

Kingston Township

February 2012

News

Chairman's Chat – By Dewey Akers

Hello again. It has been quite awhile since I was your Trustees Chairman. I would like to say thanks to you for your support and for allowing me to serve you again.

The first little snowfall in January caused accidents at N. 3 Bs and K and Heverlo roads. With the onset of winter, please give yourself a little extra time when you have to travel. If you encounter any hazardous conditions on our roads, please call me at 740-803-1529 or call Doug Crawl at 740-815-8427.

We still have openings on the Zoning Commission and the Board of Zoning Appeals. These positions are a great way to serve and improve your community.

The Trustees should have a lease agreement for the Township farm land ready to be finalized at the February meeting. After that, we will advertise the township farm land for bids.

As always, please feel free to call me with any concerns you have concerning Kingston Township.

2011 Recap

The year began with heavy snow and a big ice storm in February. That was followed by heavy rains and spring floods leading to the wettest year in record keeping history.

New Kingston Township Census data shows the township's population is now 2,156 (781 housing units) up from 1,603 in 2000. The Delaware County Auditor's Office released new property valuations in 2011. The township completed its 2009-2010 audit and has enacted recommendations.

Trustees

Bill Shively served as trustees chairman. Steve Volpe attended the new Delaware County Local Government Association (DCLGA) meetings and Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission's Big Walnut Watershed Planning Partnership meetings. Volpe also served as vice president of the Delaware County Township Association. Dewey Akers served as chairman of the Porter Kingston Fire District Board. Greg Roy and Dewey Akers were re-elected as fiscal officer and trustee.

Trustees approved a three-year trash/recycling contract with Big-O Refuse. The trustees opted to purchase a new lawnmower to internalize lawncare of Township properties.

Roads

County commissioners conducted an impact study of the 71/36/37 interchange. The state paved and widened route 521 and resurfaced route 656.

Road Superintendent Doug Crawl reported that he used 155 tons of salt last winter.

Trustees opted to replace the Blue Church Road bridge in 2013 with a wider bridge but will not straighten the road because land acquisition and other aspects of the project were too expensive. The township resurfaced parts of Blue Church and Berkshire roads.

The Delaware County Engineer's Office conducted a traffic study on Wilson Rd. and recommended replacement of a

culvert. The speed limit will be 55 miles per hour.

The township has made progress toward federal government mandates to replace road signs with highly reflective signs.

Zoning

Public hearings were held, a revised zoning code was approved, and it went into effect March 3. Some zoning fees were also increased.

Deed documents were signed and recorded for transfer of two parcels of land from Northstar to the Township. One parcel is for 145 acres for farm preservation and a second parcel of 25 acres is for the new township hall site. Access to this property has been improved and farmland lease and bid documents are being developed for farm leasing in 2012.

2011 saw a cascade of zoning board changes. Bill Steinhoff resigned from the Kingston Zoning Commission (KZC) when he moved out of the township. Rick Giffin moved from the alternate position to become a full KZC board member. Richard Strohm was appointed to replace Giffin as KZC alternate through August 2015. Jim Grove, a charter member of the commission, was reappointed to the KZC through August 2016. In August, John Fink, also a charter member, resigned from the KZC. Heather Burdette resigned in November. Dick Strohm moved from his alternate position to a full member of the KZC through August 2014.

BZA Chairman Jim Martin passed away after an extended battle with cancer. Martin was a charter member of the BZA and had been chairman since the beginning of the board. Steven Smith was reappointed to a five-year term on the BZA. In November, Nancy Gogle was appointed to the BZA through 2013. BZA vice-chair Tracy Trout completed her second five-year term on the BZA and did not seek reappointment.

Two KZC positions and one BZA position are still open.

The Zoning Commission moved to bi-monthly meetings in 2011 and will move to quarterly meetings in 2012.

Cemeteries

Doug Crawl created plans for a living memorial garden around the Blue Church Bell in the Blue Church Cemetery. The Sheets and Seitz families made repairs to the Blue Church memorial that the late William E. Sheets built after the church was lost to fire.

Crawl realigned and widened the Blue Church Cemetery driveway off of State Route 521.

He also located veterans graves in Stark Cemetery.

Porter Kingston Fire District

The Trustees reappointed Robin Morgan to a two-year term through February 2013 as the township's resident representative to the Porter Kingston Fire District (PKFD) Board.

PKFD responded to 307 calls for assistance with a total of 1,820 individual responses of personnel, averaging six personnel per run. PKFD personnel averaged 67 runs each.

PKFD supplied mutual aid to the surrounding area a total of 132 times and received mutual aid 29 times.

Firefighter of the Year was Marcus Chapman. Two new firefighters were hired. Rick Lewis retired after serving as a volunteer with PKFD for 40 years. Past fire board member Richard Scholl passed away. He had served on the board from December 1991 through December 2006.

Personnel completed 167 hours of EMS training, 848 hours of fire training, and 85 hours of HAZMAT training. Two firefighters completed the Howell Rescue class.

PKFD purchased four new sets of turnout gear and received \$21,000 from a TRN Grant; a \$1,500 EMS Grant from ODPS; and, received a \$5,000 Training Grant from the State Fire Marshall. The district replaced Rescue 382 with a larger and better equipped vehicle; upgraded and added to the Genesis extrication equipment; upgraded the lighting package on T381, and added a Toughbook.

Residents visited the fire station for Beggar's Night and enjoyed Santa's visit.

Trustees Organize For 2012

The Trustees met January 3 to organize for 2012. Elections, appointments, and liaisons to various organizations were selected as follows:

Trustees

Dewey Akers - Chairman

Steve Volpe - Vice-Chairman

Bill Shively - Executive Member

Porter Kingston Fire District - Dewey Akers

Health District Advisory Board - Dewey Akers

Zoning Office

Inspector - Bob Talbott

Assistant Zoning Inspector/Clerk - Dave Stites

Delaware County Regional Planning Commission

Dave Stites; Bob Talbott, Alternate

Zoning Commission

Tom Filbert, Jim Grove, Rick Giffin, Dick Strohm

One position and one alternate open

Board of Zoning Appeals

Jim Collins, Jim Kistner, Steve Smith, Nancy Gogle

One position open, Alternate Bill Hammond

Road Superintendent/Cemetery Sexton - Doug Crowl

Township Attorneys

Township - Delaware County Prosecutor

Zoning - Mike O'Reilly

The Trustees' regular monthly meetings are at 7 p.m. on the first Tuesday of each month. The Zoning Office hours will continue to be on Fridays, 8 a.m.-noon. The Zoning Commission will meet quarterly at 7 p.m. on February 15, May 16, August 15, 2012, and November 14 (moved up one week due to the Thanksgiving Holiday).

Zoning Vacancies

The Kingston Township Board of Trustees will be appointing two positions on the Kingston Township Zoning Commission. The appointments will fill the existing terms that both expire in August 2015. **Position A** has full member status and **Position B** is an alternate who has voting rights in the absence of a member.

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

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 letters of interest along with resumes to the Kingston Township Zoning Office prior to Friday, January 27, 2012. Each applicant is asked to list on their letter of interest the specific position that they seek.

Applicants will be interviewed by the Board of Trustees during their monthly meeting on Tuesday, February 7, 2012, 7:00 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.

Get Your Newsletter Emailed

Sign up today to receive the newsletter by email. Contact kingstonnews@embarqmail.com.

Kingston Calendar

Meetings occur 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) Feb. 3

Trustees Meeting Feb. 7, 7 PM

Trash & Recycling Day Feb. 10

Zoning Commission Meeting Feb. 15, 7 PM

Trash & Recycling Days Feb. 17, 24

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@rrohio.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