



ANNUAL REPORT

2015

Law Library Board of Trustees:

Janet Krueger, Esq., Chair
Richard Wright, Esq., Treasurer
Honorable Joseph Chase
Paul Grinde, Esq.
Commissioner Sheila Kiscaden
Honorable Kevin Lund
Milind Shah, Esq. (part year)
Gerald Weinrich, Esq. (part year)

Staff:

Judith A. Flader, County Law Librarian
Thomas J. Sherman, Law Librarian

Mission, Vision & Goals

Mission Statement

To support a great community by providing efficient, cost-effective access for all library stakeholders – the judiciary, the local bar, local government, self-represented litigants, all residents of Olmsted County, and members of the general public - to dynamic, world-class legal information resources and technology.

Vision & Goals:

To Achieve Excellence through:

- 1) Facilitating meaningful access to the courts for all self-represented litigants;
 - 2) Providing free access to current legal information resources and technology for all library stakeholders; and
 - 3) Creating a proactively responsive environment in support of personal or professional legal education and endeavor.
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Welcome to the Olmsted County Law Library 2015 Annual Report!

2015 was a big, busy year for us –
Some sad Good-byes and a couple of happy Hellos;
two established programs that continued to thrive;
a few new partnerships that helped create big improvements in our
computer network and website;
a whopping 25% increase in our user statistics;
and all of this happening while we were living through an entire year of
construction and remodeling that was not completed until mid-2016
(but that will be part of next year's story)

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Changes to the Law Library Board of Trustees

A fond and reluctant farewell to **Judge Kevin Lund** and **Milind Shah**. Thank you so very much for your years of service, the time, thoughts and effort you each put into your tenure with the Board. We will miss seeing you as part of the team. And happy hellos to **Gerald Weinrich**, who was appointed to fill the open “attorney” position, and to **Judge Christina Stevens**, whom we are delighted to have as the second “judge” member of the Board, even though she did not officially join us until January 2016.

We also said farewell to **Thomas J. Sherman** at the end of December 2015. His contributions during the 15 months he spent with us helped to maintain our standard of excellence in service, and we wish him all the best in his future endeavors.



Clinics in 2015

In September of 2011, the Law Library entered into an agreement with Legal Assistance of Olmsted County (LAOC) to provide free "brief advice" legal clinics to self-representing litigants who either live in Olmsted County, or who have their cases filed and being heard in Olmsted County. The program went into effect on October 1, 2011.

During 2015 the following clinics were regularly offered:

Family Law Clinics, where topics include divorce; legal separation; annulment, parenting time (aka visitation); custody; child support; adoption; and maintenance. Typical appointment length is 30 minutes. *(CHIPs cases are specifically **excluded** from these clinics, as parents in these proceedings usually have court-appointed counsel of their own. Detailed property division or settlement questions are also excluded, as inappropriate for a "brief advice" meeting.)* **One Family Law Clinic was offered each week**, with the exceptions of Thanksgiving and Christmas weeks.

Financial Law Clinics, where topics include debtor/creditor or pre-bankruptcy counseling; real estate / mortgage foreclosure; Answering a debt-related law suit against you; and garnish/asset levy (from the debtor side only). *(Landlord/Tenant cases are specifically **excluded** from these clinics, as LAOC provides a Landlord/Tenant 24-hour hotline, and a Tenants' Rights clinic each week.)* **One Financial Law Clinic was offered each month.**

Criminal Expungement Clinics, a class-room style clinic that includes review of the statute and procedure; tips for completing and serving the paperwork; and an opportunity for participants to briefly discuss their own case(s) privately with the volunteer attorney. **One Criminal Expungement Clinic was offered every other month** (Jan., March, May, July, Sept. and Nov.).

All clinics require registration in advance, and attendance is limited by available time.

The Law Library thanks the wonderful local attorneys who so generously volunteer their time (see list, next page), and the incredible effort and support from Legal Assistance of Olmsted County, for helping to make this program so very successful.

2015 Law Library/LAOC Clinic Volunteer Attorneys

<u>Attorney Name</u>	<u>Expungement</u>	<u>Family</u>	<u>Financial</u>
Jennifer Brennan			1
Masood Dehnavifar			1
Arens Dilaveri		3	
Steve Dittrich		3	
Mary Dunlap		3	
Matthew FitzGerald			1
William French			1
Ashley Kuhn	1		
David Leibow	3		
Jim McGeeney	1		
Anthony Moosbrugger		3	
Jenny Nelson		3	
Bill Oehler			2
Carole Pasternak		5	
Jerry Perry		1	1
Steve Rolsch		4	
Ryan Rousseau		5	
Jessica Schimelpfenig		4	
Jason Wagner			1
Michael Walters	1		
Gerald Weinrich		2	
Jamie Sherman		2	
Richard Wright		9	1
Totals:	6	47	9

CLEs in 2015

Continuing Legal Education (aka CLE) is an essential component of an attorney's requirements for continuing licensure to practice law in Minnesota. In May 2012 the Law Library began a program of free and regular educational programming at the CLE level. Initially a one-hour per month program was offered, but in 2014 a switch was made to doing three "Super CLE" days per year, with the goal of offering 5 credits per day in the various CLE categories, to help local judges, law clerks and attorneys reach their goals of 15 credits per year.

This programming would NOT be possible without the assistance of the attorneys who donate their time and expertise to providing programs for the Law Library to sponsor. We thank all the speakers who made our 2015 programming a success:

Friday, March 20, 2015 "Spring into Spring"



Steven Youngquist, "ADR do's and Don'ts." 1 Standard CLE credit approved; Event code 203136.

Karuna Ojanen, "Highlights of Intellectual Property Cases in 2014/2015." 1 Standard CLE credit approved; Event code 203099.

Jill Frieders, "2014 Rule Changes Affecting Family Law Appeals." 1 Standard CLE credit approved; Event code 203197.

Lisa Hollingsworth, "Housing: Reasonable Accommodations for Persons Dealing with Disabilities." 1 Elimination of Bias CLE credit approved; Event code 203198.

Allan Witz, "Ban the Box – One Year Later." 1 Ethics CLE credit approved; Event code 203258

Friday, May 15, 2015 “Mayan End of the World Day”



MAYAN END OF THE WORLD DAY!!!

Ben Rust, “Foreclosure Defense.” 1 Standard CLE credit approved; Event code 205392.

Joan Bibelhausen, “Mental Health and Addiction in Older Adults.” 1 Elimination of Bias CLE credit approved; Event code 205396.

Joan Bibelhausen, “Stress, Addiction and Mental Health: An Ethical Perspective.” 1 Ethics CLE credit approved; Event code 205524.

Marshall H. Tanick, “The Law and Lore of the Civil War in Minnesota.” 1 Elimination of Bias and 0.5 Standard CLE credits approved; Event code 205748.

Friday, September 25, 2015 “Battle of Stamford Bridge”



Ben Rust, “Suppressors in Minnesota” 1 Standard CLE credit approved; Event code 210518

Michael Spindler-Krage, “Minnesota Professional Responsibility 101” 1 Ethics CLE credit approved; Event code 210353

Phil Duran, “*Obergefell* and the Implications for Bias-Elimination Efforts in Minnesota” 1 Elimination of Bias credit approved; Event code 210519

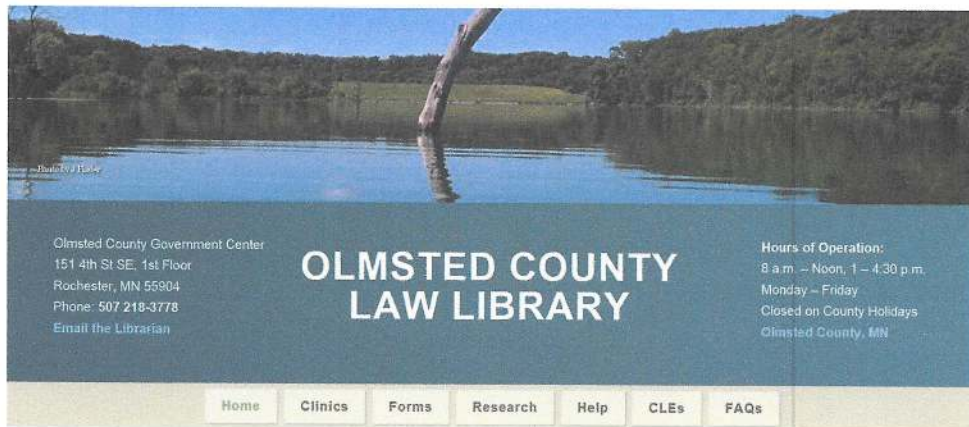
Bruce Cameron, “Staying Alive in the New Normal” 1 Law Office Management CLE credit approved; Event code 209477

Marshall H. Tanick, “Football and the Law In Minnesota” 1 Standard CLE and 0.5 Ethics CLE credit approved; Event code 209479

New Network and Webpage

Some of the Law Library's most essential and used resources are Internet-based electronic databases, including WestlawNext, HeinOnline, and the National Consumer Law Center collection of materials. In 2015 the Law Library upgraded and enhanced our access to these materials by implementing a new computer network dedicated to Law Library functions only, and replacing/upgrading our existing public-access terminals. To accomplish this change we partnered with Rochester-based [Data-Smart Computers & Telecommunications](#).

2015 also saw the creation of a new webpage under our own new domain name, www.olmstedlawlibrary.com. Our partner in this endeavor was Winona-based [Vision Design Group](#), who worked closely with the Law Librarian to create a visually appealing and user-friendly interface. One particularly happy element on the new website is a seasonal banner scroll of (mostly) local pictures donated for use on our website by several local attorneys, including Carl Anderson, Catherine Hanson, Janet Krueger and Deja Weber. One of the "summer" pictures was even taken by Law Librarian Judy Flader while kayaking in 2015 at Chester Woods, a beautiful Olmsted County park.



We are a **Public Law Library** dedicated to assisting the judiciary, local bar, local government, self-represented litigants, residents of Olmsted County, and members of the general public.

We provide access to –



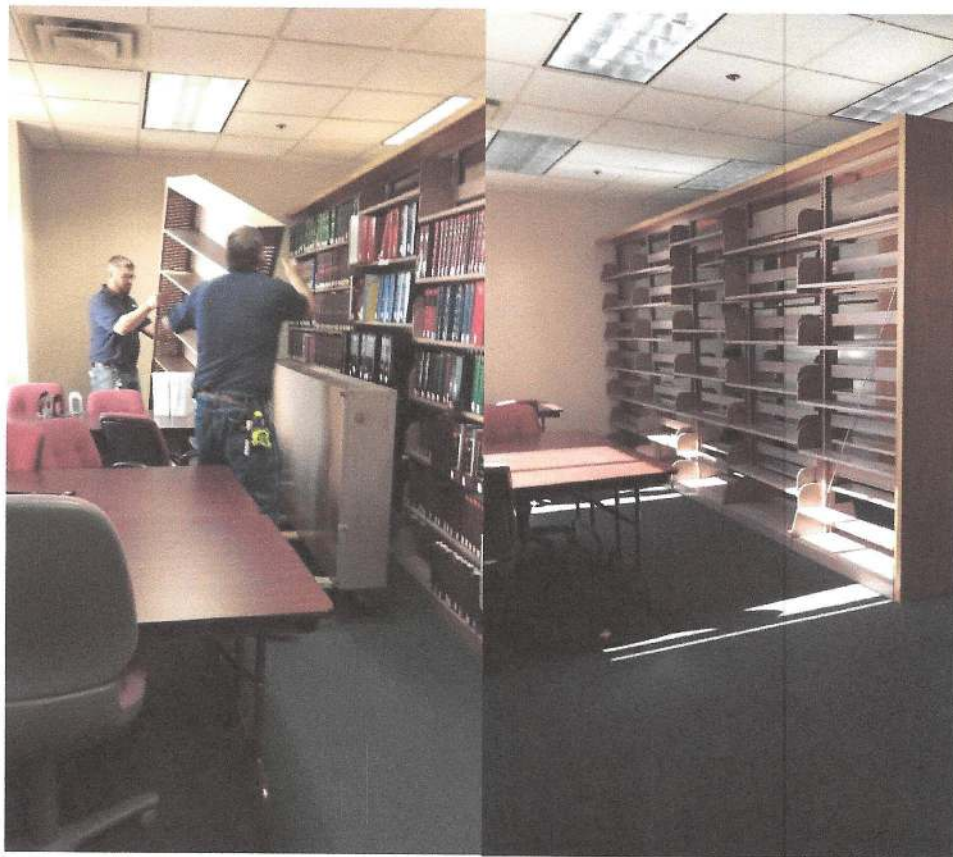
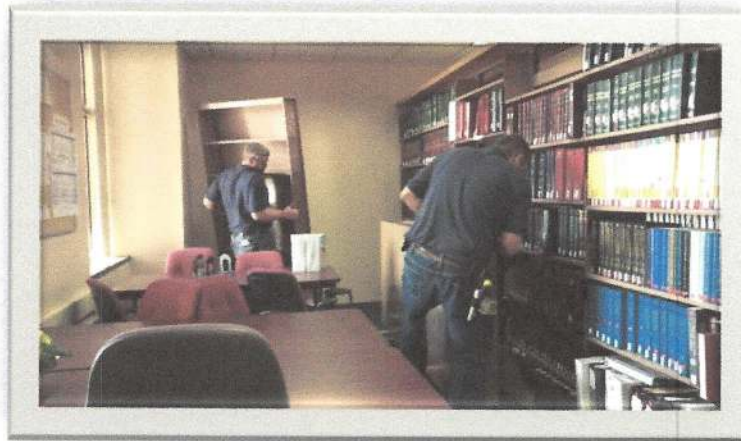
Construction and Remodeling – Part 1, 2015

In early 2015 Olmsted County embarked on a construction/remodeling project at the Government Center. The project had many goals, and one of the effects of the project would ultimately be an increased and greatly improved Law Library space on the 5th floor. But first we had to live through the process...

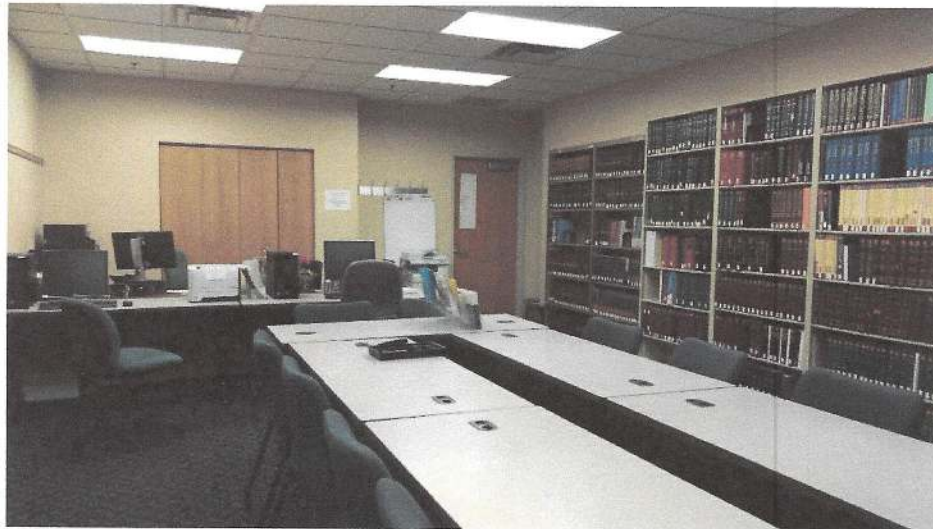
When the project started, one of our windows was boarded up while the “outside” portion of construction was done, so, except for some occasional noise, things were pretty much as normal:



However, there came a point at the end of September 2015 when the project came “indoors” and at that point we needed to move off the fifth floor and down to a “temporary” space on the first floor. Huge kudos to the County Facilities staff who helped to make this so much less painful!!!



And open again after only one day's closure in the first week of October; little did we know that we would not return to the fifth floor until well into 2016...



End of Part 1, 2015

To be continued in Part 2, Annual Report 2016...

(but, like the Grandfather in "The Princess Bride," we will not leave you in suspense – There IS a happy outcome!!!)

Statistics and Budget

Use of the Olmsted County Law Library has grown dramatically in the past five years, as illustrated by this side-by-side, 2011-2015 comparison of the numbers.

Routine reference and resource services are represented by the "Walk-in," "Attorney," "Email" and "Phone" categories, while our Outreach services are shown in the "Clinics," "ADC" and "CLE" categories.

A copy of the Law Library's detailed statistics for 2015 follows.

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Totals
Walk-in	1805	2203	2408	3397	4408	14,221
Attorney	321	426	485	654	698	2584
Clinics[^]	29	167	211	221	215	843
ADC*	34	373	605	262	327	1601
CLE*	n/a	95	252	211	275	833
Email	97	125	142	175	210	749
Phone	682	1241	1238	1128	1396	5685
Totals	2968	4630	5341	6048	7529	26,516

[^]The Clinics program was implemented in October 2011.

*On the annual statistical compilation, ADC (Adult Detention Center program of law library services to pre-trial detainees) and CLE (Continuing Legal Education programming for local judges, law clerks and attorneys) numbers are grouped together under "ADC/Outreach" but this chart shows the numbers for each category between 2012 and 2015. The ADC program was started in September 2011, and the CLE program began in May of 2012.



OLMSTED COUNTY LAW LIBRARY
SUMMARY OF PEOPLE ASSISTED - 2015

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	CASE TYPE TOTALS
Divorce/Annulment	54	34	54	44	49	48	58	54	40	43	39	21	538
Child Custody/Visitation	18	30	35	43	45	44	30	27	46	35	36	22	411
Child Support	9	11	15	17	23	14	11	6	11	11	15	22	165
Paternity/Adoption	2	8	7	5	3	2	5	3	5	1	3	5	49
Legal Research	10	23	23	15	22	24	11	10	7	26	15	7	193
Criminal Expungement	31	23	18	14	14	10	12	8	9	7	11	5	162
Car Title Issues	2		4		2	2	1			1	1		13
IFPs	26	16	30	40	18	26	31	19	25	24	27	29	311
Name Changes	17	18	29	13	14	14	22	14	17	15	11	11	195
Conciliation Court	13	15	15	16	17	17	20	15	11	11	20	16	186
General Civil	8	15	11	18	17	16	18	13	8	12	12	15	163
Gen'l Criminal & DUI		13	6	11	14	23	16	7	10	2	10	3	115
Judgment/Garnishment	12	10	13	11	18	8	3	8	11	2	4	4	104
Harassment	5	3	1	1	10	5	6	6	11	9	3	5	65
Order for Protection	4	1	7	4	6	7	8	7	9	1		4	58
Landlord	5	7	12	10	5	9	11	7	13	9	9	3	100
Tenant	4	6	5	4	2	11	8	3	3	5	3	2	56
Eviction Expungement	4	2	8	2	4	1	4	2	2		1	1	31
Guardianship	3	7	4	5	5	7	5	8	2	7	8	2	63
Wills/Probate	3	4	8	6	7	3	5	4	4	2	3	2	51
Appeals	7	1	8	1	1	3		3		2	1		27
Debtor/Creditor	2	3	7	3	2	3	1	2	1				24
Contempt	2	5	2	2	1	2		2	4	3		6	29
Car Forfeiture	3	1	5	3	2	5	5	2	2		2	1	31
Drivers License			1		1		2					1	5
Subpoenas	1	2	3			1	5		1		1		14
Ex Parte			1			1			1		1		4
Serving Documents	9	10	11	22	31	11	10	13	4	11	8	20	160
Bankruptcy/Foreclosure	1			1	1	1	1		3		1		9
Misc.	114	119	117	103	116	135	87	93	63	56	35	38	1076
Total Walk-in Contacts	369	387	460	414	450	453	396	336	323	295	280	245	4408
Total Attorney Contacts	86	79	85	93	74	59	64	50	42	35	12	19	698
Total Clinic Contacts	29	17	30	11	20	12	27	12	19	13	15	10	215
ADC & Outreach	16	40	119	24	131	21	30	11	113	28	42	27	602
Total E-mail Contacts	16	8	9	62	31	22	21	10	15	7	4	5	210
Total Phone Contacts	135	97	125	132	118	122	145	109	106	130	95	82	1396
TOTAL CONTACTS	651	628	828	736	824	689	683	528	618	508	448	388	7529

County of Olmsted
Revenues and Expenses by Unit - Budget Vs Actual for BFY 2015
Thru Period: 14/2015

Fund: 0820 - Law Library Fund

Dept: 0120 - JUDICIAL

Unit: 1240 - Law Library

Code	Object / Rev Source Name	Encumbrances	Year To Date			Budget Vs Actual	
			Expenditures/ Revenues	Total Obligations/ Revenues	Current Budget	Amount Available	Percent Available

Expenses Appr: 610 Law Library Personal Svcs

6111	Full-Time Salaries		\$74,698.50	\$74,698.50	\$77,900	\$3,201.82	4.11 %
6120	Vacation		\$3,344.00	\$3,344.00	\$0	(\$3,344.00)	(999900.00) %
6121	Holiday		\$2,872.00	\$2,872.00	\$0	(\$2,872.00)	(999900.00) %
6125	Misc Productive				\$4,900	\$4,900.00	100.00 %
6132	Vested Sick/PTO Payout		\$1,218.00	\$1,218.00	\$0	(\$1,218.00)	(999900.00) %
	Salary Expenses		\$82,132.50	\$82,132.50	\$82,800	\$667.82	0.81 %
6151	Health Insurance				\$0	\$0.00	(999900.00) %
6152	Pera-County Share		\$1,180.17	\$1,180.17	\$0	(\$1,180.17)	(999900.00) %
6153	Fica-County Share		\$6,244.93	\$6,244.93	\$5,700	(\$545.29)	(9.57) %
6156	Other Post Empl Benefits				\$0	\$0.00	(999900.00) %
6157	Benefits Administration				\$0	\$0.00	(999900.00) %

Appr 610 Total:			\$89,557.60	\$89,557.60	\$88,500	\$-1,057.64	-1.20 %
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Expenses Appr: 613 Law Library-Personal Services

6206	Staff Development		\$175.52	\$175.52	\$0	(\$175.52)	(999900.00) %
6211	Telephone & Communications		\$610.71	\$610.71	\$500	(\$110.71)	(22.14) %
6212	Postage & Freight		\$326.27	\$326.27	\$400	\$73.73	18.43 %
6260	Attorney/Misc Fees		\$25,001.00	\$25,001.00	\$25,000	(\$1.00)	(0.00) %
6272	Mileage		\$613.33	\$613.33	\$1,000	\$386.67	38.67 %
6273	Meals				\$0	\$0.00	(999900.00) %
6288	Other Services		\$8,432.10	\$8,432.10	\$0	(\$8,432.10)	(999900.00) %
6291	Insurance				\$0	\$0.00	(999900.00) %
6410	Office Supplies & Stationery		\$269.31	\$269.31	\$400	\$130.69	32.67 %
6421	General Supplies		\$1,062.82	\$1,062.82	\$750	(\$312.82)	(41.71) %
6441	Books & Periodicals		\$36,911.72	\$36,911.72	\$42,000	\$5,088.28	12.11 %
6610	Furniture & Equipment		\$37,731.10	\$37,731.10	\$40,000	\$2,268.90	5.67 %
6611	Computer Equipment		\$6,819.36	\$6,819.36	\$6,000	(\$819.36)	(13.66) %
6973	I/C-Finance				\$0	\$0.00	(999900.00) %
6991	I/G-Central Services		\$2,822.90	\$2,822.90	\$5,000	\$2,177.10	43.54 %
6992	I/G-ITS		\$8,592.96	\$8,592.96	\$12,000	\$3,407.04	28.39 %

Appr 613 Total:			\$129,369.10	\$129,369.10	\$133,050	\$3,680.90	2.77 %
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Unit 1240 Expenses Total:			\$218,926.70	\$218,926.70	\$221,550	\$2,623.26	1.18 %
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Revenues

5115	Reserve Usage				\$66,550	\$66,550.00	100.00 %
5116	Reserve Buildup				\$0	\$0.00	(999900.00) %
5312	General Government		\$150,266.63	\$150,266.63	\$155,000	\$4,733.37	3.05 %
5550	Interest Income-Pooled		\$2,705.77	\$2,705.77	\$0	(\$2,705.77)	(999900.00) %

Unit 1240 Revenues Total:			\$152,972.40	\$152,972.40	\$221,550	\$68,577.60	30.95 %
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Tax Levy: \$-0.00 \$-0.04 \$-0

Total Revenues, Including Tax Levy \$-0.00 \$152,972.36

Net Surplus / (Usage) (\$0.00) (\$65,954.34)