



KINGSTON NEWS

1ST QUARTER, FEBRUARY 2021

Chairman's Chat

By Dewey Akers, Trustees Chairman

Hello, Everyone. Once again I have the privilege to serve as chairman of the Board of Trustees. I want to say thank you to all those who supported me in the last election.

Trustee Volpe has put in many hours to get the new township hall started. We hope we can be moved in sometime this year. There have been any obstacles to overcome during this process.

We are beginning work on the drainage problem on Todd Street this summer. This is another issue that has gone on forever.

With the recent bad weather, if anyone observes road hazards, please call Doug Crawl. Feel free to call me anytime you have questions or concerns pertaining to the townships. Thanks again, Dewey

2021 TRUSTEE ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

At their January 5, 2021 Organizational Meeting, a number of appointments and resolutions were passed for 2021 including:

- Dewey Akers elected Chairman
- Steve Volpe elected Vice-Chair
- Bill Shively elected Executive Member
- Porter Kingston Fire District Board—Dewey Akers

- Delaware County Prosecutor retained as the township's legal counsel
- Delaware Health District Advisory Board—Dewey Akers
- Established the first Tuesday of the month for Trustee Meetings at 7:00pm
- Bob Talbott renamed Zoning Inspector
- Dave Stites renamed Zoning Secretary and Regional Planning Representative
- Renamed current Members of the Zoning Commission and Board of Zoning Appeals
- Renamed Doug Crawl Road Superintendent and Cemetery Sexton
- Continued current Zoning Fees and Cemetery Fees and Rules
- Set the Mileage Reimbursement Rate at \$.56 cents per mile
- Certified official roadway mileage as 18.70 miles
- Approved \$1,218 for Emergency Services Fee Assessment
- Approved \$1,510 for Regional Planning Membership Dues
- Approved \$2,932 for Health District Apportionment
- Adopted Public Records Policy
- Adopted Credit Card Use Policy
- Farm Lease with Todd Etgen of Etgen Farms was extended for three years (through 2023) for the 118.5 areas of ground adjacent to the future Township Hall and Park off Carter's Corner.

ZONING REPORT

2020 Yearly Recap

For 2020, 51 permits (46 total in 2019) were approved including:

New Build Homes	34 (25 total 2019)
Additions	3
Pools	4
Accessory Buildings	6
Solar Array	1
Decks/Patios	4

Additional approvals included:

Agricultural Exemptions	5
Complaints	4
Adj. Land Transfers	1
Common Access Drives	2
Lot Splits Under 5 Acres	5

The Zoning Commission met 2 times and 1 Board of Zoning Appeals Hearing was held. The Kingston News was published 4 times.

Permits

For the months of November and December, 2020, and January 2021 the following zoning permits were approved:

6	New Build Homes
1	Accessory Structures

Please remember to contact the Zoning Office before starting construction of any new structures or improvement/expansion of an existing structure.

Board Vacancies

The Kingston Township Board of Trustees will be filling an **Alternate** vacancy on the **Board of Zoning Appeals** and **Zoning Commission** which both run through December 2025. Both vacancies are posted in the Township Website under the Special Notices tab. Contact the Zoning Office with any questions or interest.

ROADS & CEMETERIES

State Route 61/656 Roundabout

The Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) continues design work for the proposed roundabout at the intersection of State Route 61 and State Route 656/Wilson Road. The shape of the roundabout will resemble a peanut, and minimizes the project impact on adjacent neighbors. The target bid date is January 2021 with construction during the summer months. Tentative traffic closure will occur between June 1st and October 31st. The total estimated cost of the project is \$2.1 million dollars with \$310,000 coming from an OPWC grant, \$17,250 from the Delaware County Engineers Office, and \$17,250 from Kingston Township. Questions regarding the project should be directed to ODOT District 6 in Delaware at 740-833-8000.

Since The Last Newsletter

For the months of November and December, 2020, and January 2021, 6 driveway permits were issued, and approximately 50 tons of salt was applied to Township roadways for public safety.

The township continues to work with the County Engineers Office and impacted residents for the installation of a new drainage culvert under Todd Street Road and drainage improvements on the south side of the roadway.

DID YOU KNOW?

Kingston Township's Stark Cemetery

Nestled quietly along State Route 656 between Olive Green and State Route 61 sits the Stark Cemetery that is shared by Porter and Kingston Townships. One might wonder why this cemetery was established in its current location. The answer begins

over two hundred years ago in 1809; four years before the establishment of Kingston Township in 1813.

In 1809, James Stark emigrated from the Wyoming Valley in Pennsylvania, and settled in the eastern part of the future township on 200 acres of land. The intersection of the north/south Sunbury-Mansfield Road and the east/west Mount Vernon-Berkshire Road crossed on his property which eventually was named Stark's Corner. That name is still used today for the intersection of State Route 61 with Wilson Road to the west and State Route 656 to the northeast.

With travel increasing on the roadways, James Stark and his second wife Miss Elizabeth Wilcox opened a "House of Entertainment" for travelers in their home. Their establishment was the only hotel ever operated in Kingston Township. Their white, two story home/hotel still exists at the roadway intersection today. The Starks had one son named James N. who prospered in both farming and "mercantile pursuits", and at one point he owned about 2,000 acres of farm land in Porter and Kingston Townships.

James Stark's nephew, Oliver Stark, came to Kingston Township in 1825, and settled just south of James. He married Miss Eliza Patrick who was the first white child born in the township. Oliver was a Justice of the Peace for 21 years and served as a County Commissioner from 1846 to 1849.

Both James and Oliver were dedicated members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. James and Elizabeth donated a portion of their land to the church for both a house of worship and adjacent burial area.

The church building was constructed in 1836 and was used for seventeen years. With the building in disrepair and finding refurbishment costs exceeding the cost of constructing a new building, a larger building was built by the congregation in Olive Green in 1853. The church land was then deeded to the Trustees of Porter and Kingston Townships.

Grave stones in the original cemetery ground date back to 1818. As the need for more space grew, John VanSickle deeded property to the Trustees, and in 1876 a final parcel was purchased by Porter and Kingston Townships from James and Mary Sherman. These three parcels comprise the Stark Cemetery consisting of approximately 2 1/2 acres, and the cemetery is the resting place for many of the early settlers of both townships with interesting stories.

One such story involves a Native American Indian whose name is not known. The Indian returned from the West with resident Reverend Chase. One winter, the Indian went to Big Walnut Creek, and cut a hole in the ice to bathe. The temperature of the water was too severe; he became sick, developed pneumonia and died. He was buried in Stark Cemetery by the Chase family. There is not a marker at his grave.

Today, Stark Cemetery is still owned and maintained by Porter and Kingston Townships. The Kingston Township portion to the south has been closed for burial use for many years, but the Porter Township portion to the north is still active. Vehicular access to the cemetery is very limited with a small pull off area for one or two cars located at about the midpoint of the cemetery grounds. Parking along State Route 656 is ill-advised due to topography,

line of sight distance limitations, and volume of traffic on the roadway.

And now you know!

History Of Delaware County 1880, Reproduced 1973 Unigraphics; Inc., Kingston Township Memories In Its Bicentennial Year 2013-Big Walnut Area Historical Society; & Recollections Of Doug Crowl

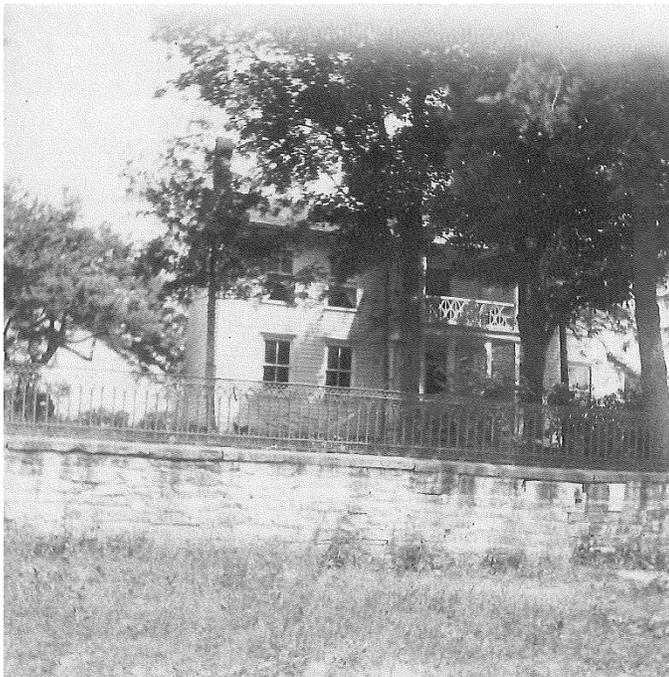


Photo Courtesy Of John Stark. Linton Lethco Stark Took This Photo June 25, 1899; House Built 1829.

PORTER KINGSTON FIRE DISTRICT

Pictured below Fire Board Chairman and Kingston Township Trustee Dewey Akers swears in new Porter Kingston Fire District Firefighter Jacob Trott on December 14, 2020. Jacob holds his 240 hour Firefighter 2 certification and his 120 hour Basic EMT certification. He is a resident of Kingston Township, and works as a welder/fabricator at a shop outside Marengo. He will serve a 12 month probationary period. Welcome Firefighter Trott! In other news, Firefighter Matt Gray was recently moved from probationary to active status with the District. Congratulations Matt!



Santa's Visit

As is tradition, Santa made a special trip to Kingston and Porter Townships on December 20th. Riding aboard the Fire Districts pickup truck and accompanied by Engine 382, Santa began his road tour at 11:00am and finished up 10 ½ hours later at 9:30pm. Over 1,100 residents of all ages greeted Santa from their driveways; Santa even had an opportunity to spread Christmas Cheer to about 60 different family pets and animals. The children that visited Santa also had an opportunity to put a letter to Santa in a special mailbox mounted on the pickup truck.

Safe Haven Baby Box Installed

On January 5, 2021, the BST&G Fire Station 380 dedicated a Safe Haven Baby Box at 350 W. Cherry Street in Sunbury. The State of Ohio Safe Haven Law allows

people to anonymously surrender their healthy newborn baby without criminal prosecution at any fire station, police station or hospital as long as the child appears to be 30 days or less and unharmed. The Safe Haven Baby Box is a final resource for women in crisis who want 100% anonymity to ensure their baby's safe surrender.

The cost for box installation was primarily funded by a grant from Discount Tire Drive to Care Foundation. Table Rock Construction donated time and materials for the installation. Support donations were also made by Sunbury United Methodist Church and Sunbury Christian Church. The grant will also support a local billboard campaign in the community and surrounding area. No tax dollars were used for the project.

Safe Haven Baby Boxes are equipped with alarm systems to notify fire district staff immediately. The boxes also have heating and cooling features and the outside door locks as soon as a baby is placed inside.

Cares Act Funding

In November, 2020, both Porter and Kingston Townships learned that Federal CARES Act funding could be utilized by the Porter Kingston Fire District (District) to purchase support/protective equipment directly related to the management of the Covid-19 Virus crisis and protection of personnel. Both townships quickly passed resolutions appropriating the use of the funding, and the District immediately purchased support/protective equipment including replacement turn-out gear for all firefighters, touchless restroom and drinking fountain modifications, computer, monitor and camera to facilitate remote meetings and training functions, washer and dryer to

immediately clean exposed clothing, and a cardiac heart monitor with automatic external defibrillator ahead of a December 30, 2020 deadline for expenditure of funds.

Funding in the amount of \$133,313 was expended by the District; \$38,870 from Porter Township and \$94,443 from Kingston Township. These funds provided sorely needed support for the District's normal operating budget related to managing the virus; improving operational efficiency, effectiveness and safety of personnel. The District is extremely appreciative of the efforts made by the Porter and Kingston Township Trustees and Fiscal Officers to make the funds available to the District.

Engine Rescue 381 Refurbishing

In late February, 2020, ER381 was taken out of service due to safety concerns when it was discovered that the chassis frame rails were severely rusted. A bid package was advertised for the chassis work, and two bids were opened by the Fire Board (Board) at their monthly meeting on January 11, 2021. Upon review, the Board approved the bid submitted by Pierce Manufacturing for \$113,000 to remove the engine, cab, pump, suspension, and rear box from the rusted chassis, and reinstall the components on a new chassis. Components such as the radiator and brakes will be inspected during the refurbishment process, and will be repaired or replaced as needed. The unit will be transported from Olive Green to Wisconsin on a flatbed truck, work will take approximately 6-8 months to complete, and the unit will be ready for full service upon return.

HEALTH DISTRICT NEWS

COMMON SIDE EFFECTS OF COVID-19 VACCINE

Remember, side effects are normal signs that your body is building protection!

MOST COMMON SIDE EFFECTS

- Sore arm, redness & swelling at injection site
- Fatigue
- Headache
- Chills
- Low-grade fever (99°F - 100°F)

MANAGEMENT OF SIDE EFFECTS

- Over-the-counter medicine as needed (e.g. Tylenol, ibuprofen)
- Rest and stay at home if feeling sick
- Drink plenty of fluids

AFTER VACCINATION

It takes time for your body to build protection after any vaccination. COVID-19 vaccines that require 2 shots may not protect you until a week or two after your second shot.

Do not forget

It's important for everyone to continue using protective measures even after vaccination -- until we're all protected!

- Continue to wear a mask
- Keep 6 feet from others
- Avoid crowds
- Wash your hands often

Delaware Public Health District | DelawareHealth.org/covid-19vaccine

By Kelli Kincaid, Program Manager, Delaware General Health District

CALENDAR

Meetings are at the Township Hall, unless noted otherwise. **Trash pickup days are Wednesday except during holiday weeks* where Wednesday service will be performed on Thursday. *Note Change**

Trustees Meetings January 5, 2021, 7PM
February 2, 2021, 7PM
March 2, 2021, 7PM
April 6, 2021, 7PM
May 4, 2021, 7PM
June 1, 2021, 7PM

Zoning Commission February 4, 2021, 7PM
May 6, 2021, 7PM
August 5, 2021, 7PM
November 4, 2021, 7PM

Trash Days 2021 January 6, 13, 20, 27
February 3, 10, 17, 24
March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31
April 7, 14, 21, 28
May 5, 12, 19, 26
June *3, 9, 16, 23, 30

CONTACTS

(740 Area Code)

TRUSTEES

Dewey Akers, 803-1529, dakers@kingstontwp.org
Bill Shively, 524-2333, wshively@kingstontwp.org
Steve Volpe, 965-1802, svolpe@kingstontwp.org

FISCAL OFFICER

Greg Roy: 504-0311,
fiscalofficer@kingstontwp.org

DELAWARE COUNTY EMS

Emergency: 911; Business: 833 www.delcoems.org

NEWS & INFORMATION

Zoning Office Telephone: 524-0290
Township Web Site: www.kingstontwp.org
Office Hours: Thursday, 8a.m. to noon

Please contact the Zoning Office by e-mail at

zoning@kingstontwp.org or by phone at 740-524-0290 to be added or removed from the Newsletter Distribution List.

PORTER KINGSTON FIRE DISTRICT

Emergency: 911; Business: 524-5050
Email: PKFD@rrohio.com www.PKFD.org

ROADS & CEMETERIES

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

TRASH & RECYCLING

Local Waste Services: 614-409-9375
On-line: localwasteservices.com

ZONING

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

SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION SERVICE

740-368-1921

DELAWARE COUNTY CODE COMPLIANCE

740-833-2200

DELAWARE GENERAL HEALTH DISTRICT

740-368-1700