

The Washington Township News

Spring 2000

Issue: One Volume: One

Editor: Debra Kolasinski

June 1, 2000

Trustee News

Who to Call:

Trustees

Barbara Shaheen
726-6621

Camille Hammer
726-6621

Ken Kay
726-6621

Clerk

Becky Bodette
726-6621

Secretary

Judy Guerrero
Katie Loney (Mondays &
Vacation Coverage)

726-6621

Road Superintendent

Glen McIntosh
726-6908

Zoning Inspector

Tony Cochenour
726-6621



Hello!
Welcome to our first publication of *The Washington Township News*. This newsletter

is to inform, educate, and motivate the residents of our community. This paper will not be used for any political platforms or issues. We will issue a newsletter quarterly for the first year on a trial basis. In this first issue we would like to introduce ourselves.

The modern civil township government has four elected officials: three trustees and a clerk. These officials serve on a part time basis. Elections for four year terms are held

during odd numbered years. Terms are staggered. (some members of the board also do) that is, they do not all end at the same time. Two trustees are elected and the next year, one trustee and a clerk.

Township trustees have two jobs. First, they are members of the governing body. As such, they decide, within the confines of state law, what the township government will do. The governing body is called the Board of Township Trustees. Second, the trustees are also responsible for getting things done - that is, for executing the policies they have created. Therefore, the township trustees are also members of the executive branch.

Principal duties of a trustee are to prepare the budget, the designation of funds, and are also legally responsible for the maintenance of all township roads. Ultimately the township trustees are accountable for all decisions made.

Our meeting dates for the remainder of the year are: June 5 & 19, July 3 & 17, Aug. 7 & 21, Sept. 5 & 18, Oct. 2 & 16, Nov. 6 & 12, Dec. 4 & 18. All meetings are held at Washington Township Hall, 5714 Blessing Dr. at 7:00 pm (Nov. 6th at 7:30) and the public is invited to attend!

Where the Roads Lead

The road department consists of five men; four part-time and one full-time. The road superintendent is Glen McIntosh; he is assisted by Tony Cochenour, Fred Maze, Bryon McIntosh, Rick Phillips, and Harry Thoman. The road crew spends their days mowing grass, plowing snow, and performing road and curb repairs



as needed. They also service equipment and keep the Township building clean. During extreme weather situations, they perform storm damage clean up, removing downed trees, and repairing caved storm sewers. Washington Township consists of approximately ten miles of roads that these dedicated men maintain. Beginning in the Fall of 2000, a leaf vacuum will be rented for leaf pick-up. The rental

fee will be put towards the purchase price; if the vacuum fits the Township's needs. If you need assistance with any of these things mentioned or have any questions, please contact the road department at 726-6908.



Where There's Smoke, There's Fire !!

The Washington Township Fire Department is proud to offer its emergency response services to all residents of Washington Township as well as provide backup assistance to the neighboring fire departments as necessary. Our department is headed by a long time fixture of this community, Chief George W. Green, Sr. (700), who has given well over 60 years of service. Under his command are three assistant chiefs who, together as a team, share in the duties of supervising three different areas of the department. Asst. Chief Matthew J. Hart (710) is responsible for supervising fireground operations, scheduling and overseeing training exercises, as well as documenting departmental records. Asst. Chief James Binienda (720) heads our emergency medical services department and works closely with the department's medical director. Asst. Chief Ronald Kay (730) is the department's director of fire prevention and arson investigations. The Washington Township Fire Department is also staffed with six Captains: Bob Stillion, Jon Parker, Bill Dawn, Doug Danyko, Tony Cochenour, Mike McBride, and 27 Firefighters: Tammy Browning, John Cockerill, Joe DeGroff, Eric Farrell, Bob Green, George Green, Jr., Don Hamblin, Mike Ignatowski, Ken Kay, Kendra Kay, Jim Kish, Bill Long, Dean Miller, Dave Miramontes, M.D., Mike Motter, Rick Phillips, Mike Radzi- moski, Fred Riggs, Howard Rudes, Jason Samsel, Kevin Scheuerman, Jackie Smith, Tracy Stanford, Kirsten Stange, Harry Thoman, Bradley VanCamp, Bertrand Wilson. We currently have five openings for any interested residents who have the ability and desire to faithfully serve their community.



Each year our mem- bers graciously give over 10,000 hours of

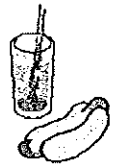


their time to our community. All members are required to attend weekly training exercises in addition to answering each of the emergency calls we receive from our residents in their time of need. During their first year of training, each member is required to become a qualified State of Ohio firefighter and a Certified Emergency Medical Technician. All fire department members are trained on all equipment and in all aspects of the emergency services. Structure fires, medical emergencies, hazardous materi- als incidents, injury accidents, water and ice rescues, are some of the potential examples of what our members have to be prepared to handle at a moments notice. The Washington Township Fire Dept. currently has two fully equipped engines, one transport capable rescue squad, one heavy squad, one fire boat, and two hovercrafts. The latest addition was the upgrade of the incident com- mand car to a new 2000 Ford Excursion. This new incident command vehicle will have the capabilities to communicate with all regional authorities, and be equipped to serve as a command post for all major incidents.

If you would like more information about the fire department or up coming department events, please feel free to contact Chief Green at 726-2453.

Summerfest News

The Fire Department is partially funded by tax dollars, and supplemented by the fund raisers the firefighters hold each year. Our next event will be Summerfest 2000 which is held at Shoreland Park on Friday, June 23rd 6:00 pm—12 midnight, and Saturday, June 24th from 2:00 pm—12 midnight. This Fire Department sponsored community event is our largest event of the year. With entertainment, food, rides & games, more food, and family fun, this year's Summerfest will be sure to please all ages. We invite everyone to come down for a fun filled day and to meet the members of *Your Fire Department*.



Zoning

My name is Tony Cochenour and I am the Zoning Inspector for Washington Township. I wanted to give you some basic information on the zoning in Washington Township. The zoning office is located at 5714 Blessing Dr. and the phone number is 726-56621.

Some basic zoning laws:
Any landscaping needs to be 1-1/2 ft. off the roadway, and anything over six inches needs a permit. You need a permit to put up a shed. No sheds are permitted in the front or side yards. They must be set back at least three ft. from the side lot lines and six ft. from the rear lot lines.

Fences, planting material, and similar screening devices can be no higher than 42 inches in the front yards fronting on the public street. These same screening devices, up to six ft., are permitted in the remaining yards.

A reminder on parking and storing boats, recreational vehicles, and util- ity equipment: Parking or storing of such vehicles in any residential dis- trict for longer than 72 hours or longer, shall be prohibited.

If you have questions, please feel free to contact the office.

The Men in Blue



You see them almost everyday, and cringe... Was I speeding, did I stop for that stop sign, if only he was somewhere else... We are

never glad to see them until we need them and then we want them NOW!

Today we have 10 officers (D. Moszkowicz, R. Sabo, T. Picking, K. Bowman, G. Plasencio, G. Redlin, T. Fall, H. Thoman, G. Estok, G. Wynn), three sergeants (J. Sedlar, C. Kaiser, W. Estok), one lieutenant (D. Huguelet), and the Chief (D. Spain) patrolling our streets in either of the two police vehicles that the Township has.

The Police Department would like to share some safety tips, and an important goal for their department:

Keeping our youth safe is a primary goal in our community, the Police Department is no different. They ask all parents, and teenagers to remember these things. As school proms and graduations approach, the problem of teenage drinking becomes even more serious than at any other time of the year. At after-prom parties and graduation celebrations, some young people will be tempted to drink, often

with tragic results. Enforcement of the liquor laws relating to persons under the age of 21 is of the utmost importance to the Police Department. We would like to remind everyone of the 1989 amendment to the Ohio Revised Code Section 4301.69, commonly known as the "keg law". This amendment holds the individuals responsible for underage drinking on property under their control. If parents knowingly allow underage persons to consume alcoholic beverages, both the underage persons and the parents are in violation of the law. Violation of the keg law is a first-degree misdemeanor, punishable with up to six months in jail and/or up to \$1000 fine. Let's show our youth that partying and celebrations do not need to be done with alcohol.

Lastly, it is the time of year when we need to be aware of tornado warnings. When a tornado warning is issued for Lucas County, take cover immediately. In homes, go to the middle of a room in the lowest part of the house, seek shelter in a windowless closet, bathroom or inside hallway. In school,



listen to the teacher. Go to an inside wall on the lowest floor. Kneel on the floor facing the wall, and cover your head with a book or your hands. In cars or mobile homes, GET OUT. If possible seek shelter in a building or under a bridge. If none is available, seek shelter in a ditch or low spot, lie flat and cover your head with your hands. Residents of Rain-tree Village, the Police Department does open the Township Bldg. and the basement is available to you and anyone seeking shelter. If outside, seek shelter in a building. If none is available, seek shelter in a ditch or low spot, lie flat and cover your head with your hands.

If you have any questions or comments about the Police Department, please contact Chief Duane Spain at 726-0478. If you have an emergency, please call 911.

Suggestions and Comments

Please return this sheet if you have address corrections or suggestions for the trustees, or any other Township Department. Ideas for future newsletters are also welcome.

Name: _____

Suggestion or Idea:



Address: _____

Zoning Commission

The Washington Township Zoning Commission, at the request of the Trustees, has proposed changes to our Zoning Resolution (Manual). They have subsequently forwarded said revisions to the Toledo/Lucas County Plan Commission, who will vote on them on May 24 at 9 am for their recommendation. The Zoning Commission will then conduct a Public Hearing on Tuesday, June 6 a 7 pm in the Washington Township offices on Blessing Dr. to review the recommendations and consider input from residents, which may require more than one Hearing. Once the final form is voted on, it will be forwarded as a recommendation to the Trustees, who will also conduct a Public Hearing (all according to procedures established by Ohio Law) for their vote.

The changes, in brief form but not limited to, deal with Blight, Adult Entertainment, Satellite Dishes, Signs, Parking of Recreational Vehicles, along with updates to current rulings in Ohio Law.

A revised manual will be available for review at the Township offices during normal business hours: Monday, Wednesday, Friday 8 am to 11:45 am; Tuesday and Thursday 3 pm to 5:45 pm.

Once every six years, the Lucas County Auditor's Office performs a countywide revaluation of all parcels in Lucas County. During the revaluation process, the Auditor provides the property owners with the opportunity to review their new values with a staff appraiser. Since new property values are being assigned, the Auditor would like to facilitate a smooth transition process for

Washington Township residents. The following dates will be used to allow property owners in the area to address any questions, comments, or present any formal complaints that they may have: Thurs., June 22, from 12:00 noon to 7:00 pm; Fri., June 23, from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm; Sat., June 24, from 9:00 am to 12:00 noon.

The Clerk's Office

The Township Clerk certifies that every Township expenditure has been appropriated by the Board of Trustees and that there is money available in the funds to

spend. The Clerk is also responsible for maintaining all the Township records, book-



keeping and payroll.

This year the Board of Trustees has approved the purchase of two police cars, a fire department command vehicle, and a road improvement project. The permanent improvement fund was established for the proceeds from the auction of the Summit St. fire station. This fund will be used for the police and fire vehicles. The

special levy road fund will be used for the road improvement project. This year's road improvement project is for Holiday, Capri, and Jasik Drives. Work consists of removal and replacement of approximately 45% of existing concrete pavement. Completion date is set for August 26, 2000. The general fund will be used for improvements that are being made at the Township Hall.

Our bank balance as of May 20, 2000 is \$970,889.94.

Washington Township News
5714 Blessing
Toledo, OH 43612

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