

MUNICIPAL HOME RULE PROGRAM

City of Weirton

2019
PROGRESS
REPORT

West Virginia
Municipal Home Rule Board
P. O. Box 11360
Charleston, WV 25339-1360
MunicipalHomeRule@wv.gov
304.558.3356

West Virginia State Code §8-1-5a (m) provides:

“Commencing December 1, 2015, and each year thereafter, each participating municipality shall give a progress report to the Municipal Home Rule Board and commencing January 1, 2016, and each year thereafter, the Municipal Home Rule Board shall give a summary report of all the participating municipalities to the Joint Committee on Government and Finance.”

The Municipal Home Rule Board has developed this standard format for Home Rule Program participating municipalities to prepare and submit their respective Annual Progress Reports. The intent of this standard format is to gather and compile information in a consistent, easily understood, and efficient manner that will be used to develop a concise and practical summary report to the Joint Committee on Government and Finance.

Annual Progress Reports must be submitted electronically as an individual file in PDF format no later than the close of business on the first business day of December, by emailing to WV Municipal Home Rule Board at MunicipalHomeRule@wv.gov.

A. General Information		
Name of Municipality: CITY OF WEIRTON		
Certifying Official: Joseph B. DiBartolomeo	Title: City Manager	
Contact Person: Joseph B. DiBartolomeo	Title: City Manager	
Address: 200 Municipal Plaza		
City, State, Zip: Weirton West Virginia 26062		
Telephone Number: 304 797 8500, Ext.1003	Fax Number: 304 797 8598	
E-Mail Address: citymanager@cityofweirton.com		
2010 Census Population: 19,746		
B. Municipal Classification		
<input type="checkbox"/> Class I <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Class II <input type="checkbox"/> Class III <input type="checkbox"/> Class IV		
C. Attest		
I hereby confirm that I am the authorized official for this municipality and certify that the information submitted herein and attached hereto is true and accurate and that this report addresses each and every initiative included in the original Home Rule Pilot Program Plan Application for this municipality and any subsequent amendments, if applicable.		
Joseph B. DiBartolomeo		11/26/19
Type Name of Certifying Official	Signature of Certifying Official	Date

Please use this page to report progress on each **non-tax related initiative** included in your Home Rule Application and Amendment(s). Each non-tax related initiative must be listed on a separate page.

Initiative: Probationary Employment of Uncertified Building/Zoning Code Officials (Ordinance 1786)

Was this non-tax initiative a part of your original plan application or a plan amendment ?

Has the ordinance(s) needed to implement this initiative been enacted? Yes No

If yes, when was the ordinance enacted? APRIL 13, 2015 - ORDINANCE NO. 1786

If no, please describe the challenges faced in enacting the related ordinance(s).

SUCCESES – In the space below, please provide a brief narrative that highlights successes realized through the implementation of this initiative and any metrics used to track performance.

The adoption of the ordinance, Weirton has been able to hire new employees and utilize them in a manner to achieve effective work hours on the job. They are in a mentoring program that allows them to be in the field with a licensed inspector for “on the job’ training in a variety of situations, from property maintenance issues to commercial inspections. Once the licensed inspector determines that the trainee is properly trained for duty, the new employee is then released to perform those functions independently. One inspector has successfully passed three certification tests, and another has passed two tests. This initiative allows us to place more inspectors in the field to address the many building code problems that exist in the city.

LESSONS LEARNED – In the space below, please provide a brief narrative highlighting lessons learned during the implementation of this revenue initiative that would benefit other municipalities.

The program has allowed the city of Weirton to more quickly train and certify trainees at the same time contribute to addressing the many code enforcement challenges.

Initiative: Building/Zoning Code Officials Enforcement Provisions (Ordinance 1787)

✓ Was this non-tax initiative a part of your original plan application or a plan amendment ?

Has the ordinance(s) needed to implement this initiative been enacted? Yes No

If yes, when was the ordinance enacted? APRIL 13, 2015 - ORDINANCE NO. 1787

If no, please describe the challenges faced in enacting the related ordinance(s).

SUCSESSES – In the space below, please provide a brief narrative that highlights successes realized through the implementation of this initiative and any metrics used to track performance.

The adoption of this ordinance continues to streamline the process of getting simple property maintenance issues resolved. Code Officials have issued hundreds of citations for common nuisance complaints since the effective date of this Ordinance. By permitting the Code Official to assess the fine on the citation, it has also reduced the number of cases before the Municipal Court. Property owners are now able to resolve the violation, pay the fine before the assigned court date, and then not be required to appear in court.

LESSONS LEARNED – In the space below, please provide a brief narrative highlighting lessons learned during the implementation of this revenue initiative that would benefit other municipalities.

We have been able to more effectively resolve property maintenance issues, which has lessened Municipal Court's time and resources used to handle the matters.

Please use this page to report progress on each **tax related initiative** included in your Home Rule Application. Each tax related initiative must be listed on a separate page.

Initiative: Imposing Municipal Sales and Service Tax and Municipal Use Tax
Was this tax initiative a part of your original plan application <input type="checkbox"/> or a plan amendment <u>X</u> or N/A <input type="checkbox"/>
Has the ordinance(s) needed to implement this initiative been enacted? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
If yes, when was the ordinance enacted? FEBRUARY 17, 2016 – ORDINANCE NO. 1987 7-1-16
If no, please describe the challenges faced in enacting the related ordinance(s).
REVENUES – In the space below, please provide a brief narrative highlighting revenue amounts and revenue categories realized; revenue amounts and revenue categories reduced; net revenue gain; and, any metrics used to track performance. Since the onset of our 1% Sales Tax initiative in 2016, over \$9,176,316.94 in revenue has been generated for the police and fireman’s pension which are severely underfunded.
SUCCESSSES – In the space below, please provide a brief narrative highlighting projects, improvements, programming, etc. realized through the implementation of this revenue initiative and any metrics used to track performance. Before the initiative, our police and fire pensions were severely unfunded. To date, a contribution of approximately \$7,695, 157.98, has been made to both pensions. The pension funds are now roughly 95 % funded. And a large percentage of future revenues will be applied to these pensions.
LESSONS LEARNED – In the space below, please provide a brief narrative highlighting lessons learned during implementation of this revenue initiative that would benefit other municipalities. Simply, do not allow your pension fund contributions to fall behind. Important to have a channel of revenue to earmark for thes contributions.

Please use this page to report progress on each non-tax related initiatives included in your Home Rule Application and Amendment(s). Each non-tax related initiative must be listed on a separate page.

Ordinance No. 2057. An Ordinance Authorizing The City Of Weirton To Submit To The Municipal Home Rule Board A Proposed Amendment, Attached Hereto As Exhibit A, To The City Of Weirton's Municipal Home Rule Plan Consistent With West Virginia Code § 8-1-5a, Requesting Approval To Allow The Sale Of Alcoholic Beverages By Certain Alcohol Beverage Control Administration Class "A" License Holders Beginning At 10:00 A.M. On Sundays

Was this non-tax initiative a part of your original plan application or a plan amendment ?

Has the ordinance(s) needed to implement this initiative been enacted? Yes No

If yes, when was the ordinance enacted? Ordinance No. 2057 allowing our home rule plan to be amended to include the initiative was enacted on February 11, 2019.

If no, please describe challenges faced in enacting the related ordinance(s).

SUCSESSES – In the space below, please provide a brief narrative which highlights successes realized through the implementation of this initiative and any metrics used to track performance.

We were able to pass the ordinance amending our Home Rule Plan through City Council on February 11, 2019. The amendment to our Home Rule Plan was then approved by the Home Rule Board on April 16, 2019. Since SB 561 was implemented, no further action has taken place at this time to further the initiative. However, an ordinance is being prepared to implement the sale of alcoholic beverages beginning at 10:00 AM on Sundays by certain alcohol beverage control administration class "A" license holders on a city level.

LESSONS LEARNED – In the space below, please provide a brief narrative highlighting lessons learned during implementation of this revenue initiative that would benefit other municipalities.