

Kingston Township

News

May 2010

Chairman's Chat – By Steve Volpe

Hello once again. We have had a wonderful break in the weather. I hope you had the chance to enjoy it. But nice weather means soon it will be time for road work. Eldon Johnston, our Delaware County road liaison, stopped by at our April 7th meeting to pass along some updates. The most exciting work for this summer will be the county's repaving of 3 Bs and K Road. They plan to grind down the existing pavement and repave. This is quite an ambitious project, but one that is sorely needed.

Along with the roadwork projects come dangers and inconveniences. If you ride a motorcycle, like I do, you are aware of the hazards of fresh loose gravel and a freshly ground road. PLEASE, keep an eye on our newsletters for roadwork updates. Be prepared, be courteous, and be safe. No one enjoys it while it's happening, yet we all appreciate it when it's done.

Wilson Road improvements are not imminent, but the concept has come up again for consideration. As I understand it, the county would like us to bring this road up to their standards. This is not much. It would be a repave and widening project, taking it from a 16' road to an 18' road. I do admit, Wilson Road needs to be repaved. But as a resident on Wilson Road, I don't want to encourage more and faster traffic. I would appreciate any concerned township resident to drop me a line at svolpe@kingstowntwp.org. I look forward to hearing from you.

Another happening at our April Trustees meeting was the appointment of Richard Giffin as a Zoning Commission Alternate. Mr. Giffin has served as the Board of Zoning Appeals Alternate for several years, and his continued dedication is appreciated. This means there is now an opening for an Alternate on the BZA. We are advertising this and hope to be hearing from anybody who may be interested in serving the township in this manner.

Until next time, take care. And get out and enjoy life.

Zoning News

Giffin Appointed to BZC

At their April meeting, the Trustees appointed Rick Giffin to fill an alternate position on the Board of Zoning Commission. Giffin has served as an alternate on the Board of Zoning Appeals for several years.

Giffin is retired after a 20-year career as a Columbus School teacher and lives on St. Rt. 521.

Board of Zoning Appeals Alternate Vacancy

The Kingston Township Board of Trustees will be appointing one position on the Kingston Township Board of Zoning Appeals. The appointment will fill the Alternate vacancy. The Board of Zoning Appeals 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 a letter of interest along with a resume to the Kingston Township Zoning Office prior to Friday, April 30, 2010. Applicants will be interviewed by the Board of Trustees during their monthly meeting on Tuesday, May 4, 2010, 7:30 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.

The letter of interest and resume may be submitted by e-mail to zoning@kingstowntwp.org or by mail or to: Kingston Township Hall, 9899 State Route 521, Sunbury, Ohio 43074.

Zoning Office Report For March 2010

Zoning Update:

- Two permits for accessory structures were issued, one at 4885 Carters Corner and one at 2610 N. 3 Bs and K.
- One variance request received for property at 9193 Todd St. Owner is requesting side yard setback of 19' vs. 25' for an accessory building. A BZA variance hearing is scheduled for April 20.

Regional Planning Update:

- A public hearing to consider Porter Township text amendments was held on April 8th at the Township Hall. Within the text amendments, the Zoning Commission proposes to set up a Critical Resource District consisting of all land within 1000' of Big Walnut Creek.
- A major retirement residential community received preliminary plan approval from Regional Planning. The 33,000 square foot Loch Lomond Residence Village will be built on the west side of State Route 315 within Liberty Township.
- Delaware County Development Trends handout.

Miscellaneous:

- Zoning Commission continues to make good progress on updating the Zoning Code with RPC.
- RPC is planning another Saturday workshop for Township officials on May 15. Details will be forwarded to Trustees and board members when available.

Road Projects

The following township road projects are planned for chip and seal improvements in 2010 as part of the township's multi-year maintenance program:

- Clark Road, from Kilbourne Rd. north to the township line;
- Blue Church Rd. from St. Rt. 521 north to the dead end; and,
- Todd Street from N. Galena Rd. to Clark Rd.

Trustees' Actions

The Township Trustees made several decisions at their April meeting. They approved continuing the township's insurance with the Ohio Plan through Walter, Danner and Rinehart agency which has served the township for years.

Turner Landscape and Lawn Service won the bid for township lawn care. They will mow the Blue Church and Stark cemeteries and the township hall property.



Fire Safety Tips for Older Ohioans

From the Division of State Fire Marshal courtesy of the Porter-Kingston Fire District

- Install a smoke detector on each level of the home and inside each bedroom.
 - Check the smoke detectors monthly and change the batteries at least twice a year. Caregivers are encouraged to check detectors for those who are unable to do it by themselves.
 - Make an escape plan for the home and know two ways out of the home.
 - Make any necessary accommodations, such as providing exit ramps and widening doorways to facilitate an emergency escape.
 - Speak to family members, the building manager, or neighbors about your safety plan and practice it with them.
 - Ask emergency providers to keep senior citizens' special needs information on file.
 - In multi-story homes, make arrangements to sleep on the ground floor if possible, or near an exit.
 - Never smoke in bed or near an open oxygen source, gas stove, or other object.
 - When cooking, don't leave pots and pans unattended. Use a timer to remind you of food in the oven. Avoid wearing loose clothing or dangling sleeves while cooking.
 - Don't overload electrical outlets or extension cords.
- from: http://www.com.state.oh.us/firedocsfire_olderohioansfiresafetytips.pdf

Only Rain Down the Drain

Many people think the greatest threats to our rivers are from industry or wastewater treatment plants. Fortunately, the Clean Water Act has been successful in reducing these sources of pollution. We are now important actors in reclaiming and preserving our streams for wildlife, recreation, drinking water, quality of life, and as a legacy for our children.

What We Can Do . . . In the Yard

Plant grass or groundcover in areas of bare soil. Rain can carry large amounts of soil to a stream even on gentle slopes. Eroded soil is the major pollutant in Ohio's rivers.

Minimize the use of fertilizers and consider non-chemical pest management. Apply chemicals in dry weather and water sparingly to keep them in your yard. For more information: <http://ohioline.osu.edu/hyg-fact/4000/4031.html>.

Direct roof drains to the yard, a rain barrel, or rain garden instead of to streams. For information on rain gardens, visit www.franklinswcd.org.

...In the Garage

Recycle used oil at Advance Auto Parts, AutoZone and Napa auto-parts stores and Jiffy Lube Service Centers.

...Around the House

Treat oil-based paint, thinners, solvents and polishes as household hazardous waste. Latex paint is water-based so rinse brushes in a sink. Allow unneeded latex paint to dry and throw it in the trash.

Store all chemicals in a dry place protected from the rain. Household hazardous waste must be properly disposed of to prevent pollution.

Decide if and when you need heavy duty cleaning power. Phosphates in some dishwasher soaps and the antibacterial ingredient triclosan are examples of this.

– This information is from the Ohio Environment Protection Agency's Ohio Environmental Education Fund.

Spring Yard Chores

One of the great rewards of spring is getting outside in the fresh air and cleaning up your yard. Composting is an effective way to dispose of weeds and yard clippings.

Composting

All organic matter eventually decomposes. Composting speeds the process by providing an ideal environment for bacteria and other decomposing microorganisms. The final

product, humus or compost, looks and feels like fertile garden soil. This dark, crumbly, earthy-smelling stuff works wonders on soil and provides vital nutrients for your plants.

Decomposing organisms consist of bacteria, fungi, and larger organisms such as worms, sow bugs, nematodes, and numerous others. Decomposing organisms need four key elements to thrive: nitrogen, carbon, moisture, and oxygen.

For best results, mix materials high in nitrogen (clover and fresh grass clippings) and those high in carbon (dried leaves and twigs). If there is not a good supply of nitrogen-rich material, a handful of general lawn fertilizer will help the nitrogen-carbon ratio. Moisture is provided by rain, but you may need to water or cover the pile to keep it damp but not saturated. Turning or mixing the pile provides oxygen and yields faster decomposition.

Materials you can add include leaves, grass clippings, straw, woody brush, vegetable and fruit scraps, coffee grounds, livestock manure, sawdust, and shredded paper. Do not use diseased plants, meat scraps or dog or cat manure which can carry disease.

– This information is from www.friendsofalumcreek.org. The article is continued on the Backyard Conservation link.

Rather than burn and pollute, Mulch First, 725 N. Kintner Parkway in Sunbury, accepts tree trimmings.

Newsletter By E-mail

To receive an e-mailed version, contact kingstonnews@embarqmail.com.

Kingston Calendar

Meetings occur at the Township Hall, 9899 St. Rt. 521, (Rt. 521 & Carter's Corner Rd.) unless noted* otherwise. Trash pick up days are Thursdays except during holiday weeks.

Election Day, Kilbourne Church May 4
Trustees Meeting (1st Tuesday) May 4, 7:30 PM
Trash Day (Thursday) May 6
Recycling Bin Arrives (2nd Thursday) .. May 13 (until full)
Trash Day (Thursday) May 13
Zoning Commission (3rd Wednesday) May 19, 7 PM
Trash Days (Thursday) May 20, 27

Who To Call (740 Area Code)

TRUSTEES

Steve Volpe, Ch.: 965-1802, svolpe@kingstontwp.org
Dewey Akers: 803-1529, dakers@kingstontwp.org
Bill Shively: 272-3668, bshively@kingstontwp.org

FISCAL OFFICER

Greg Roy: 524-8591, fiscalofficer@kingstontwp.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

Twp. Maintenance, Ed Moore 614-530-9969

TRASH

Rumpke: 1- 888-RUMPKE1 (1-888-786-7531)
e-mail: chris.lavender@rumpke.com
web: <http://www.rumpke.com>

ZONING

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