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# **KINGSTON NEWS**

## **4TH QUARTER, DECEMBER 2023**

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### **Chairman's Chat**

*By Bill Shively, Trustees Chairman*

Hello everyone! I hope you all had a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday with family and friends. Now it is time for the shopping marathon to begin! The Trustees were informed that the Northstar developers are going to submit an amended development plan for the township's consideration. Meetings dates and times will be on the website.

The Trustees have been working hard to get the township hall and pavilion projects closer to completion. The parking lot was finally paved! The pavilions bathrooms are near completion and the main structure is waiting on the arched wood roof trusses to be delivered. This is going to be a wonderful addition to the township! The Trustees are planning a food preparation addition to the main meeting room of the Township Hall. We are attempting to get parking lot and entrance roadway lighting bid and installed.

I would like to welcome Trustee-Elect Angela Willyerd to the Board of Trustees and thank Trustee Dewey Akers for his 12 years of committed service to our township. Enjoy your retirement Dewey! Road Superintendent Fred Neace has done an outstanding job this year mowing and maintaining the roads and cemeteries. Zoning Inspector Dave Willyerd and Zoning Secretary Bernie Cattrell are doing an excellent job serving the zoning needs of our residents. Dave Stites has

delayed his retirement until the Northstar proposed amendment is completed at the Zoning Commission level and a recommendation is forwarded to the Trustees for consideration.

2024 looks to be another exciting year! I want to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

The Trustees also continue to work on several additional items including:

- Selling old and outdated equipment and furniture through the govdeals.com website.
- Repairing the soffit and gutter on the north side of the Maintenance Building, replacing two man doors and the overhead door and wrapping exposed trim in aluminum for long term stability.
- Rebidding of the farm ground lease. The current contract with Dylan and Todd Etgen (Etgen Farms) has reached the extension limit and must be rebid. The Trustees wish to recognize the Etgens for being great tenants and for their partnership work in reestablishing existing and expanding drain tile to maximize the amount of acreage available for crop production. The contract will be advertised in January and opened at the February 6, 2023 Trustee Meeting.
- Purchasing picnic tables and trash cans for the new Pavilion once it is completed.

- The submission of an Ohio Public Works Commission grant to repair and resurface Todd Street Road in 2024. The estimated cost for the township match would be \$35,457 dollars and include 1 ¾ inches of new asphalt with a chip seal topping.
- Finalizing demolition work to the east end of the old Township Hall and sealing up the furnace room area of the remaining brick structure which will remain long term as a historical static display.



The new township sign erected at the driveway entrance to the Township Hall.

The Trustees would like to recognize the exceptional efforts of Fiscal Officer Greg Roy in attaining a Three Star rating for Outstanding Achievement in Open and Transparent Government from Ohio Auditor of State Keith Faber for the audit period 01-01-21 to 12-31-22.

### **Refuse/Recycling Contract Renewed Through 2026**

Based on quality of service and cost, the Trustees have extended the **Local Waste Services** refuse/recycling contract for three years through 12-31-26.

The current rate for 2023 is \$19.95 per month. The rate for 2024 and 2025 will increase (6%) to \$21.15 per month and increase again (3%) to \$21.78 per month in 2026. All provisions of the contract will remain the same including the 10% senior discount and pick up of one large item per week. Except for holidays, our pickup day of Wednesday will remain the same.

### **Community Connections Committee Monthly Meeting**

Want to feel more connected to our community? Plan events to maximize use of our new Township Hall and Pavilion? Create recreational spaces, walking and bike paths? Other ideas to build our Kingston community?

Please join us for this new Township Committee at 6 pm on the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesdays of the month, just before the regular Township meetings at 7. All people and ideas are welcome!

The appointed members are: Joyce Bourgault as Chair, Louise Douce as Vice, along with Leslie Yaussy and Angela Willyerd as Members. If you have questions, please contact Louise Douce at [louisedouce.1@gmail.com](mailto:louisedouce.1@gmail.com) or telephone 614-565-7991.

## **Trustee Akers Farewell**

To the Residents of Kingston Township,

I would like to say thank you for all the support given to me over the years that I have served as your trustee. It has been my great pleasure to serve as your trustee.

I would like to say thanks to Bill Shively and Steve Volpe for all the improvements that we were able to accomplish over the last several years. The township now has a new township hall, a new pavilion, soon to be completed, and improved road maintenance and equipment. When people work together, much can be accomplished.

I think the township will continue to grow and I wish the best to the new trustee in making decisions for the betterment of the township residents. I will miss serving and hope the trustees will continue to improve the township for everyone.

I would also like to thank Louise Douce for starting a conversation group, open to all residents, which discusses concerns of the township.

I encourage residents to attend meetings and be informed about the operation of your township.

Thanks, Dewey Akers

## **ZONING REPORT**

### **Thinking About Building, Contact The Zoning Office First**

Please remember to contact the Zoning Office before starting construction of any new structures or improvement/expansion of an existing structure.

## **Permits**

For the months of August through October, the following zoning permits were approved:

- 2 New Build Homes
- 2 Home Additions
- 6 Accessory Structures
- 3 Decks
- 3 Pools
- 1 Church

Other zoning office activity and approvals:

- 1 Complaint Received
- 1 Adjacent Land Transfer
- 1 Agricultural Exemption
- 1 Common Access Drive (CAD)
- 1 Lot Split Development Plan

## **Total Solar Eclipse Coming April 8, 2024**

This is a rare event occurring only 15 times since 1867 with the last one visible in parts of Kentucky in 2017. It will be the last one in North American until 2044 where it will be visible in only portions of North Dakota. The next totality eclipse in Ohio is in 2099.

The Delaware County Emergency Management Agency wants you to know that they are planning on its impact on all of Delaware County (extreme demand for hotels, campsites, restaurant, entertainment facilities, parks, etc.). Both the county and state are putting out the message: "Arrive Early, Stay Late, Stay Put". The county believes that will be stress on the local infrastructure including fuel, grocery, water, sanitation and traffic.

Expect heavy cell phone usage in the area on that day and don't use your phone to view the eclipse as the radiation can damage the phone.





**Total Solar Eclipse Path through Ohio  
April 8, 2024**



Plan now for safe viewing options and eye protection purchases by going to the following NASA website: <https://science.nasa.gov/eclipses/safety/>.

## **ROADS & CEMETERIES**

### **Since The Last Newsletter**

For the months of August through October, 0 driveway permits were issued. One foundation was repaired, and the headstone reset. There were 2 interments in the Blue Church Cemetery during the period and 2 natural burial plots and 1 traditional burial plot were sold. 3 grave plots were leveled, seeded and strawed.

Two 6' barricades were purchased for emergency road closure. A new 9" auger berm box (\$9,370) was also purchased for use in spreading salt and lining the berm of township roads with an aggregate when needed. In cooperation with the Morrow County Engineer, the Kingston Township

portion of Clark Road was posted with reduced weight limits for January through July.

Both signs at the Blue Church Cemetery were replaced, and the new entrance sign for the Township Hall was installed.



Cemetery Sexton Neace leveling a grave at the Blue Church Cemetery.

## **Culvert Replacement & Roadway Resurfacing Work**



Work was recently completed to resurface and stripe Twigg-Hupp Road.

As you are driving the roadways within Kingston Township and see damage to the pavement (potholes), signs, or guardrails, please report the damage to Road Superintendent Fred Neace by calling or texting 740-815-8427. We need your help to ensure that our roadways remain safe. Winter will be upon us soon.

**Now is the time to check your mailboxes and posts to ensure they are stable and in good repair prior to when snowplowing begins.**

## **PORTER KINGSTON FIRE DISTRICT**

### **Santa Tour of Porter Kingston Fire District**

The District apparatus will escort Santa Claus on the 12-hour longish 2023 tour on December 17<sup>th</sup>. Go to their Facebook page, **Porter Kingston Fire District Santa Tour** for further information including the official schedule and route or to message them your address.

In other news, the District has received multiple financial grants this year that help it to provide service to the residents of the district and protect the health of its firefighters. Most recently it received a \$13,940 grant from the Ohio Bureau of Workers Compensation to purchase a gear dryer that will service 6 sets of turnout gear at a time. The Ohio BWC had given PKFD a grant several years ago to purchase a washer for the gear. The dryer has already been received.

They also received an EMS Grant of \$2,975. They used it to purchase 2 Automatic External Defibrillators. One will be installed at the Porter Township Hall and the other

replaces an old, discontinued and no longer serviceable AED on the apparatus.

Over the summer the District used \$4,460 to purchase a SuperVac ventilation fan powered by the same 18 volt batteries used in many of their other power rescue and fire tools. It can be connected via electric cords to the fire apparatus when the batteries go dead. The fan has been ordered but not yet received. It is used to force smoke from structures, as fires are extinguished.

Finally, the District has 2 new applicants that are in the process of receiving their fire training at the Delaware Area Career Center. They both will begin their EMS training in January.

## **HEALTH DISTRICT NEWS**

### **Thank You, Voters!**

The Health District is so very thankful to our residents for their continued support of public health services! The levy result shows what we already know to be true -- Delaware County values public health and the work our dedicated team does on a daily basis to keep residents healthy and safe! Thank you, Delaware County!

### **Recycle Right Holiday String Lights**

The award-winning holiday string light recycling program is back! Starting now through Jan. 15, 2024, residents can bring burnt-out string lights to any of the following locations and drop them into the decorated bins:

- Ashley Wornstaff Memorial Library
- Delaware City Public Works office
- Delaware County District Library - all locations
- Delaware Public Health District – Delaware/Sunbury
- Genoa Township Administration Office
- Price Farms Organics

## CALENDAR

Meetings are at the Township Hall, unless noted otherwise. **Trash pickup days are Wednesday except during holiday weeks\* where Wednesday service will be performed on Thursday. \*Note Change**

**Trustees Meetings** December 5, 2023, 7PM  
January 2, 2024, 7PM  
February 6, 2024, 7PM  
March 5, 2024, 7PM  
April 2, 2024, 7PM  
May 7, 2024, 7PM  
June 4, 2024, 7PM

**Zoning Commission** February 7, 2024, 7PM  
May 1, 2024, 7PM  
August 7, 2024, 7PM  
November 7, 2024, 7PM

**Trash Days**  
December 6, 13, 20, **28\***  
January **4\***, 10, 17, 24, 31  
February 7, 14, 21, 28  
March 6, 13, 20, 27  
April 3, 10, 17, 24  
May 1, 8, 15, 22. **30\***  
June 5, 12, 19, 26

## CONTACTS

### **TRUSTEES (Meet 7PM 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of Month)**

Matt Roy, 740-816-7556

Email: [mroy@kingstontwp.org](mailto:mroy@kingstontwp.org)

Dewey Akers, 740-803-1529

Email: [dakers@kingstontwp.org](mailto:dakers@kingstontwp.org)

Bill Shively, 614-309-9784

Email: [wshively@kingstontwp.org](mailto:wshively@kingstontwp.org)

### **FISCAL OFFICER**

Greg Roy: 740-504-0311

Email: [fiscalofficer@kingstontwp.org](mailto:fiscalofficer@kingstontwp.org)

### **DELAWARE COUNTY EMS**

Emergency: 911; Business: 833

Web Site [www.delcoems.org](http://www.delcoems.org)

### **NEWS & INFORMATION**

Zoning Office Telephone: 740-524-0290

Township Web Site: [www.kingstontwp.org](http://www.kingstontwp.org)

Office Hours: Thursday, 8a.m. to noon

### **ZONING**

Dave Willyerd, Zoning Inspector

Bernie Cattrell, Zoning Secretary

740-524-0290, Fax: 740-524-5304

Email: [zoning@kingstontwp.org](mailto:zoning@kingstontwp.org)

**Please contact the Zoning Office by e-mail or by phone to be added or removed from the Newsletter Distribution List.**

### **PORTER KINGSTON FIRE DISTRICT**

Emergency: 911; Business: 740-524-5050

Web Site: [www.PKFD.org](http://www.PKFD.org)

Email: [PKFD@rrohio.com](mailto:PKFD@rrohio.com)

### **ROADS & CEMETERIES**

Fred Neace, 740-815-8427

Email: [roads@kingstontwp.org](mailto:roads@kingstontwp.org)

### **TRASH & RECYCLING**

Local Waste Services: 614-409-9375

Web Site: [www.localwasteservices.com](http://www.localwasteservices.com)

### **SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION SERVICE**

740-368-1921

### **DELAWARE COUNTY BUILDING SAFETY**

740-833-2200

### **DELAWARE GENERAL HEALTH DISTRICT**

740-368-1700 Delaware

740-965-2339 Sunbury