

Kingston Township

January 2011

News



Holiday lights like these at the Kreft and Zinn homes on St. Rt. 521 warm the cold nights of winter!

Chairman's Chat – By Steve Volpe

It's hard to believe it's been a year already. What a great year this has been. I cannot begin to express my gratitude toward all of you who have been kind enough to forward your thoughts and opinions to me. I am really excited about working with all of you this coming year as we begin the discussion about a new township hall. I am truly blessed to be able to serve such a wonderful community.

I'm sure that everyone reading this newsletter will join me in thanking Jeanna Burrell, the editor of the *Kingston News*. She does a tremendous job of gathering and organizing volumes of information in a clear and understandable way for all. I have also found that she is a wealth of information on the history of Kingston Township. Thanks Jeanna!

I would also like to thank Dave Stites, Bob Talbott, and the BZA and Zoning Commission members. We are just wrapping up a re-write/update of our Zoning Code. This team has worked tremendously hard and long to accomplish this. The entire township will benefit from their selfless efforts for years to come. Thanks!

Our new Road Superintendent, Doug Crawl, hit the ground running and has been organizing and performing long deferred maintenance on our equipment. We have been able to auction off obsolete equipment (finally!). It's great to have him on board.

My personal MVPs this year would have to be my fellow Trustees (and friends), Dewey Akers and Bill Shively. These fine gentlemen are a pleasure to work with. Their support and advice have been invaluable in this my Freshman year as a Trustee. Although I have had occasions to disagree with each of them, we always are able to respect each other's opinions, and move on down the road. Like I've said before, if we all thought alike they wouldn't need three of us. And, of course, our Financial Officer Greg Roy, has kept all the numbers straight (not an easy job). Thanks to all.

Finally, I would like to wish one and all, a Very Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays. Stay safe and warm. And have a wonderful, happy, and prosperous New Year! As always, remember, life is not a rehearsal. Get out and enjoy yourself.

Trustees Meeting

At their December meeting, the Trustees changed their January organizational/monthly meeting to January 3 at 7 p.m.

Trustees announced that residents on Kilbourne Road have created a Block Watch program through the Delaware County Sheriff's Office. If other residents are interested in establishing a block watch, they can contact the Sheriff.

It was reported that Delaware County is contributing \$40,000 toward an impact study of the interchange options in Berkshire Township. The trustees voted to send a formal letter endorsing the southern intersection option near Cheshire Rd.

With the settlement of the Robert Weiler Company lawsuit against the township, the trustees will receive deeds to the township hall and farmland on Carter's Corner Rd. 120 days after sign-off of the final plan or approximately May 1. Chairman Steve Volpe will explore some construction costs and options and Fiscal Officer Greg Roy will investigate financing options for building a township hall. The township will also explore the possibility of leasing out the farmland this year. It was discussed that the township should begin developing a master plan or vision for the land and begin planning for a township hall.

Roads and Cemeteries

If you see icy or drifted township roads, call Road Superintendent Doug Crawl at 740-815-8427 or e-mail him at roads@kingstontwp.org.

Crawl has 55 tons of salt stored and ready to go and it looks like he has needed to use it already. He has also been busy working on the township truck, scaling off rust and undercoating it. He has developed a map of the veterans in Stark Cemetery as well.

Weiler Lawsuit Settled

The Township and The Robert Weiler Company have settled the litigation concerning the 606 acre "Pastures at Blue Church" development, generally located at the northeast corner of Blue Church and Rosecrans roads. The settlement required the approval of the U.S. District Court, which was obtained after a public hearing was held for township residents to discuss the proposed settlement.

Under the settlement, the Pastures at Blue Church will be zoned in the Planned Residence District (PRD) and is to be developed in accordance with a development plan that was part of the review process. The approved plan allows for the development of 290 half acre lots and the future development of churches and a daycare center. The developer originally sought 310 lots on 1/3 acre lot size with 7 1/2' side yard setbacks. The plan calls for lots having a minimum width of 100 feet with 15 foot side set-backs. The use of the PRD category will allow the wetlands and wooded areas that are on this site to be better preserved than they would be under the FR1 district.

Prior to approving the settlement, the Court reviewed the application and the public hearing record and made a determination that the settlement was fair and reasonable. Neither side paid the other money in connection with the settlement, except that Weiler is to pay the standard rezoning application fee.

Smith Reappointed to BZA



At their December meeting, Trustees reappointed Steven Smith to a five-year term on the Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA). Smith has served on the BZA for 7 1/2 years. Smith has lived on Blue Church Road for 13 years with his wife Becky. They have a one-year old son, Thomas. Smith is a systems analyst in Retail Lending for JP Morgan Chase.

Zoning Code Public Hearings



Kingston Township Zoning Commissioners (front row l. to r.) Jim Grove, Chairman Tom Filbert, and Bill Steinhoff, and (back row l. to r.) Zoning Inspector Bob Talbott, Rick Smith, John Fink, Heather Burdette, and Zoning Secretary Dave Stites recently held a public hearing on revisions to the township's zoning resolution.

The Kingston Township Zoning Commission conducted a public hearing on December 15 at the Kingston Township Hall to solicit testimony regarding proposed text amendments to the Kingston Township Zoning Resolution. The Zoning Commission voted unanimously to recommend the text revisions for adoption by the Kingston Township Trustees. The Zoning Commission will present their recommendation to the trustees at their Jan. 3 meeting.

The proposed text amendments are available for public review at the Zoning Office each Friday during normal business hours, at the Sunbury Community Library Reference Desk and online at the Kingston Township Website www.kingstontwp.org in the Special Notice section. All proposed text additions are in green ink and text to be deleted is in red ink.

The proposed text amendments **do not** change existing requirements such as building lot size, density, road frontage, and flag lot development. The proposed text changes are being made for the following reasons:

- to bring the Zoning Resolution into compliance with the Ohio Revised Code;
- to change Article numbering from roman numerals to standard numbering;
- to modify Article 4-Definitions to support the proposed text

amendments;

- to clarify a number of existing sections that were found to be unclear or confusing such as home occupations and roadside sale of personal property;
- to reflect the Kingston Township Comprehensive Plan;
- to address new items that are becoming statewide issues such as the regulation of LED lighted billboards, telecommunication towers, and windmills; and,
- to reflect and incorporate insight gained by the Zoning Commission and the Zoning Staff from nine years of administering and enforcing zoning in Kingston Township.

As this overview is not intended to be a detailed list of all proposed changes, all parties are encouraged to review the document in its entirety to identify specific proposed changes in relationship to the party's individual interests. Please contact the Zoning Office at 740-524-0290 should you have any questions.

The trustees will accept public testimony on the proposed changes during a public hearing at their February 1 meeting.

Santa Tours Townships

Thanks to the Porter-Kingston firefighters for again giving Santa a tour of both Porter and Kingston townships so he'll be sure to know exactly where every house is for Christmas Eve. Santa also enjoyed hearing the wish lists at the Fire Station.

Newsletter By E-mail

To receive an e-mailed version, 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 Thursdays except during holiday weeks.

Trustees Meeting (1st Tuesday) CHANGED ... Jan. 3, 7 PM
Trash Day (Thursdays) Jan. 6, 13
Recycling Bin Arrives (2nd Thursday) ... Jan. 13 (until full)
Zoning Commission (3rd Wednesday) Jan. 19, 7 PM
Trash Day (Thursdays) Jan. 20, 27

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, 8760 SR 521, Sunbury, OH

FISCAL OFFICER

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

NEWS & INFO

Township Web Site: <http://www.kingstontwp.org>
Newsletter Editor: Jeanna Burrell 965-1914
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PORTER KINGSTON FIRE DISTRICT

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

ROADS & CEMETERIES

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

TRASH

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

ZONING

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