



Town of Avon 2016 Annual Report

A YEAR OF CELEBRATION



AVON'S BICENTENNIAL LEGACY PROJECTS

The Town of Avon decided to celebrate Indiana's 200th birthday with three projects designed to enhance the community for many years to come.



The bronze sculpture in Town Hall Park also celebrates Avon's 20th anniversary as a town. It received the Excellence in Landscape Design award from the Indiana Parks and Recreation Association.



Future residents will appreciate the extra shade and oxygen provided by the 200 trees we planted in various locations.



The new Bicentennial Trail will give Avon residents an easy way to access the expanding B&O Trail, as well as the trail network in Brownsburg.



ON THE COVER: Avon Community Schools Superintendent Margaret Hoernemann was one of the torchbearers as the Indiana Bicentennial Torch traveled through Town Hall Park.

AVON'S MISSION STATEMENT

Avon is a safe, vibrant community for active families and thriving businesses.



Dear Avon Resident:

When Indiana was granted statehood in 1816, what we now know as Hendricks County was a mix of prairie, forest, and swampland. It wasn't until around 1830 that the first settlers built their homes here.

Although people have lived here for nearly 190 years, and the Avon name has been around since 1870, many residents aren't aware that we've only been an incorporated town for a short time. As Indiana celebrated its Bicentennial, Avon marked its 20th anniversary.

Our town government has accomplished a great deal in those first 20 years. One of the most visible changes has been improving the infrastructure, with upgraded roads and new trails to make it easier to get around. In 2016, we began one of the most-wanted projects—a bridge over the CSX railroad tracks on Avon Avenue—and wrapped up the expansion of the Ronald Reagan Parkway to four lanes throughout the town.

As 2016 drew to a close, new improvements were on the way. We've been working on Activate Avon, the comprehensive plan that will guide the Town Council's decision-making for the foreseeable future. The process has involved many residents sharing their ideas and opinions. I hope you were among them.

You see, the Town Council members believe that citizen involvement leads to better governance. That's why we've worked hard to keep you informed through our newsletter, our Facebook page, our website, and this, our first-ever annual report.

We're proud of what's happening in Avon, and we want you to know about it, so you can share that pride. We live in a great community, and working together, we'll ensure a bright future.

Sincerely,

Aaron Tevebaugh

AARON TEVEBAUGH
Town Council President

PLANNING FOR AVON'S FUTURE

While Avon's population growth rate has slowed since the early 2000s, our community is continuing to experience both residential and business growth. In addition, expansion in surrounding communities is putting additional pressure on our roads. The Town's government has responded with programs to accommodate today's infrastructure needs and prepare for the future. Many of the projects in the \$100 million Go!Avon infrastructure plan were completed during 2016. In addition, development of the Activate Avon comprehensive plan continues. This plan will guide decisions about the types and locations of development and infrastructure for the foreseeable future.



New trails were a key priority during 2016. We added six miles of trails along both sides of Ronald Reagan Parkway, began design work on a trail along White Lick Creek from CR 100S to CR 100N, finished the design of the Bicentennial Trail linking our trails to the B&O Trail and Brownsburg's trail network, and began to design sidewalk connections along U.S. 36, Avon Avenue, and CR 150S (by Avon High School).



Preliminary work began on the long-awaited Avon Avenue bridge over the CSX railroad tracks and the roundabout at CR 25 South. The bridge should open for traffic by summer 2018.

GO!

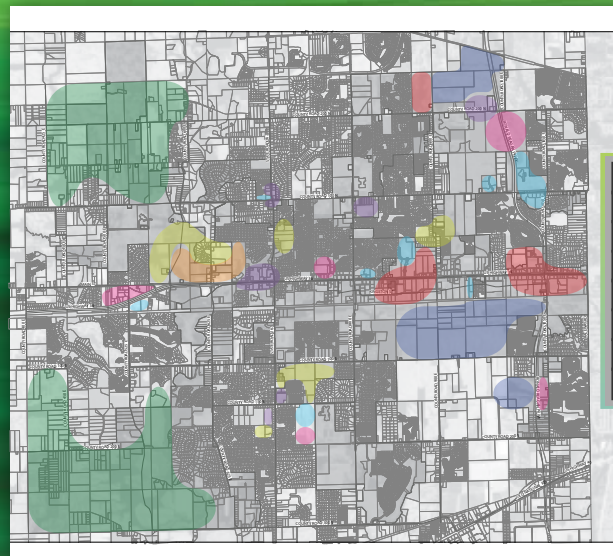
To accommodate traffic detours from the Avon Avenue bridge project, the Town designed and constructed left-turn lanes at the intersection of CR 625 E (by the Haunted Bridge) and U.S. 36.



We're wrapping up design of an improved intersection at Avon Avenue and CR 150S, the road that leads to the high school.



We finished the expansion of Ronald Reagan Parkway to four lanes between U.S. 36 and CR 300N. Once Brownsburg and Hendricks County complete work north of there, Avon residents will have fast access to I-74.



**FUTURE
LAND USE
CLUSTER MAP**

- Agriculture
- Specialty Housing
- Town Center
- Retail
- Innovation
- Neighborhood Retail
- Industrial
- Wellness



The Activate Avon comprehensive plan was developed throughout 2016, with local residents providing input at monthly Steering Committee meetings.

To enhance safety, we designed a northbound right turn lane on Avon Avenue.



Avon

Avon Police

AVON POLICE DEPARTMENT



The Avon Police Department protects the community with 24 merit officers and an administrative staff of two. The department has jurisdiction over 250 lane-miles and responded to 14,603 calls during 2016, a new record that represents an increase of 31 percent over 2015. Our proactive approach to crime reduction has been successful, and our strong community policing initiative provides many opportunities for local residents to interact with officers in positive, collaborative ways—such as our Citizens Police Academy, which graduated its eighth class in 2016.

CRIME ACTION TEAM

Our grant-funded Crime Action Team program for our retail district reduced robberies by more than 53 percent and forgeries by 7 percent.

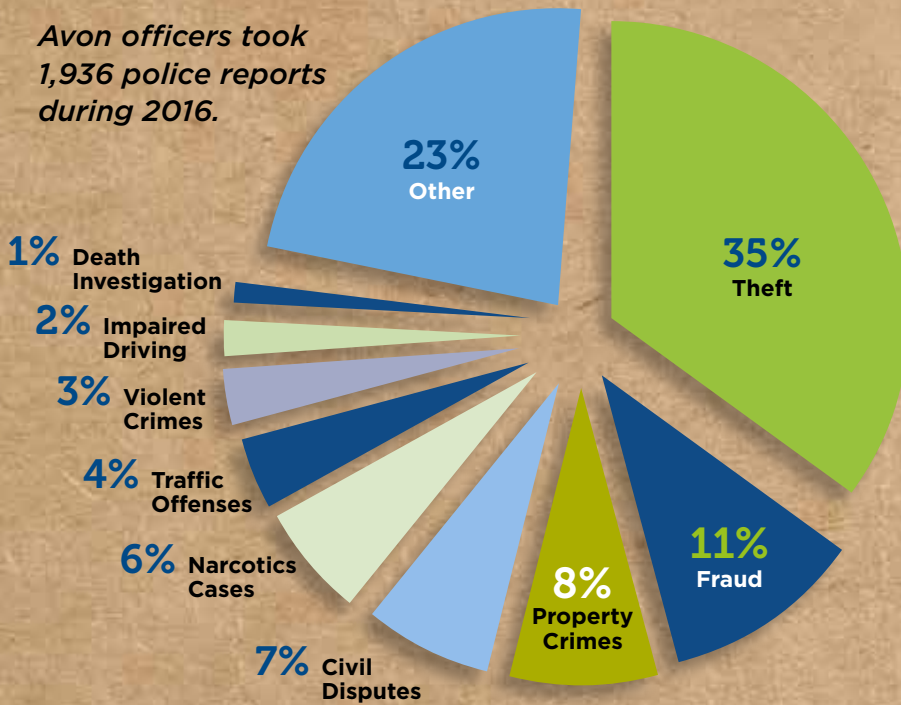


SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER

A key strategy involves working with our community's young people. The officers who work with the Avon Community School Corporation are all nationally certified School Resource Officers.

POLICE REPORT

Avon officers took 1,936 police reports during 2016.

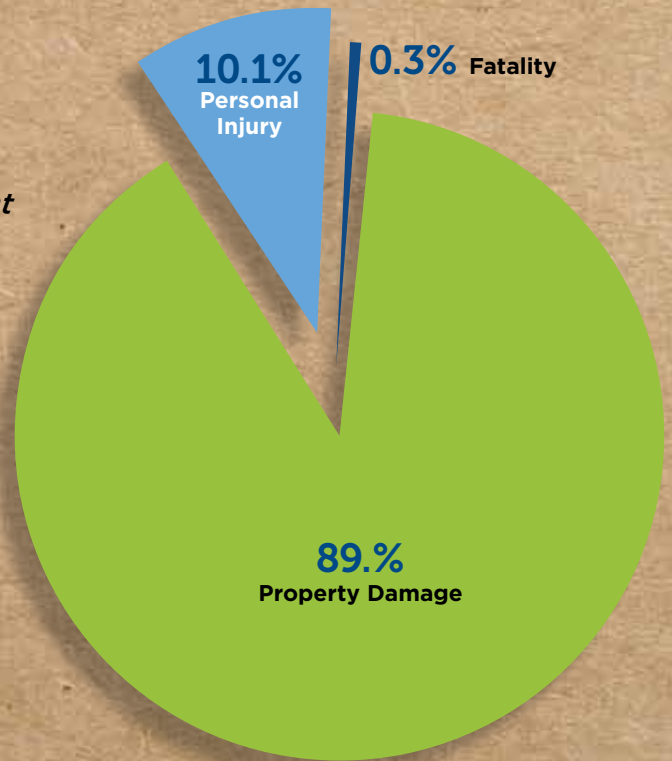


OFFICER NERO

After longtime canine officer Hunter retired in 2016, Nero joined the department, making 14 criminal apprehensions with Officer Tom Owens.

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

The annual National Night Out Against Crime event held at Lowe's was a big success, with more than \$10,000 in cash, food, and prize donations from 60 vendors.

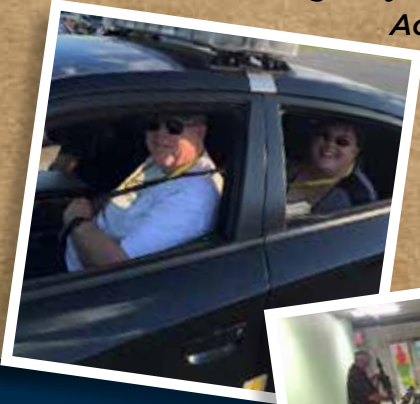


VEHICLE CRASHES

There were 929 traffic crashes in Avon, down 3.8 percent from 2015 thanks to a 29 percent increase in traffic stops.

CITIZENS POLICE ACADEMY

For the eighth year, our Citizens Police Academy taught local residents about the challenges faced by officers. This year's 12 graduates are part of more than 100 Academy alumni.



TRAINING

On average, each Avon officer completed nearly 85 hours of training during 2016, for a total of 2,201 hours.

85 HOURS OF TRAINING PER OFFICER

2,201 HOURS OF TRAINING



ACTIVE SHOOTER TRAINING

We provided free training to help community members know how to respond in an active shooter situation.

L.E.A.D AND R.I.S.E

In 2016, Sergeant Lewis launched the L.E.A.D. Academy and R.I.S.E. curriculum to provide support to at-risk young people.





BEST POLICE OFFICER

Readers of the Hendricks County Flyer chose Assistant Chief Nugent as the county's best police officer.



DEPARTMENT LEADERSHIP

*Sean Stoops, Chief of Police
Brian Nugent, Assistant Chief*



BACK THE BLUE

Local businesses and residents joined this campaign to show their support for our community's law enforcement professionals.



NEW OFFICERS

Officers Evan Hibschman and Eric Hollingsworth joined the department, along with Community Support Officer Hope Mueller.

PARKS AND RECREATION

Avon Parks and Recreation offers over 125 acres of park land and open space, 8 miles of multi-use trails, rentable shelter space, year-round events for all ages, and a master plan designed to connect our community's neighborhoods to our parks, trails, and playgrounds. Parks and Recreation is overseen by the Town's Public Works Department.



Designed in cooperation with local radio-control car enthusiasts, the Trak 36 RC track in Town Hall Park has become a popular destination for RC racers throughout central Indiana. Trak 36 received a Community Achievement Award from the Indiana Association of Cities and Towns.

Avon residents bought 43 ready-to-plant trees at our spring and fall tree sales.



TREE CITY USA

HENDRICKS COUNTY'S First Tree City

For the past nine years, Avon has earned recognition as a Tree City USA Community for our commitment to plant trees that beautify our neighborhoods and support the environment. We were the first in Hendricks County to receive this honor.



We helped the students at Avon Intermediate East observe Arbor Day by planting four trees.



As part of Avon's ongoing community beautification efforts, we planted 129 trees along Ronald Reagan Parkway and other local roads and parks. We also performed many landscaping projects throughout the Town and held a community clean-up event in conjunction with Earth Day.



After Christmas, we collected 300 trees that were ground up into mulch.

The bronze 200 sculpture in Town Hall Park celebrates both Indiana's Bicentennial and Avon's 20th anniversary as a town. It received the Excellence in Landscape Design award from the Indiana Parks and Recreation Association.



We held two heavy trash and document shredding events for residents, collecting nearly 12 full dumpsters of trash.



OUR PARKS AND RECREATION STAFF



Ryan Cannon



Ryan Cannon
Director

Gary Gamble
Director of
Parks Operations

Terri Fisher
Programmer

Britt Woodard
Asst. Programmer

Kim Freeman
Horticulture/
Landscape Manager

Chuck McGee
Groundskeeper

Jakob Gates
Part-time
Groundskeeper

Paula Kopp
Gatekeeper

Allison Brown
Gatekeeper

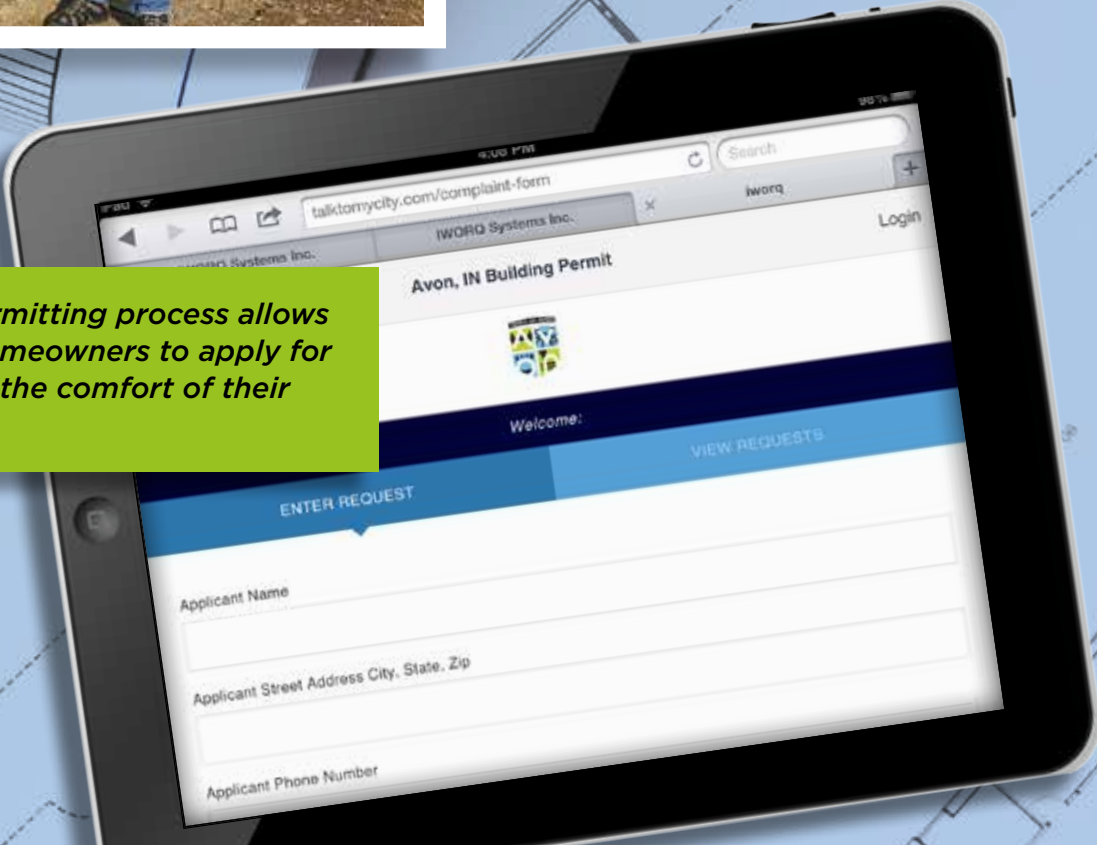
PLANNING AND BUILDING

The Building Department oversees all construction activity in the Town, as well as permit review and building code compliance. The Planning Department is responsible for overseeing a variety of construction policies and regulations, as well as zoning code enforcement. A total of 574 permits were issued in 2016, representing a 12.3 percent increase over 2015. Those permits carried a total construction value of \$82.4 million, up 93 percent over last year. We also collected \$201,611 in revenue.



Our building inspectors can now complete scheduling and inspection notes in the field, saving time, increasing efficiency, and reducing the need for paper.

The new online permitting process allows contractors and homeowners to apply for permits 24/7 from the comfort of their homes and offices.





The Plan Commission saw a 47.4 percent increase in petitions over 2015. The Commission reviewed 21 development plans, 22 plats, two new planned unit developments, and seven zoning amendments.



Permits for new single-family homes totaled 122 in 2016, a drop of 16 percent from 2015. There are about 748 available lots for new homes in the Town.

OUR PLANNING AND BUILDING STAFF



Jodi Dickey



Jodi Dickey
Director of Planning and Building

Mike Tulli
Building Commissioner

Caitlin Dopher
Economic Development Specialist

Daniel Burks
Building Inspector

William Holden
Code Enforcement Officer



AVON PUBLIC WORKS

AVON'S PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT is responsible for all maintenance of public streets within the Town (except U.S. 36, which is maintained by the state). In addition, the department coordinates improvements to roads and trails, oversees the infrastructure that's installed by private developers, and maintains stormwater drainage. The department also oversees the Town's information technology and parks.

This year, we spent just over \$2.5 million on road maintenance, which included patching, sealing cracks, applying preservatives, milling and filling, and complete repaving. Our budget focus is on preventive maintenance to keep our roads in good shape. During 2016, we paved or fully reclaimed 8 miles of roads, sealed cracks in another 12 miles, and applied preservative material to 7 miles.



During Winter 2016, we faced 17 snow events. Keeping local streets clear and safe required 837 man-hours and 1,752 tons of sand and salt, for a total cost of \$220,948. Over the past eight years, we've saved taxpayers \$381,000 through our salt storage facility and a purchasing partnership with the state.

In 2016, the Town spent just over \$80,000 to repair potholes.



OUR PUBLIC WORKS STAFF



Ryan Cannon

Ryan Cannon
Director

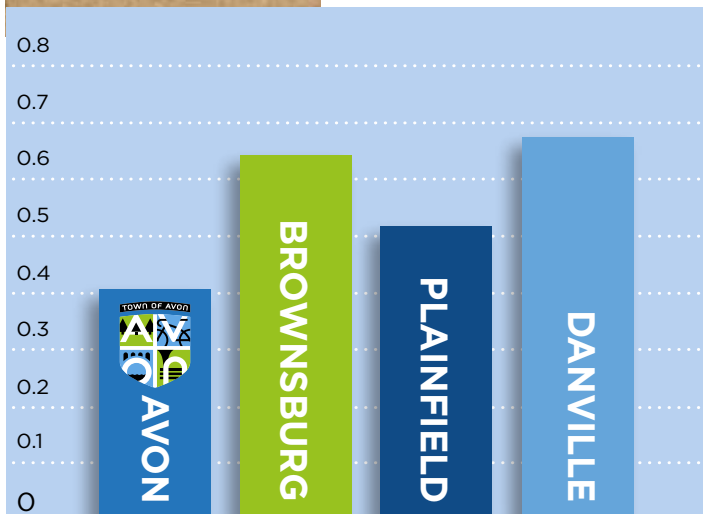
Sam Paledino
Assistant Director



BUDGET AND FINANCES

Avon residents enjoy an excellent quality of life, and your Town government is actively working to enhance everything from local roads to parks and trails. We're proud of the fact that we've accomplished so much and kept the tax rate for Town services well below the rates paid by residents of Brownsburg, Danville, and Plainfield. One ongoing challenge we face is the impact of Indiana's property tax caps. Those caps cost the Town just under \$600,000 in 2016, and nearly \$3.6 million in the years between 2009 and 2015. We continue to keep our belts tight and look for ways to make the most of every dollar you entrust to us.

2016 TAX RATE

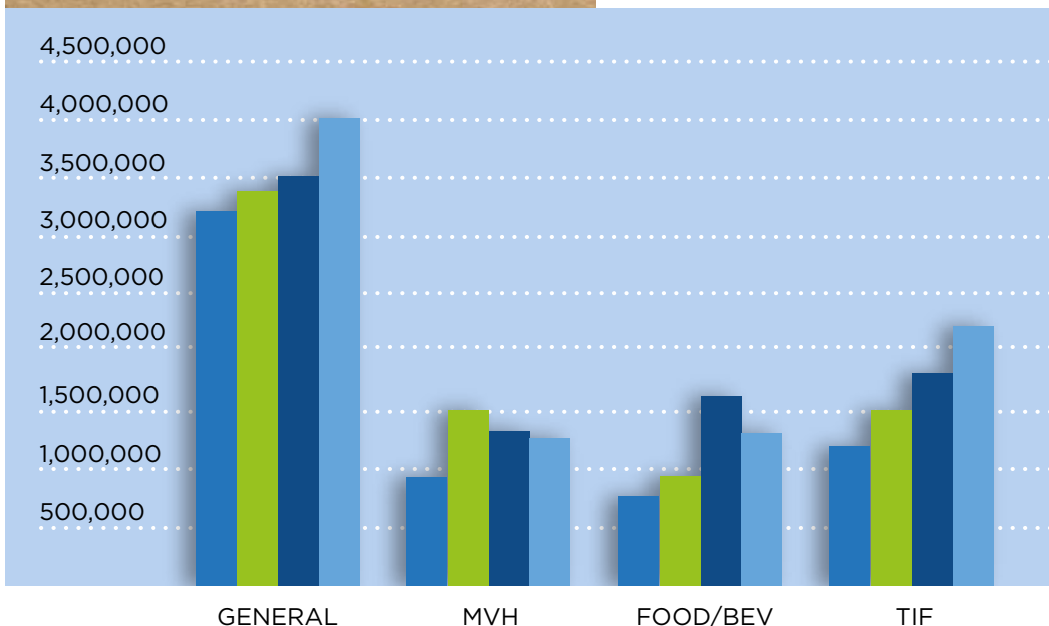


Avon has the lowest tax rate for Town services of the four incorporated towns in eastern Hendricks County (Danville's rate also includes fire services).

As Avon grows, so do the costs of providing Town services.

2016 EXPENSES BY MAJOR FUND

■ 2013 ■ 2014 ■ 2015 ■ 2016





OUR CLERK-TREASURER

As Avon's clerk-treasurer, Sharon Howell is the Town's fiscal officer. She is responsible for receiving and disbursing money for the town; keeping financial records and providing financial statements to the Town Council; maintaining the Council's records, books, and papers; and issuing licenses. Sharon has earned the Outstanding Clerk Treasurer Award from the Indiana Association of Cities and Towns. She's assisted by Deputy Clerk Treasurer Terry Sellmer.

OUR TOWN MANAGER



Tom Klein

Avon Town Manager Tom Klein serves as the Town's chief administrative officer, overseeing the staff and operations for all Town departments, except the Avon Police Department. He ensures that all activities conform to Avon's core operating principles: being proactive in identifying and solving problems, providing friendly service to everyone, and working as a team to assist each other in accomplishing tasks.



Avon's town government uses a variety of communications channels to keep residents informed about important issues, and to introduce them to the people, places, and things that make up our community. The Town of Avon Facebook page is a popular source of information, and the official Town website, at avongov.org, is packed with information. Other examples of communications efforts include Bridges, the official newsletter, and this annual report. We also created a new promotional website that includes videos promoting Avon.

www.avongov.org



AVON TOWN COURT

Since 2000, the Avon Town Court has handled adjudication of traffic and other infractions and ordinance violations. Judge Maureen Owen holds court the first Thursday of every month at 4:00 p.m. at the Town Hall. She is assisted by Lori Medlen, the court administrator.

In 2016, the Town Court handled 1,354 new infractions, down from 1,753 in the previous year, and 108 ordinance violations, down from 210. The Court collected \$187,848 in fines and fees, \$81,250 of which went to cover expenditures. The balance was divided between the Town, Hendricks County, and the state, with Avon receiving \$50,559.



Maureen Owen
Town Judge

2016 COMPARISON OF TOWN COURTS

COURT	AVON	BROWNSBURG	PLAINFIELD
Infractions	1,354	1,795	1,849
Ordinance violations	108	135	602
Misdemeanors	0	467	622
Total cases	1,462	2,397	3,073
Full-time employees	1	2	3
Part-time employees	0	0	2

AVON TOWN COUNCIL

The Town Council is Avon's legislative and executive body. One member is elected as president, with the authority to sign contracts, ordinances and decrees approved by the Council, and to appoint the Police Chief and Assistant Police Chief. The Council appoints a Town Manager to manage the Town's day-to-day operations. Council members serve four-year terms. Two members are elected at-large (by the entire town) and three members reside in specific districts (District 1, District 2 and District 3) but are elected by the entire town.



Back row:
Beverley Austin,
Marcus Turner.
Front row:
Steve Eisenbarth,
Greg Zusan,
Aaron Tevebaugh



TOWN OF AVON SENIOR STAFF

Ryan Cannon,
Public Works Director

Jodi Dickey
Planning and Building Director

Gary Gamble
Director of Parks Operations

Tom Klein
Town Manager

Lori Medlen
Town Court Administrator

Brian Nugent
Assistant Chief of Police

Sam Paledino
Assistant Public Works Director

Sean Stoops
Chief of Police

Mike Tulli
Building Commissioner



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