

Kingston Township

August 2011

News

Chairman's Chat – By Bill Shively

Hello everyone! We have been very fortunate to get the welcome rains for the month of July. The area's gardens and field crops are all looking good. It is amazing how fast corn can grow when it has ideal growing conditions.

The township's annual audit is complete and all the records are in order and every dollar is accounted for. The auditor has recommended some new procedures for us to implement in the future.

The cuts the state will make to the township's general fund are still unknown, but we do know they are going to happen. The state estate tax will end in 2013. The trustees know that operating funds are going to be down and we will continue to budget expected revenue efficiently.

The Kingston community has suffered a great loss with the passing of resident Jim Martin. Jim served as chairman of the Board of Zoning Appeals. He was a great photographer of nature and the area's wildlife. I would often see Jim on Hogback Road photographing the Osprey in the area. We will miss Jim. Memorial contributions can be made to Preservation Parks of Delaware County, Hogback Ridge Preserve, 2656 Hogback Rd., Sunbury, Ohio 43074.

I want to wish all Ohio State Fair and Hartford Fair participants good luck with their 4-H and FFA projects.

If you have a question or concern, please call me at 740-272-3668. Keep cool!!!!!!!

Strohm Appointed to Zoning Commission



At their July meeting, the Kingston Township Trustees appointed Richard Strohm to the Kingston Township Zoning Commission as an alternate through August 2015. Strohm replaces Rick Giffin who just moved from the alternate position to become a Zoning Commission board member.

Strohm is a retired financial planner and a Viet Nam veteran. He and his wife have lived in Delaware County for two decades and just moved recently to Kingston Township. He enjoys golf, fishing, gardening, and spending time with his four grandchildren. We welcome him to the Zoning Commission.

Firefighter of the Year

Congratulations to Porter Kingston Firefighter of the Year Marcus Chapman. Chapman has been with PKFD for three years as a volunteer and works full time for the City of Westerville as a Firefighter/Paramedic. He is a member of Central Ohio's Task Force One Search and Rescue Team and also is a member of the Central Ohio Pipes and Drums.

"Marcus was selected for his dedication, knowledge, and leadership," said PKFD Fire Chief Michael Thompson.

"Marcus always takes time to instruct classes and help new firefighters getting into the service."

Chapman enjoys riding his motorcycle and spending time with his wife and two children. He was honored in the Sunbury Independence Day Parade.



Zoning Vacancy

The Kingston Township Board of Trustees will be appointing one position on the Kingston Township Zoning Commission. The appointment will fill a position with a five-year term that expires in August 2016.

Interested Kingston Township residents should submit a letter of interest along with a resume to the Kingston Township Zoning Office prior to Friday, July 29, 2011.

The Zoning Commission meets on a bi-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, August 2, 2011, 7 p.m. at the Kingston Township Hall. Applicants must be present to be considered for the position. Please contact the Zoning Office at 740-524-0290 with questions.

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

Zoning News

The NorthStar land donation of 169.7 acres to the township has been re-recorded at the Delaware County Recorder's Office with the correct spelling of Kingston. The trustees will consult with experts about current building costs per square foot before proceeding with any further township hall plans.

The Zoning Commission's next meeting will be August 17. Two zoning permits were issued for an accessory structure on St. Rt. 61 and a new home on Blue Church Rd.

A lot split was started for a five acre parcel being split from a 54.9 acre parcel on N. Galena Rd.

The Zoning Office staff presented fee comparisons for six other townships' zoning fees. The trustees voted to increase the fees. New single family home fees will increase to \$500. Other fees were corrected to reflect recent changes in the zoning code.

A response was received from the mortgage company regarding clean up of an illegal trash dump at a Blue Church Rd. residence. The company took possession of the home at the end of June and plans to clean it up.

The office followed up on a high grass complaint on a foreclosed Blue Church Rd. property. Letters were sent. The

owner made some progress mowing the property. Another high grass complaint was received on an empty property on St. Rt. 521. A letter was sent to the owner.

The trustees are developing a list of landscape contractors to use for hourly contract mowing for nuisance properties. The costs would be billed back to property owners of affected properties.

PKFD Awarded Grant Funds

The Porter Kingston Fire District has been awarded two grants. The Ohio Division of EMS grant was awarded for \$1,500 for training and equipment for the district. The 2010 Homeland Security Grant for \$21,591.85 will fund a variety of equipment for the Special Ops trailer. The district is working toward becoming certified as a Type 3 collapse team through the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

Roads & Cemeteries

Road Superintendent Doug Crawl is mowing all township roads. It takes 17 hours to mow one width along all roads. Crawl is mowing two widths to prevent sapling growth on all the road right-of-ways.

Crawl is investigating options for a 30' x 60' salt storage facility at the maintenance building.

Resurfacing on Blue Church and Berkshire roads is tentatively planned for July 27. Prep work is underway for St. Rt. 656 repaving and St. Rt. 521 will be repaved this summer as well.

The state has increased mileage reimbursement from \$.51 to \$.555 per mile.

Re-entry Coalition

Patricia Clements from the Delaware County Re-entry Coalition spoke at the recent trustees meeting to inform residents about the coalition's efforts. The Re-entry Coalition formed in 2009 and is supported by the Prosecutor's Office, County Commissioners, local law enforcement officials, elected judges, community treatment providers, attorneys, the Job and Family Services Department, and the Board of Developmental Disabilities. Additionally, citizens of Delaware County and offenders participate in the Coalition.

Re-entry is an innovative approach to enhancing public safety and reducing recidivism (rate of return to jail). Re-entry develops a relationship with an offender prior to incarceration. It evaluates an offender's risk to re-offend and identifies barriers that need addressed prior to an offender being released from incarceration. Ideally, re-entry coordinators will be able to assist an offender in removing barriers to successful reintegration such as stable housing, gainful employment, educational attainment, lack of family/community support, unreliable or no transportation, access to community-based treatments, and strenuous reporting requirements for probation or parole (if applicable).

Why is this effort needed in Delaware County?

- Thirty youth spend 30 days in detention, three youth are in the custody of the Department of Youth Services and the County purchases 3,000 days of bed space for detention.
- One thousand adults are on felony probation, 25% from 43015 zip code and 50% from outside Delaware County.
- One hundred twenty-five adults are on parole. (The majority of individuals released from prison have completed their sentence and have no community sanctions. Delaware County's recidivism rate is 35%.)
- More than 3,800 adults cycle in and out of the county jail annually.

- The County along with the City of Delaware spend more than \$66 million dollars annually on criminal justice services which does not include other jurisdictions or collateral costs for other departments (Jobs and Family Services, Mental Health and Substance Abuse, etc.)

The Plan: The Coalition has developed a five-year comprehensive strategic plan to enhance public safety and reduce recidivism. The Coalition currently has a planning grant from the Office of Public Safety. The Coalition has applied for a federal demonstration grant to implement activities and programming identified in the strategic plan. The Coalition is embarking on a community awareness campaign so that Delaware County residents can be informed of what the Coalition is doing and why re-entry is important in our community.

Anyone interested in participating in the Coalition can contact Clements at pclements@co.delaware.oh.us or attend a Coalition meeting on the fourth Friday of each month at Noon at the Delaware County Department of Jobs and Family Services, 140 N. Sandusky St., Delaware.

Get Your Newsletter E-mailed

Sign up today to receive the newsletter by e-mail. Contact kingstonnews@embarqmail.com.

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 Fridays except during holiday weeks.

Zoning Commission Applications Due July 29
Trustees Meeting (1st Tuesday) Aug. 2
Trash & Recycling Day (Fridays) Aug. 5, 12
Zoning Meeting Aug. 17
Trash & Recycling Day (Fridays) Aug. 19, 26

Who To Call (740 Area Code)

TRUSTEES

Bill Shively, Ch.: 272-3668, 8760 SR 521, Sunbury
Dewey Akers: 803-1529, dakers@kingstontwp.org
Steve Volpe: 965-1802, svolpe@kingstontwp.org

FISCAL OFFICER

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

DELAWARE COUNTY EMS

Emergency: 911; **Business: 833-2190**
<http://www.delcoems.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@rroho.com; <http://www.PKFD.org>

ROADS & CEMETERIES

Doug Crawl, 740-815-8427 roads@kingstontwp.org

TRASH & RECYCLING

Big-O Refuse: **1- 888-924-BIGO (2446)**
e-mail: service@bigorefuse.com
web: <http://www.bigorefuse.com>

ZONING

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