

Kingston Township

March 2012

News

Chairman's Chat – By Dewey Akers

Hello neighbors. I hope all of you are doing well. We've been lucky so far this winter. It has been wet, but snow fall has been minimal and temperatures moderate. Early mornings can still be hazardous when low temperatures combine with moisture on the roads. Please drive carefully.

The latest information I have on the improvements to the I-71-State Routes 36/37 interchange show no changes from the original schedule. The initial \$4 million project is expected to go to bid this spring and construction should begin sometime in May and will end in November. Approximately 28,000 cars travel daily to I-71 via State Routes 36/37. Traffic is expected to increase to 64,000 cars in the next 20 years.

The study for a new exit has been completed and indicates that the best location for the exit is south of the existing exit. ODOT is looking for a partnership with developers to share in the expense of the \$80 million project. I am looking forward to these improvements.

I will be inviting several architectural firms to our trustees meetings over the next three or four months in order to start looking at cost and design options for our new township hall.

NorthStar Progress

Thom Ries, from TerrainEvolution, attended the trustees meeting representing the Robert Weiler Company as their engineering firm. The Delaware County Regional Planning Commission granted preliminary approval for 10 lots, four of those are model home sites, on seven acres at the north end of Berkshire Township near the Kingston/Berkshire townships line. Ries requested to build a temporary construction road in Kingston Township for the model homes prior to completion of a permanent road which will serve the 10 lots and future lots.

Ries also explained that two lots approved in the Final Plan straddled the township line. Minor lot modifications were approved to reconfigure these lots into a single township. There is no increase in the quantity of lots and a slight increase in green space and lot width in Kingston Township.

Reis is working with the Delaware County Engineer's Office to redesign the Kingston portion of Wilson Rd. within the development. Plans are to widen it to three lanes. The trustees asked that the road be designed to lower the speed limit to 45 miles per hour. Issues were discussed with location of a temporary driveway off of Wilson at the township line.

Trustees requested that the developer ease deed restrictions so the township can farm the 25 acres of township hall land until a township hall is constructed.

Trustees Meeting

Township Fiscal Officer Greg Roy reported that the 2011 books are closed and the year ended with \$138,599 in the StarOhio investment fund and \$554,073 in checking.

The trustees passed a resolution to send to the governor and general assembly in favor of maintaining the township form of government in Ohio as the most efficient and responsive form

of government in the state.

The trustees discussed that many residents did not opt into the emailed newsletter. They will investigate a mailing to increase distribution.

The trustees did not receive legal review of the farm land lease documents in time for their February meeting so they continued their meeting to February 21. They reviewed the Delaware County Prosecutor's comments and finalized the documents. Requests for farm lease bids were advertised for 119 acres and will be opened at the March 6 meeting.

Road Right-of-Way Permits Needed

Please remember that if you do any work in the road right-of-way such as cleaning out ditches or running drainage lines, a permit is required. Permits are also required for driveways. Contact Road Supervisor Doug Crowl for more information at 740-815-8427 or roads@kingstontwp.org.

Zoning Vacancies

There were no applicants for the three zoning vacancies so the positions will continue to be advertised until they are filled.

The Kingston Township Trustees will appoint two positions on the Kingston Township Zoning Commission. The appointments will fill the existing terms that both expire in August 2015. **Position A** is a full member and **Position B** is an alternate with 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.

The trustees will also appoint one position (**Position C**) on the Kingston Township Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA) to fill a term that runs through December 2016.

The BZA 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. Each applicant is asked to list on their letter of interest the specific position that they seek.

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 Special Notices.

Share Your Old Pictures

Kingston Township is attempting to secure historic photos of people, events, homes, natural resources, churches, schools, and other things within Kingston Township. If you have

photos that you would be willing to share, please contact Doug Crowl at 740-815-8427. The Township will credit the provider, either copy or scan the photos, and return them to you.

As current improvements continue to the Blue Church Cemetery, the most pressing need is for old photos of the Old Blue Church and surrounding property for potential use in publications and permanent display. Any assistance you could provide would be sincerely appreciated.

PKFD News

Congratulations to Trustee Dewey Akers on being re-elected president of the Porter Kingston Fire District Board. Bob Ryan serves as vice-president and other members of the board are Robin Morgan, Chris Lycek, and Chris Bright.



PKFD's Lt. Mignogno (left) taught a class on trench collapse during the fall rescue tech class.

Winter Safety Tips

By the State Fire Marshall

Fireplaces and Wood Burning Stoves

- Allow enough clearance between a wood burning stove and combustible materials such as walls, floors and ceilings.
- A wood stove should be placed on an approved stove board to protect your floor from heat and hot coals.
- Make sure the flue is open before lighting a fire and never close the flue while a fire is still smoldering.
- Use a screen to prevent any sparks from reaching out and igniting nearby objects.
- Never use gasoline or lighter to start a fire.
- The immediate area in front of (approx. 3') fireplace should not have a rug, or carpet, or exposed wood flooring.
- To light a gas fireplace, strike the match then turn on the gas.
- Burn only dry, seasoned wood, and dispose of cooled ashes in a closed metal container outside away from your home.
- Never leave a burning fire unattended in the fireplace.

Portable Space Heaters

- When buying a space heater, look for a control feature that automatically shuts off the power if the heater falls over.
- Never leave a heater on when you are not in the room or when you go to sleep, and do not leave children or pets unattended around any heating source. Unplug the heater when you are not using it.
- Don't use an extension cord with an electric portable heater. The current to the heater could melt the cord and cause a fire.
- Don't plug more than one heating device into an outlet.
- Never use electric heaters near water – as in your bathroom or near a water heater.

Kerosene Heaters

- Make sure the room has proper ventilation.
- Fill your heater with only crystal clear, K-1 kerosene. Do not use fluid that is not recommended for your heater. Refuel

- outside, and only after the heater has cooled down.
- Check the wick every couple of weeks during the heating season. If the wick is dirty, clean it according to the manufacturer's instructions.
- Because a kerosene heater has a constant open flame, it should not be used in a room where there are flammable solvents, aerosol sprays, gasoline or any type of oil.

Smoke Detectors

Smoke detectors, when properly installed and maintained, provide early warning when a fire occurs. For the greatest protection, install a smoke detector on every level of your home and inside each sleeping area. Test smoke detectors at least once each month to ensure that they are working properly. Vacuum the dust from inside the detector at least once every year. Batteries in battery-operated detectors should be changed twice a year or whenever a detector "chirps" to signal low battery power. Never "borrow" a smoke detector's battery for another use. A disabled detector cannot save your life. In addition, smoke detectors should be replaced every 10 years or according to the manufacturer's directions. Also, develop an escape plan and make sure every family member knows what to do if the alarm does sound.

Forward Your Newsletter

Forward your newsletter to neighbors today so they can opt in to our email list at kingstonnews@embarqmail.com.

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 (Fridays) March 2
 Trustees Meeting March 6, 7 PM
 Trash & Recycling Days March 9, 16, 23, 30

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