

TRUSTEE REPORT: Zoning Explained

Mark Antonetz, Trustee

Residents often express concerns regarding growth and development. The complicated nature of zoning laws and the limited power of township government can make these issues confusing and frustrating.

When significant new developments require rezoning, the applicant is required to submit evidence to show that the proposed project is feasible and compliant with the community's zoning requirements.

In addition to zoning regulations, three additional important factors are reviewed when determining whether a rezoning application will be approved or denied: traffic volume, water/sewer capacity, and stormwater management. It is not Township staff, but instead, subject matter experts at outside organizations that review each factor. Their findings weigh significantly into the project's outcome.

The major high-volume traffic routes in Genoa Township are owned by Delaware County or the Ohio Department of Transportation. Therefore, applicants justify projected traffic impact to these agencies.

According to Ohio law, townships cannot own, operate, or construct central water lines or sanitary sewers. Genoa Township water lines are owned and operated by DelCo Water and sanitary sewers by Delaware County Regional Sewer District. Applicants appeal to these two organizations regarding utilities.

Finally, stormwater management and concerns regarding flooding are reviewed by the Delaware County Engineer.

This decentralized application process leaves the Township with primary authority to ensure that zoning changes will not negatively impact our community's health, safety, and welfare. To this end, the Genoa Township Police and Genoa Township Fire Department participate in the application process by evaluating their ability to perform their duties safely and adequately.

Residents are encouraged to attend zoning hearings to provide testimony, but these comments cannot be the sole factor taken into consideration when it is time to vote to approve or deny an application. These high-stakes, multifaceted decisions are treated by township decision-makers with thoughtful care and attention.



COMMUNICATON CHANNELS: Enclosed Survey

Sending this bi-monthly newsletter is one of several ways Genoa Township communicates with residents. However, with increasing postal prices, the Board of Trustees is considering whether the printed newsletter is a budget line item that could be replaced with lower cost, electronic communications.

Residents' communication preferences will factor into plans for the future. A random sample of readers will receive a survey inside their newsletter. If you've received a survey, please return it by mail. Responses will be compiled into a report to aid in decision-making.

The Township's website, www.GenoaTwp.com, is the repository for all the information residents want to know. The site is getting an update to its design in 2023 including an improved search feature, controls for ADA preferences, and more. Please consider this as your go-to hub to get answers to your Township questions such as, "When is trash day?", "Where is the sledding hill?", "What new development is under construction?".

SNOW: Track Snow Plow Progress

New this winter, residents will be able to track the progress snow plows are making in neighborhoods when accumulation reaches two inches or more.

Visit www.GenoaTwp.com/sNOW to follow along in real-time as trucks follow prioritized routes beginning with the highest priority main arteries shown on the map in red, followed by collector roadways shown on the map in blue, and finishing with residential routes in orange. The map will show how recently each road was cleared and which areas have yet to be completed. In addition, roads that are the responsibility of other entities such as Delaware County, Ohio Department of Transportation, or private entities will be labeled.

The program works using cellphone enabled GPS tracking. Although the public facing website will only be enabled in the winter, Maintenance Department supervising staff will use the new technology year-round to monitor progress of the department's many projects.





MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR:

Hudson Seerden

Genoa Farms resident, Hudson Seerden (9), first began taking weekly piano lessons during the pandemic via Zoom. He excelled with professional instruction from Kathleen Stephenson Sadoff and upgraded his digital piano for a baby grand piano. In just one year, Hudson made rapid progress earning first prize in the final round of the Piano Star International Competition, achieving exemplary high scores in the Scale Olympics, and playing at the Governor’s residence for the Imagination Library of Ohio reception. In 2022 he began composing his own music. Hudson’s original piece titled “Journeys” won first place at the Ohio Elementary Composition Competition. Congratulations, Hudson!

FISCAL OFFICER REPORT: Patrick Myers

Line items shown in the fiscal chart represent separate funds. There are statutory rules of spending that must be followed for each one. As an example, it would not be permissible to pay for road resurfacing with funds voters approved to support Fire Department operations. When voters approve a property tax levy, they are also establishing the legal guidelines for use of that revenue.

The only fund without restrictions is the “General Fund” which is used for the expenses of the administration staff (administrator, Board of Trustees, communication, human resources, and zoning). Occasionally, an unforeseen expense may put a levy fund in the red and it is acceptable to utilize the General Fund to balance that budgetary item.

It may seem as though there is excess revenue when strictly looking at the total ending balance, but keep in mind that a large portion of that total has been encumbered, or reserved, to compensate staff or to pay a bill for a project that is already underway—like paying off the construction of the new police station.

The Township’s budget is roughly half of what is reported among neighboring cities due to the fact that townships are not statutorily permitted to enact an income tax. Instead, accounts are primarily filled by levies passed by voters and paid as a portion of property taxes. In 2021, on average, 16% of residents’ property tax bill paid for Township services with the remainder going to local school districts, Delaware County agencies, and libraries.

To review where your property tax dollars are going, use the property search feature on the Delaware County Auditor’s website: delawarecountyauditor.org

To supplement the budget, the Township pursues grants. In the special case of the new police station, voters approved a bond sale to finance the project.

I appreciate the trust residents have put in us to oversee and report the budget. For me, the Township’s AAA bond rating is a point of pride and should serve as a reassurance to residents that Genoa Township is operating at the highest level of fiscal responsibility.



Fiscal Report

Fund Name	01/01/2022 Fund Balance	YTD Revenue	YTD Expenditures	Ending Balance 11/30/2022
General	\$3,833,268	\$2,150,021	\$1,482,880	\$4,500,409
Motor Vehicle License Tax	\$18,878	\$35,445	\$40,000	\$14,323
Permissive Motor Vehicle License Tax	\$64,349	\$200,744	\$219,901	\$45,191
Gasoline Tax	\$122,636	\$322,659	\$345,177	\$100,118
Road and Bridge	\$1,138,528	\$3,092,592	\$2,987,050	\$1,244,070
Road & Bridge Capital Projects	\$100,000	\$0	\$0	\$100,000
TIF Fund	\$760,229	\$982,404	\$1,101,626	\$641,007
Cemetery	\$28,018	\$1,628	\$3,741	\$25,905
Police	\$7,605,659	\$4,332,918	\$4,211,163	\$7,727,414
Police Capital Projects	\$201,898	\$249,275	\$259,971	\$191,202
Police Station-Capital Projects	\$165,977	\$826	\$18,250	\$148,553
Enforcement and Education	\$7,357	\$1,523	\$0	\$8,880
Law Enforcement Trust	\$23,034	\$0	\$0	\$23,034
Bond - Police Station	\$326,121	\$842,057	\$856,925	\$311,253
Fire	\$6,313,565	\$5,369,873	\$5,255,451	\$6,427,987
Fire Capital Projects	\$1,726,287	\$56,505	\$0	\$1,782,792
Fire and Rescue, Ambulance and EMS	\$262,915	\$235,859	\$145,556	\$353,219
Self-Ins. Fund-Medical Insurance	\$0	\$1,516,952	\$1,516,704	\$247
Parks	\$156,992	\$692,868	\$565,730	\$284,130
American Rescue Plan Act-ARP	\$1,477,206	\$1,595,701	\$558,496	\$2,514,411
EPA Grant	\$24	\$30,144	\$0	\$30,168
OneOhio Opioid Settlement	\$0	\$4,243	\$0	\$4,243
TOTAL	\$24,332,943	\$21,714,237	\$19,568,621	\$26,478,558

Figures have been rounded to the nearest dollar. For additional information on Township finances visit www.OhioCheckbook.com

DEPARTMENT UPDATES

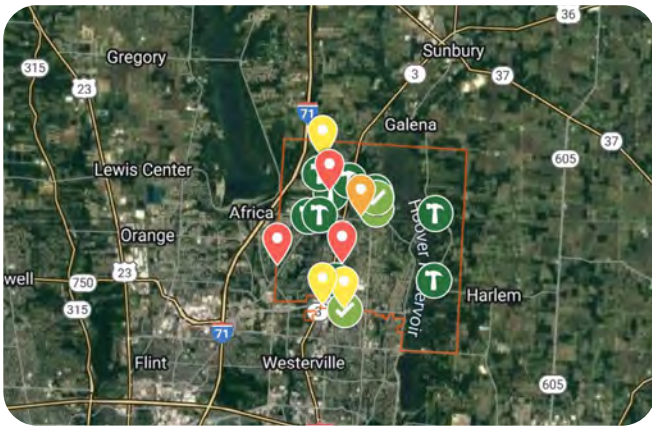
MAINTENANCE

Bob Mathews
614.568.2080

While plowing snow, the department is simultaneously preparing for the rush of activity spring brings.

Community garden plots at Worthington Road Park go on sale to new gardeners February 1 at www.GenoaTwp.com/Garden. Rates range from \$20-\$80 depending upon the size of the plot for the season opening on April 1.

Visitors at Hilmar and Worthington Road Parks will soon have access to permanent restrooms. In addition, previously installed restrooms have been upgraded to keep them operable even during freezing weather. Reservations to rent park shelterhouses and Township Hall in 2023 open on January 1. Booking a date is completed online only at www.GenoaTwp.com/Rentals.



ZONING & DEVELOPMENT

Joe Shafer
614.899.0725

Whether a new development project is proposed, under review, or in construction, each location is mapped on the Township's website. The map is interactive; when an icon is clicked, the user can access more information on the project. Find this and other useful maps at www.GenoaTwp.com/Maps.

Residents can also sign-up to receive meeting notices via email for applications being reviewed by the Board of Zoning Appeals, Zoning Commissions, and Board of Trustees. Register at www.GenoaTwp.com/Enews.

POLICE

Chief Stephen Gammill
614.568.2060

*18 and older
Background check required*

ENROLL TODAY

CITIZEN POLICE ACADEMY

Learn first-hand how officers prepare to respond to the many scenarios they may face each day. Explore topics such as patrol tactics, use of force techniques, and important legal parameters.



614.568.2060

GenoaTwp.com/PoliceAcademy

FIRE/EMS/RESCUE

Chief Joseph Ponzi
614.568.2040

*10-week program
Meets one evening per week*

COST FREE

CITIZEN FIRE ACADEMY

Get to know your neighbors and firefighters while fulfilling a childhood dream— Drive a fire engine, complete an obstacle course while wearing a hazmat suit, and use the jaws of life to tear apart a car.



614.568.2040

GenoaTwp.com/FireAcademy



NEWS & INFORMATION

January | February 2023

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

EVENTS & HOLIDAYS

New Years Day | January 1

No delay to Rumpke service. Administration office closed January 2.
2023 facility rentals open GenoaTwp.com/Rentals

MLK Day | January 16

No delay to Rumpke service. Administration office closed.

Committee Applications Due | January 13

Complete the simple application at GenoaTwp.com/Appointments

FREE Narcan Training | February 8 | 6:30 p.m.

Add to your first-aid skills with opioid response. GenoaTwp.com/Narcan

Presidents' Day | February 20

No delay to Rumpke service. Administration office closed.

Jaycox Park Sledding Hill

Open whenever snow allows. Located just east of I71 on Jaycox Road.

PUBLIC MEETINGS

Board of Trustees | January 5 & February 2 | 6:30 p.m.

Zoning Commission | January 17 & February 15 | 7:00 p.m.

Board of Zoning Appeals | January 24 & February 28 | 7:00 p.m.

View the full calendar at www.GenoaTwp.com.

ELECTED OFFICIALS



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Patrick Myers

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