September 12, 2011

Dear Neighbors:

As in years past, I present to you, a snapshot of our City's financial condition to highlight how our City Council and my administration are assuring our tax dollars are working for you in every way possible to maintain the top quality services we have all come to expect in Lyndhurst. This review is based upon our 2010 statements which have been independently audited as required by the State of Ohio.

Again this year, Lyndhurst is not alone as we struggle with the difficult economic times that we all face. Council and I have done our best to present a budget that meets the needs of our community in a financially responsible manner. I am proud to say that these efforts along with the hard work of our department heads and employees, we are holding our own. It has not been an easy task, and with the governor and state legislature imposing legislation that will severely impact Lyndhurst, we have had to make some difficult choices, but we have kept our focus on maintaining the vitality of our community. What the future holds is difficult to say, but I assure you that the City of Lyndhurst will marshal through.

As you read through the 2010 review, please note that the City has effectively reduced our overall costs by $809K as a direct result of planned changes to our programs and operations in all departments. In last year's review, I spoke about the closing of Brainard Pool and the building of a sprayground. I am pleased to say that the new Brainard Sprayground officially opened on July 4, 2011 to the squeals and laughter of many children and parents. The sprayground is completely paid for, and at the close of the season, we had counted nearly 9,500 wet and happy patrons! I also call to your attention the administration of property tax in the City. For every $1.00 you pay in property tax, the City receives 13.23 cents. Last year, that number was 14.1 cents. We are receiving 0.87 less than last year and still maintaining our services to you, our residents.

The road ahead of us is one that will definitely have some bumps, but I am confident that with the administration and this council, we will continue to move forward and maintain the vibrant and vital community we call Lyndhurst. Please feel free to contact my office, council members, or any department head to answer any questions you may have.

Respectfully,

Joseph M. Cicero, Jr.

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Mayor