



Council Update -Chief of Police

December 9, 2025

PELC Graduate – Congratulations to Sgt. Rodney Johnson II, who graduated from the Police Executive Leadership College (PELC) last month. PELC is administered by The Law Enforcement Foundation and is an extensive course of 105 hours spread out in sessions over a three-month period. The program focuses on leadership, operational skills, and administrative development.



Media Training – Lieutenants Holdren and Overly, and Officer Adams attended “Strategic PIO” and Sergeants Hanna, Otte, Glick, Fleming, and Johnson attended “Media Relations”. Both courses were instructed by Ohio Department of Public Safety and held at the Ohio State Highway Patrol Training Academy.

Officer in Training – Officer Abigail Spradlin began her orientation and observation phase on October 6th. Those phases comprised her first three weeks of training at the department where she was assigned to a Field Training Officer. During this time, she completed administrative issues and began observing regular police related duties.

Officer Spradlin began her first phase of graded training on November 1st. During that time, she was assigned to Officer Anderson on second shift. Her training went well, and she showed improvements each day. Currently, she is assigned to first shift with Officer Evans. She will have four weeks of training before she transitions to her final phase on third shift, which will be another 4 weeks. It is anticipated that Officer Spradlin will be released from training near the end of January.



Community Outreach – In conjunction with Giant Eagle, the department was able to distribute 40 Thanksgiving dinners to local families. Lieutenant Overly and Officer Adams distributed the dinner kits at various locations throughout the City.



Kittie's Bakery hosted the department's Coffee with a Cop event. Chief Lewis and Bexley Officers visited with residents that visited the bakery. The mission of Coffee with a Cop is to allow community members to ask questions, voice concerns, and to get to know Bexley Officers.



St. Charles SRO – Officer Grimes has been involved in the following projects:

- Door access and control system rebuilding
- Onboarding new staff and training
- Issuing all new key card access for staff, coaches, volunteers, and contractors
- Planning and collaboration for Cardinal Christmas, which is St Charles' biggest internal event
- Planning and coordination of Thanksgiving Mass and honoring Deputy Sheriff Weston Sherrer who was killed in the line of duty
- Special duty request and safety coordination for hocking basketball season
- Resolving internal issues with the misuse of technology
- Assisting with parental conflicts and custody issues and enforcement of protection orders

Detective Bureau – Detectives continue to dive through the countless hours of security video and evidence they have gathered pertaining to the October homicide to present it to the Grand Jury. The suspect is in custody in Georgia awaiting extradition. Along with this investigation, Bexley detectives also issued four subpoenas, submitted eight cases to the prosecutors for indictment, issued two search warrants and submitted items to the lab for analysis. Detectives also processed a stolen vehicle that was recovered by Columbus Police and interviewed a victim and suspect during a sexual assault allegation. Detectives were also called in to investigate a potential burglary at an apartment complex. It was determined to be an argument between friends over a phone. Detectives were able to resolve the issue between the friends.

Animal Control – There were Animal Control received ten loose dog complaints, three found dog calls, and two dogs were reported missing by their owners. Six of the dogs were returned home, two of the found dogs were reported found with Franklin County Animal Care and Control (FCACC) and fostered by Bexley residents, and the two missing dogs were found by their owners. Animal Control also received two barking dog complaints and one sick wildlife call for service.

There are two Bexley residents that found a stray pit bull. No owner was located and the residents have decided to keep the dogs. The residents are in the process of registering them.

ACO Jennings met with the Ohio Wildlife Center (OWC). They will soon be closing their hospital in Dublin and moving it to their main facility in Powell. All sick or injured native wildlife that the OWC treats will now be taken to the Powell facility.

Chicken permits will now be reviewed every year. The revised permit includes a checklist that includes the following information (this will be reviewed with the chicken owners):

- Owner will be required to sign that they have received and understands the chicken ordinance (which will be printed on the back of permit).
- Wildlife deterrents such as;
 - buried fencing
 - cleaning the coop of food and waste
 - securing feed in animal proof containers
 - securing the chickens overnight
 - keeping a clean environment to deter wildlife from nesting
- Clipping of wings (to deter the chickens from leaving the property)

Permit applications will be available on the OpenGov tab located on the Building and Zoning Department's page at www.bexley.org. Bexley Animal Control will do the annual inspections and renewals. Currently all permits are in the process of being renewed and many of the "original" permit holders have moved or no longer have chickens.

Information Technology – Thanks to his tireless hard work and unwavering dedication, Alex Leyland has been promoted from Intern to IT Systems Analyst. His position is currently part-time; however, IT Manager Erik McGuinness has requested that the City fund this as a full-time position from 2026 going forward.

Last month, IT Manager, Erik McGuinness, attended the Ohio Public Employer Labor Relations Association (OHPELRA) HR Compliance (Supervisor's) training.

Cybersecurity – A tabletop exercise with the Ohio Cyber Reserve took place in October.

Other cybersecurity projects include:

- Engagement with a vendor to develop and formalize a Business Continuity Plan.
- Review the existing Cyber Incident Response Plan sent to Council for Codification as it relates to Ohio House Bill 96. (also discussed this plan with other local organizations and municipalities.)

IT Operations – The new Tracking Ticketing System has captured approximately 570 issues from 1/1/25 to 12/2/25; and there have been 283 since the last update on 8/7/25.

IT Projects:

- The Aquahawk Water Project is ongoing. A project manager from Aclara has been working with Aquahawk regarding the technical aspects of interfacing data between systems.
- A Law Enforcement Automated Data System (LEADS) Technical Security Audit occurred on August 12th. IT and appropriate PD resources are working through the limited responses as directed by LEADS.
- IT Assisted Bexley PD with video collection and data management relating to a recent homicide investigation.
- IT Worked with PD to deploy surveillance cameras at the former Lucky Lotto building.
- The Police CAD-RMS Software Project continues. Training successfully occurred in September. The “go live” date is tentatively moved to early February due to data conversion issues across most of the participating Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs).
- The Mayor’s Court software upgrade cut over to the new system is on October 20th. Thanks to Clerk of Court Stewart for a successful upgrade and his diligence in making sure the initial hiccups with the software are ironed out.
- The Finance Department Software, VIP, successfully migrated to the new supported Virtual Server.
- The VOIP phone system upgrade is still in process, though some decent progress has recently been made. The vendor has encountered some issues and the final cutover is still to be scheduled (anticipated to be before Jan 1, 2026).

Statistics:

K9 Team		November
Synagogue Sweeps		51
Church Sweeps		5
Traffic Stops		1
Business Checks		18
Dispatched Runs		21
Community service		10
Training drills		37

Start Date	End Date	<i>Number of Days</i>	Calls for Service	Business Check	Total	Incident & Offense Reports	Arrest Reports	Crash Reports	Total	Theft	Motor Vehicle Theft	Burglary/ B&E	Robbery
1/1/2025	12/3/2025	337	20291	5708	14,583	671	432	87	1,190	175	31	24	7
1/1/2024	12/3/2024	338	20173	6174	13,999	740	298	181	1,219	212	39	46	8
12/4/2024	12/3/2025	365	22164	6308	15,856	720	454	102	1,276	190	32	29	8
12/4/2023	12/3/2024	366	21552	6454	15,098	802	318	191	1,311	229	40	50	8