The City of Westerville was one of the first cities in the United States to adopt a Council-Manager form of government. In 1915, Westerville became the first village in Ohio to use this governing style. Members of City Council are elected by the voters of Westerville and are responsible for making the laws that affect those who live in Westerville. The City Manager is appointed by Council to handle the day-to-day operations of the City and its many departments.

CITY COUNCIL

City Council meets to review and vote on issues or laws that are important for the citizens of Westerville. The Council in Westerville is made up of seven members, including the Mayor, who are elected to four-year terms. To create a new law, City Council must vote on and pass an ordinance. An ordinance is an enforceable municipal (city) law.

CITY MANAGER

It is the responsibility of the City Manager to direct the day-to-day operations of the City of Westerville and report to City Council. In Westerville, there are 10 department directors who report to the City Manager. In addition to leading and guiding all 10 city departments, the City Manager ensures that Council’s policies are put in place. He or she also keeps Council apprised of City business, coordinates the City’s budget and guides Westerville’s long-term planning.

ACTIVITY!

Show your city spirit! Color the Westerville logo dark green and gold.
Demonstrate your knowledge of Westerville city government by filling in this crossword puzzle. Use the words provided to complete the grid.

ACROSS
1. The public _________ to elect members of the City Council.
2. Westerville’s _________ Department arranges the City’s revenues and expenditures.
6. Most of Westerville is located in this county.
7. Planning and Development keeps the _________ of Westerville up-to-date.
9. Appointed by City Council, he/she sees that all policies and programs are implemented.
10. Public City Council meetings are held in this room.

DOWN
3. Westerville has this form of government.
4. The City _________ handles all legal matters for Westerville.
5. The Westerville _________ Division provides you with safe, clean drinking water.
8. The Westerville _________ and Fire Divisions respond to emergencies in Westerville.