

Kingston Township

News

January 2013

Chairman's Chat – By Dewey Akers

Hello and Happy Holidays! We've made it through Thanksgiving and Christmas is just around the corner. I hope everyone gets a chance to drive around the county and check out the Christmas lights. We have some beautiful displays.

The development of a new township hall has been discussed at the last two meetings. The trustees are researching the possible options which are available to the township to fund this project. We hope to have several consultants visiting in the next few months to discuss design and per square foot cost estimates. We hope there is an affordable way to complete this project.

The completion of road work at the 36-37/71 interchange has made a huge difference in the flow of traffic at that site. The news of a new outlet mall has me wondering how long the improved traffic flow will last.

With the weather getting colder and the large amount of rain we are getting, the pot holes are sure to appear. If you observe any trouble spots with pot holes, snow, or ice while driving in the township, please contact me (740-803-1529) or Doug Crowl (740-815-8427) so we can make repairs quickly.

As always, please contact me with any questions or concerns about Kingston Township.

Thanks and Merry Christmas, *Dewey*

Trustees News

The trustees have scheduled their 2013 organizational meeting and regular January monthly meeting on Thursday, January 3, at 7 p.m. The meeting was moved from the traditional first Tuesday due to the New Year's holiday.

The trustees are beginning to research cost and financing options for building a new township hall on Carter's Corner Rd. Trustees discussed the Ohio Township Association's master lease program, traditional financing, and financing by selling bonds.

Trustee Steve Volpe reported on discussions held at the Delaware County Local Government Association. Several government entities are discussing teaming up for trash and recycling contracts. More entities would create greater buying power and hopefully lower prices for residents.

Discussion was held about contacting Time Warner to research if more of the township could be cabled for high speed internet access.

The trustees also discussed the newly announced outlet mall planned for the southwest corner of the I-71/36/37 intersection at Four Winds Drive. There has been no traffic study and the resulting traffic may give more credibility and urgency to a new southern interchange.

An update was provided on the condition of former resident/trustee Dave Martin. Martin hit a deer with his motorcycle and has been hospitalized since Nov. 18. He underwent surgery but is now awake and out of ICU. He will be moving to a rehabilitation wing at OSU Hospital. Martin now lives in Sunbury and serves as their village administrator.

November Zoning Report Permits

One permit was issued for an Agricultural Exemption on Todd Street Road.

Complaints

- Regarding lack of owner action concerning unmowed grass/vegetation at a property on State Route 521, the Trustees signed a Nuisance Declaration on 10-02-12, and legal notice was sent to the property owner by certified mail on 10-06-12. On 11-06-12, the certified letter was returned to the Zoning Office unclaimed. On 11-06-12, the Trustees affirmed their commitment to the Nuisance Declaration and authorized the Zoning Office to post a legal notice in the newspaper to comply with Ohio Revised Code requirements. The legal notice was published in the Sunbury News on November 15th and the Delaware Gazette on November 16th. At their December meeting, the trustees decided to move forward with mowing the property and adding a lien for the costs to the property owner's tax bill.
- Received a complaint from a neighbor of a junk vehicle collector on Carter's Corner Rd. This was thought to be addressed in the spring with a letter from prosecutor's office and a phone call from violator who said he had removed all vehicles. Vehicles cannot be seen from road, just from the neighbor's yard. The property owner did put up a fence to screen the vehicles which complies with the zoning resolution; however, the fence does not extend far enough to screen all vehicles. As advised by the Trustees, the Zoning Office sent a letter to the property owner on 11-09-12 requesting that the fence be extended to resolve the complaint. The property owner has not contacted the Zoning Office to date. Zoning staff will ask the county prosecutor to send a letter to the property owner.

Miscellaneous

- No applications have been received for the open Zoning Commission Alternate position.
- The Delaware County Code Compliance Office has informed the Zoning Office that Floodplain Regulations do apply to agricultural buildings even though exempted from zoning and building regulations. At their request, the Kingston Township Agricultural Exemption Affidavit has been revised to notify residents applying for an exemption of the floodplain requirement and county contact information.
- At their November 2012 quarterly meeting, the Zoning Commission decided to continue quarterly meetings in 2013 based upon current and anticipated business needs requiring their attention. The next Zoning Commission Meeting will be February 20, 2013.

BZA & Zoning Vacancies

The Kingston Township Board of Trustees will be appointing one position on the Kingston Township Board of Zoning Appeals and one position on the Zoning Commission.

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 term runs through August 2015.

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. The appointment will fill a term that runs through December 2017.

Interested Kingston Township residents should submit a letter of interest along with a resume to the Kingston Township Zoning Office. This posting will remain open until such time that the position is filled. Applicants will be interviewed by the Board of Trustees during their monthly meeting held on February 5, 2013, 7 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.

Township Roads Update

The trustees will meet with the Delaware County Engineer to discuss options and costs for the proposed Blue Church Rd. bridge replacement.

The trustees decided to place seasonal weight reductions on Wilson and Berkshire roads to prevent further deterioration.

Highway Superintendent Doug Crowl will request engineering assistance from the county engineer to review culverts and guard rail needs on Clark Rd. He is also investigating costs for a fuel tank retention basin at the maintenance building. Crowl is working on sign replacements to meet federal reflectivity requirements. Governments must be in compliance with the regulations for highly reflective signs by January 2015.



Porter Kingston Santa's Tour Dec. 23rd



Don't miss Santa's tour of Porter and Kingston townships, 1-4 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 23. Santa will

be back at the Porter-Kingston Firehouse at 4 p.m. to visit with local children. Follow Santa's progress on Dec. 23 at www.facebook.com/PKFDSantaTour.

Holiday and Christmas Tree Fire Safety

Decorating homes and businesses is a long-standing tradition around the holiday season. Unfortunately, these same decorations may increase your chances of fire. Following a few simple fire safety tips can keep electric lights, candles, and the ever popular Christmas tree from creating a tragedy.

- Don't put your live Christmas tree up too early or leave it up for longer than two weeks.
- Place trees away from heat sources, including fireplaces or heat vents. The heat will dry out the tree, causing it to be more easily ignited by heat, flame, or sparks.
- Keep the live tree stand filled with water at all times.
- Use only nonflammable decorations.
- Don't link more than three light strands, unless the directions indicate it's safe. Connect strings of lights to an extension cord before plugging the cord into the outlet.

- Avoid using lit candles; consider using battery-operated flameless candles, which can look, smell, and feel like real candles.
- Ensure that Christmas trees and other holiday decorations don't block an exit way.

For more tips on how to prevent a holiday fire and what to do in case a fire starts in your home, visit the U.S. Fire Administration's website at www.usfa.fema.gov.

Treecycling

Mulch 1st is once again offering their Christmas Treecycling program. Be green and turn your tree into mulch. All trimmings, lights, ornaments, and stands should be removed from the tree and it should not be placed in a bag. Mulch 1st is located at 725 N. Kintner Parkway, Sunbury. Call 740-965-6482 with questions. Winter hours are Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

You can also put your tree out near your compost pile or garden and it will serve as shelter for birds and small animals during the winter.

Sign Up For the Newsletter

Sign up today at kingstonnews@embarqmail.com to get your newsletter emailed each month. Forward your newsletter to a neighbor so they can get their community news, too.

Kingston Calendar

Meetings are 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*.
 Trash & Recycling Day (Saturday*) Dec. 29*
 Trustees Mtg. Jan. 3, 7 PM
 Trash & Recycling Days (Fridays) Jan. 5*, 11, 18, 26*

Who To Call (740 Area Code)

TRUSTEES

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

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 Crowl, 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