

Kingston Township

April 2013

News

Chairman's Chat – By Steve Volpe

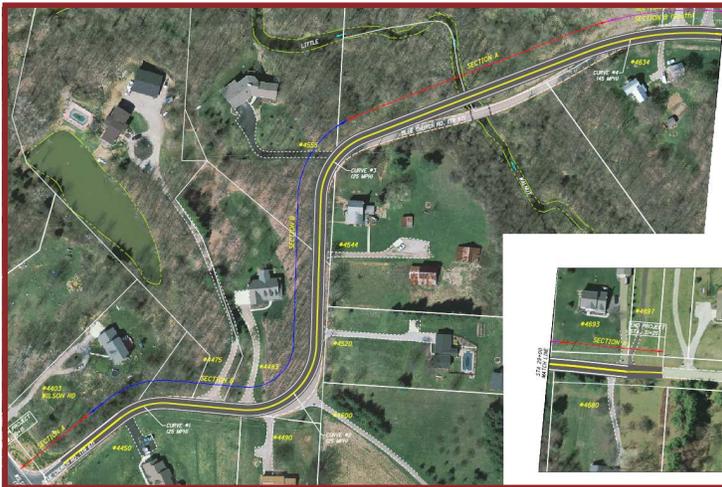
Wow! What an exciting time to be in Kingston Township! At our March meeting, we heard from Rick Carfagna with Time Warner. The areas that are covered by them and Insight were reviewed. I will be meeting with the Time Warner engineers in the next month or so to review coverage and to hopefully get a plan to expand service throughout the entire township. The cost of getting it back to individual residences will still be up to the property owners. For me, the approximate 400' run cost \$1,500 some 13 years ago. We believe there may be ways to reduce the cost with cooperation amongst neighbors. I'll keep you posted.

We also had quite a discussion on the County Engineer's proposal for improvements to Blue Church Road and the bridge replacement. The improvements were seen by some to be a little too far reaching. Many opinions were expressed and the trustees will continue to review the possibilities. Hopefully, we will have a final decision in the near future. Of course this decision will be made openly at one of our next trustees meetings.

Also, we have opportunities for you to get involved with your township. Kingston Township's Bicentennial Committee is looking for volunteers. It would be a great way to get involved and meet some wonderful people.

Until next month, take care and get out there and enjoy life.

Blue Church Rd. Bridge Input



There was a full house at the trustees' March meeting. On hand for the meeting were Delaware County Chief Deputy Engineer Rob Riley and Design Engineer Andrew Fortman. Riley explained that state law says the county is responsible for bridges and approaches. He also said that the Blue Church Rd. bridge over Little Walnut Creek north of Wilson Rd. is deteriorating and will need to be replaced. If it isn't, it will have to be posted with load limits. This will limit vehicles such as school buses, fire trucks, and garbage trucks. The county

wants to be proactive and improve the safety of the bridge by replacing it. Riley said the current 18' wide bridge will be replaced to meet current road safety standards. The new bridge will be a buried, three-sided precast concrete structure like the new Blue Church Rd. bridge north of St. Rt. 521. Its height will be raised approximately 5' and it will be widened to 26' with two 11' wide lanes. The \$400,000-\$500,000 bridge project encompasses 1/4 mile.

In addition to the bridge, the township can opt to widen the road from Wilson Road to south of the curve into the creek valley. The county project will then widen from the curve into the creek valley to the northern curve. Riley explained that the larger project would increase safety for everyone traveling this stretch of road. The township and county could collaborate to submit the total \$1 million project for an Ohio Public Works Commission grant this fall. The township's portion of the project would be \$168,000 which trustees confirmed is budgeted as part of the township's multi-year road improvement plan. If the grant is awarded, the project would close the road for 3-4 months in 2014. Riley said the bridge will be replaced regardless of the rest of the project.

Residents weighed in on issues ranging from traffic speed, safety, loss of trees, and property value impact. The trustees would like your input and ask that you email them with your thoughts so they can consider them as they weigh the pros and cons of this project.

Roads

In other roads news, the Twigg-Hupp Road bridge replacement has been rescheduled from May to August or September of 2013 with a four week road closure.

The trustees voted to change required culvert lengths from 40' to 20'. Road Superintendent Doug Crawl has used 266 tons of salt this winter so far. He has also audited all signs south of St. Rt. 521 for retroreflectivity requirements. He reported on plans for Berkshire Road drainage improvements.

Time Warner Cable

Rick Carfagna was also at the March trustees meeting representing Time Warner Cable. The trustees have worked long-term to expand high speed internet service throughout the township. Carfagna discussed the economics of running cable in rural areas. He said that if we have a cluster of 10-12 homes, they will have engineers evaluate the possibility of running cable to clusters of homes. The high cost of residents running cable back long lanes was discussed, too. If poles exist, Time Warner can utilize those. If not, residents can cooperate and share costs to run cable back one driveway and then split it off to several houses. Time Warner is present primarily in the central and eastern portions of the township; however, they have purchased Insight Cable which is present on the western edge of the township as well.

Residents interested in Time Warner cable should email Trustee Steve Volpe at volpe@kingstontwp.org.

Bicentennial Committee

Kingston Township will celebrate its bicentennial this year. If you would like to serve on a committee to develop bicentennial plans or you have any historical memorabilia or pictures that you can share, contact one of your trustees. We have five committee members so far.

The General Rosecrans statue dedication is tentatively planned for Sept. 28. Rosecrans was born on Rosecrans Rd.

The Big Walnut Area Historical Society (BWAHS) is also planning a Heritage Day on Oct. 6 focused on Kingston's Bicentennial. There will be a long tent on the Myers Inn patio for displays and activities in case of bad weather. Their blacksmith shop will be open with a blacksmith at the forge. They'll also be making apple butter. If you know a source for inexpensive apples and cider, please contact Alice Chapan. BWAHS may have Verna Bergandine's painting of the Blue Church on display along with other township displays. They need your help to make this a great event. They are looking for the following:

- Crafting displays such as apple butter making, quilting, caning, weaving, etc.;
- Residents to share their memories during Memory Times about township topics such as the Blue Church, the one room school, farming, huckster wagon stories, and more;
- Newsworthy events in the township's history including early 4-H clubs, scouts, other youth groups, etc.;
- Names for a military honor roll (Suzanne Allen has names of soldiers through World War I but needs names of township people who have served since then.);
- Names to honor Kingston Township natives or current senior citizens who are 80-90 year olds, 90+ years old, those who have been residents more than 50 years; and,
- Old photos of township residents and activities (may set up a day at the Township Hall for residents to come share their memories and have old photos scanned).

Allen also has more than 60 pages of Kingston Township memories from the *Big Walnut Memories Books 1 and 2*. The BWAHS plans to make those into a separate book to sell through pre-orders this summer. Allen hopes to get additional memories from current and former township residents. You can send memories and photos to Suzanne Allen at BWAHS, PO Box 362, Sunbury, OH 43074 or you can come into the Myers Inn to offer your memories in person, 12-3 p.m., on the 1st, 2nd, and 4th Fridays of the month. You can also contact Allen at pegasuspaints@aol.com or Alice Chapan at achapan@columbus.rr.com.

Township Budget

The township ended 2012 with a balance of \$619,562. The trustees approved 2013 appropriations of \$928,256 based on the county auditor's estimated taxes for the year.

February Zoning Report

Permits:

- One permit issued for a porch and accessory building on Wilson Rd.

Complaints:

- Regarding the junk vehicle complaint 07-2012-COMP at 4827 Carter's Corner Road, Assistant County Prosecutor Fowler sent a certified letter to the property owner on 12-21-12 which went unclaimed. Fowler then sent the letter by regular mail. The property owner and Zoning Inspector Talbott spoke via telephone on 01-25-13. The property owner agreed to extend the fence so the vehicles would be screened from sight by neighbors and from the public

roadway. Received another complaint from an adjacent property owner (different owner from previous). Sent another letter on 03-01-13.

Miscellaneous:

- No applications have been received for the open Zoning Commission Alternate position.

Zoning Vacancy

The Kingston Township Board of Trustees will be appointing one alternate position on the Kingston Township Zoning Commission. The Zoning Commission meets on a 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.

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 April 2, 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.

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 Mtg. April 2, 7 PM
Trash & Recycling Days (Fridays) April 5, 12, 19, 26

Who To Call (740 Area Code)

TRUSTEES

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