

Kingston Township

News

April 2010

Chairman's Chat – By Steve Volpe

Wow what a winter! But, we're almost out of it (I hope). The township has used all of its allocated salt and close to a third over that. In all, we spread nearly 200 tons of salt on our township roads. That does not include roads maintained by others such as county and state roads. Ed Moore has made quite an effort to keep our roads clear. This has not been an easy task with the all-time record snowfall, and the seemingly continual mechanical issues with our truck. And, a major thank you to my fellow Trustee, Bill Shively, who filled in behind the wheel while Ed was on vacation.

During the past month your elected officials, as well as our Zoning Inspector Bob Talbott and Zoning Secretary Dave Stites, had the opportunity to attend the Ohio Township Association's Winter Conference in Columbus. It was a great educational experience with a variety of seminars on topics of concern to townships. It also gave us a chance to talk with others in similar positions, many vendors, and several architects familiar with township building design and construction. This was well worth our time and effort.

I would like to congratulate John Fink and Tom Filbert on their appointment to the Zoning Commission. They'll be busy! There's plenty of work in the months ahead for the Zoning Commission. I genuinely appreciate the dedication of all of our board members and their willingness to give their time for the benefit of everyone in Kingston Township.

Until next time, take care and get out and enjoy life.

Zoning News

Filbert and Fink Appointed to BZC



Tom Filbert (left) and John Fink (right) were appointed to fill unexpired terms on the Board of Zoning Commission.

At their March meeting, the Trustees interviewed four candidates for two open positions on the Board of Zoning Commission. Thanks to everyone who applied. It's great to see renewed interest in the zoning boards.

The trustees appointed Alternate Tom Filbert and past trustee and zoning commission member John Fink.

Filbert has served as an alternate on the Zoning Commission since November 2008 and will fill an unexpired term that runs through 2012. Filbert and his wife and children lived on 3Bs

and K Rd. in Brown Township for 20 years prior to moving to Kingston Township in 1999. Filbert retired as maintenance section manager after 30 years with the Ohio Department of Natural Resources. He currently works part-time as the fleet manager for the Ohio State Parks. He also serves on the Buckeye Valley Local School District Facilities Committee.

Fink served as township trustee from 2006-2009. He was a charter member of the Zoning Commission, was instrumental in getting the township's zoning under local control, and had served as commission chairman. He assisted in drafting the original zoning resolution as well as the township's first master plan. He will fill an unexpired term that runs through 2014. He and his wife Theresa and their family have lived in the township for 16 years. Fink's career has been in commercial real estate property management and maintenance and is currently the facilities operation manager for the City of Columbus.

Zoning Commission Alternate Vacancy

The Kingston Township Board of Trustees will be appointing one position on the Kingston Township Zoning Commission. The appointment will fill the alternate vacancy. Interested Kingston Township residents should submit a letter of interest along with a resume to the Kingston Township Zoning Office prior to Friday, March 26, 2010.

The Zoning Commission meets on a monthly basis and deals with matters related to the Kingston Township Zoning Resolution, the Kingston Township Comprehensive Plan/Zoning District Map and other duties as defined within Chapter 519 of the Ohio Revised Code.

Applicants will be interviewed by the Board of Trustees during their monthly meeting on Tuesday, April 6, 2010, 7:30 p.m. at the Kingston Township Hall. The applicant must be present to be considered for the position. Please contact the Zoning Office at 740-524-0290 with questions.

The letter of interest and resume may be submitted by e-mail to zoning@kingstontwp.org or by mail or to: Kingston Township Hall, 9899 State Route 521, Sunbury, Ohio 43074.

OTA Conference

The Zoning staff attended Ohio Township Association Conference sessions including competitive bidding requirements; Ohio ethics law; the true cost of development; the process for constructing a township building; a zoning update; making and defending zoning decisions; and, the role of township zoning bodies.

Upper Big Walnut Creek Watershed Project

The Upper Big Walnut Creek Watershed Project was reviewed recently by representatives from three Ohio agencies: the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency, Ohio Department of Natural Resources, and Ohio State University Extension.

The review focused on the watershed action plan format and content necessary to receive state endorsement. In addition, various approaches to be used in gathering public input and participation were outlined. Recognizing the causes and sources of water quality impairments is still the highest priority workload at this time. A review draft of the plan to address

water quality impairments is due at the end of this year.

Our U.S. Department of Agriculture watershed research project continues to collect water samples from 46 sites throughout the watershed including five continuous monitoring flumes and eight tile drainage systems. Stream ecology studies continue as weather permits.

A second federally funded state research project is now underway to determine whether a water quality credit trading program would be feasible. This study also involves the collection of water samples throughout the watershed and will conduct a number of personal interviews, form small focus groups, and conduct surveys to determine the willingness of watershed stakeholders to participate.

For more information about the watershed project, visit the Delaware Soil & Water Conservation District website at <http://delawareswcd.org/Watershed/UBWC/> or contact Ed Miller, at 740-368-1921 or e-mail ed-miller@delawareswcd.org.

Big Walnut Schools Are Excellent

Big Walnut Schools Superintendent Steve Mazzi attended the March Trustees Meeting to review the schools 2008-2009 Report Card. Big Walnut met 29 out of 30 indicators to earn the "Excellent" designation for the fourth year in a row. Big Walnut ranks second among Delaware County Schools with Olentangy ranking first. Ohio schools rank fifth in the nation.

Voting & Poll Workers

Be sure you are registered so you can vote on Tuesday, May 4. You may download a voter registration card at <http://www.co.delaware.oh.us/boe/vr.asp>. The form must be received or postmarked by the 30th day before the election which is Monday, April 5.

Poll workers are needed for the Primary Election, Tuesday, May 4 and the General Election, Tuesday, November 2. You must be a registered voter in Delaware County, able to attend training, and be capable of working a long day. New poll worker training will be held at various times and days during the month before an election, lasts approximately three hours, and pays \$25. On Election Day, poll workers report to their polling location at 5:30 a.m. and will work until approximately 8:30 p.m. and are paid \$107.91.

If you are interested, please contact the Delaware County Board of Elections, 2079 US Hwy 23N, Delaware, OH 43015 or call 740-833-2080. Information is also available at <http://www.co.delaware.oh.us/boe/POLL.asp>.

Install • Inspect • Protect

More than 3,000 people die in home fires each year in the United States; most of whom are in homes without a working smoke alarm. In Ohio, 184 people died in fires in 2008. Working smoke detectors were found in only 19% of the homes in which a fatal fire occurred. A working, properly installed smoke alarm lowers your chances of dying in a fire.

The Division of State Fire Marshal and the U.S. Fire Administration (USFA) are promoting the **Install. Inspect. Protect. Campaign**, which emphasizes that "Smoke Alarms Save Lives." The mission of this campaign is to encourage Americans to practice fire safety by:

1. Installing and maintaining smoke alarms which can help save the lives of residents and firefighters;
2. Practicing fire escape plans; and,
3. Performing a home safety walk-through to remove fire hazards from the home.

According to the National Fire Protection Association, between 2003-2006, almost two-thirds of home fire deaths resulted from fires in homes with no smoke alarms or no working smoke alarms. During the same time period, no smoke alarms were present in 40 percent of the home fire deaths and in 23 percent of the home fire deaths, smoke alarms were present but did not sound.

The USFA believes that all homes should be equipped with smoke alarms and automatic fire sprinklers, and families should

prepare and practice emergency escape plans. When both smoke alarms and fire sprinklers are present in a home, the risk of dying in a fire is reduced by 82 percent, when compared to a residence without either.

A few residential smoke alarm tips include:

- Place properly installed and maintained smoke alarms both inside and outside of sleeping areas and on every level of your home.
- Interconnected smoke alarms are best, because if one sounds, they all sound.
- Get smoke alarms that can sound fast. The USFA recommends that every residence and place where people sleep be equipped with both ionization and photoelectric smoke alarms or dual sensor smoke alarms, which contain both ionization and photoelectric smoke sensors.
- Testing smoke alarms monthly and changing alkaline batteries at least once every year, or as instructed. You can use a date you already know, like your birthday, or when you change your clocks as a reminder.
- Consider buying a long-life (lithium) battery-powered smoke alarm, which may last up to ten years with no battery change. If a smoke alarm sounds during normal cooking or when bathing, press the hush button if the smoke alarm has one. Open the door or window or fan the area with a towel to get the air moving.
- Do not disable the smoke alarm or take out the batteries. If this happens often, the smoke alarm will need to be relocated.

Kingston Calendar

Meetings occur at the Township Hall, 9899 St. Rt. 521, (Rt. 521 & Carter's Corner Rd.) unless noted* otherwise. Trash pick up days are Thursdays except during holiday weeks.

Trash Day (Thursday) April 1
 Trustees Meeting (1st Tuesday) April 6, 7:30 PM
 Recycling Bin Arrives (2nd Thursday) ... April 8 (until full)
 Trash Day (Thursday) April 8, 15
 Zoning Commission (3rd Wednesday) April 21, 7 PM
 Trash Days (Thursday) April 22, 29
 Election Day May 4

Who To Call (740 Area Code)

TRUSTEES

Steve Volpe, Ch.: 965-1802, svolpe@kingstontwp.org
 Dewey Akers: 803-1529, dakers@kingstontwp.org
 Bill Shively: 272-3668, bshively@kingstontwp.org

FISCAL OFFICER

Greg Roy: 524-8591, fiscalofficer@kingstontwp.org

NEWS & INFO

Township Web Site: <http://www.kingstontwp.org>
 Newsletter Editor: Jeanna Burrell 965-1914
 e-mail: kingstonnews@embarqmail.com

PORTER KINGSTON FIRE DISTRICT

Emergency: 911; Business: 524-5050
PKFD@rrohio.com; <http://www.PKFD.org>

ROADS & CEMETERIES

Twp. Maintenance, Ed Moore 614-530-9969

TRASH

Rumpke: 1- 888-RUMPKE1 (1-888-786-7531)
 e-mail: chris.lavender@rumpke.com
 web: <http://www.rumpke.com>

ZONING

Robert Talbott: 524-0290, Fax: 524-5304
 e-mail: zoning@kingstontwp.org