

Kingston Township

January 2012

News

Chairman's Chat – By Bill Shively

Happy New Year! Let's hope 2012 has a lot more sunny days than 2011 did. The central Ohio area saw record rainfall in 2011 and many counties were declared natural disaster areas due to all the weather extremes that occurred during different times of the year in Ohio and across the country.

The Kingston Township Zoning Commission and Board of Appeals both have openings available. If you are interested in serving on one of the zoning boards, please contact Dave Stites or Bob Talbott for more information. I would like to thank Tracy Trout for her 10 years of service on the Board of Zoning Appeals.

The Trustees are working on the township farmland lease and advertisement for bidding. When we have everything approved by legal counsel, it will be advertised in the local newspaper.

Road supervisor Doug Crowl has been busy filling the salt storage bin and finalizing repairs on the dump trucks. The Trustees top priority is to provide safe and clear roadways this winter. Please report any unsafe road condition in the township to the Sheriff's office.

I have been asked by many residents about the status of a new township hall and community park. The Trustees are in the very preliminary stages of getting this very important project started. Please check the newsletter for updates and progress.

This will be my last Chairman's Chat column for 2011 as we will select a new chairman for 2012. I would like to wish all of you a very happy, healthy, and prosperous 2012.

Santa Visits the Township



Santa and the Porter Kingston Fire District wish everyone Happy Holidays! Thanks to everyone who helped make Santa's visit a big success!

Trustees Action

Kingston Township Fiscal Officer Greg Roy reported to trustees that second half taxes were received and increased the township's bank account to \$620,000 with \$138,000 also invested in Star Ohio.

Recommendations from the township's 2009-2010 audit have been enacted. The trustees chairman now opens and signs the bank statements and reviews for consecutive check numbers. And, Roy is issuing now and then purchase orders.

The trustees will hold an end of the year meeting on Dec. 29 to pay all outstanding 2011 bills and close the books.

The Delaware Area Transi Authority (DATA) requested funding from the township to help support its 2012 operations. DATA needs matching funds to qualify for state and federal funding. DATA made 17 trips in Kingston Township during 2011. Trustees are considering the request.

Zoning News

Tracy Trout has completed her second five-year term on the Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA) and will not seek reappointment. She has served as vice-chair of the BZA for most of that time. The township thanks Tracy for her decade of service to her community.

Two zoning permits were issued in November for a front porch on St. Rte. 61 and an accessory building on Blue Church Rd. One Agricultural Exemption was granted for a barn on Twigg-Hupp Rd. One lot split was approved for property on Blue Church Rd.

The zoning staff investigated a complaint about billboard construction along I-71 to replace a previous billboard that was damaged. The Zoning Office met with Lamar Outdoor Advertising to discuss Zoning Resolution requirements and options for rebuilding the sign. The resolution limits sign size to 300 square feet (s.f.) so a variance would be required for the 1,700 s.f. sign. A review of other township requirements showed that Brown, Berkshire, and Orange townships all have 300 s.f. limits and Berlin Township has a 100 s.f. limitation. Lamar plans to apply for a variance to rebuild the sign.

The Zoning Commission will move to quarterly meetings.

Zoning Vacancies

The Kingston Township Board of Trustees will be appointing two positions on the Kingston Township Zoning Commission. The appointments will fill the existing terms that both expire in August 2015. **Position A** has full member status and **Position B** is an alternate who has voting rights in the absence of a member.

The Zoning Commission meets on quarterly 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.

The trustees will also be appointing one position (**Position**

C) on the Kingston Township Board of Zoning Appeals to fill a term that runs through December 2016.

The Board of Zoning Appeals meets on an as needed basis hearing variance requests, appeal of orders issued by the zoning inspector, conditional use requests and revocation of authorized variances and conditional zoning certificates.

Interested Kingston Township residents should submit letters of interest along with resumes to the Kingston Township Zoning Office prior to Friday, January 27, 2012. Each applicant is asked to list on their letter of interest the specific position that they seek.

Applicants will be interviewed by the Board of Trustees during their monthly meeting on Tuesday, February 7, 2012, 7:00 P.M. at the Kingston Township Hall. The applicant must be present to be considered for the position.

Letters of interest may be submitted to Kingston Township, 9899 State Route 521, Sunbury, Ohio 43074 or by email to zoning@kingstontwp.org. Please contact the Zoning Office at 740-524-0290 with questions or visit www.kingstontwp.org and look under Special Notices.

Roads

The township will advertise to find a back-up driver for plowing in case Highway Superintendent Doug Crawl is sick or we have an extended snow storm. The person must have a Class A CDL license with snow plowing experience. Contact Greg Roy at 524-8591 for more information.

Be sure to report bad road conditions to Crawl at 740-815-8427 so he can attend to them.

Trustees opted not to pay the road striping bill due to the poor quality of work. The problem cannot be corrected now until spring.

Delaware County Engineer's Office liaison Eldon Johnston was at the December trustees meeting and reported that design work is progressing on the Wilson Rd. culvert and the Blue Church Rd. bridge.

The federal government's unfunded mandate to replace road signs with highly reflective signs is still in effect despite discussions to extend or revise the law. The township has selected a method of evaluation and needs to have training. Crawl has a plan book started to meet the January 2012 deadline. All signs must be replaced with the highly reflective signs by 2018.

Winter Preparedness & Safety

- excerpts from the Delaware County Emergency Management Agency Winter 2011 Newsletter.

This is the perfect time to think about personal preparedness with the onslaught of winter's wrath just around the corner.

Snow, ice, extreme cold and high winds can cause water pipes to burst, treacherous driving conditions, downed power lines, power outages, communications disruptions, ice dams on roofs and in gutters, and many other issues. These hazards make preparedness exceptionally important. With just a little effort and time, you can be well prepared by doing the following:

- Ensure that your roof is in good shape and gutters are clean.
- Ensure that your attic is properly insulated.
- Have your heating system and chimneys inspected by a professional.
- Have smoke and CO detectors in your home with fresh batteries.
- Do not overload outlets and circuits.
- Ensure that space heaters are positioned so they will not be knocked over and are away from flammable materials and are not left unattended.
- Make sure you have plenty of blankets, flashlights, and batteries, a battery-operated radio, warm clothes, and enough

food, water, and medications for 72 hours. Don't forget about planning for the specific needs of children and pets!

- Make sure you have cash on hand as ATMs may not have electricity or may be empty.
- Do not burn Christmas trees in your fireplace or woodstove. This can cause chimney fires!
- Do not run generators in your home, garage (even if detached), crawl space, or any other enclosed space.
- Make sure your generator is NOT connected to grid power. Electricity which is "back fed" to the grid can electrocute electric company personnel.
- If you have trouble calling to check on family members using a cell phone during an outage, try texting instead.
- Ensure that your vehicle is mechanically sound, all fluids are at correct levels, and your battery has been tested.
- Good brakes and tires with ample tread make a huge difference on icy and snowy roads.

For more information about CO and CO detectors, visit www.weathersafety.ohio.gov. For more information about smoke detectors, visit www.usfa.fema.gov. For more on the winter newsletter, visit www.delcoema.org.

Get Your Newsletter Emailed

Sign up today to receive the newsletter by email. Contact kingstonnews@embarqmail.com.

Kingston Calendar

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

Trustees End of Year Meeting Dec. 29, 7 PM
Trustees Meeting Jan. 3, 7 PM
Trash & Recycling Days (Fridays) Jan. 6, 13, 20, 27

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@rrohio.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