

Kingston Township

News

July 2012

Chairman's Chat – By Dewey Akers

Hello. I hope everyone has time to enjoy the great weather we are having. This weather will help us stay on schedule as our road work begins.

As you have probably noticed, work has started on the 71/36 interchange. Most of the work will be confined to the shoulders or behind the guardrails. Here is the link to view the details of the improvement project: <http://www.dot.state.oh.us/districts/71/pages/safetyproject.aspx>. This project is expected to be completed in November.

I would like to thank everyone who responded to the survey sent out earlier. Your input is invaluable when deciding the direction the township is going. We had a 12% response which I think is pretty good. Marketing folks usually consider a ten percent response great. We received 93 replies out of 759 households in Kingston Township. With the economy as it is, I think the township hall project is several years down the road.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to call me at 740-803-1529.

Thank You For Your Input! Kingston Township Hall Survey Results

1. Do you support the concept of a new Township Hall and Park? Yes 87.5% No 12.5%
2. What features are important to you in a new Township Hall/Park? Please rank (1-5) in order of importance. This information was not ranked properly so results were unusable.
3. Do you have any other suggestions or uses for the Township Hall/Park? Please describe below. A wide variety of responses were received.
4. In addition to pursuing grants and using existing funds and revenues, would you support a tax levy to aid in funding a new Township Hall and Park? Yes 12% No 38% Depends on Amount 50%
5. In lieu of a tax levy, would you support the Trustee's pursuit of a low interest loan to partially offset the cost of a new Township Hall and Park? Yes 77% No 21%
6. Utilizing existing funds and/or new revenue from the farm lease, would you support a preliminary engineering study to develop a master plan and determine the scope and cost estimate of a new hall and park? Yes 84% No 16%

Response Rates: 93 surveys were turned in, 79 thru Survey Monkey and 14 mailed or dropped off. Per 2010 Census Kingston Township has 759 Households. This translates to a 12% household response rate.

Roads Update

The trustees signed contracts with Shelly and Sands for this year's road work. We do not have schedules for all the work yet. Check this link for updates: <http://www.co.delaware.oh.us/engineer/projects/2012RIP.htm>.

The trustees also contracted with Delaware County to do some repair on Rosecrans Road prior to chip seal and fog seal on Rosecrans and Blaney roads. One lane will be kept open for travel.

The Wilson Rd. culvert (near Wilson Hills Farm on the State Route 61 end) is scheduled for July/August replacement. The estimated cost is \$60,000 (County/Township funds, County construction).

Berkshire Township has submitted paperwork for an Ohio Public Works Commission (OPWC) grant for the \$100,000-\$180,000 Berkshire Road reconstruction project. This cost would be split between Berkshire and Kingston townships. If we receive the grant, we hope to do this work in 2013.

In light of the Berkshire Road situation, other projects may get pushed back to 2014 or 2015 such as the replacement of the Blue Church Rd. Bridge north of Wilson Rd. and the Twigg-Hupp Road Bridge over Butler Run.

Just a reminder, if you do any work on driveways or within the township road right-of-ways, you need to apply for a permit. Contact Road Superintendent Doug Crowl.

Zoning Vacancy

There is still one zoning vacancy so this position will continue to be advertised until it is filled. An alternate position is available on the Kingston Township Zoning Commission through August 2015. This position has voting rights in the absence of a member.

The Zoning Commission meets on quarterly basis and deals with matters related to the Zoning Resolution, Comprehensive Plan, Zoning District Map, and other duties as defined within Chapter 519 of the Ohio Revised Code.

Interested Kingston Township residents should submit letters of interest along with resumes to the Kingston Township Zoning Office.

Applicants will be interviewed by the Trustees during their monthly meeting on the first Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. at the 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. Contact the Zoning Office at 740-524-0290 with questions or visit www.kingstontwp.org and look under the Special Notices page.

Zoning Report Permits

- Two permits were issued this month: one was an agricultural exemption for a barn on SR 61 and one for a patio on Blue Church Rd.

Complaints:

- We received the fourth complaint about junk vehicles on Carter's Corners Rd. We sent the first letter on Feb. 17th and received no response from the owner. We sent the second letter (certified) on March 16th and have received no re-

sponse. A junk vehicle resolution is the next step. We met with Mark Fowler, Assistant County Prosecutor, about this issue. We spoke with the owner who agreed to remove all vehicles within 60 days (July 11).

- We have received two verbal complaints about the general condition of a property on Blue Church Rd. (incomplete construction, slow progress, debris in yard, several loads of rubble brought in, etc). The original Zoning Permit expired in February (18 months). We received a complaint last fall about this same property. We spoke with the owner about these issues and progress has been made. One of complainants stopped by to express appreciation for our efforts.
- The trustees received e-mail complaint about trash at a home on Todd St. The owner has an adult day care facility for disabled adults which generates a lot of trash. We spoke with the owner who agreed to put up a stockade fence around the trash trailer. This is completed.

Miscellaneous:

- We have scheduled a BZA hearing for June 19th for a setback variance at a SR 521 residence.
- No applications were received for the vacant Zoning Commission Alternate Position.
- Miami University sent a letter about dropping our website hosting.

Zoning Commission Meetings:

- August 15, 2012
- November 14, 2012

Fireworks

Enjoy the Sunbury Independence Day Extravaganza on Wednesday, July 4 beginning at 7 a.m. on the Sunbury Square. Events include a Flea Market, Farm Market, parade, Kid's Zone, concessions and more! And new this year is the "Sizzle in July Fireworks Spectacular" beginning at 6 p.m. at Big Walnut High School with live entertainment, concessions, bounce houses, and much more!

Be careful with home fireworks! Almost all are illegal in Ohio and the township has a noise resolution as well. Don't turn a celebration into a tragedy. Nearly 11,000 people were treated in U.S. emergency departments for fireworks-related injuries in 2005, according to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC).

The perception that some fireworks, such as sparklers, are safe is incorrect. Sparklers were associated with more than half of the estimated injuries among children under age 5 in 2005, CPSC says. Sparklers can burn at more than 1,000°F and set clothes on fire, while firecrackers can injure the hands or face if they explode nearby. Children are often excited and curious around fireworks, and this can increase their chances of being injured.

If you purchase sparklers for children, follow these guidelines from the National Council on Fireworks Safety:

- Obey local laws and use common sense.
- Always read and follow instructions. Always have an adult present.
- Keep burning sparklers away from clothing and flammable objects.
- Use sparklers only outdoors, away from buildings and vehicles.
- Light only one sparkler at a time.
- Alcohol, fireworks, and sparklers do not mix. Be responsible.
- Do not point or throw sparklers at another person.
- Children under the age of 12 should not handle sparklers.
- When finished, place used sparklers in a bucket of water.

Ohio law permits sparklers and other types of novelties. To view lists of permitted materials, view the Ohio State Fire

Marshal 2011 Fireworks Redbook at www.com.state.oh.us/fire/FireworksRedbook.aspx. Consumer fireworks may only be sold if they are taken out of Ohio within 48-72 hours of purchase. They are not legal to use in Ohio unless you have a display permit, a minimum \$1,000,000 in insurance, and a state license. For details, visit www.fireworksafety.com/laws.

The U.S. National Fire Protection Association and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention strongly recommend that fireworks be used only by professionals. The safest way to prevent fireworks-related injuries is to leave fireworks displays to trained professionals. Please be respectful of your neighbors, pets, farm animals, and the law. Have a very safe and fun Independence Day!

CPR Class

If anyone is interested in a CPR class, contact Fire Chief Michael Thompson at pkfd@rroho.com or 740-524-5050. If enough people are interested, another class will be scheduled.

Sign Up For the Newsletter

Be sure you now what's going on in your local township government! Sign up today at kingstonnews@embarqmail.com to get your newsletter emailed each month.

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*.
Trustees Meeting July 3, 7 PM
Trash & Recycling Days July 7*
Trash & Recycling Day (Fridays) July 13, 20, 27

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@rroho.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