



CITY OF WARD

P.O. BOX 237 • WARD, ARKANSAS 72176 • 501-843-7686

CHARLES GASTINEAU
MAYOR

KRYSTAL RUMMEL
CITY CLERK

State of the City Report March 19, 2024

This report is presented pursuant to A.C.A. 14-58-302

To the City Council, City Clerk, City Attorney, City Employees, Planning Commission Members and of course, our citizens, I offer my 2024 State of the City Report.

First and foremost, I want to thank the men and women that work day-in-and day-out providing services to our citizens and beyond. From the Department Heads down to the newest employee, our collective goal is to provide the best and most professional service we can. Are we perfect in all we do? No, but we continually strive to provide that level of service by updating our products and processes along the way. Secondly, I want to thank our City Council for the work they do. Without them none of what we do would be possible. While we may have disagreements from time-to-time between council members and or myself, in the end, our goal is the betterment of the city and ensuring tax-payer dollars are spent correctly and fairly. Finally, I want to thank the citizens of this great city. It is for you that we – as city employees and elected officials – do what we do. Not for one, but for all.

I continue to be inspired by the words of President John F. Kennedy:

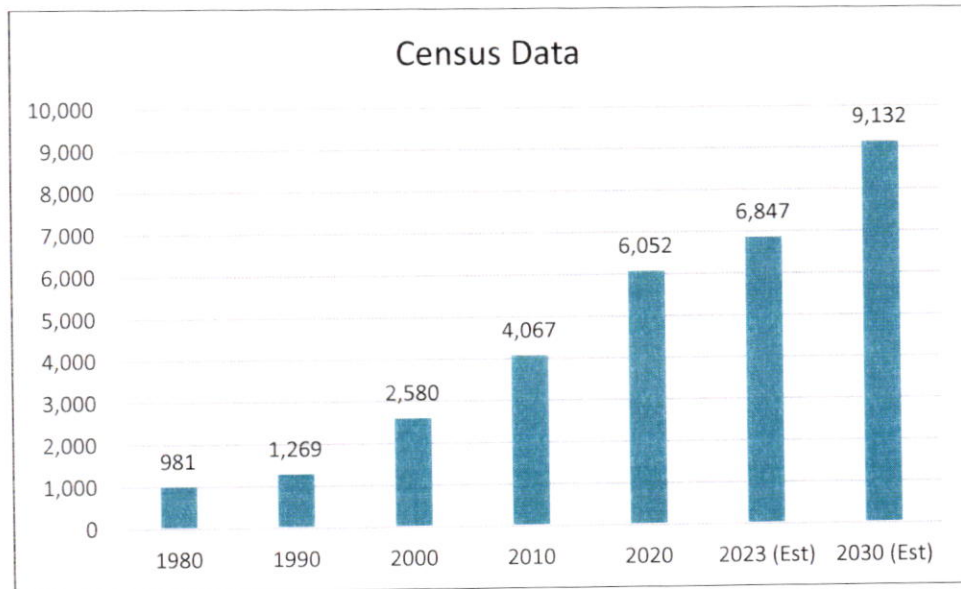
**“Change is the law of life.
And those who look only to the past or present
are certain to miss the future”**

I am also inspired by the words of George Bernard Shaw:

**“Progress is impossible without change,
And those who cannot change their minds
cannot change anything.”**

Attached you will find the 2023 Financial Statements for our General, Street, and Water/Wastewater Funds. These are presented in accordance with A.C.A. 14-59-116 and 14-237-113. Overall, the City of Ward continues to be financially sound and growing.

The City of Ward and the region as a whole continues to grow making northern Lonoke County one of the fastest growing regions in the state. Fact is, the City of Ward is not only the 2nd largest city in the county, we are now the 10th largest and the fastest growing – by far – city in Central Arkansas. Metroplan estimated our population change was 12.6% since 2020¹. At a 4.2% annual growth rate, the population of Ward will be over 10,000 in 10 years. The chart below is pretty telling of our growth pattern.



Some additional facts from the Census Reporter² about our city:

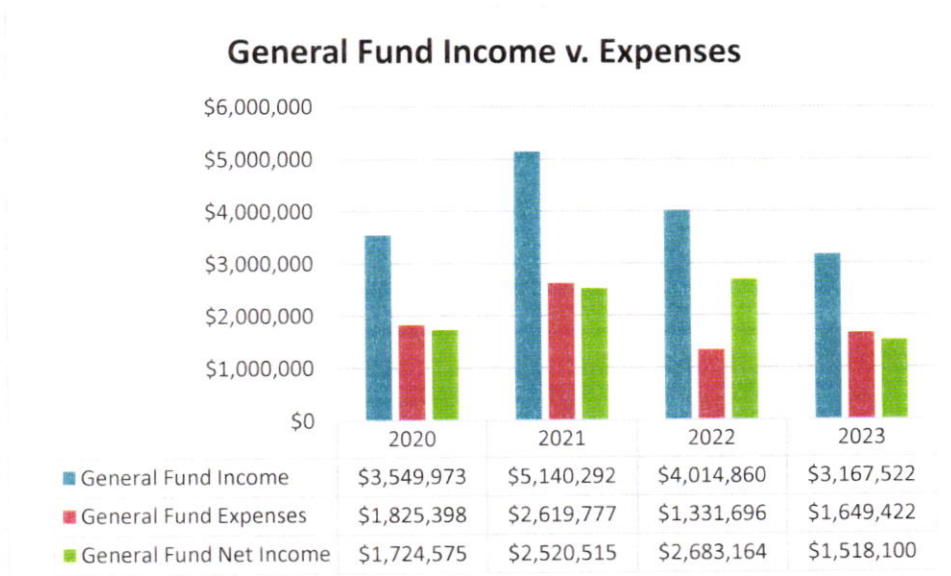
- Median Age: 29.5
- Median Household Income: \$74,688
- Median Value of Owner-Occupied Housing: \$159,700
- Education Attainment:
 - High School Graduate or Higher: 90.3%
 - Bachelor's Degree or Higher: 17.5%
- Population with Veteran's Status: 7.3%

¹ <https://metroplan.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/07/DemographicReview2023.pdf>

² <https://censusreporter.org/profiles/16000US0573130-ward-ar/>

Financial Overview

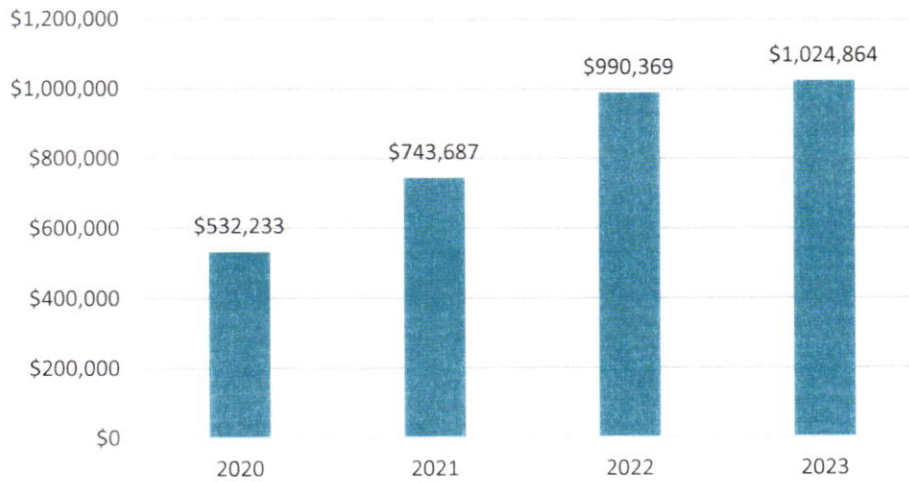
Overall, the finances for the city are in fine shape. Although general income was down for 2023³, expenses were up as we were spending some of the ARPA monies to upgrade our water meters. My thanks to HR/Finance Director Courtney Ruble and Deputy Director of Administration, Jamee McClain for keeping the books straight along with our contracted Certified Public Accountant, Don Davis.



Contained within the general revenue fund is the city’s portion of the county’s sales tax. This division between the county, and all the cities in the county, is based solely on the latest census numbers. As shown, the city’s share of the county sales tax is up which is due, in large part, because of the retail growth in Cabot. Yes...please shop Ward first, but if not Ward, shop Cabot, Austin or any other retail store/restaurant in Lonoke County as the City of Ward still benefits when you shop anywhere in the county. As you can see, the growth in the area directly affects Ward. Overall, Ward’s portion of the county sales tax is up 3.48% over the previous year.

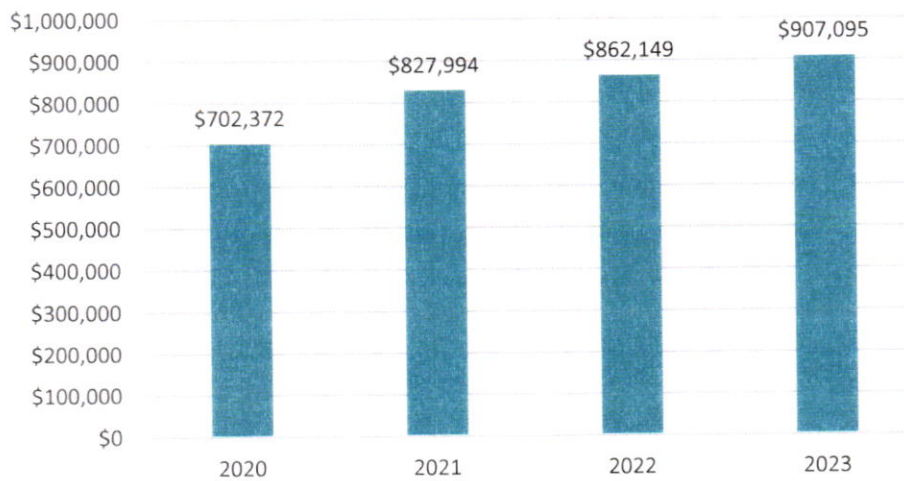
³ 2021 Income includes federal Covid relief funds and American Rescue Plan (ARPA) funds, 2022 income includes American Rescue Plan monies from the federal government and the county.

County Sales Tax Share



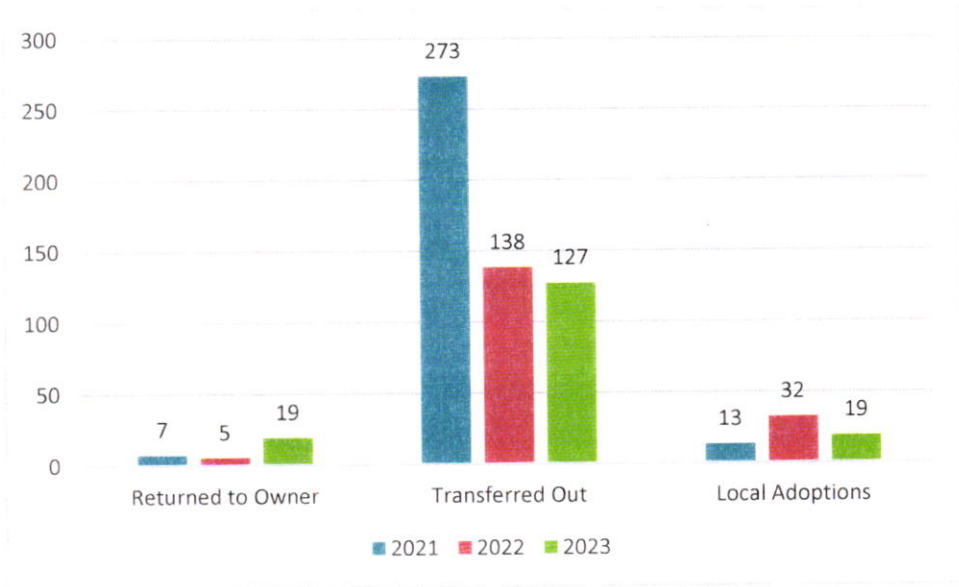
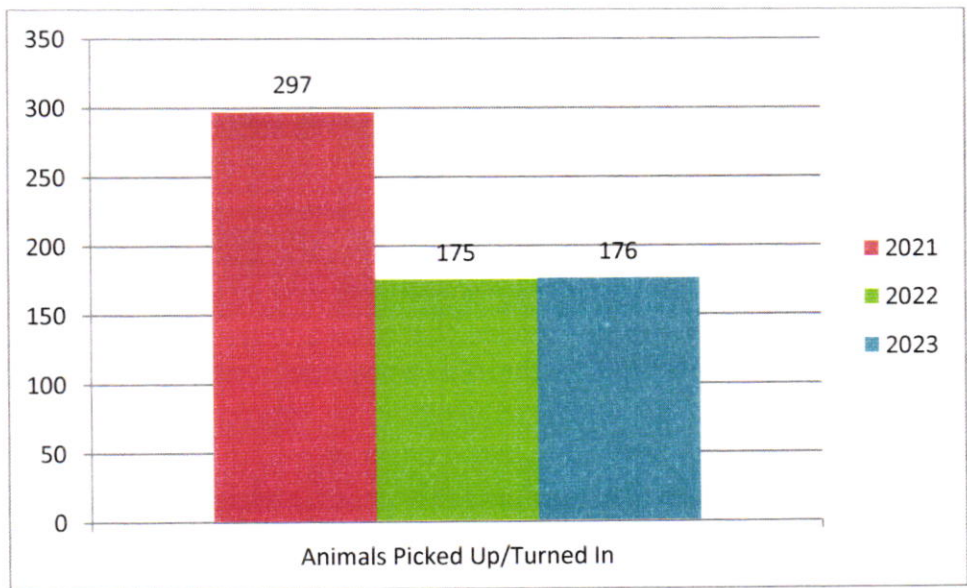
City sales tax revenue continues to rise at a moderate rate, and as stated last year, although we don't have a lot of "brick-and-mortar" businesses in town, sales tax revenue continues to rise because internet sales and point-of-delivery sales are taxed at the local rate. Meaning, whenever you buy something online or at a "big-box" store and have your goods delivered to your home, Ward sales tax is charged and remitted to the city. Overall, city sales tax revenue increased 5.21% over the previous year.

City Sales Tax

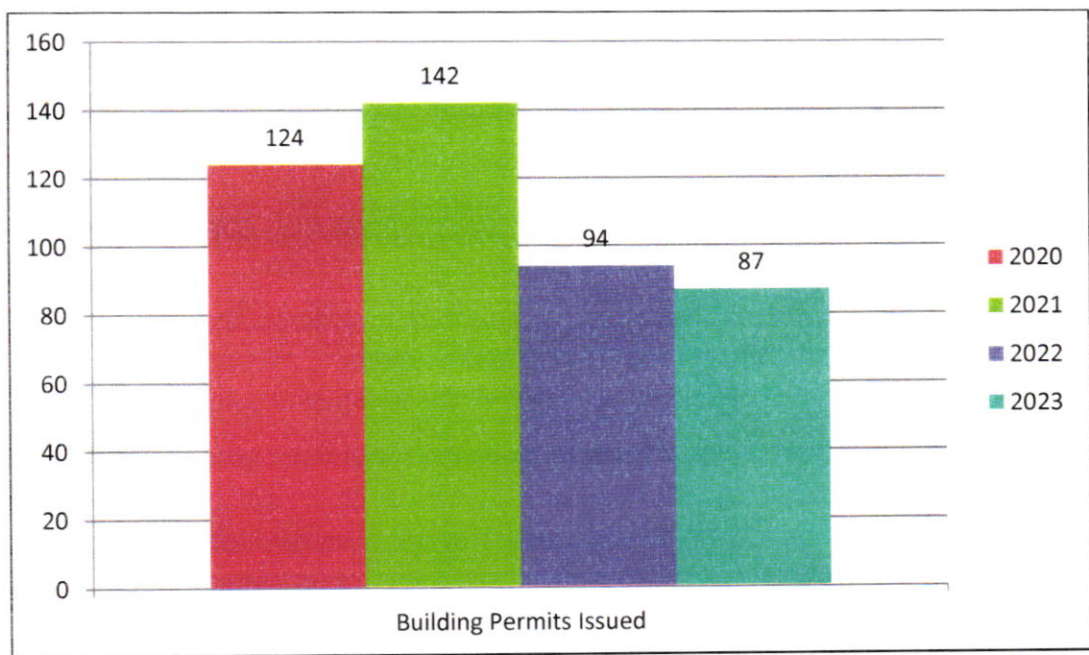


Department Summaries

- Animal Control Services: Kelly Zoller and Kasey Patrick continue to provide excellent service to our citizens. They work hand-in-hand with local and other shelters and nonprofits across the nation to find forever homes for as many animals as possible. And, as with most every city in America, there continues to be issues with stray and lost animals. The shelter has a continuous need for supplies and food to care for the animals such as towels, cat/dog toys, cat/dog canned food, etc. Contact the Animal Control at (501) 843-6351 for more information.

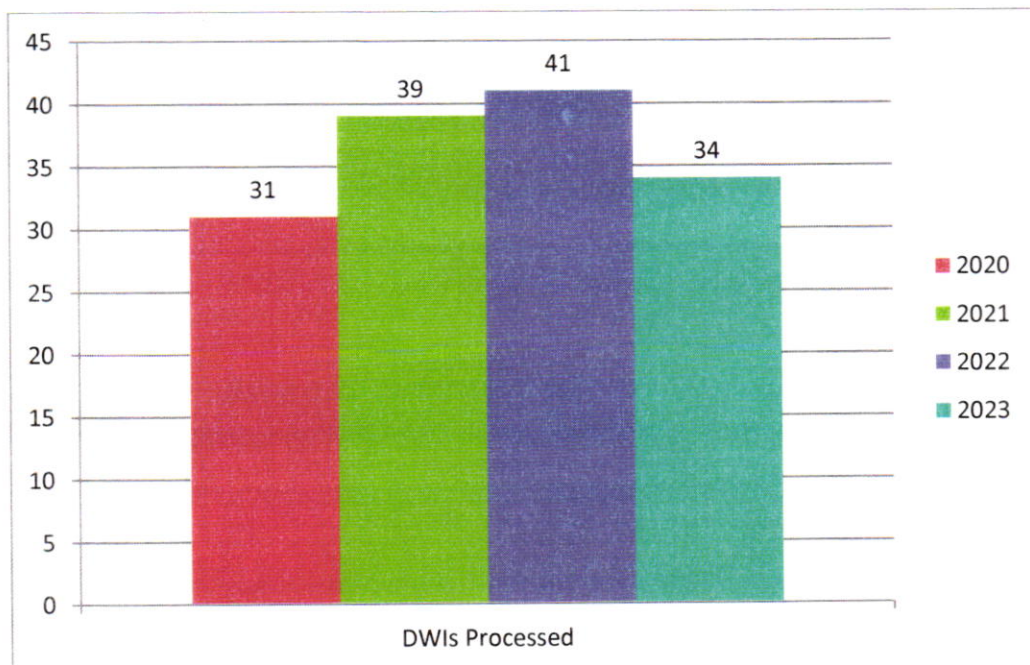
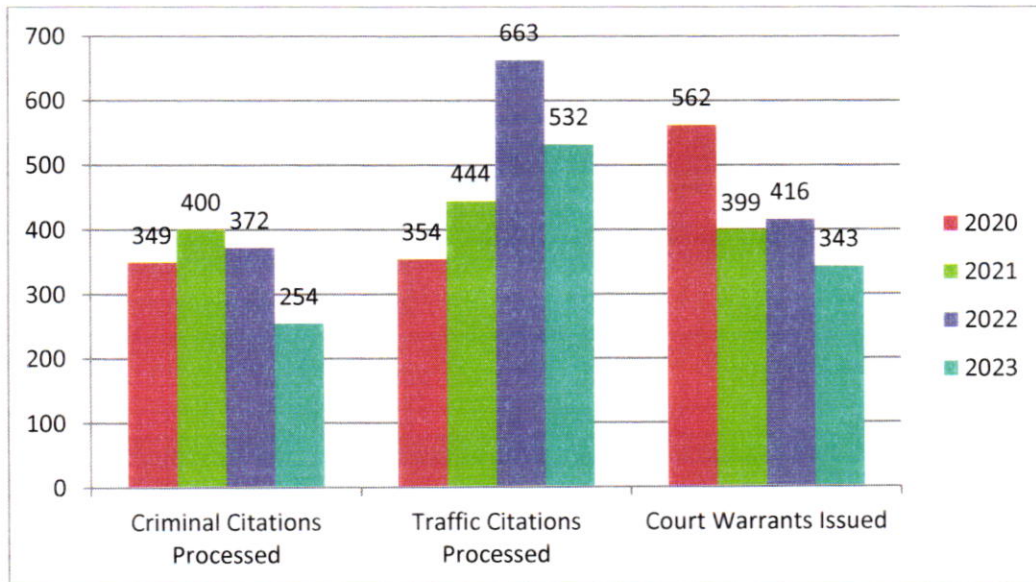


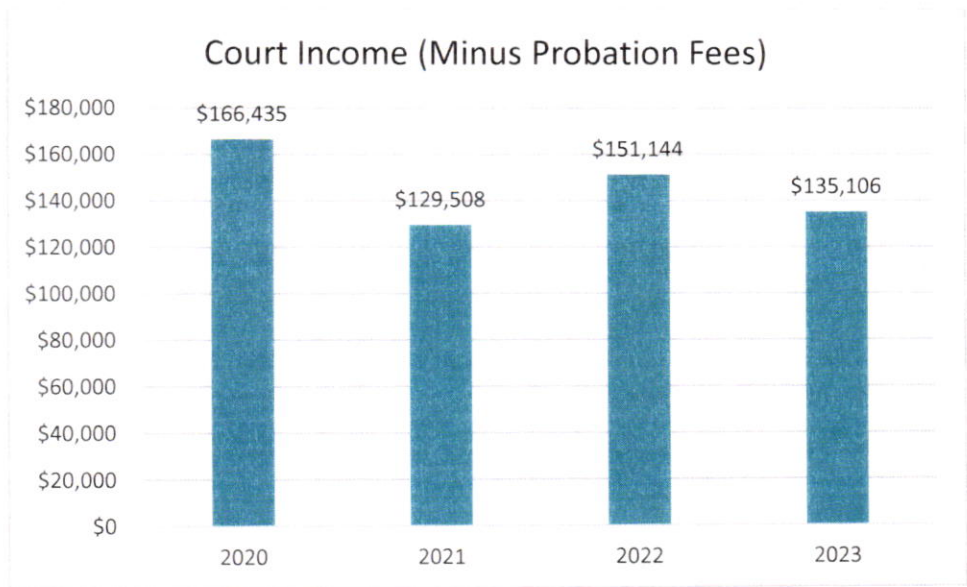
- **Code Enforcement/Building Inspection:** Our new Code Enforcement officer, Michael Archdeacon and our part-time Building Inspector, Gary Meadows, have stepped up enforcement of our city’s code ordinances to cleanup the city. Both work with homeowner and business owners alike to ensure city codes are being followed fairly. As a reminder, you must request a permit to install and/or replace a fence or other structures such as sheds. These permits are at no cost but allow us to ensure the proper set-backs and other items are met before construction/installation begins.



*****The next City -Wide clean-up day will be held on April 27th. Dumpsters will be set up at the Water Operations Facility at 404 E. 2nd Street (Hwy 367) from 8 am to 3 pm. To avoid traffic issues on 2nd Street and to ensure the process flows smoothly, we respectfully ask that you line up on North Street and follow directions of those helping. More information will be posted on our website and social media closer to the event. *****

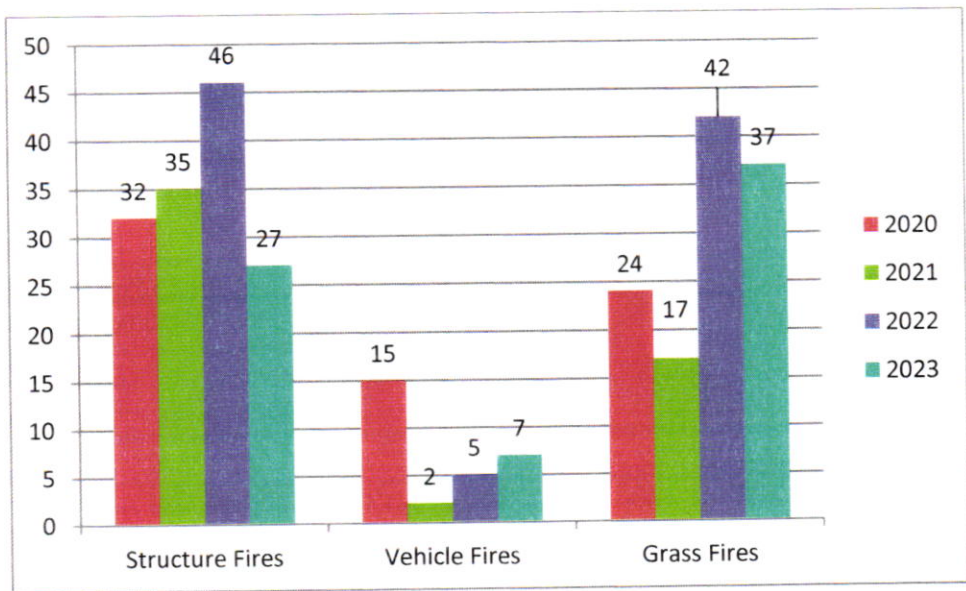
- District Court:** Chief Court Clerk Beth Glover and Assistant Court Clerk Angel Williams provide excellent support to the Judge and Court. Angel has been accepted into the Arkansas Court Management Program for 2026 and will begin working toward becoming a Certified Court Manager this year. Congrats to Angel on being selected.

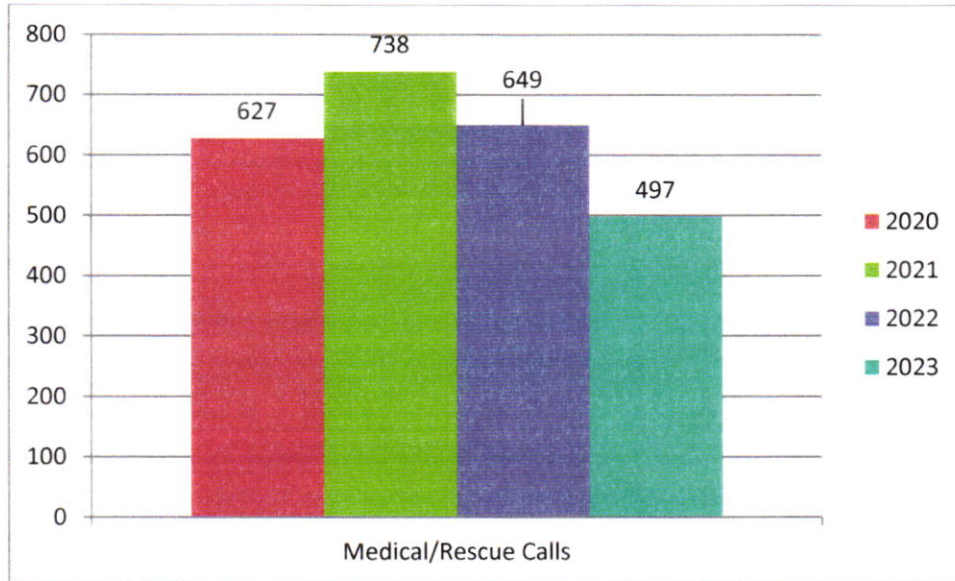




- Fire Department & EMS:** Chief Tony Reaves and the men and women who volunteer for Ward Fire Department provide outstanding emergency response to our city and those who live in our Fire District. The 2024 budget allocated funds to hire two part-time firefighters. Although several years away, this is a step in moving the department to a full-time department. As the city continues to grow, this will be needed.

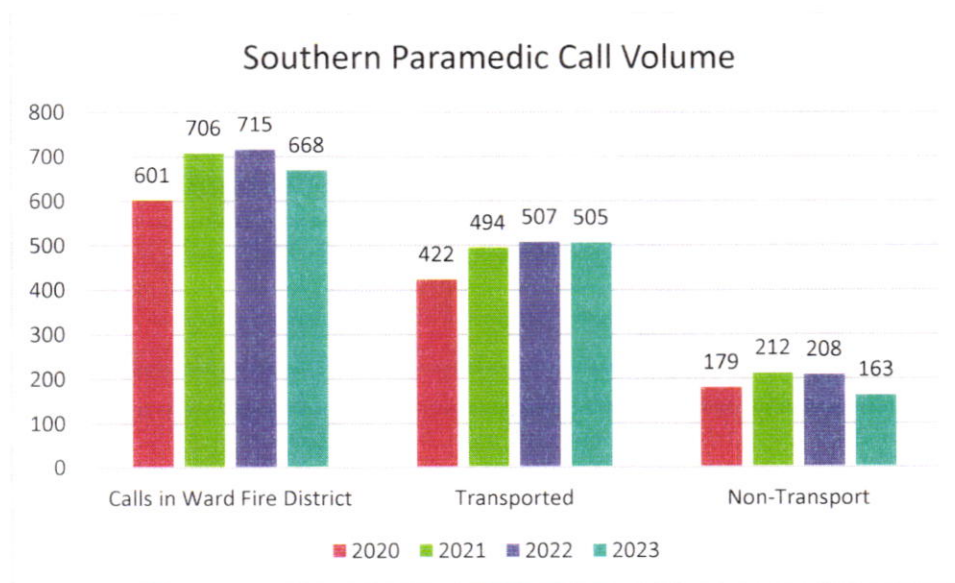
While structure fires and grass fires are down somewhat this past year, vehicle fires are up slightly. As always, the vast majority of our calls are EMS/Medical related although they too are down from previous years.



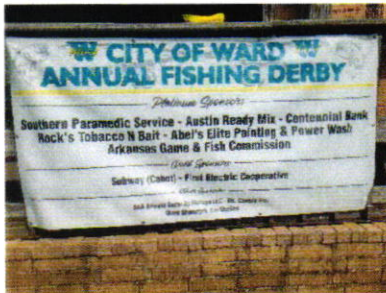
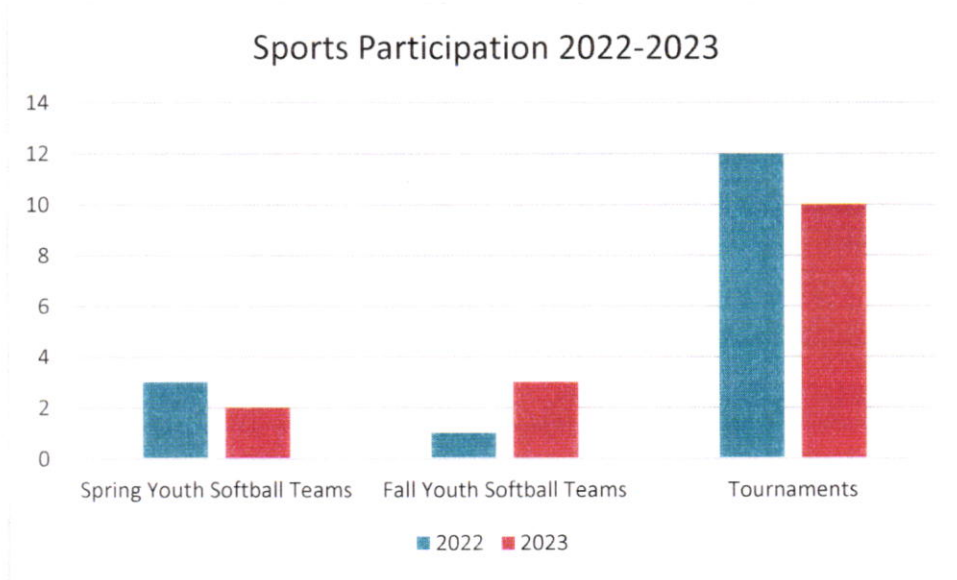


- Emergency Medical Service (EMS):** Southern Paramedic Service (SPS), our contract Ambulance service, continues to provide quality, pre-hospital care for our community and is a valued partner with the City of Ward. Overall, they cover approximately 25,600 acres, which includes the City of Ward and its Fire District, the City of Austin, CS&Z, and Mt. Springs Fire Districts.

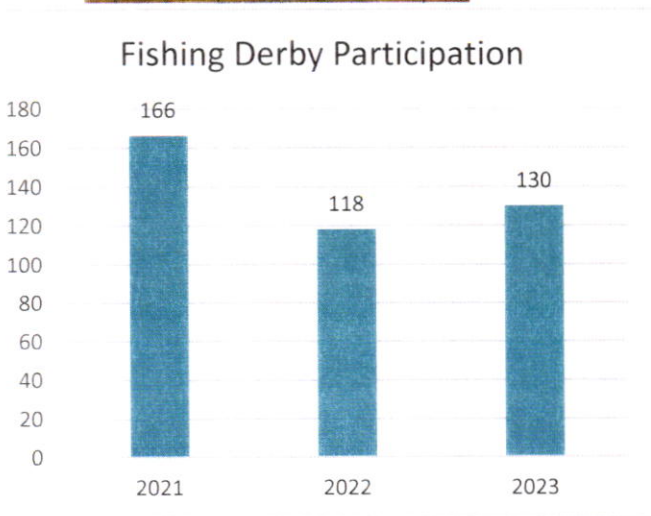
As problem for the EMS community nationwide is the number of “non-transport” that tie-up EMS resources and sometimes delays their response time. Although improving, almost 25% of all SPS calls within our Fire District resulted in no one being transported. Like a lot of services, SPS and every other EMS provider across the nation are running short of qualified Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs) and Paramedics, which also affects response times and levels of care available.



- Parks and Recreation:** Michelle Fitzgerald’s management of the city’s Parks and Recreation programs is without question...outstanding. The 2024 budget funded a full-time employee along with a part-seasonal employee which ensures the programs offered by the city are managed in a professional manner and lend greatly to the quality of life in Ward. Michelle is also involved in other city events, such as Harvest Fest, Halloween activities, and our annual Christmas Parade.



In May, the Annual Youth Fishing Derby was held after the lake was stocked with over 500 pounds of catfish. 130 kids participated in this year’s event, and we gave away 60 fishing poles, 35 tackle boxes, and several other fishing-related items due in large part because of the generous donations. The biggest fish caught weighed in at 3.5 pounds and was caught by a 4-year-old.





In May we held our first ever "Movie in the Park" in which about 75 people watched "E.T. The Extra Terrestrial." For some, it was the first time they had seen the movie, for others it brought back memories of simpler times...and phones on the wall. We recently purchased our own 108" screen and plan on having more and more movies in the park, or in the Gym. More information to come.

In July, we were able to celebrate our nation's birthday and capped the evening with the Annual Fireworks Show. For the first time, we contracted with a company to shoot the show which allows our volunteer firefighters, to enjoy the show with their families. Because of generous donations, we were able to expand the number of water attractions and included a Chair Lift Carnival ride for the first time which was very popular. We gave away 500 hot dogs and over 35 cases of water and had 19 vendors and three food trucks. All in all, it was a GREAT time.



In October, we held our first-ever annual Pumpkin Float at Busby Lake. About 75 people participated in this family event and it would have been even better...if not for the wind. Maybe this year, the wind will not be a factor

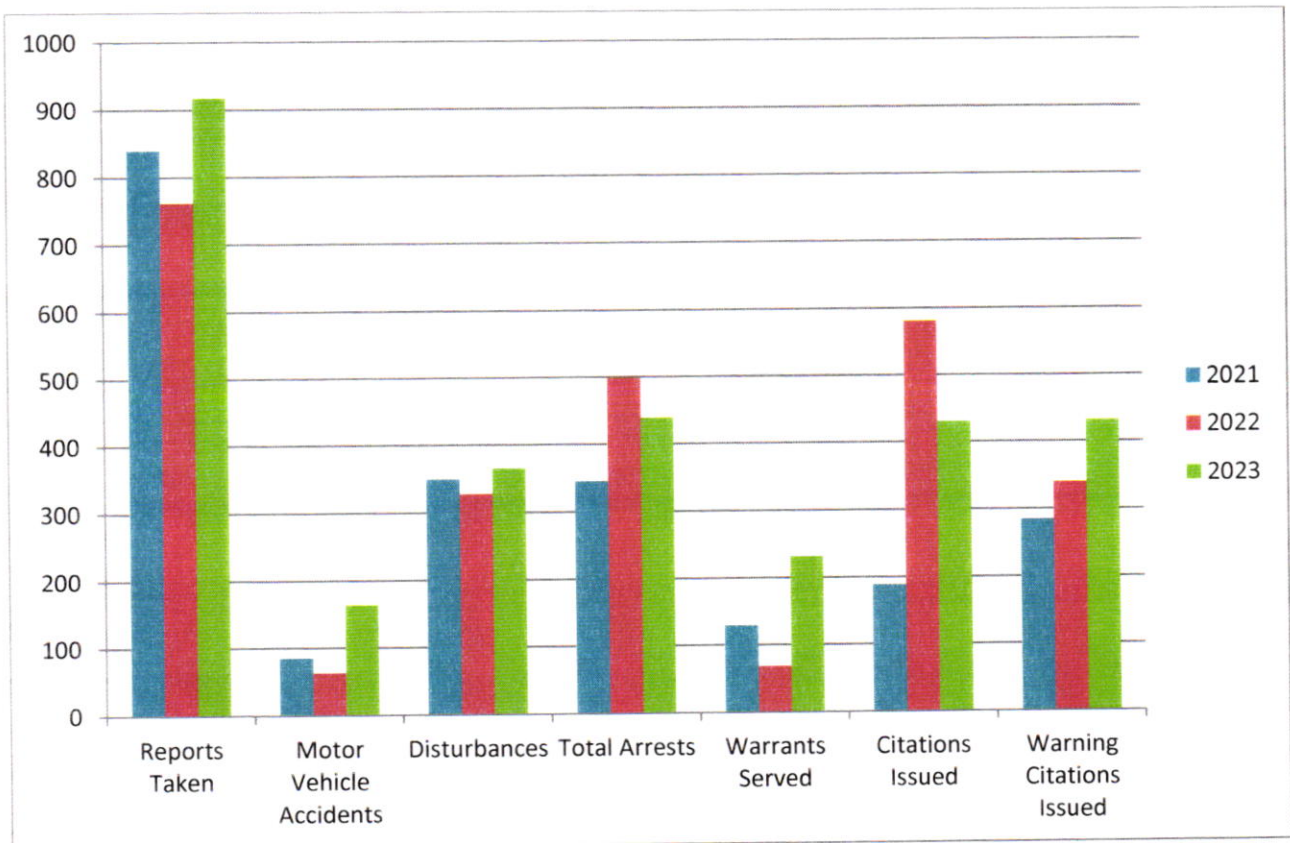


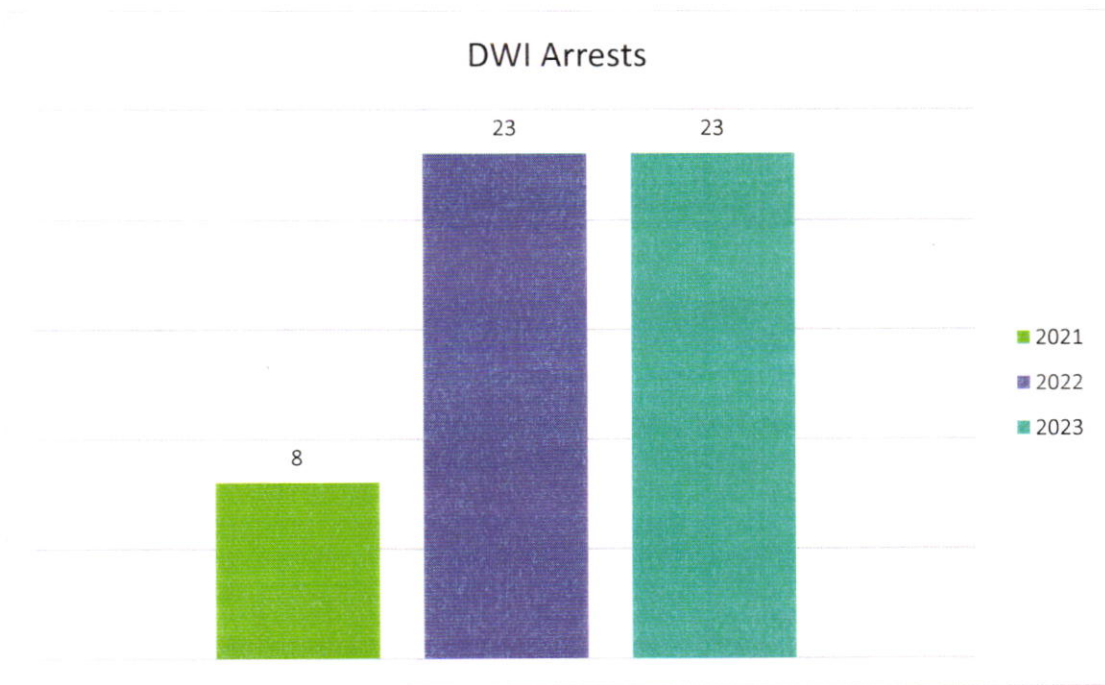
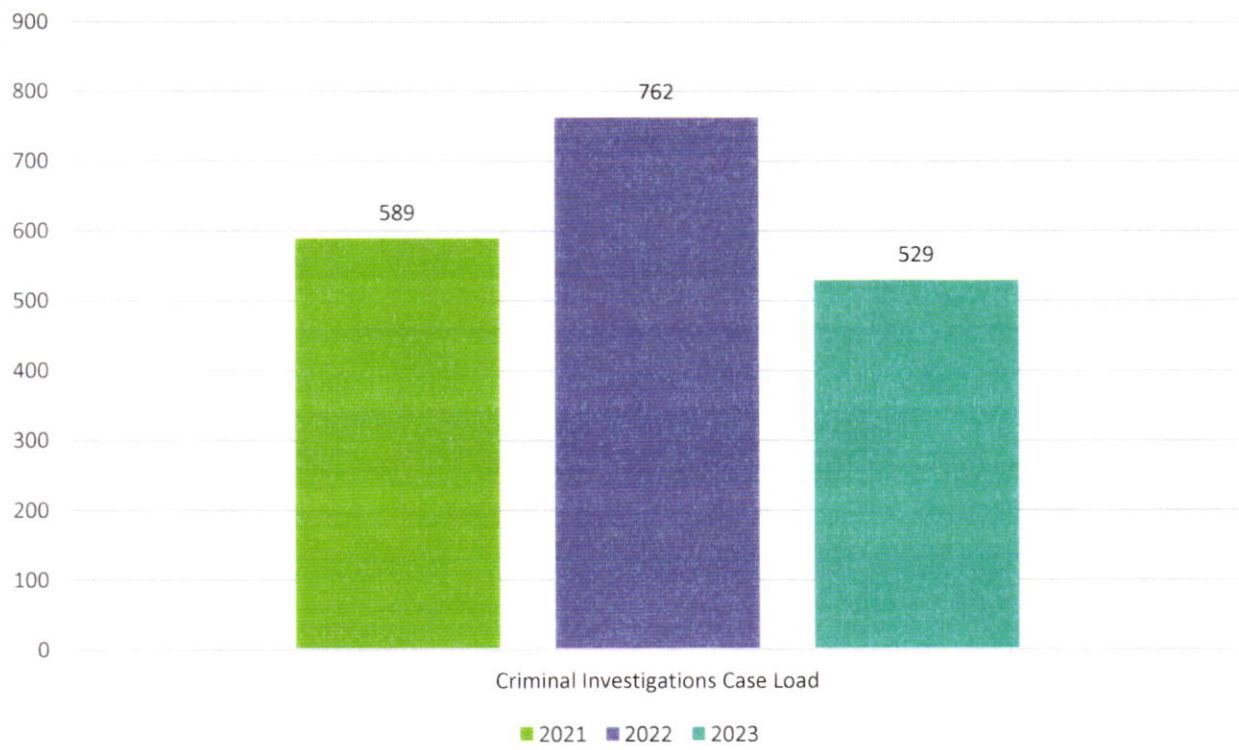
Police Department: Chief Steve Benton, Lt. Eric Sims and the men and women of the Ward Police Department provide police protection and emergency response to our city and its citizens in an outstanding and professional manner 24/7. WPD routinely assists Austin Police and the Lonoke County Sheriffs Office, and vice versa. The various Law Enforcement agencies in our area – to include Beebe PD – work hand-in-hand to protect and serve all of us.

As is becoming the norm, with all departments across the country, it is becoming more difficult to recruit and retain qualified officers. However, working with the City Council, we work hard to keep our officer’s salary at a level that is competitive to other departments and entices others to want to serve in Ward.

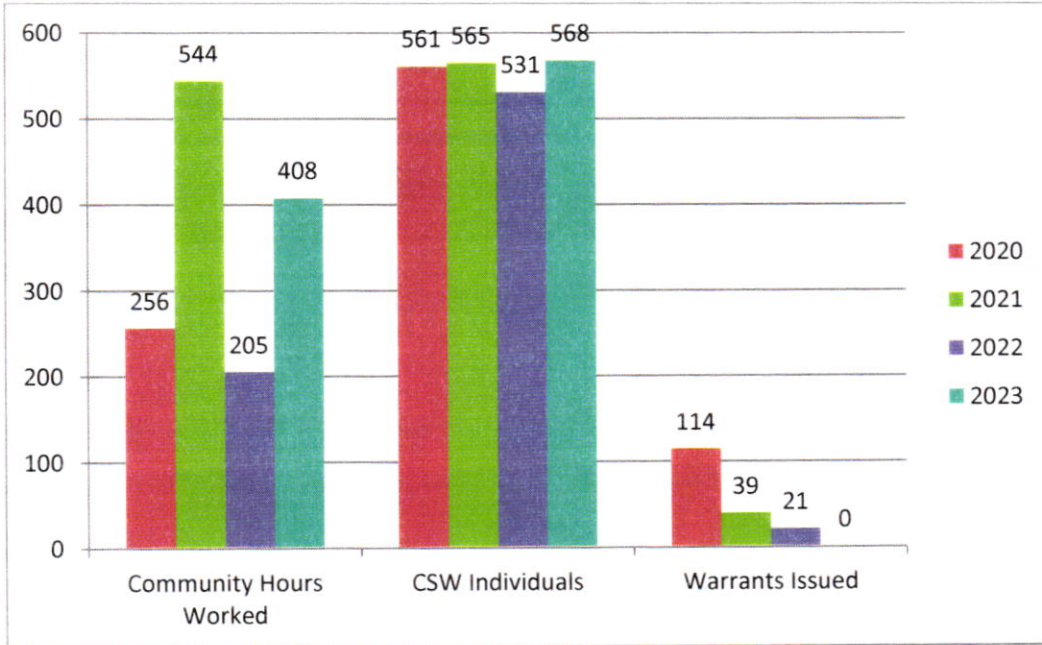
Our Patrol officers and Criminal Investigations Division (CID) work hard to protect each of us, as well as actively and aggressively investigate cases. Again, this year, while the use of illegal drugs continues to be an issue in any city, cybercrimes are on the increase from foreign actors and governments notwithstanding current events in the Ukraine and Russia.

The following charts provide an overview of the major areas of concern along with a break out of DWI arrests by our department.

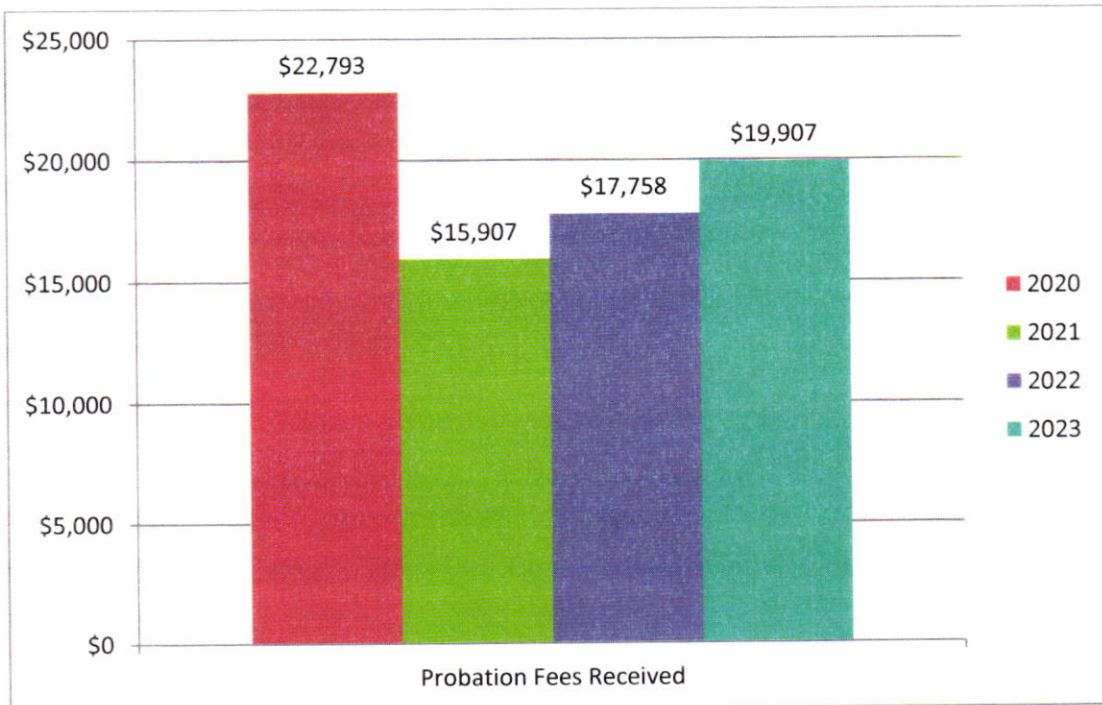




- Probation:** Officer Melissa McNair manages the Court's Probation Program in a professionally firm manner, while mentoring probationers (Community Service Workers (CSWs)) as they perform community service to pay off their fines. In addition, Melissa is our liaison with Central Arkansas Development Council (CADC) during their quarterly USDA commodities distributions and helps to ensure those in need are afforded the opportunity to receive goods.

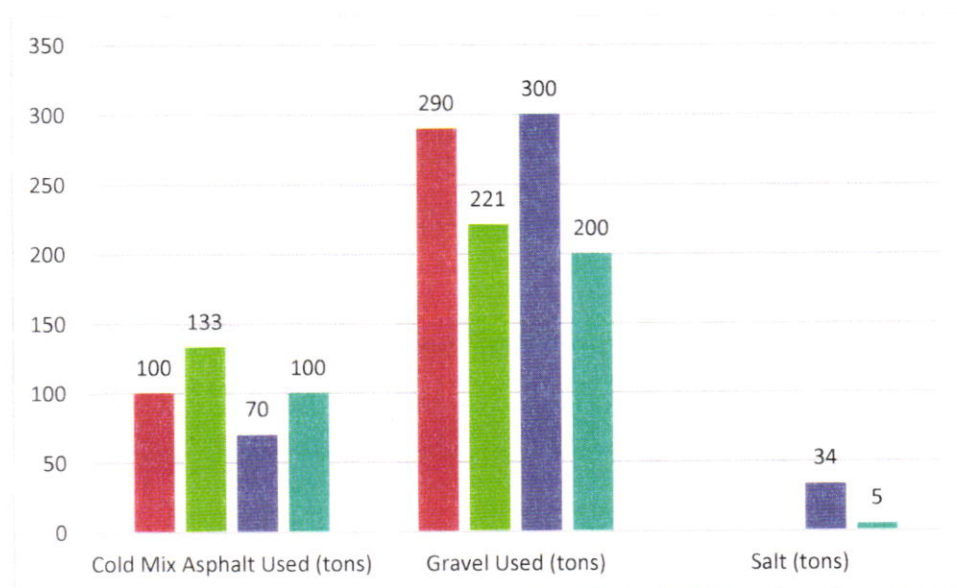
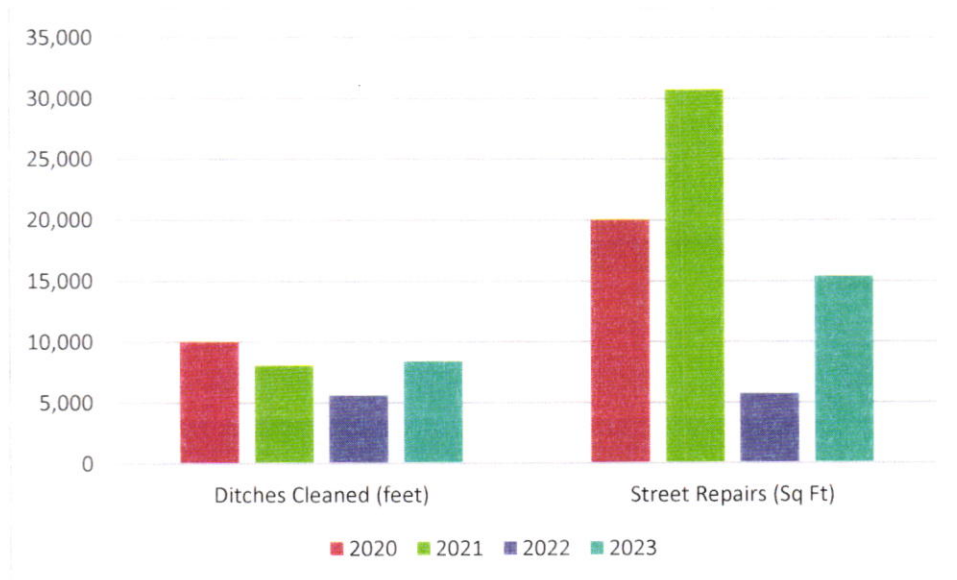


CSWs are required to pay a \$20 Probation Fee for each month they are on probation.

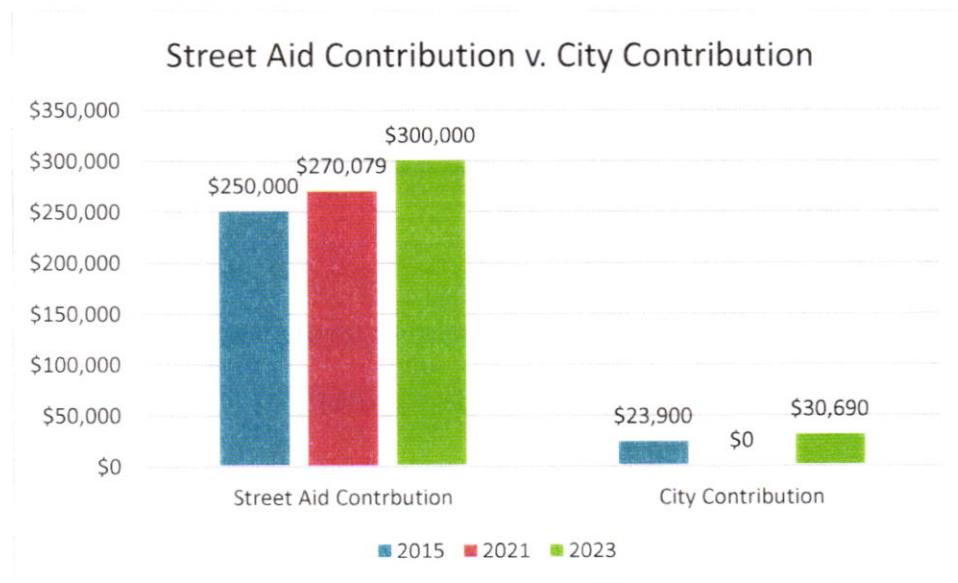
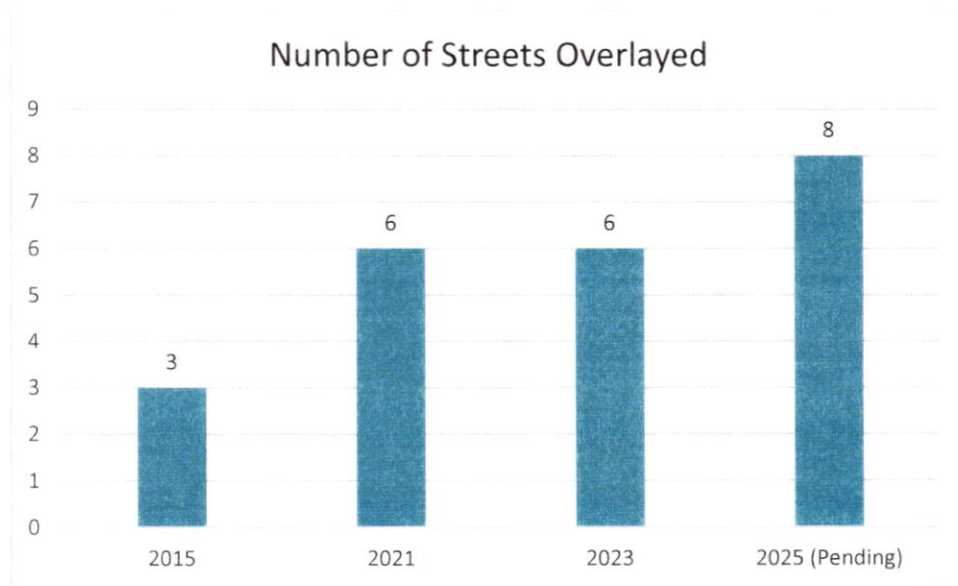


- **Street Department:**

- Ward’s Street Department, works day in and day out to ensure that not only the city streets are maintained as best they can be, but they are also responsible for ensuring the city-maintained drainage ditches flow freely and keep the grass mowed in certain areas in town.



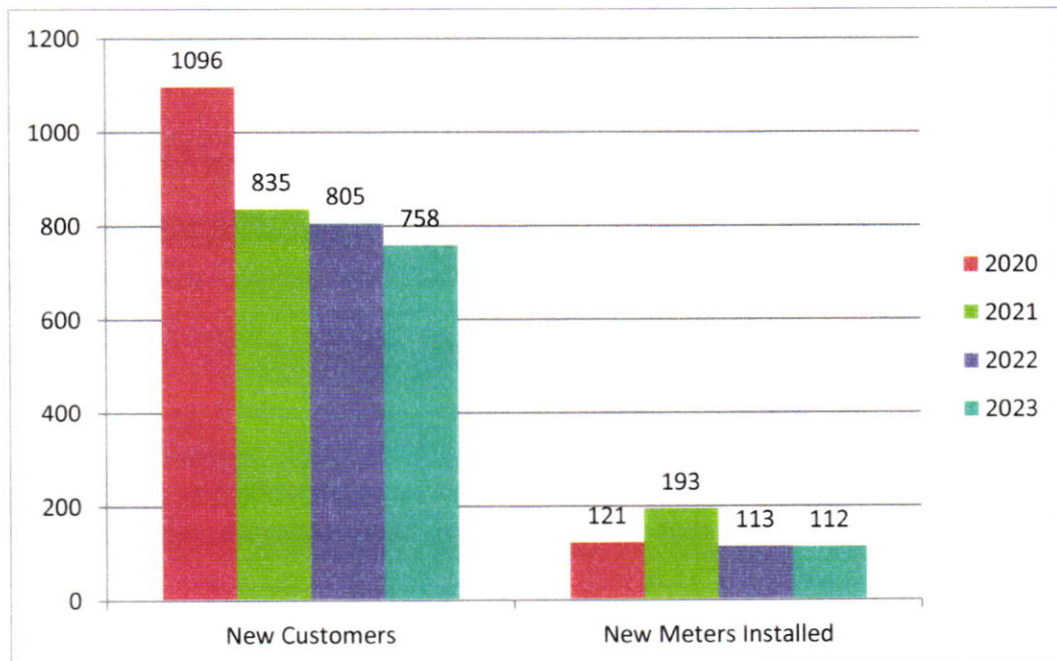
- The State Aid Street Committee Administers the State Aid City Street Program to assist Arkansas’ incorporated cities and towns in improvements to city streets. The Arkansas Department of Transportation (ARDoT) provides technical assistance to the Street Committee and for projects approved by the Street Committee, the ARDoT designs, procures construction contracts, and inspects City Street Program funded projects. The City of Ward has been awarded Street Aid funding in 2015, 2021, 2023 and we have already applied for funding for the calendar year 2025.

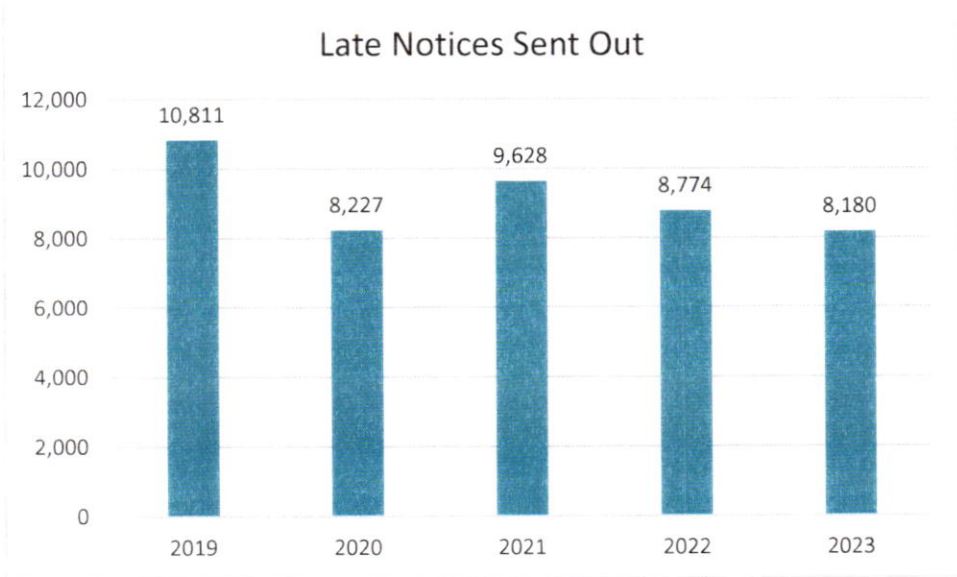
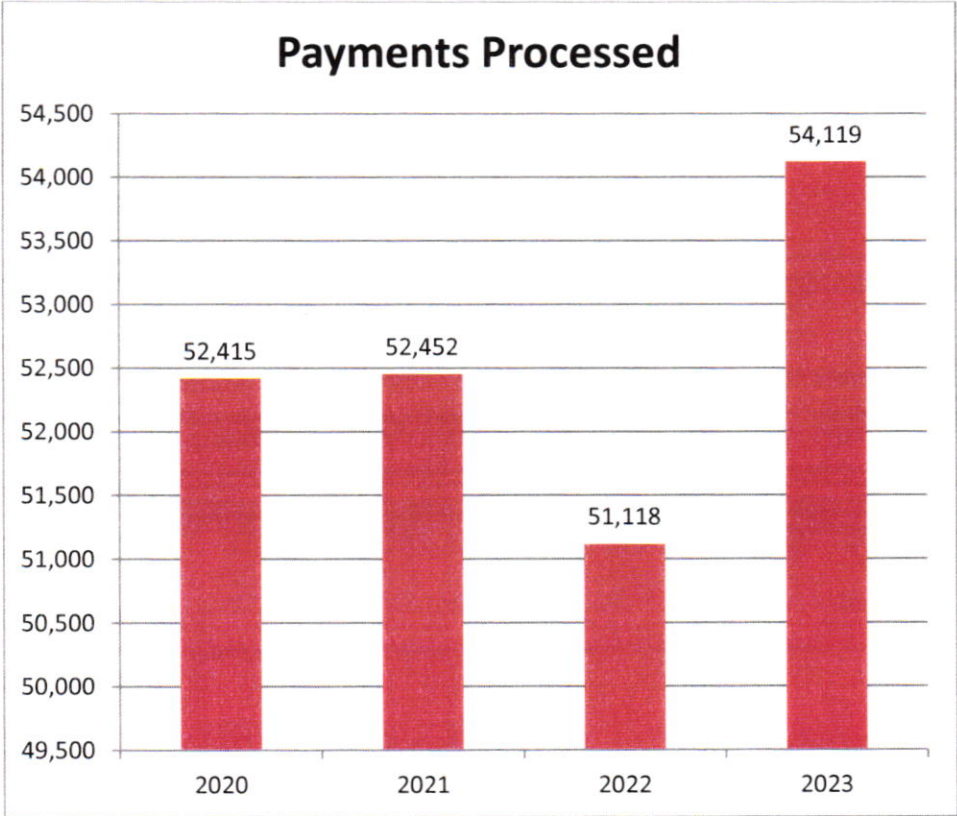


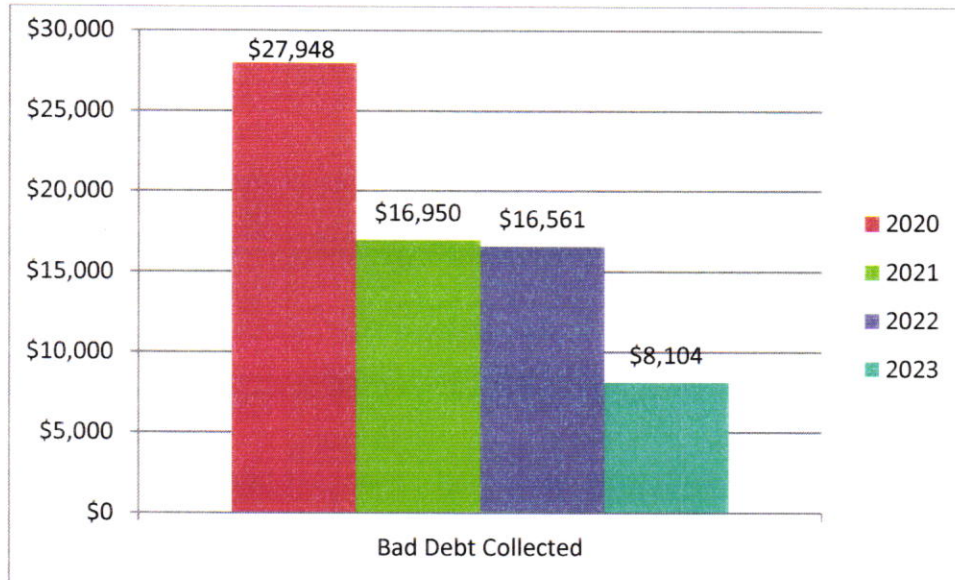
- **Water and Wastewater:**

- Public Works Superintendent Bruce Jones, along with Foreman Don Fitzgerald, and Office Manager Brittany Gibson, do an outstanding job to ensure our Water and Wastewater systems continue to operate within the guidelines set by the Arkansas Department of Health (ADH) and the Arkansas Department of Energy and Environment’s Division of Environmental Quality (ADEQ).

- This year’s taskings have been compounded by the start of our long-awaited \$1.8 million project to change out all the manually read meters with radio-read ones that will eliminate the need to send workers out to read meters monthly. This new system will also allow the Water Office to monitor meters in real-time and notify customers of a potential leak before learning about it when they receive their bill. This pro-active approach to customer service will be good for all. The majority of the cost for this project will be paid for with federal funds provided by the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), including \$300,000 from the county’s ARPA fund.
- **Water Office:** Office Manager Brittany Gibson and her staff continue providing outstanding service. They take in payments, prepare and send out the water bills, issue building and business permits, and more. As a reminder, you can use the online bill pay service at <https://water.wardarkansas.org>. You can also sign up for notifications so that you are promptly informed via email and/or text if there is a problem or concern with the city’s water or wastewater operations. To date, 2,767 have signed up to be notified either by text or email or both.

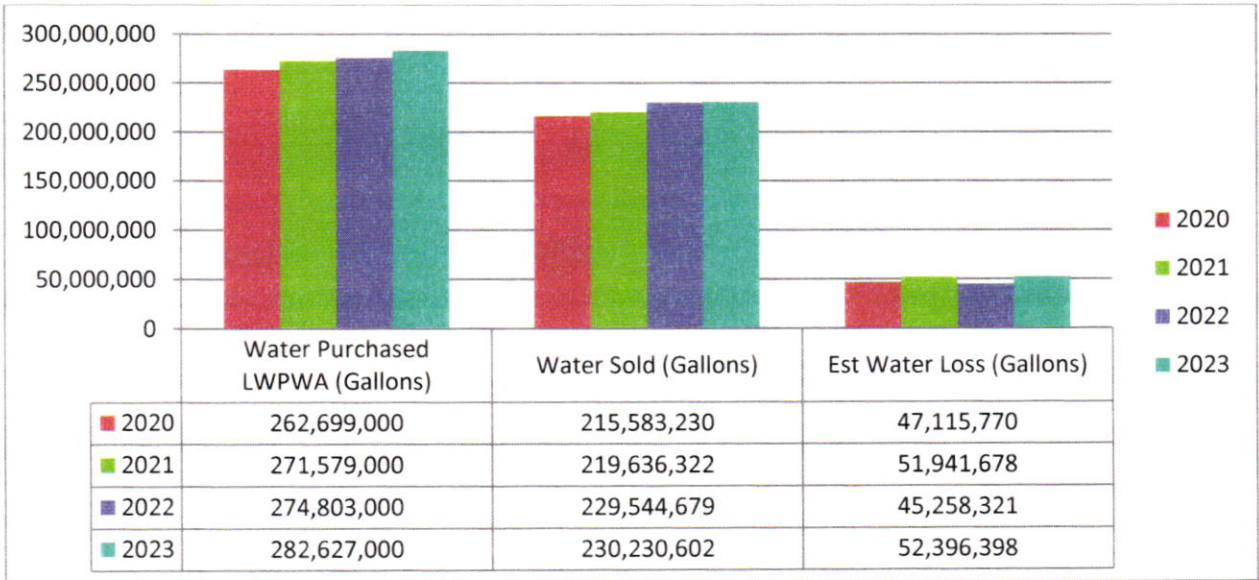




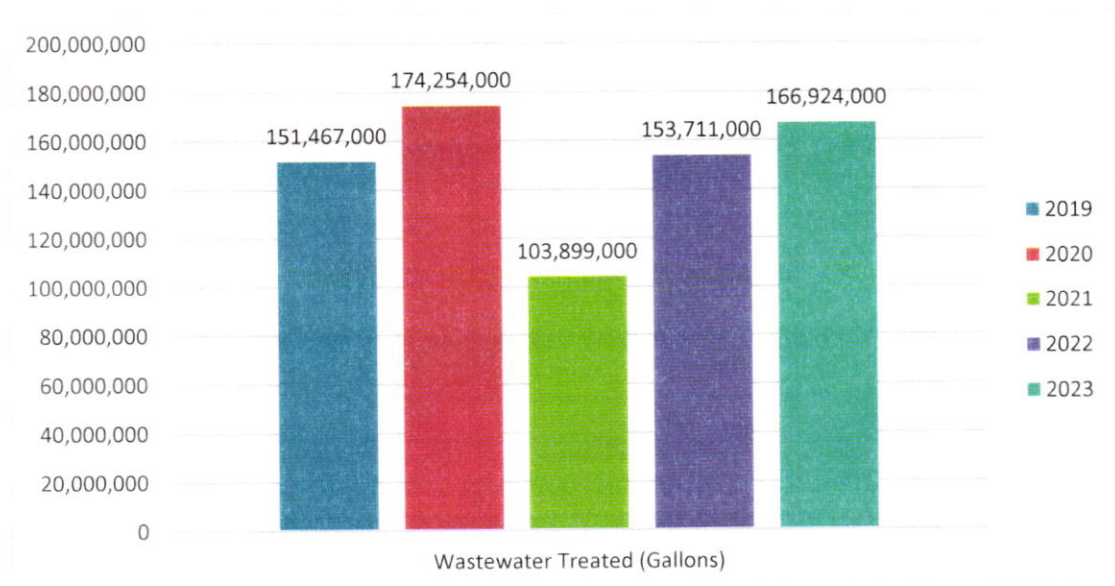


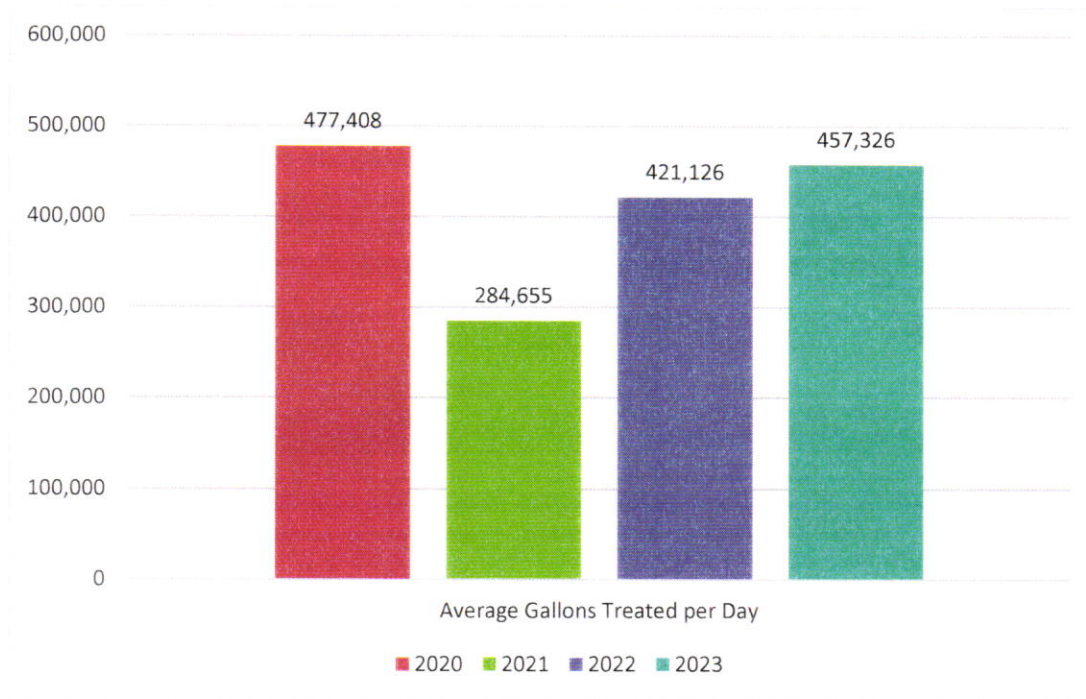
- **Water Operations:** The water operators work daily to ensure fresh clean water flows from Lonoke-White Public Water Authority (LWPWA)⁴ to our homes and businesses. As we receive 100% of our water from LWPWA, the city does not add any chemicals or additives to the water. It is simply passed through our meters to your home or business. On occasion, leaks do occur which require us to shut down a portion of the service area to repair the leak. Sometimes these leaks are just caused by ground shifting and/or old supply lines that fail. Other times, people fail to call “One-Call” (by dialing 811) before digging, and they break a line. Depending on the size of the line and other factors, we sometimes have to place a “boil-order” in effect until we can repair the break and ensure the water is safe to drink afterwards. These boil-orders are initiated following Arkansas Department of Health rules.

⁴ The City of Ward is a Charter Member of LWPWA and is represented by the Mayor on the LWPWA Board



- **Wastewater Operations:** Our wastewater crews work hard each day ensuring wastewater is flowing properly from your home to the treatment plant. With 25 lift stations and approximately 290,000 feet of wastewater pipe, ensuring the flow runs smoothly is a never-ending process.





Current and Planned Major Projects

1. (OPEN) Water Meter Replacement Program.

- In December 2022, a contract was finalized with Core & Main of North Little Rock, AR to change all the water meters on the Ward Water System to radio-read and/or retrofit existing radio-read ready meter to be fully automatic. In 2023 the contractor changed out approximately 550 meters. By the end of February of this year, an additional 1,790 meters have been changed out. We anticipate this projected being completed by July.
- As stated previously, once the project is complete we will no longer have to send someone out to read the 4,000+ meters. Instead, the Water Office can simply call in all the reading electronically which eliminates human error in manually recording the readings. Plus, the system will be able to detect if a meter is showing abnormal use and send an alert notifying the staff of the issue. The staff can then investigate and let the customer know sooner rather than later that there is an issue (leak or some other issue) with their meter. This proactive approach will not only enable us to identify problems earlier, it will also allow the consumer to be notified sooner to mitigate the problem.

2. **(ON-HOLD) Regional Pedestrian/Bike Pathway:** The Ward to Austin segment of this long-term project is on hold for the foreseeable future due to issue with obtaining proper right-of-way's. The Austin to Cabot and beyond is on-going. The full map of the project can be viewed at <https://www.centralarkgreenways.com/plan-map>.

3. **(OPEN) SRTS IV:** Approved in April 2022, Phase IV will extend a portion of the Phase II project down Wilson Loop to the north-end of Gold Meadow Circle. Phase IV also extends a portion of Phase III from midway down Chantileer Ln. to Castleton Dr., and then down Castleton Dr. to the Green Apple Phase III portion. This will create the first complete sidewalk loop in any existing subdivision in Ward. Expected completion date is August 2024. The total cost for this Phase is estimated to be \$320,871 with ARDoT paying \$256,697 and the city paying the remaining
4. **(OPEN) SRTS V:** Approved in March 2023, Phase V will extend the Phase III sidewalk from the intersection of Moon Rd Ext and Peyton St down Brewer St to Markham St. ARDoT will pay \$256,000 and the City of Ward \$64,174. There is no start date for this Phase.
5. **(OPEN AND PENDING) Vacuum System Rehab:** In August 2023, the Arkansas Economic Development Council (AEDC) awarded a \$500,000 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) to the City or Ward Water and Sewer System to remove the remaining homes off the antiquated vacuum system and to put each home either on a grinder-pump system or utilize gravity lines. In October 2023, an application was submitted to Arkansas Department of Natural Resources (ARNR) for \$791,000 in grants and/or low-interest loans to complete funding for the project. The ARNR portion is pending.
6. **(OPEN) Consolidated 911 Communications Center:** In 2019, The Public Act of 2019 legislated the reduction of Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs) from 112 to 77. In 2021, the Statewide PSAP Consolidation Plan Report was released which outlined the current status and provided some guidelines to consolidate. In January 2022, the PSAP Consolidation Plan was published which outlines how counties are to consolidate and establishes deadlines to follow. In January 2023, Lonoke County submitted their PSAP Consolidation Plan to the state, as required, and in February 2024 completed an Interlocal Agreement to create the Lonoke County 911 Communications Board. This Board will oversee the Consolidated 911 Center which will be located in the Cabot Justice Center currently under construction.
7. **(OPEN) Street Aid Overlay:** In December 2023, the State's Street Aid Committee award \$300,000 to the city to overlay 1.39 miles of city streets⁵. The total cost of the project is \$330,690 with the city contributing \$30,690.
8. **(PENDING) Street Aid Overlay:** In March of this year, a letter of request was submitted to the Street Aid Committee to overlay approximately 1.9 miles of city streets⁶. The status and cost of this project is pending.

⁵ Markham Street, Owen Avenue, North Street, Marshall Avenue, Moore Street, & Elm Street.

⁶ Scott St, Washington St, 4th St, 3rd St, Elm/Front St, Corner St, Spring St, & Griffin St

What does the Future Hold for Ward??

I continue to believe the future of the City of Ward is bright, promising and headed in the right direction. We are, as I have said before, a “bedroom community” in which most of our working community must travel outside the city to their job. I don’t see this changing for many years to come, if at all. But, knowing that we are such a community lends itself for us to focus our efforts on building the “community feeling” in being a part of a bedroom community.

One way for us to feel a belonging to a community is to get involved. Whether its helping with sports teams at the park, gathering for “Movies in the Park” or even attending a City Council or Planning Commission Meeting, getting involved helps your community grow. I know that most, if not all, of our neighborhoods have their own private Facebook page. While these tools are good for passing along information (or disinformation), they cannot replace face-to-face interaction with others. With that in mind, if your neighborhood is holding a function or some other get together and you would like myself or another representative (Police Chief, Fire Chief, etc) to attend, we would love to, please let us know. We are a part of your individual neighborhood communities too.

Where do we go from here? We, collectively you, me, the elected officials and all our employees, must work together for the common good of all. Whether it is voicing your opinion at a public hearing (as opposed to just on Facebook), or standing in front of City Council letting them know what is on your mind (good/bad, for/against), to even just a simple email, text or even a telephone call to clarify something, WE are all in this together.

We will also continue to overlay streets, install more sidewalks, enforce building codes, identify areas that need cleaned up, patrol the streets, respond to emergencies and so on and so forth. The work of the city is continuous.

Ward is a GREAT place to live and our census numbers prove that. As I’ve stated year-after-year, neither I, nor your city staff, can do this alone. We are blessed to have a fantastic workforce who will go above-and-beyond to get the job done and ensure it is done correctly. From the office to the boots-on-the-ground workforce, WE work for you...the tax-payer.

We are also blessed to partner with several other cities and organizations to make Ward, and the surrounding communities better, for all of us.

City of Austin, Mayor Chamberlin	City of Cabot, Mayor Kincaid
Lonoke County, Judge Erwin	Arkansas Municipal League (ARML)
Bank of the Ozarks	Cabot Chamber of Commerce
Cabot Public School System	Centennial Bank
Central Arkansas Planning and Development District (CAPDD)	Central Arkansas Development Council (CADC)
Central Arkansas Regional Solid Waste Management District	Community Action Program for Central Arkansas (CAPCA)
First Arkansas Bank and Trust	First Security Bank
Lonoke White Public Water Authority (LWPWA)	Mid-Arkansas Water Alliance (MAWA)
Metroplan	Local Churches
Local Boy and Girl Scout Troops	Southern Paramedic Service (SPS)
Ward Chamber of Commerce	Lonoke County Sheriffs Office, Sheriff Staley

I urge you to get involved in your city government and community! If you have ideas, concerns, want to volunteer, want to learn more about the city and government so you can maybe one day run for a position, want to get involved in planning events, etc., we want to hear from you! City Council meetings are held every 3rd Tuesday (new date) of the month at 6:30 pm in the Court/Council room adjacent to City Hall. You are invited to attend in person or watch via our YouTube Channel⁷. If attending in person and you wish to speak about anything, we provide time at the end of the meeting for public comment.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns about your city’s government, please feel free to stop by my office, call me at (501)-743-2501, or send me an email at mayor@cityofward.com. I am here for you.

Respectfully Submitted,

Charles Gastineau
Mayor

Attachments:

- 2023 General Fund Financial Statement
- 2023 Street Department Financial Statement
- 2023 Water/Wastewater Financial Statement

⁷ <https://www.youtube.com/@cityofwardarkansas>

City of Ward, Arkansas General Fund
Financial Statement January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023

Balance January 1, 2023		\$ 3,460,638
County Sales Tax		1,024,834
City Sales Tax		907,095
State Turnbacks		92,018
Property Tax		334,482
Franchise Tax		296,967
Rent Income		15,500
Building Permits & Inspection Fees		44,139
Privilege Tax		3,800
Fund Raisers and Donations		250
Court Fines		140,898
Grants Received		171,455
Special Events		10,321
Alcoholic Beverage Tax		7,677
Screeton Act		53,688
Act 833 Turnbacks		22,061
Fire Membership Fees		8,250
Parks and Recreation		15,715
Interest Income		59,621
Other Income		44,193
Total General Fund Available		<u>\$ 6,713,602</u>

Expenditures	<u>Police/Code/</u>					
	<u>Admin</u>	<u>Animal Control</u>	<u>Fire</u>	<u>Courts</u>	<u>Parks</u>	<u>Total</u>
Salaries Wages and Benefits	\$ 133,076	\$ 1,076,620	\$ 102,416	\$ 201,780	\$ 77,483	\$ 1,591,375
Repairs Maintenance & Supplies	32,254	116,581	55,117	-	-	203,952
General and Administrative	198,119	64,234	37,384	41,517	12,413	353,667
Other Expenditures	30,255	-	-	7,017	23,593	60,865
Capital Outlay	1,009,949	60,206	15,230	-	8,242	1,093,627
Ambulance Services	20,000	-	-	-	-	20,000
Transfers Out to Street Fund	90,000	-	-	-	-	90,000
Total Expenditures	<u>\$ 1,513,653</u>	<u>\$ 1,317,641</u>	<u>\$ 210,147</u>	<u>\$ 250,314</u>	<u>\$ 121,731</u>	<u>\$ 3,413,486</u>
Balance General Fund December 31, 2023						<u>\$ 3,300,116</u>

<u>Bonded Indebtedness</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Date of Last Payment</u>
None	\$ -	N/A

** All financial records of the City of Ward, Arkansas are public records and are open for inspection during regular business hours in the Ward City Hall, Ward Arkansas. If the record is active use or in storage and, therefore, not available at the time a citizen asks to examine it, the custodian shall certify this fact in writing to the applicant and set a date and hour within three (3) days at which time the record will be available for inspection and copying.



 Honorable Charles Gastineau, Mayor

City of Ward, Arkansas Street Fund

Financial Statement January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023

Balance January 1, 2023	\$ 586,220
State Aid	510,526
Road Tax	63,579
Vehicle Maintenance & Service	37,431
Transfer from General Fund	90,000
Interest Income	12,950
Other Income	23,134
Total General Fund Available	<u>\$ 1,323,840</u>
Expenditures	
Salaries Wages and Benefits	\$ 197,279
Repairs Maintenance & Supplies	91,325
General and Administrative	16,888
Street Lights	66,552
Street Work	191,024
Capital Outlay	-
Total Expenditures	<u>\$ 563,068</u>
Balance General Fund December 31, 2023	<u>\$ 760,772</u>

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Honorable Charles Gastineau, Mayor

City of Ward, Arkansas Water and Sewer System
Financial Statement January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023

Income	
Water Revenue	\$ 2,454,204
Sewer Revenue	1,059,280
Meter Installation	34,705
Connection Fees	121,402
Delinquent Fees	71,783
Lonoke White Fees collected	263,098
Interest income	101,710
Other Income	36,141
Total Income	<u>\$ 4,142,323</u>
Expenses	
Salaries Wages and Benefits	\$ 1,050,802
Repairs Maintenance & Supplies	245,883
Utilities and Telephone	203,931
Other Operating Expense	447,795
Purchased Water	324,633
Franchise Fees	95,193
Lonoke White Fees	264,840
Depreciation	530,617
Interest Expense	224,743
Total Expenses	<u>\$ 3,388,437</u>
Net Income	<u>\$ 753,886</u>

<u>Bonded Indebtedness</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Date Last Payment</u>
City of Ward, Arkansas Water and Sewer System Water and Sewer Revenue Bonds	\$ 10,331,742	12/28/2056

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 Honorable Charles Gastineau, Mayor