

RESOLUTION 13-28

**A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE VILLAGE OF JOHNSTOWN
GUIDING PRINCIPLES DOCUMENT**

WHEREAS, Village Council discussed in detail the vision statement, mission statement, and guiding principles in five work session in the summer of 2013; and

WHEREAS, the vision statement is a declaration of an organization's goals for the mid-term or long-term future; and

WHEREAS, the mission statement is a present-based statement designed to convey a sense of why the organization exists to both members of the organization and the external community; and

WHEREAS, the guiding principles are a set of accepted guidelines formed by the Village Council and Staff that capture the citizen's values and priorities; and therefore

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE VILLAGE OF JOHNSTOWN, COUNTY OF LICKING, STATE OF OHIO, AND A MAJORITY OF THE MEMBERS CONCURRING THAT:

Section One. Village Council hereby adopts and will follow the attached Village of Johnstown Guiding Principles and Policy Priority Document when developing policy and instructs the Staff to do the same.

Section Two. It is found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating to the adoption of this Resolution were adopted in an open meeting of this Council and that meetings of any of its committees that resulted in such formal action were meetings open to the public, in compliance with all legal requirements including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code and the Charter of the VILLAGE OF JOHNSTOWN.

Date Passed: 9/17/13

By: Joyce Evans

Sean Stancart
Sean Stancart, Mayor



ATTEST TO:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Teresa Monroe
Teresa Monroe
Clerk of Council

David Wigginton
David Wigginton
Law Director

Village of Johnstown Guiding Principles and Policy Priority Document

Mission Statement

The Village of Johnstown will continue to improve the quality of life for our community through fiscally sound policies, efficient administration, progressive and ethical leadership and effective communication. Our focus will be on economic development, conscientious development and redevelopment, public safety, community services and regional cooperation.

Vision Statement

The Village of Johnstown is dedicated to providing a secure community environment that fosters cultural, recreational, educational and economic opportunities while preserving our unique historical character.

Guiding Principles

Safe Community

1. People feeling safe, secure and comfortable at home, in the neighborhood, at the parks, in commercial areas, and throughout the community
2. Informed citizens participating in and taking responsibility for community safety and emergency preparedness
3. Rapid, professional and coordinated response to any emergency call for service locally or regionally
4. Village prepared for all hazards, disaster and post disaster recovery including coordination with local, regional and state resources
5. Health and building codes promoting highest reasonable standards for safety
6. Adequate supply of safe drinking water that meets or exceeds national and state standards

Attractive Community

1. Attractive, well-designed and well-maintained public buildings, streetscapes incorporating gateways, public spaces and public art throughout the village
2. Attractive, well-designed and well-maintained commercial areas and buildings, including beautiful landscapes, and appropriate signage
3. Attractive, well-maintained homes
4. Clean, well-maintained, attractive ponds and waterways, both public and private
5. Maintain the unique and distinctive character that creates a sense of place

Inclusive Community

1. Celebrating America through national holidays such as 4th of July, Veteran's Day, Memorial Day
2. Appropriately displaying the flag
3. Community respecting and celebrating the history and heritage of Johnstown, Ohio, Licking County, and the United States of America
4. All family generations and cultures feeling welcome
5. Residents informed, actively involved and participating in community and civic affairs

Environmentally Responsible Community

1. Village as a innovative leader for standards, processes and operations
2. Open green spaces throughout the village
3. Effective stormwater management and drainage system enhancing quality of surface water and protecting neighborhoods
4. Quality wastewater treatment system
5. Water conservation
6. Reduced energy consumption and increased use of renewable resources
7. Convenient, easy recycling system with options and incentives
8. Developments, redevelopments and buildings incorporating the concepts of environmental sustainability
9. High air quality standards
10. Reasonable approach and balance with a "return on investments" – economic and/or community benefit

Destination Activity Centers

1. Each destination activity center having positive image and reputation – a sense of place
2. Variety of unique quality features that define each destination activity center
3. Pedestrian-friendly activity centers connected by alternative transportation modes and trails
4. Promote major community focal points and regional destinations such as the Opera House, Mary E. Babcock Public Library, Belt Park, Bigelow Cemetery, Cornel School and TJ Evans Bike Path and Trailhead
5. Public open space and parks for people to gather and enjoy; neighborhood to use; and to conduct community events
6. Cultural and entertainment events making Johnstown a regional destination

Great Neighborhoods

1. Strong neighborhood identity and pride
2. Renovated, modernized and well-maintained older housing stock
3. High percentage of owner occupied homes

4. Well-maintained, replaced and up to date neighborhood infrastructure: streets, utilities, sidewalks, street lights and drainage
5. Strong, effective home owner and neighborhood associations maintaining and investing in community common areas, streetscapes and public spaces
6. Maintaining quality neighborhoods buffered from or blended with adjacent commercial areas and non-residential land uses
7. Residents involved in and taking responsibility for making the neighborhood a great place to live and call home
8. Top quality community and neighborhood parks with active and passive areas
9. Ensure all neighborhoods are interconnected through vehicular street patterns and pedestrian sidewalks and paths
10. New neighborhoods should be self sustaining and able to repay for services that are being provided

Superior Mobility

1. Effective traffic management facilitating predictable, acceptable travel times within Johnstown
2. Interstate and U.S. highways efficiently moving traffic through and to/from Johnstown (I-71, SR 161, US 62, SR 37, SR 310)
3. Commuter transit serving to link Johnstown to the Greater Columbus Metro Area
4. Pedestrian-friendly community with multi use trails network for bikes and pedestrians connecting neighborhoods and the community
5. Well-designed, well-maintained streets, sidewalks and multi- use trails
6. School facilities be connected through a master planned system of sidewalks, paths and crosswalks.

Regional Business Center of Excellence

1. Creation and adoption of Economic Development Plan
2. Targeted national and international businesses as defined in the Economic Development Plan
3. State of the art, world class infrastructure and technology to support local businesses
4. Business-friendly environment and reputation
5. Quality jobs at or above the average income in the community
6. Full service convention and conference center targeting the best second tier market
7. Unique, “upscale” retail with upgraded products

Balanced Development and Redevelopment

1. Balanced land use and tax base within village
2. Well-designed, well-maintained village infrastructure and facilities throughout the village
3. Innovative designs meeting village’s development standards and adding value to the surrounding neighborhoods

4. New developments and redevelopments consistent with village vision, comprehensive plan, policies and standards
5. Upgrading or reusing older commercial areas and commercial strip centers
6. Redevelopment uses that are appropriate for different locations and proactive village policies to assist
7. Redevelopment of historic structures into creative uses to showcase the village's history
8. High-quality and well-maintained housing stock throughout the village
9. Mixed-use developments with commercial and multi-family residential elements

Community Pride in Johnstown

1. Village working in partnership with residents, community organizations, businesses and other government entities
2. People want to live here, businesses want to invest here
3. Successful community events and celebrations bringing people together
4. Being "A Community of Excellence" and recognized as such
5. Residents engaged in civic and community affairs
6. Businesses and residents volunteering and contributing to the Sugar Land community
7. Strong community organizations, charitable organizations and institutions
8. Village leadership facilitating and being a catalyst for community pride
9. Village demonstrating sound financial management practices and policies including cost-effective service delivery
10. Comprehensive Plan and associated master plans guide Village decision making
11. Transparent and ethical decision-making process by Village officials

Policy Priorities

1. Economic Development

The Village identifies three goals for economic development: job growth in excess of population growth; increasing the share of the tax base coming from non-residential growth; and increasing career opportunities by attracting high-skilled jobs in expanding industries.

Various economic incentives are available under Ohio law to help municipalities achieve their public objectives.

Because of Johnstown's assets and the desire of area residents to plan for the future and retain a community that is different from other growing suburban areas, economic incentives may not be offered to every firm that is eligible under state statutes. Instead, incentives will be targeted toward businesses meeting the objectives defined by the Village.

Policy to Consider:

- a. Business Retention
- b. Business Attraction
- c. Downtown Development
- d. Economic Development Plans
- e. Incentives
- f. Business Park

2. Finance and Budgeting

The financial integrity of our Village government is of vital importance. Written, adopted financial policies have many benefits, such as assisting the Council and Administration in the financial management of the Village, saving time and energy when discussing financial matters, engendering public confidence, and providing continuity over time as Council and staff changes occur.

The Village of Johnstown budget emerges from a foundation of Council and administrative policies. These financial and budget policies create a framework for decision-making as we develop the Village budget.

Village staff members develop annual operating budget requests after receiving general direction from Administration. The budget determines what services the City will offer, the level of these services, and how funds will be provided to finance them.

Policy to Consider:

- a. Expenditure Policies
 - i. General Expenditure Policies
 - ii. Enterprise Expenditure Policies
 - iii. Maintenance and Replacement
 - iv. Capital Improvements
- b. Revenue Policies
 - i. General Revenue Policies
 - ii. Enterprise Revenue Policies
 - iii. Revenue Diversification
 - iv. Fees and Charges One-time Revenues
- c. Asset Policies
 - i. Cash Management
- d. Reserve Policies
- e. Budget Policies
- f. Financial Management
- g. GASB
- h. Performance Based Budgeting
- i. Purchasing and Procurement
- j. Risk Management

3. Public Safety

Providing for the public's safety is ultimately the responsibility of municipal government and one of its highest priorities. —Public safety means not only putting an end to the levels of crime and violence that impact the everyday lives of our residents, but just as importantly, delivering life-saving rescue services, preventing fires, and preparing for and responding effectively to domestic terrorism and natural disasters.

The primary goal of local public safety and crime prevention efforts is to ensure that the Village provides a safe, healthy environment in which residents can live and businesses can thrive. To achieve this goal, federal, state and local officials must view the safety of the community in holistic terms. Officials must recognize the danger of focusing exclusively on prevention, intervention, or punishment. Public safety efforts are more likely to result in safer communities if all solutions are integrated into a single strategy.

Policy to Consider:

- a. Animal Control
- b. Community Policies
- c. Crime Prevention
- d. Curfews
- e. Disaster Recovery
- f. Emergency Management
- g. Emergency Preparedness
- h. Gun Violence
- i. Hazardous Materials
- j. Homeland Security
- k. Juvenile Crime Prevention
- l. Narcotics Prevention and Enforcement

4. Planning & Zoning

Manage new development, redevelopment and reuse to ensure that it is orderly, balanced, and compatible with the Village's desire to maintain, protect and enhance its existing residential character, to improve upon the viability of its commercial areas, provide open/green space, encourage pedestrian/bicycle linkages, and protect environmentally sensitive lands.

We must provide necessary public facilities and utilities for existing development based on level of service standards, and plan for the provision of land for necessary public facilities for new development. Designate the financial resources needed in the Five-Year Capital Improvements Program. Public facilities shall be provided in a manner to discourage urban sprawl.

Future development will be directed as designated on the Future Land Use Map. Designations are established to protect residential neighborhoods,

balance inconsistent land uses, provide opportunities for redevelopment and renewal of blighted areas, and encourage mixed use development.

Identify, designate and preserve historically and architecturally significant resources including structures, landmarks, and archaeological sites.

Policy to Consider:

- a. Annexation
- b. Codes
- c. Historic Preservation
- d. Inspections
- e. Land Use Controls
- f. Master Planning
- g. Planning
- h. Urban Design
- i. Zoning
- j. Zoning Code Enforcement

5. Public Works and Utilities

The goal is to provide general engineering services including technical and operational support, design, and construction for the Capital Improvements Program (CIP), and oversight of the development of public infrastructure and facilities in an expeditious, cost-effective manner while maintaining the highest degree of quality.

Supports other Village departments to meet their mission. It provides various internal "general services" including vehicle maintenance; facilities maintenance and repair, and equipment maintenance and repair.

Is committed to providing our community with a safe, efficient, sewer system. Our safe and efficient sewer system protects our local and regional water quality and meets state and federal standards at the lowest possible cost.

Is responsible for the maintenance of the water distribution system, meter reading, meter installations and remote meter installations.

- a. Alternative Fleet Vehicles
- b. Buildings and Grounds
- c. Engineering
- d. Facilities Maintenance
- e. Fleet
- f. Recycling
- g. Sidewalk, Street and Roadway Maintenance
- h. Water
- i. Wastewater
- j. Utilities

6. Housing and Community Development

Community development is most successful when people working together take ownership to revitalize and strengthen their community's quality of life and when communities grow in a planned, organized fashion, which they determine. The goal of community development is to conserve and improve the physical, economic, cultural and social conditions and opportunities a community affords its residents. Growth management exemplifies this concept with its emphasis on cross-jurisdictional collaboration, balancing economic development, social and cultural needs, and protection of ecologically sensitive areas.

Policy to Consider:

- a. Affordable Housing
- b. Community Development
- c. Housing
- d. Code Enforcement
- e. Housing Rehabilitation
- f. Neighborhood Development
- g. Redevelopment
- h. Vacant Properties

7. Sustainable Community

Is dedicated to the sustainability of our residents, environment, and economy. Many people and organizations share these goals and are pursuing visions of sustainability in their own households, neighborhoods, businesses, cities, and region-wide. Johnstown's unique role in achieving a sustainable future is to plan, fund, construct, and operate a systems that improve residents' health and well-being, strengthens the economy, and enhances the natural environment.

Policy to Consider:

- a. Air, Climate, Water
- b. Climate Change
- c. Environmental Liability
- d. Smart Growth
- e. Sustainability
- f. Alternative Power Sources
- g. Food Security

8. Transportation

Our transportation systems influence virtually every aspect of community life. They are the means for moving people, goods and services throughout our communities, the region, and, increasingly, to destinations around the world. Of equal importance, these systems have played a significant role in shaping patterns of growth, facilitating economic prosperity, and influencing the character and livability of our communities.

Policy to Consider:

- a. Cycling
- b. Parking
- c. Public Transit
- d. Traffic Management
- e. Transportation Planning & Finance
- f. Walking

9. Leisure and Cultural Services

The amount and distribution of population density and land uses in Johnstown should be consistent with environmental constraints inherent in the need to preserve natural resources and to meet or exceed federal, state and local standards for water quality, ambient air quality and other environmental standards. Development should be sensitive to the natural setting, in order to prevent degradation of the Village's natural environment.

Growth should be held to a level consistent with available, accessible, and adequate public facilities as well as with rational plans to provide new public facilities to maintain existing public facilities. The Village's plans for development should take into account financial limitations associated with increased needs for public facilities.

Open space should support the conservation of appropriate land areas in a natural state to preserve, protect and enhance stream valleys, meadows, woodlands, wetlands, farmland, and plant and animal life. Small areas of open space should also be preserved in already congested and developed areas for passive neighborhood uses, visual relief, scenic value, and screening and buffering purposes.

Policy to Consider:

- a. Arts and Cultures
- b. Bikeways
- c. Special Events
- d. Tourism
- e. Parks
- f. Recreation Activities
- g. Parks and Recreation Management
- h. Recreation Center

10. Technology

Develops and provides direction in the use of Internet-based technologies to make it easier for citizens and businesses to interact with the local government, save taxpayer dollars, and streamline citizen participation.

Policy to Consider:

- a. 311/CRM Systems
- b. Computer Use
- c. E-Government
- d. Geographic Information Systems
- e. Imaging and Records Management
- f. Telecommunications