

OXFORD TOWNSHIP

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Spring 2021

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FROM THE TRUSTEES

The last quarter of 2020 contained a lot of activity for the Trustees, especially related to accepting the distribution of CARES Act funds from the federal government through the State of Ohio.

By early fall we were advised that Oxford Township was eligible for over \$80,000, the equivalent of about 15% of the Township's overall steady state budget. The rules, accountability, and distribution requirements were evolving, the situation was fluid, and we (Oxford Township Trustees and Fiscal Officer) were in a quandary (as were all of the other entities) as to how that much money could be spent, especially as we don't have our own Fire, EMS, or police force. Additionally, the funds had to be encumbered or committed to by the end of November, and all goods received by the end of December.



At about the same time, we got a request for assistance from Groton Township Fire Chief Kerry Jett. Groton Township Fire would like to purchase a Stryker LifePak resuscitation kit for the department that would minimize contact with personnel requiring life support. Chief Jett wondered if we might have funds available. After discussions with staff at the Erie County EMA, the Erie County Auditor's Office and Erie County Prosecutor's Office, it was agreed the purchase would qualify for CARES funding and we approved the

purchase of the equipment using CARES funds. Invaluable assistance was provided by Sue Brown, Assistant Erie County Prosecutor with developing the proper resolution wording and a loan agreement with Groton Township for the equipment. Once this major purchase of about \$59,000 was set in motion, we also received information from a township in the Mentor Ohio area that provided COVID prevention family packs consisting of a pack of 10 masks, a behind the head clip for the mask, a bottle of hand sanitizer, and a touchless tool for keypads and for handles. Trustees voted to purchase 400 (enough for each residence), notified residents by email and special newsletter, and distributed those over two Saturdays at the Township Hall in October and November. After further brain storming at regular meetings and a special session, we

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FROM THE TRUSTEES CONT.

ordered the installation of touchless faucets, towel dispensers and flushing equipment for the township building restrooms, additional lighting to accommodate the new one direction flow for voters due to COVID, painting of the township offices, meeting room, and garage bay with anti-microbial paint, and disinfectant foggers and air purifiers for the facility. The Fiscal Officer, Phil David, worked quietly behind the scenes ensuring all of the State paperwork was submitted on-line and all purchase orders and checks were submitted.

The current Federal stimulus package, as of this writing, does not include any direct distribution to townships in Illinois and Ohio, as it does in the other 48 states. We were told this at the Erie County Township Association meeting in Milan, on March 11th, by County Commissioner Matt Old, Milan Township Trustee and Ohio Township Association Board member Dan Frederick, and by information passed from our State Representative D.J. Swearingen. This appears to be an oversight in legal language and our Congressional representatives are looking into correcting the issue.

Meanwhile, our regular planned business moved forward with erection of the new storage building in Kimball. The shell and floor are completed, as is internal electrical. Plans are for Ohio Edison to complete connection to their line this spring. Groton, Margareta, and Oxford personnel completed installation for the stone base for building access. We also completed purchase of the White Freightliner dump and snow removal truck from Valley Ford in Monroeville via state purchasing program.



Road Superintendent:

Matt Studer of Margareta and David Kelley added additional safety lighting to our F550. They also added radios to the F550 and the new Freightliner that were provided by the Sheriff's Department. Snow removal was completed with the assistance of Scott Didion, Brian Smith (using Groton's road grader) and Josh Krumb. David suggested we purchase additional salt at the current contract rate of \$42 per ton as the contract allows, so we purchased an additional 100 ton. This should prepare us well for next season and will be much cheaper as the price is expected to rise to \$75—\$80 per ton next season.



FROM THE TRUSTEES CONT.

Fire and Emergency Services:

Township Trustees received permission from Erie County Department of Environmental Services to install 5 fire hydrants in accordance with the plan submitted by Chief Kerry Jett. Installation was done by direct contract between Oxford Township and R.J. Bores Excavating in Monroeville and completed in late February. Four new hydrants were placed at larger residential locations along Mason Road between Ransom Road and the Milan Township line. Residents in those areas may wish to contact their insurance agent as this could reduce home insurance rates. Your insurance agent will need to know the distance to the closest hydrant.

Reminder: The Groton Township Fire Department is still looking for individuals who are interested in joining the department. The department remains 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. Please consider joining the Fire Department as this is a very worthy way of serving the community.

Recycle:

Tire and recycle event will be held Saturday June 5th, 8-11 a.m. at the Township Building 11104 Ransom Road. Once again, tires will be recycled as well as appliances, including stoves, refrigerators, washers, dryers, etc.

NO TVs or Monitors!!!

Park:

Trustees plan on applying for a grant with Erie MetroParks again this year. The application will be for funding towards the ball field dugouts. The playset installed last year is ready for use this spring.



OXFORD TOWNSHIP

11104 Ransom Rd.
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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.

**Groton Township Fire Department
Spaghetti Dinner**



**Spaghetti
Dinner**

Saturday, April 10th
4:30 pm until 7:00 pm



Groton Township Fire Department
9414 Portland Road

Cost: Donations being accepted

Included with the meal is...Spaghetti with Meat or Plain Sauce, Tossed Salad with Dressing, & Bread



DRIVE-THRU ONLY

QR Code will take you to
online order form