



News

May 2014

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www.kingstontwp.org

Chairman's Chat – By Bill Shively

Hello everyone! Warm spring weather has finally overcome what I consider the longest winter in recent history. The township's road salt usage for this past winter was almost 250 tons. We have ordered 225 tons for next winter.

Schorr Architects presented the draft floor plans of the proposed new township hall at the April trustees meeting. The overall building is 6,328 square foot. The main assembly room will hold approximately 200 people with a catering kitchen, conference room, zoning offices, general storage, and restrooms. Schorr Architects have done an outstanding job at designing and organizing the overall township hall and park concept. The trustees will know the estimated cost and other funding options at the next trustees meeting.

Farmers will be on the roadways this planting season. Please be careful when passing large farm equipment.

If you have any questions or concerns, please call me at 740-272-3668.

Township Hall and Park Planning



The Township Hall and Park Planning Committee met again April 4 to review draft plans. Architect Tony Schorr discussed pros and cons of various building methods. Schorr then presented the draft plans at the trustees meeting for input. He shared the preliminary floor plan, elevations, and site plan. Of the master park plan, Phase One would include the township hall, an associated parking lot, and grading for a recreation area. The first phase would also include a road to the township hall and a bike trail paid for by the NorthStar developer.

The draft of the building includes 6,328 square feet and Schorr discussed with the trustees whether to proceed with that concept or remove the assembly hall and create a flexible arrangement of the foyer and conference room to serve as the meeting room until the assembly hall could be added at a later date. The trustees decided to move forward with the committee's plan and with Schorr developing cost estimates.

The trustees will also look into financing methods and clarify ballot procedures. The trustees decided to proceed with cleaning up and burning dilapidated buildings on the property.

If you would like to offer your input, the next meeting will be April 25 at 1:30 p.m. at the Township Hall.

Roads

Township road berming was tentatively set to be completed in early April at a cost of \$8,900. Drainage work on the north side of Berkshire Rd. will occur this year at a cost estimated at \$24,981. The trustees also decided to do grader paving on Wilson Rd. for \$17,000.

March Zoning Report

Permits

- 2 permits were issued in March:
- An accessory building permit on Carter's Corner Rd.
- Agriculture exemption for a horse barn on Blue Church Rd.

Complaints

Complaint about property on SR 61 and Rosecrans Rd. about uncut grass, debris, and a sign. Third and final letter from zoning office sent 11-08-13. Business sign has been removed but less than adequate progress has been made by the owner to clean up trash and debris adjacent to the residence. Mark Fowler of the County Prosecutor's office will send a letter to the property owner to attempt to get compliance prior to litigation proceeding. Prosecutor letter sent 01-24-14. Property owner came to office 01-31-14 to discuss cleanup. Agreed to complete by April 30th with acknowledgment letter to be sent by owner to Zoning Office. Case pending. Letter from owner acknowledging commitment was received.

Complaint regarding overgrown grass, accumulated trash and debris and excessive motor vehicles on a property located off State Route 61 was investigated by Zoning Inspector Talbott on 12-06-13. In general, overgrown grass is not an issue with the exception of one area that is overgrown and contains trash and debris. There are several vehicles located on the property; however, the vehicles appear to be licensed/parked in an organized fashion and do not present a zoning violation. Letter sent 12-06-13 asking for voluntary compliance in cleaning up trash and debris in the overgrown area. The property owner visited the Zoning Office to discuss the matter on 12-13-13, and indicated that they would address the overgrown area with debris by spring. Case pending.

Miscellaneous

- Site review for NorthStar Section 1, Phase E on March 13th. 64 lots total, 34 in Kingston.
- Changed zoning permit application to require driveway permit receipt as part of submittal.
- BZA variance hearing held for side yard setback for accessory building on Carter's Corner's Rd. Variance granted.
- Windows XP no longer supported in early April. New computers installed, invoice presented for contractor.
- Dave Stites completed classes and is now a notary public.

Quarterly Zoning Commission Meetings

- May 21, 2014

BZA Alternate Vacancy

The Kingston Township Board of Trustees will be appointing one position on the Kingston Township Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA). The alternate position is an existing term that runs through December 2015. The BZA meets on an as-needed basis hearing variance requests, appeals of orders issued by the zoning inspector, conditional use requests, and revocation of authorized variances and conditional zoning certificates.

Interested township residents should submit a letter of interest and a resume to the Kingston Township Zoning Office, 9899 State Route 521, Sunbury, Ohio 43074 or by email to zoning@kingstontwp.org.

This posting will remain open until the position is filled. Applicants will be interviewed by the Board of Trustees during their monthly meeting on May 6, 7 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 or visit <http://www.kingstontwp.org/Notices.htm>.

Big Walnut Schools Update

Big Walnut Schools Superintendent Steve Mazzi, Board of Education member Andy Wecker, and High School Principal Jeff Jones attended the April trustees meeting. Wecker will again serve as the Kingston Township liaison.

Mazzi reported that the schools are again rated excellent. He said the schools are the common bond in the Big Walnut area and he attributed the strong collaboration and communication among the six townships and two villages as a factor in the schools' success. Big Walnut's goal has been 75%-85% building occupancy and student numbers will trigger the reopening of Harrison St. Elementary School next year. The building has been remodeled and it will primarily serve students east of State Route 61 and north of State Route 37.

Mazzi said the schools have not requested a levy since 2010 and they are holding to their pledge for a five-year levy. They will most likely request a renewal in 2015.

Preventing Heat-Related Illness

The best defense is prevention. Tips include:

- Drink more (nonalcoholic) fluids, regardless of your activity level. Don't wait until you're thirsty to drink. Warning: If your doctor generally limits the amount of fluid you drink or has you on water pills, ask he/she how much you should drink while the weather is hot.
- Don't drink liquids that contain caffeine, alcohol, or large amounts of sugar—these actually cause you to lose more body fluid. Also, avoid very cold drinks because they can cause stomach cramps.
- Stay indoors and, if at all possible, stay in an air-conditioned place. If your home does not have air conditioning, go to the shopping mall or public library—even a few hours spent in air conditioning can help your body stay cooler when you go back into the heat. Call your local health department to see if there are any heat-relief shelters in your area.
- Electric fans may provide comfort, but when the temperature is in the high 90s, fans will not prevent heat-related illness. Taking a cool shower or bath, or moving to an air-conditioned place is a much better way to cool off.
- Wear lightweight, light-colored, loose-fitting clothing.
- NEVER leave anyone in a closed, parked vehicle.
- Although any one at any time can suffer from heat-related illness, some people are at greater risk than others. Check regularly on:

- o Infants and young children;
 - o People aged 65 or older;
 - o People who have a mental illness; and,
 - o Those who are physically ill, especially with heart disease or high blood pressure.
- Visit adults at risk at least twice a day and closely watch them for signs of heat exhaustion or heat stroke. Infants and young children, of course, need much more frequent watching.
- If you must be out in the heat:**
- Limit your outdoor activity to morning and evening hours.
 - Cut down on exercise. If you must exercise, drink two to four glasses of cool, nonalcoholic fluids each hour. A sports beverage can replace the salt and minerals you lose in sweat. Warning: If you are on a low-salt diet, talk with your doctor before drinking a sports beverage. Remember the warning in the first "tip" (above), too.
 - Try to rest often in shady areas.
 - Protect yourself from the sun by wearing a wide-brimmed hat (also keeps you cooler) and sunglasses and by putting on sunscreen of SPF 15 or higher (the most effective products say "broad spectrum" or "UVA/UVB protection" on their labels).

This information provided by NCEH's Health Studies Branch.

Sign up For Our Newsletter

Contact us at kingstonnews@embarqmail.com to have the newsletter emailed directly to you. If you would like a mailed copy, call the Township Hall at 740-524-0290.

Who To Call (740 Area Code)

TRUSTEES

Bill Shively, Ch: 272-3668, 8760 SR 521, Sunbury
Dewey Akers, Vice-Ch.: 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 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

Kingston Calendar

Meetings are at the Township Hall, unless noted otherwise.
Trash pick up days are Fridays except during holiday weeks*.
Trustees Mtg. ----- May 6, 7 PM
Zoning Commission Mtg. ----- May 21 7 PM
Trash & Recycling Days ----- May 2, 9, 16, 23, 31*