENFORCEMENT**

The City of Wilmington Building and Zoning Department accepts complaints regarding violations of the City’s Property Maintenance and Zoning Codes. Since the position of Code Enforcement Officer has been vacant in recent years, this year saw a tremendous improvement with the Mayor’s personal initiative and the addition of Mark Wiswell as the contracted Code Enforcement Official. The City also became members of the Ohio Code Enforcement Officials Association this year to gain knowledge and resources for further development of our code enforcement efforts.

There was a concentrated effort to clear the overgrown alleys for the new Sanitation Department truck, cut back growth from sidewalks and obstructed traffic signs for safety reasons, removing basketball hoops from the street for the street sweeper, and to document vacant and abandoned structures.

This year we opened 397 cases involving 367 properties with a total of 635 violations being noted and 25 being listed as ‘no violation found’. The public reported some of these cases and the Code Enforcement Official discovered others. Here is a breakdown of all property maintenance complaints received:

### **Type of Violation Reported and/or Found:**

Unsafe Structures and Equipment.....	21
General (Exterior & Interior Property Areas, Exterm.).....	139
Mechanical & Electrical Requirements .....	15
Plumbing Facilities & Fixture Requirements .....	8
Light, Ventilation, & Occupancy.....	2
Fire Safety Requirements.....	2
Weeds & Grass .....	225
Litter.....	92
Codified Ordinances (Right-of-way obstructions, dead trees, Recreational Vehicle Parking, etc.) .....	113
Zoning Ordinances (Permitted Use, Accessory Structures, etc.).....	13
Sign Regulations .....	5

Violations of the zoning and property maintenance codes are addressed by issuing a formal violation notice and working with the property owner to bring their property into compliance within a specified period. If property owners are not compliant, they are brought before the

Court. This year, the Building Department submitted nineteen cases to the Director of Law for prosecution.

While we did get three dilapidated accessory structures torn down by owners this year, no properties were demolished using City funds. Lack of resources is always the biggest issue for Code Enforcement.

This year, Clinton County established a land bank, which is a private, non-profit corporation with access to federal and state funding. The Clinton County Land Bank will be a tremendous partner in the years to come; acquiring and removing some of the blighted properties that remain, at no cost to the City.

Submitted by:

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