

Winter 2012

Powell Quarterly

A Newsletter from the City of Powell



Powell

Powell City Council Members Sworn in for Service in 2012

Three members of Powell City Council were officially sworn in to office by Judge David Gormley during Council's Jan. 3 meeting.

New members Jon Bennehoof and Mike Crites join Sara Marie Brenner, Richard Cline, Tom Counts, Jim Hrivnak and Brian Lorenz on the seven-member governing body. Cline was named to a two-year term as Mayor during the meeting, while Hrivnak was named Vice President of Council.

Bennehoof and Crites were elected to their first terms on Council in November, and incumbent Cline was re-elected.

A business transformation executive, Bennehoof has worked with such companies as IBM and Cardinal Health. A resident of Powell since 2003, he lives in Golf Village.

Crites, a Powell resident for more than 20 years who also resides in Golf Village, is a partner with the Columbus law firm of Dinsmore & Shohl



Members of Powell City Council are, from left, Brian Lorenz, Sara Marie Brenner, Mike Crites, Mayor Richard Cline, Tom Counts, Jon Bennehoof and Jim Hrivnak.

LLP. He has served as president of the Olentangy Local School District Board of Education, special counsel to the City of Powell and president of the Greater Powell Veterans Memorial Foundation.

Cline has been a member of Council since 1996. He has served on Council's Finance Committee since its inception and previously served as chairman of that committee. A

practicing attorney since 1981, Cline served as the Municipal Court Prosecutor for the Village of Powell from 1984 to 1986. His family moved to Powell in 1994.

The new City Council will conduct a goal-setting session beginning at 7 p.m. on Jan. 30, at which time it will look at long-term plans and goals for the City and discuss what it hopes to accomplish in the year ahead.

Survey Says? Powell Tops Ohio Cities for Quality of Life

A recent survey listed the City of Powell 5th among 955 Midwestern communities for quality of life.

American City Business Journals, the parent company of Columbus' Business First publication, conducted an analysis of the communities, searching for the places offering the most favorable living conditions. Chicago suburbs took the top four spots and Powell rounded out the top five, finishing ahead of other central Ohio communities on the

list, including Dublin (9th), Bexley (36th), Upper Arlington (39th) and Worthington (47th).

According to an article about the survey, a 20-part formula was used to find communities "that enjoy healthy economies, moderate costs of living, impressive housing stocks and strong educational systems." Some of the specific results for Powell are:

- Median household income – \$126,510

- Poverty rate – 2.15 percent
- Workers with management and professional jobs – 63.51 percent
- Unemployment rate for 25-64 age group – 2.73 percent
- Houses built since 1990 – 78.73 percent
- Housing vacancy rate – 5.21 percent
- Adults (25 and older) with bachelor's degrees – 70.47 percent
- Adults with advanced degrees – 28.02 percent

Citizen Police Academy Allows Powell Residents to Step Behind the Badge

There are several TV shows that depict the Hollywood version of life on the police force, but if you want a real look at what police work is like, think CPA, not CSI.

The Powell Police Department's Citizen Police Academy (CPA) is a free 10-week course that gives a first-hand look at life as a police officer.

"It's a win-win for both the police department and our residents," said Sgt. Scott Roach, who coordinates the academy and its curriculum. "We build better relationships with the citizens we serve and learn about their concerns, and they get a brief taste of what it's like to be a police officer."

The police department will offer its fourth installment of the CPA in 2012, with dates yet to be determined.

Roach said the department is currently enrolling interested residents, and he'll announce the dates once enough students have registered.

Past sessions have run on Wednesday evenings from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. Topics covered include crime prevention, use of force, drug enforcement and crime scene investigation, with an optional ride-along program.

"(I wanted to) better understand the role the police department plays in our community," said Don DePalma, a member of the Grandshire Board of Trustees and CPA alumni. "I came away with not only a lot of practical and applicable information, but also a tremendous appreciation and respect for the work performed by the police department."

Sgt. Roach said he recommends the program for anyone actively involved with their homeowners association or neighborhood.

"The academy graduates can take the information they learn and share it with their neighbors or at their next association meeting," he said. "We place the citizens in role-playing situations so they can experience what a police officer goes through during the day."

Academy graduates also have the option of joining the Citizen Police Academy Alumni Association, a group that assists the police department at a variety of City events throughout the year.

"I would highly recommend this to anyone who thinks our police department is all about traffic stops," said Pat Clifford, president-elect of the Alumni Association. "The amount of training and work (our officers experience) that we as citizens aren't aware of is amazing."

To enroll in the next Citizen Police Academy, or for more information, contact Sgt. Roach at 614.885.5005 or sroach@cityofpowell.us.



Powell Police Detective Darren Smith instructs students during a session of the Citizen Police Academy, a free program offered through the Powell Police Department.

City's 2012 Budget Comes in Below 2011 Budget

Powell City Council, at its Dec. 6. meeting, approved the City's budget for 2012. The budget approval came after numerous planning sessions and a thorough review and recommendation by Council's Finance Committee.

The budget, as prepared by Finance Director Debra Miller, estimates expenses for 2012 at \$6,235,932, down from \$6,272,048 in 2011. Revenues for the City's 2012 general fund are expected to increase from \$5,778,418 in 2011 to \$5,854,395.

"The 2012 budget, which is less than the 2011 operating budget, contemplates providing similar service levels with fewer resources," said City Manager Steve Lutz, who added that the budgeted revenues do not include the City's ARRA grant reimbursement.

Some of the savings in the 2012 budget were generated through the following:

- Decreasing a full-time building department position to part-time.
- Eliminating membership in the Delaware County Regional Planning Commission.
- Eliminating the Share the Cost Tree Planting Program in 2012.
- Seeking sponsorship for City events again in 2012.

A hard copy of the 2012 budget is available for review at the Municipal Building, 47 Hall St., or an electronic version can be reviewed online at <http://www.cityofpowell.us/government-financedept.php>.

Delaware Soil and Water Conservation District News: Proper Pet Poop Pickup Prevents Plenty of Problems

We know what you're thinking: "It's just a little bit of pet waste. It's too cold to be picking it up on every walk."

Think again. Pet waste, when left on the ground, may be washed into storm drains by rain (or melting snow). These storm drains are connected to storm water systems and flow to ditches and streams. Pet waste that flows into ditches and streams not only carries disease, but also uses oxygen and can sometimes release ammonia. It also contains nutrients that encourage weed and algae growth, making water unsafe for swimming, drinking and boating.

To properly dispose of pet waste, bag it and put it in the garbage. This is the preferred disposal method. Landfills are designed to safely handle substances such as dog waste. Another method that could be used for disposing of pet waste is flushing it down the toilet. The water from your toilet goes to a sewage treatment plant, where all solids and pollutants are removed before water reaches a stream. This is an allowable practice, but putting it in the trash is recommended first.

It is not recommended that pet waste be used as a fertilizer on your lawn, garden or flowerbeds. Pet waste contains unique bacteria, viruses and parasites that are harmful to the health of humans, animals and the environment.

So what is the difference between the storm water system and the sewer system that are both referenced here? The two systems are entirely separate underground and different from one another. A storm water system has drains along streets to simply allow storm water to flow underground through pipes until it reaches a ditch or stream. This system is in place to take rain water off streets during storms and prevent flooding. The water in this system typically is never treated. A sewer system handles water from toilets, showers and sinks. It pumps the water in underground pipes to a water treatment facility, where solids and pollutants are taken out of the water. Once the water has been cleaned, it is returned to the natural ecosystem. The solids and pollutants are buried in landfills, cured and treated to be used as fertilizers, or incinerated.

To make sure you are keeping our storm drains safe, pick up after your pet using bags you bring from home or, if you're in a City park, the bags that can be found in the pet waste stations shown below.

Ready for an Emergency?

When snow hits the City, it's good to be prepared, not only with a shovel, but also with other essentials in the event of a power outage or blizzard. When the snow melts, flood and tornado season approach, and again, preparation is critical. Refer to the following emergency checklist to make sure you're prepared:

1. Have a one-week supply of food with no heat or refrigeration required.
2. Have a flashlight and whistle for every member of the family.
3. Copy important papers, photos, etc. on CD and send outside the state.
4. Store 3 to 5 gallons of water for drinking and sanitation.
5. Identify an emergency contact person outside your area.
6. Identify a meeting place after a disaster.
7. Have an emergency contact card for each family member.
8. Purchase a transistor radio and extra batteries.

The following Web sites can also help your family create an emergency preparedness plan:

1. www.ready.gov
2. www.cdc.gov
3. www.redcross.org
4. www.beprepared.com
5. www.whatsyourrq.org
6. www.dhs.gov

The City has an emergency preparedness magnet that contains this and other information. The magnet, created as part of local Boy Scout Josh Mitchell's Eagle Scout project, is available free of charge in the lobby of the Municipal Building, 47 Hall St.





The City of Powell
47 Hall Street
Powell, Ohio 43065
Phone 614.885.5380

Standard Rate
U.S. Postage
Permit No. 30
Powell, OH 43065

www.cityofpowell.us

Office Hours:
Monday through Friday
8:00 AM - 5:00 PM

City offices will be closed:

February 20
Presidents' Day



Powell City Council meets at 7:30 p.m. on the first and third Tuesdays of each month in Council Chambers, located inside the Municipal Building, 47 Hall St. Agendas for City Council and other City meetings are available on the bulletin board outside the building and online at www.cityofpowell.us. Meetings are open to the public, unless otherwise noted.

Stay in Touch!

The City of Powell offers a variety of ways to keep up with news and happenings:

- The Powell Quarterly is mailed to residents in winter, summer and fall, with the Annual Report mailed in the spring.
- Our e-newsletter is delivered to your inbox each week. Subscribe at www.cityofpowell.us.
- The City uses social media (Facebook and Twitter) for up-to-the-minute bulletins. "Like" us at www.facebook.com/CityofPowell.