

FUND	Starting Balance 1-1-2010	Actual Revenue 2010	Actual Expense 2010	Starting Balance 1-1-2011	Estimated Revenue 2011*	Appropriation Budget 2011**
General	453,344	267,608	178,933	530,516	218,385	241,480
Motor Vehicle License	4,851	9,703	3,075	11,802	7,300	12,000
Gas Tax	211,586	88,149	127,115	174,516	72,000	240,000
Road & Bridge	404,472	358,684	363,380	401,749	368,775	470,270
Cemetery	6,205	600	9,783	0	2,500	0
Police District	109,078	293,669	292,049	110,697	282,046	297,900
Zoning	15,534	7,116	24,198	2,391	16,000	29,250
Fire & Rescue	1,277,094	657,109	800,800	1,141,485	503,660	1,033,175
Permissive Motor Vehicle	186,601	52,373	0	240,087	33,200	200,000
Ambulance & Emergency	9,671	766	0	10,402	0	0

*Certificate of Resources – current to 3/31/11

**Appropriation report 3/31/11

Starting balance is the carryover of funds from one year into the next. The best practice encourages enough carryover to cover typical expenses for one full year. Your trustees do a very good job monitoring expenses, working to maintain responsible carryover balances.

Revenue comes to the township a number of ways: Inside millage (the township’s portion of real estate taxes), voted levies (approved by voters for specific purposes) and various amounts categorized as “other” including intergovernmental receipts, revenue sharing, grants, permit fees, sale of cemetery lots, the sale of equipment no longer necessary for public purposes, fees for service and other miscellaneous. Police, fire and rescue are supported predominantly by voted levies but those funds also include “other” revenue such as fees for service and intergovernmental receipts. Lafayette Township is one of the few townships funding road improvement and maintenance by allocating inside millage and intergovernmental receipts instead of asking residents to shoulder an additional road levy. The cost of zoning is supported by permit fees and transferring funds as necessary from the General Fund. Cemetery is supported by the sale of lots and also transferring funds as necessary from the General Fund. Motor Vehicle License, Gas Tax and Permissive Motor Vehicle funds are revenue sharing from gas and license taxes which are restricted to equipment and projects for road improvement and maintenance.

Although the township has experienced a 21% population growth over the last ten years, except for fire & rescue service the annual expenses have only varied slightly or even reduced from year to year. Annual appropriations (estimated expenses) are typically much higher than the actual annual expense ends up. This is because trustees budget for worst-case scenarios such as a hard winter requiring lots of road salt and overtime, culverts collapsing, expensive equipment replacement or repairs that we must be prepared for but hope don’t actually happen during the year. Your trustees also do an excellent job evaluating future needs for expensive road improvements and replacement of major equipment like fire trucks, ambulances and road trucks. Anticipating these future expenses, reserves are appropriated in funds that will not be used during the year but rather carried over and increased from year to year to ensure that when the time comes for that project or replacement, the funds are readily available.

As your Fiscal Officer, I am responsible for all of the financial transactions and records of the township. I hope you find this budget summary and overview of the township finances helpful. Please feel free to contact me with any questions you may have.

Shirley Bailey
Lafayette Township Fiscal Officer