

Washington TOWNSHIP

www.washington-twp.com

Spring 2015

Issue Number 36

TRUSTEE NEWS

From the Trustees...

Could anyone be looking forward to spring anymore than the residents of our small but proud little community of Washington Township?

With record low temperatures and wind chill factors well below zero, I say it's time for spring to burst on the scene, let the yard work begin.

Keeping our neighborhood looking neat and tidy is a job for everyone. It helps to attract potential new home owners and gives a sense of pride to those that own their homes. After being cooped up the last several months just waiting for the weather to break gives you time to think about what needs to be done, in your little corner of our community to shake off the ravages of winters blast and begin to rake, mow, plant, and sow to enhance the curb appeal of your home. It's a job for everyone. Just a word to remind you, The Trustee Meetings are held the third Thursday of every month at 7:00 pm at the Township Hall. Located at 5714 Blessing Dr. All are welcome to attend. Come over and we will do our best to make you welcome. Our newsletter is sent out semiannually, spring and fall and will feature articles from each of our department heads covering current news from their view point. With that in mind, if you have any questions, please stop in or attend a meeting. You have a right to know how your Township operates.

Respectfully,

Ken Kay – Chair

Denise Rex – Vice Chair

John Henry

April

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

16th – Meeting at Township Hall at 7:00 pm

July

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

3rd – Office Closed
16th – Meeting at Township Hall at 7:00 pm

May

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

21st – Meeting at Township Hall at 7:00 pm
25th – Office Closed

August

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

20th – Meeting at Township Hall at 7:00 pm

June

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

18th – Meeting at Township Hall at 7:00 pm
27th – Summerfest

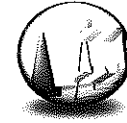
September

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

7th – Office Closed
17th – Meeting at Township Hall at 7:00 pm



ROAD DEPARTMENT



SPRING HAS ARRIVED!

The Road Department purchased two new dump trucks this year to replace the 1992 GMC Top Kick and the 1994 Ford L 8000. We did a three year study on repairs to the old trucks Vs the purchase of two new trucks and decided it would be in our best interest to purchase the two new trucks. By doing this we will save money and reduce the amount of down time due to break downs and repair time.

You most likely noticed that there was a huge reduction in the use of road salt this year compared to years past. This was done mainly because of the cost of road salt. Last winter we were paying \$ 47.00 per ton. This year the cost of the salt went to a staggering \$145.00 per ton. The law of supply and demand played a major role in this. Hopefully, next year the salt prices will go back where they were before.

The crack sealing will start soon. The reason that we do this is because sealing the cracks and the potholes, in the roadway helps extend the life of our roads. We will be concentrating in Old Shoreland this year, in your travels if you see a pot hole or large crack in the road please report it to the road department. When you see us doing the crack sealing we ask you that you do not drive on the hot tar.

This year, as time permits, we will be out sweeping the streets every 3 to 4 weeks. Another item that we have noticed a lot of is the blue advertising bags in the streets and driveways. These bags, when it is raining float down to the sewers and plug them up. Some of the items that we have been removing out of the storm sewers are: blue and yellow advertising bags, phone books, magazines, golf balls, tennis balls, miscellaneous car parts, concrete, and a lot of **grass clippings**. When cutting your grass please do not allow your grass clippings to go out into the street. If it happens, please blow the street off. Remember that the street sewers are for water only, they all flow into the local streams.

Last year during the annual leaf pickup we collected over 670 cubic yards. Thanks to all who kept the branches and tree twigs out of the piles. In doing this, we had no breakdown of equipment and it has allowed us to do 5 complete tours of the township (the most ever).

This past winter we observed a lot of residents throwing the snow into the street. We ask you to please **STOP** doing this. When you do this you are creating a road hazard which could result in an accident. This also causes us to use extra road salt and more man hours.

FISCAL OFFICER NEWS

THIRD ANNUAL HELP FOR THE HOLIDAYS ANOTHER SUCCESS!

We were able to help two families for the holidays thanks to generous donations from:

Dennis Huguelet, Safeguard Security, Attendees of the Washington Township Feather Party,

Residents: Dorothy Grochowski, Charles Connor, Sandra and Gerald Beale, Darlene Poczekaj, Patty Hale and all the Township employees and Elected Officials. A special Thank You to all the Fire Fighters who delivered the Holiday Joy!

FINANCIAL

Our Annual Financial Report is available at the Township Hall and on our web site.

2014 FUNDS	1.1.14 BALANCE	RECEIPTS	EXPENDED	TRANSFERS OR OTHER	12.31.14 BALANCE
General	\$329,910.03	\$177,026.77	\$137,709.22	\$(35,000.00)	\$334,227.58
Motor Vehicle License Tax	\$2,415.13	\$3,435.47	\$3,597.83		\$2,252.77
Gasoline Tax	\$89,803.54	\$81,737.25	\$119,609.58		\$51,931.21
Road and Bridge	\$8,245.52	\$68,590.49	\$62,699.82		\$14,136.19
Special Levy Police	\$295,679.15	\$527,980.87	\$535,107.84		\$288,552.18
Special Levy Fire	\$35,096.98	\$192,059.00	\$264,999.53	\$39,310.06	\$1,466.51
Special Levy Park	\$94,313.77	\$60,252.36	\$56,199.76	\$3,500.00	\$101,866.37
Permissive Motor Vehicle License Tax	\$10,607.75	\$7,381.70	\$4,028.15		\$13,961.30
Law Enforcement Trust	\$38,228.40	\$1,702.28	\$-		\$39,930.68
Enforcement and Education	\$5,197.39	\$487.00	\$-		\$5,684.39
Special Revenue Lighting	\$8,195.33	\$23,088.79	\$26,892.08		\$4,392.04
	\$917,692.99	\$1,143,741.98	\$1,210,843.81		\$858,401.22



WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP FIRE DEPARTMENT

Fire Chief Matthew J. Hart

Spring is here. - Finally!!!

Time to get ready for the warmer weather. I know that you always check your smoke detectors and replace the batteries when the time changes, but if you have not gotten around to it this spring, do it now before something happens. If you don't have current smoke detectors in your home, just stop in to our fire station on any Wednesday evening and we would be happy to provide them to you free of charge. Your safety is our number one concern.

Fire Code - Warmer weather is upon us and most residents are in the process of cleaning their yards from all of the winter debris. Remember to properly dispose of your yard waste. Burning of yard waste is not permitted within Washington Township. Open burning is regulated by the Fire Department and the EPA. Any open fire that does not conform to the open burning regulations can subject you to citations and fines. So once again - in an effort to ensure your safety - Please read, understand, and follow all of the requirements for open burning. Reminder - Copies of the Open Burning laws for Washington Township are available at the Fire Station and at the Township Offices, and online at the fire department website www.wtfd.net.

Water - Were talking about the wet stuff - and not just what we spray on fires - The fire station meeting room and administrative offices received some minor damage to the flooring that was caused by water entering through the rear doors. The cold weather enabled ice dams to form and when the temperatures began to rise, they started to thaw and the runoff water was channeled directly into the building. This has not affected our service to you. Repairs are underway.

Summerfest - June 27th, 2015

The Washington Twp Firefighters Summerfest is just around the corner. This year the celebration will be held on Saturday June 27th. Featuring live bands, beer, plenty of food, and lots of entertaining rides for the kids, and don't miss our fantastic fireworks display at 10pm. Sponsored and conducted by the Washington Twp. Firefighters at Shoreland Park, Summerfest is Family Friendly. The main focus of the Summerfest celebration is to facilitate an event that supports the Fire Department while providing a venue that brings the residents of our community together. This event is the largest fundraiser of the year for the firefighters. Please support us by coming to the park and participating in the fun. The funds we generate, will help our firefighters receive additional training and equipment that we utilize to defend and protect the residents of the township. We take pride in our department and our services, and your help is greatly appreciated. You are invited! Come on down to Shoreland Park and enjoy this festive event.

 **Like us on Facebook**
www.facebook.com/WashingtonTwpFire

New Era - Many of you may have noticed that we were recently in the news. We have tackled one of the items that desperately needed to be addressed - and that was the staffing of firefighters for our daytime shift. Thanks to the overwhelming support of our residents last fall, we have now been able to put in place a 2-person day shift crew that staffs the fire station from 8:00am to 4:00pm Monday through Friday.

We have revised our operational procedures to an entirely different system which incorporates both hourly employees and paid-per-call employees. With the starting of this new 8 hour shift of trained and qualified Firefighter/EMT's we have seen many benefits. Maintaining quality and timely emergency response to our residents is always our top priority. But when not responding to emergencies, these new firefighters have been staying very busy performing equipment checks and station maintenance.

On the plus side of the new operational system is the fact that it greatly enhances the paid per call Firefighters duties. The paid-per-call Firefighters have been taxed very heavily up to now with constant demands for their time in addition to the mandated weekly training and responding to emergency calls. We believe that because of the dramatic reduction of time requirements for our paid-per-call firefighters, we will be able to attract many more firefighter candidates. We are now actively recruiting new firefighters. A new fire academy class is scheduled to begin on June 1st, 2015. If you know of anyone interested please have them visit our station on any Wednesday evening for an application. Applicants must reside within the Township, Point Place, or Shoreland areas.

Live the Dream... Become a FIREFIGHTER

We need your help.

We are currently taking applications for the next Fire Academy Class that will begin in June.

Become a Paid-per-Call Firefighter for one of the most Progressive departments in the Region. Join our family and make a difference for everyone. We provide all of the training, uniforms and equipment.

APPLY TODAY!

Applications are due by April 15th.





POLICE DEPARTMENT



A BIG THANK YOU!!

The Washington Township Police Department extends a sincere THANK YOU to the Washington Township Road Department, and especially to the guys manning the trucks. These guys put in a tremendous amount of time and effort this past winter clearing snow from our roadways, salting, and keeping the path clear for all of us to get around.

We would also like to extend a big THANK YOU to the Ohio Department of Transportation, City of Toledo Division of Streets, and the Monroe County Road Commission for going above and beyond this past winter as well.

PLAY BALL!

Baseball season is nearly upon us and that means the ball diamonds at Shoreland Park will be crowded with young athletes. While we should not have to mention this, we are reminding everyone that alcoholic beverages are not allowed inside the park area. Again, we ask that anyone attending the ball games be respectful of the immediate neighborhood around the park when parking your vehicle. We all know that parking is at a premium if not scarce in and around the park. No parking zones will be enforced, if necessary, vehicles may be towed. While we do not want to interfere with anyone's family time by having the embarrassment of the police ticketing or towing a vehicle, we must enforce the "No Parking Zones" due to fire regulations and potential traffic hazards.

We would also ask that everyone gives a "friendly reminder" to those folks that may not be familiar with the parking situation around Shoreland Park.

PARK CLOSED AT DARK

Shoreland Park is closed to the public after dark unless you are participating in a sponsored activity. This includes shortcuts after dark and walking the dog. While this may appear restrictive; this is a safety concern for the Parks Board, the Police Department and the Fire Department. Persons found inside the park after dark and before sunrise could face criminal charges of trespassing.

PROMS AND GRADUATION PARTIES

We are fast approaching the end of the school year, and that means proms and graduation parties. Unfortunately, as police officers we begin to become increasingly more concerned about underage alcohol possession and consumption. The Washington Township Police Department in cooperation with the Ohio State Highway Patrol, the OVI Taskforce, and other law enforcement agencies will be pro active with alcohol enforcement during the spring and summer months. Those hosting parties that serve alcohol or allow underage consumption of alcohol are subject to arrest and civil liability should the unthinkable occur.

We are asking those of you who will be hosting parties over the next several months to be vigilant in assisting us in keeping everyone safe, by monitoring who is in attendance and specifically who is of age to consume alcohol.

C.C.W AND THE POLICE

C.C.W has been around for some time now; opinions are mixed about this law. If you have a C.C.W permit, and you "carry" please be aware that any time you have contact with the police YOU MUST INFORM THE OFFICER THAT YOU HAVE A C.C.W PERMIT, AND THAT YOU HAVE YOUR WEAPON ON YOUR PERSON. Additionally, you must also inform the officer regarding your permit even if you have no weapon on your person or in your automobile. We can not stress again the importance of safely securing your weapon at all times, especially with small children in the house.

As in the article above, we do not want you to place yourself in "harms" way by approaching any suspicious situations simply because you have the C.C.W permit; you are not the police and you will not be of any assistance if you become a victim and the suspect obtains your weapon.

The Washington Township Police Department feels very strongly about this subject!

IRS IMPOSTOR

If the phone rings and the caller says he represents the IRS, be very suspicious.

That's the warning from federal authorities, who said a nationwide phone scam has stolen \$1 million from thousands of unsuspecting people.

The impostor claims to be an Internal Revenue Service representative and tells "intended victims they owe taxes and must pay using a pre-paid debit card or wire transfer," an IRS Inspector General Office said.

"The scammers threaten those who refuse to pay with arrest, deportation or loss of a business or driver's license."

The IRS has received more than 20,000 reports about the scam.

J. Russell George, the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration, called it "the largest scam of its kind that we have ever seen."

According to the Inspector General, IRS officials typically first reach out by mail rather than phone, and don't demand immediate payment by debit card, credit card or wire transfer.

The IRS said people who receive such calls or other suspicious requests should contact the IRS.



PARK DEPARTMENT



SHORELAND PARK SUPERVISED ACTIVITIES TO BEGIN IN JUNE 2015

Shoreland Park's Supervised Activities will begin in June and run through August. Supervised activities will include games, crafts, bingo and much more. Children must be 7 years old and be able to work on crafts independently, or an adult must stay and help them. A permission slip is required which is handed out at the beginning of the summer activities. This summer's hours will be Monday through Friday from 10:00a.m.-2:00p.m... Miss Tina is planning to return for another fun and educational summer program.

CONFINING YOUR DOG

At all times dogs must be physically restrained by the owner, or keeper on a leash or tether.

Where you ask? Anywhere in the state of Ohio. This also means in **Shoreland Park**. You are liable for any damage your dog may do to property or people. The penalty for failure to properly confine your dog could be up to **\$250.00 in fines or up to 30 days in jail** so please keep your dogs on a leash and in control. We also have (2) dog bags located at both ends of the park so if your dog does his or her business please pick it up as this is becoming a real health issue. We have been getting many complaints of dogs not being on a leash or cleaned up after.

PLANNING A SPECIAL EVENT?

The Shoreland Park shelter house is available for rent for your special event. Call the Parks division at 419-726-6908 for more information and to see if your date is open. The rentals are filling up fast so don't delay. You can also go the Washington Township web site and click on Shoreland Park for a contract and information about the shelter house.

ZONING DEPARTMENT

Concentrating on the following violation issues this year for:

- Sheds that are not in good condition.
- Refuse cans that do not have lids and are not stored properly in the least visible place. They may not be placed in the front yard. If you are on a corner lot, you have two front yards. Lets be considerate of our neighbors view and the view from the street.
- Address numbers that are not visible from the road. Emergency responders need to be able to see your house number.

Feel free to call me with any questions or concerns and our Zoning Resolution is on line.

Thanks to all the residents that have been so cooperative with zoning rules.

	2009	2010	2012	2013	2014
HEARINGS	2	4		2	1
PERMITS	40	33	43	32	36
STOP WORK	1	0	0	0	2
VIOLATIONS	146	134	126	149	73
WARNINGS					144
TRUSTEES RESOLUTIONS TO REMOVE BLIGHT	30	15	82	80	44

APPLICATIONS		VIOLATIONS	
ADDITION	4	BOAT	4
BUILDING	1	BLIGHT	46
DECK	1	FENCE	5
FENCE	12	PARKING	4
GARAGE	2	POOL	3
POOL	10	STORAGE	11
RAMP	1		
SHED	2		
SIGN	2		
USE CHANGE	1		
SIGN	1		

Washington Township

5714 Blessing Drive

Toledo, Ohio 43612-3912

TRUSTEES

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TOWNSHIP HALL ADDRESS

5714 Blessing Dr.
Toledo, Ohio 43612

OFFICE HOURS - POLICE

Monday through Friday
8:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.

OFFICE HOURS – ELECTED OFFICIALS ASSISTANT

Monday through Friday
8:00 A.M. to 12:00 noon