

OXFORD TOWNSHIP

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Spring 2020

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FROM THE TRUSTEES

Fire & Emergency Medical Service:

The Township received its second fire truck on Tuesday March 24th! We thank Groton Township Trustees, Chief Kerry Jett and the Groton Township Fire Department for making this possible.



2011 Ford

The Groton Township Fire Department is still looking for individuals who are interested in joining the department. The department is still short of its goal of 25 firefighters or more. If you are interested and would like to stop in at a training session at the Groton Township Fire Department on Portland Road (2nd, 3rd, 4th Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m.), you are more than welcome to do so.

From Chief Kerry Jett: Please be advised that when you call in an open burn to Chief Jett/Groton Twp. Fire Dept., I am not authorizing or approving your open burn. You are only informing this dept. that you are going to have an open burn so to prevent this dept. from needlessly responding in an emergency response or mode if a 9-1-1 call is received in your area for the same. Remember, Ohio EPA is the only legal entity that may issue/approve open burns, please see the rules and requirements at Ohio EPA website to ensure you follow and meet these guidelines. Also remember if this dept. should receive a complaint about your open burn, we are required by the Ohio Fire Code to extinguish the fire if you do not. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.

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FROM THE TRUSTEES CONT.

Roadwork:

At the current time we plan on chip sealing Harris Road. However, that might not be possible as the County Engineer currently does not plan to chip seal any county roads, which will make it difficult for the Townships to successfully advertise for bids. Also planned is asphalt overlay of half of Thomas Road between Higbee Road and SR113. Once again, we intend to do asphalt overlay with the composite crew consisting of Margareta, Groton and Oxford Township personnel.

Related to road work and road equipment, we contracted with Dan Frederick Architects to prepare plans for a new storage building and release them for bid. The new building will be located on the Township's Kimball property and will allow for storage of equipment that was temporarily moved to make room for Groton Township Fire Department Station #2 at Oxford Township Hall. We have received bids and have a recommendation from Dan Frederick but once again, due to the current economic downturn, we are currently monitoring fund availability before we decide to award any bid. A bid must be accepted or all rejected in accordance with Ohio Revised Code by May 3, 2020, or we will re-bid at a later date when there is more economic certainty.

Finally, we have ordered a new white Ford F550 to replace our 99 Ford. The purchase is through state competitive bid process and will be a lease-buy agreement through Valley Ford as allowed by Ohio Revised Code. The new truck will come with the utility tool boxes and a dump bed as did the old truck it replaces. We expect delivery in mid-summer or later due to assembly plant shutdowns. This truck, as with the old one, will be the most used and useful piece of equipment that the Township maintains.

Township Website:

Trustees are working together to keep the Township website, www.oxfordtownshipohio.com, as up to date on hot topics as much as possible. Links to the Erie County Health Department, Erie County Hazardous Waste, Erie County Ohio, U.S. Census information, and Ohio Power Siting Board are available.

Emerson Creek Wind Farm & Transmission Lines

The Ohio Power Siting Board has canceled the local public hearings for both projects due to COVID-19 concerns and they will be rescheduled.

NEXUS Gas Line:

The Township has not received any revenue so far from the project. The County Auditor has advised us that NEXUS is appealing the tax value of the project and requested a 40% reduction in value from the state early this year. It is worthy to note that NEXUS established the original value. Auditor Rick Jeffrey advised the townships and school districts slated to receive this revenue to not spend any until the appeal is settled. Spending could result in indebtedness similar to what Fremont school district suffered when a court rendered a verdict in favor of another utility that owns the Fremont gas electric generation facility.

Recycling:

Recycle day for Oxford Township is Saturday, June 6th from 8a - 11a. As usual, tires will be recycled as well as appliances, including stoves, refrigerators, washers, dryers, etc. NO TVs or Monitors!!!

*****Please watch for an update on the Township Website as the date may change*****

United States Census 2020:

By April 1, 2020, every home will receive an invitation to participate in the 2020 Census. Once the invitation is received for your home, it is important to respond in one of three ways: online, by phone, or by mail. The census counts every person living in the U.S. and its territories. It is mandated by the Constitution and conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau. The results of the census determine the number of seats each state will have in the U.S. House of Representatives and they are used to draw congressional and state legislative districts. Census info also is used by lawmakers, business owners, teachers, and many others to provide daily services, products, and support for the community. Every year, billions of dollars in federal funding go to hospitals, fire departments, schools, roads, and other resource based on census data.

Participating in the census is required by law. We need to ensure that we are properly represented in Congress and at the State level based on accurate census data and that we get every possible federal tax dollar back based on that data, so please ensure you promptly and accurately complete the census information requested when you receive it.

As of April 3, 2020, Oxford Township has a self-response 54.3% response rate which was ahead of the Erie County self-response rate of 45.3% and U.S. response rate of 47.8%. **It is not too late to respond. Using the internet link provided only take about 10 minutes or less.**

Park:

This spring, we have applied for a \$10,000 grant from Erie Metro Parks to remove and replace the existing aging play set located by the park shelter. If awarded, the grant will allow us to install a larger replacement set by Imperial Springs from PlaygroundEquipment.com located in Indiana. Once the current quarantine is lifted, the park shelter can be reserved by Township residents by contacting David Kelley at 419-656-4502.

THINK SPRING AND A SUCCESSFUL END TO QUARANTINE!!!



OXFORD TOWNSHIP

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PUBLIC WELCOME!

The Trustees meet the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month at 7 pm at the Oxford Township Complex.

Zoning Office hours currently are every Tuesday, 7 pm to 8 pm.

For up to date COVID-19 information please visit
<https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/dashboards>

