

The Genoa Township NEWSLETTER

“A Nice Place to Live”

March - April 2016

From the Trustees

As we conclude what has been a thankfully mild winter, I'd like to offer a brief update on an important Township initiative and also share some organizations that might benefit from your old possessions.

Aggregation Update

Last November, each of our electric and natural gas aggregation ballot issues passed by an astonishing 74%. We have begun the required steps under Ohio law to become a certified community aggregator in order to research our market options and hopefully establish aggregation programs that will provide some meaningful cost savings and/or protections to our residents and businesses. At our first meeting of the year, we adopted “Operation and Governance Plans” for each program, a necessary first step in the process.

We are now proceeding with a tentative schedule for completing and implementing these two aggregation programs. By the time you read this, the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO) will have approved Genoa Township as an aggregator, and we will have likely begun the bidding process for electric and natural gas rates. In early March, we expect to discuss the bids that have been received, with the possibility of our Board selecting winning bids at a public meeting.

Assuming the bids are favorable and our Board votes to enact these programs, residents should expect to receive letters around April 18th. These letters will be sent to residents who are considered eligible consumers, and will list the rates, charges, and other terms and conditions of participation in the aggregation programs. The letters will also state that eligible residents will be enrolled in the program unless they formally opt out or decline participation. Residents will be given 21 days to respond to this letter.

Should this process follow the above schedule, we would expect any aggregation programs to go into effect this June. Again, I would stress that this entire timetable is still tentative.

Any questions about aggregation should be directed to both our Board at trustees@genoatwp.com, as well as to Mr. Scott Belcastro of Trebel, LLC, who is managing this process on behalf of Genoa Township. Scott can be contacted at either 1-877-861-2772 or at scott@electricssuppliers.org.

For those of you who are snowbirds or expect to be out of town for an extended period, please

take a moment to contact both our Board and Scott about your situation. While we must adhere to the 21-day window as mandated under Ohio law, we can arrange to have the opt-out letter sent to your winter location to preserve your option to leave the program if you so choose.

The Treasures in Our Trash

The coming spring offers a promise of renewal, and it's also usually a time when we turnover and replace much of our “stuff.” We cycle through clothes, appliances, furniture, and other goods, while perhaps preparing for assorted home improvement projects. I continue to be amazed and disturbed by the useful items I often see disposed of at curbside. Keep in mind that there are several existing and nearby channels for residents to re-purpose clothing and household items. Here is just a handful of credible and nearby non-profit organizations to consider:

- AMVETS, located in the Northgate Plaza along Maxtown Road, accepts drop-offs of a wide variety of clothing and household items. They also offer home pick-up service. AMVETS is one of America's leading veterans service organizations, improving the quality of life for those who serve our country, their families, and the communities where they live (www.amvetstheclothingpickup.org).
- The Furniture Bank of Central Ohio will come and pick up old furniture for free so it can be re-distributed to those struggling with poverty or otherwise in need (www.furniturebankcoh.org).
- Goodwill has a retail store and donation center located behind the Kroger on Northgate Way. Last year, sales from Goodwill stores funded employment training, job placement services, financial education, youth mentoring and more to 9.8 million people in the United States and Canada.
- People In Need, Inc. of Delaware County (PIN) provides emergency assistance to individuals and families in Delaware County who need food, medications, school shoes/supplies and assistance with rent and utilities. There are a variety of goods they will accept at their location at 138 Johnson Drive in Delaware (www.delawarepeopleinneed.org).
- Habitat for Humanity has “ReStores” both in the City of Delaware and in Columbus off of State Route 3. The organization strives

to eliminate substandard housing and create homeownership opportunities for the less fortunate. Their ReStores accept gently used furniture, home accessories, building materials, old fixtures, and appliances (www.habitatdelawareco.org).

As we continually replace our possessions, it's always worth thinking twice as to the usefulness of the old items and whether they could benefit those less fortunate. Before you turn over your items to Rumpke for a landfill deposit, please consider exploring these and the many other re-purposing outlets available.

As your elected officials, we look to you, our fellow residents, for continued direction and to help us establish community priorities. Please do not hesitate to reach out to us at trustees@genoatwp.com if you have any questions, comments or suggestions, or if we can otherwise be a resource to you and your families.

Wishing you all a wonderful spring,

Rick Carfagna
Trustee

Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, March 19, 2016

Westerville Central HS (Mt. Royal and Tussic St.)

Activities begin at 10:00 a.m.

Easter Egg Hunt begins at 11:00 a.m.



Families will enjoy a morning filled with activities, prizes, refreshments, Mr. & Mrs. Easter Bunny, and there will be 15,000 Easter eggs waiting to be scooped up by Township children ages 1-10!

Four color coded areas will be roped off for children by age. One adult (only) will be allowed to help children ages 1-2. Adults and older children will not be allowed in the other areas.

We always need lots of volunteers to help the day of the event...spreading out the 15,000 eggs, and working the activities and bounce houses. If you can help with this fun family event, please contact Director of Human Resources/Community Relations Linda Greco at lgreco@genoatwp.com or (614) 568-2022.

Administration

Paul Wise
Administrator

Road Work Ahead!

The following road projects are planned to take place in the next couple of years and will affect your daily commute. It is difficult and annoying to drive through a construction zone, but when the orange barrels go away, we will be able to get from point A to point B much easier. All of these road projects are being completed by other governmental agencies and not Genoa Township.

Sunbury Road Improvements

Sunbury Road from County Line Road to Maxtown Road will soon get added center turn lanes. The improvements also call for curb and gutter installation with street lights and a sidewalk on the west side of the road, and a multi-use trail on the east side of the road. The intersection of County Line Road and Sunbury Road will also get some safety enhancements along with plans to reduce congestion. This is a joint project between the City of Westerville and Delaware County. A \$6.2 million federal grant will fund this project.

Plumb Road and Route 3 Improvement Update

Last year I reported that the intersection improvement at State Route 3 and Plumb Road would be completed by the end of 2015. That didn't happen. Since this is a project of the Ohio Department of Transportation, Genoa Township has no say in the bidding out of the improvements. The project was late

getting bid out, and then the contract reward was delayed. ODOT decided not to break ground in the winter. According to the latest information that I have received from ODOT, the signal at Plumb Road will be installed by the Shelly Company. The intersection will also be enhanced with turn lanes and all of State Route 3 will be resurfaced from Westerville to Sunbury. The entire contract is scheduled to be complete by July 2016.

Big Walnut Road/Worthington Road Intersection Improvements

The Big Walnut and Worthington Road project will start this fall with utility relocation work. The road work will start spring 2017. This project includes turn lanes on all approaches to the intersection with a traffic signal. The curve on Big Walnut east of Worthington Road will also be improved.

Old 3C Highway/Mount Royal Drive Improvements

According to the latest information obtained from the website of the Delaware County Engineer, the intersection at Mt. Royal Ave. and South Old 3C Highway will be a roundabout, located north of the ponds at Orchard Lakes. Full access will be maintained to and from Frost Road via the roundabout. The southern portion of the corridor from Mt. Royal Ave. to the Genoa Grove Condominiums will be a 2-lane curb and gutter section with a sidewalk on the east side only. The northern portion of the corridor from Genoa Grove Condominiums will be a

3-lane curb and gutter section with a sidewalk on the east side only. An actuated traffic signal will be installed at the Genoa Middle School/Hawksbeard Drive intersection at South Old 3C Hwy. This projection will not begin until 2017 and will conclude in 2018. The construction cost estimate is \$7 million for this project.

Gemini Place Extension

The extension of Gemini Place through the old amphitheater will also be under construction this summer. This is a \$10.4 million project and will connect to the widened Worthington Road at the bridge over Alum Creek (project #1, \$5.3 million, under construction now) and will tie into a widened Powell Road with a new traffic signal at Bale Kenyon Road (project #2, \$1.7 million, starting construction in June). The three projects that make up the Gemini extension project will all be wrapped up in October this year. These projects are all in Orange Township, but it is important for Genoa residents because it will make it much easier to get to and from the freeway from Genoa Township.

Mr. Doug Riedel, Deputy Development Engineer from the Delaware County Engineers office, will be attending our Township Trustee meeting on March 17, 2016 to discuss these road projects to those who are interested.

If you have any questions about any of these projects, please contact, Chief Deputy Engineer Rob Riley at the Delaware County Engineer's Office at 740-833-2400 or delcoeng@co.delaware.oh.us.

Development and Zoning

Joe Shafer
Director

Spring Doesn't Need a Permit... But You Might

Believe it or not, spring is almost upon us and, chances are, like me, you have one or two (or more) projects on your to-do list once the weather breaks. Many of these projects may require certain permits be obtained before construction and/or activities commence in order to confirm that the improvement complies with Township zoning requirements. Failure to obtain the proper permits can delay projects and potentially result in fines so before you get too eager, roll up your sleeves, and set out to work, please take a minute or two to review the following guidelines to zoning and permits in Genoa Township. Preparing now can prevent a lot of headaches later.

Improvements or activities requiring a zoning permit and subject to certain regulations:

- Erecting a new home, an addition, or an accessory building such as a shed or garage
- Constructing a fence, wall, deck, or a patio not flush with the ground
- Installing a swimming pool with over 18-inches in water depth

Zoning permits are reviewed and processed as they are received thus permits for smaller projects will not necessarily be issued any quicker than permits for larger projects. Spring and summer are typically the busiest time for permit applications and while the zoning staff makes every effort to turn around permits quickly, the Township's Zoning Resolution allows staff to take up to 30-days to complete their review so it is highly recommend that permit applications be submitted at least a couple weeks prior to the desired project start date.

Improvements or activities not requiring a zoning permit but still may be subject to certain regulations:

- Constructing a patio flush with the ground
- Remodeling the interior of a home or finishing a basement
- Repairing or paving a driveway
- Installing a septic system, creating a pond, or altering drainage
- Home occupations

- Agricultural uses, Landscaping, and Outdoor storage
- Garage/Yard/Outdoor sales and special events

It is important to note that even if an improvement or activity doesn't require a zoning permit from the Township's Zoning Office, other permits or approvals may need to be obtained from; one or more County agencies, Genoa Township Police, Fire, and/or Maintenance departments, and/or your local homeowner's association should you have one. Approval times for these agencies vary and are often in addition to the review and approval time of the Zoning Office.

Permit application forms, zoning regulations, application requirements, and fees can be obtained on the Township's website at www.genoatwp.com/zoning/applications. If you have any questions, please feel free to stop by the Township's Administration Office to speak with a member of the zoning staff, give us a call at (614)899-0725, or send us an e-mail, sdorsch@genoatwp.com.

TORNADO SIREN INSTALLED

Genoa Township has installed an Outdoor Warning (Tornado) Siren at the Public Safety Complex located at State Route 3 and Big Walnut Rd.

The siren will be activated when there is a Tornado Warning, or a tornado has been sighted, or is eminent anywhere in Delaware County. When you hear the siren, take it seriously and take immediate action.

- If you are inside your home **DO NOT GO OUTSIDE TO SEE IF DANGEROUS WEATHER IS HEADED YOUR WAY!**
- The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) suggest basements and interior rooms as the safest places to be during a tornado.
- Put as many walls and floors as possible between you and the tornado. Take cover under something sturdy, if possible. Get as low as possible and place your head between your knees protecting your head, and cover yourself with blankets, a mattress, or other items to protect you from flying debris.
- Stay away from exterior walls and windows. Avoid auditoriums, gymnasiums, elevators, glass doorways and windows.
- If you are in a car, stay in the car with the seat belt on. Put your head down below the windows and cover your head with your hands and a blanket, coat, or other cushion if possible. If you can safely get noticeably lower than the level of the roadway, leave your car and lie in that area, covering your head with your hands.
- Outdoor warning sirens are intended to be heard outdoors only. When it looks like bad weather is approaching, monitor your local radio or television for current weather information.
- It is also a good idea to get a backup battery powered, weather radio.
- Tornado Watch – Conditions are favorable for a tornado. Listen to your local radio or television station for further details. Be prepared to move to a safe place.
- Test – The sirens are tested the first Saturday of each month at 10:00 am.

Hydrant Checks

Firefighters will be initiating the bi-annual hydrant flushing, the first part of April. If you are aware of any

Breakdown of Fire Department Incidents and Activity for 2015

Incidents

Fire	64
Rescue	22
Auto Accident	71
Hazardous Incident	84
HazMat	8
EMS	1,003
Other.....	487
Total Incidents	1,739

Training Hours of Personnel

Fire Suppression.....	1,082
Rescue	1,166
EMS	1,852
Safety	652
HazMat.....	176
Prof. Development	290
Physical Fitness.....	2,420
Total Training Hours	7,638

Fire Prevention

Inspections	343
CSST Inspections.....	16
Home Inspections.....	43
School Presentations	16
Civic Presentations.....	7
Building Plan Review	40
Total Prevention	465

Fiscal Report

Patrick Myers
Fiscal Officer

Fund Name	01/01/2016 Fund Balance	YTD Revenue	YTD Expenditures	Ending Balance 01/31/2016
General	\$2,551,017.94	\$12,181.25	\$110,258.07	\$2,452,941.12
Motor Vehicle License Tax	\$24,313.32	\$2,562.42	\$-	\$26,875.74
Gasoline Tax	\$32,850.22	\$14,099.00	\$-	\$46,949.22
Road and Bridge	\$286,097.01	\$764.23	\$79,765.42	\$207,095.82
Cemetery	\$41,982.89	\$-	\$-	\$41,982.89
Police	\$2,539,502.72	\$2,377.56	\$303,245.65	\$2,238,634.63
Fire	\$3,454,458.38	\$313.19	\$388,163.26	\$3,066,608.31
Permissive Motor Vehicle License Tax	\$140,361.32	\$16,029.30	\$-	\$156,390.62
Law Enforcement Trust	\$61,598.63	\$-	\$-	\$61,598.63
Enforcement and Education	\$3,909.70	\$4.00	\$-	\$3,913.70
TIF Fund	\$1,119,860.16	\$-	\$-	\$1,119,860.16
General (bond) (note) Retirement	\$1,386.69	\$-	\$-	\$1,386.69
Police Capital Projects	\$811,869.22	\$-	\$-	\$811,869.22
Fire Capital Projects	\$1,825,166.73	\$-	\$-	\$1,825,166.73
Big Walnut/Worth Rd Improvements	\$105,763.96	\$4.38	\$-	\$105,768.34
Total	\$13,000,138.89	\$48,335.33	\$881,432.40	\$12,167,041.82

Beware of Scams Involving the IRS

This is the time of year when Internal Revenue Service scams become more prevalent and come in many varieties. We want to share some of the ways these scammers may try to steal your money:

- They may tell you that you are in trouble with the IRS and you need to call a certain number and if you call the number they will tell you that you must send money via a pre-paid card or wire transfer. Don't call the number and don't ever send money when asked!
- They may tell you that the police will be sent to arrest you if you don't follow their instructions or send money; they may even say the police are on their way. This is completely false - police departments do not enforce IRS rules!
- A more recent variation is where the con artist claims to be "David Gray" and says a lawsuit will be filed against you, that you owe a tax debt, have committed a criminal offense, or that U.S. Treasury agents will come to arrest you. Again, that is all just a scam!

The real IRS will never call you demanding immediate payment or threaten to send the police to arrest you. The best thing to do if you receive one of these calls is to simply hang up every time they call. You can also report the call to the Treasury Inspector General at 800-366-4484 or the Ohio Attorney General at 800-282-0515.

Maintenance

Bob Mathews
Director of Roads

Annual Spring Cleanup

The Genoa Township Annual Spring Cleanup will begin on Saturday, April 23 and run through Sunday, May 1, 2016 at the Safety Services Complex, 7049 Big Walnut Road. This service is provided to Genoa Township residents only and proof of residency is required in the form of a driver's license, utility bill, etc. Hours daily will be from 8:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m. We will have four roll-off containers set up for general trash, two set up for yard waste (no plastic bags, please!) and one container for metal materials. We try to accept most items that residents would like to dispose of, but we cannot take tires, batteries, paint, oil, appliances, wire fencing, computers or monitors and any material that is corrosive, toxic, flammable or reactive. Televisions will be accepted!

Please contact the Maintenance Department at 614-568-2080 or email Rene Evans at revans@genoatwp.com if you have any questions.

ADMINISTRATION OFFICE
 5111 So. Old 3C Hwy.
 Westerville, OH 43082
 (614) 895-1126 Fax (614) 895-1255
 www.genoatwp.com



PRSRT STD
 U.S. POSTAGE
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BOARD OF TRUSTEES



Trustee
 Rick Carfagna
 (614) 568-2024



Trustee
 Karl R. Gebhardt
 (614) 568-2025



Trustee
 Frank Dantonio
 (614) 568-2026

Email: trustees@genoatwp.com



Fiscal Officer
 Patrick Myers
 pmyers@genoatwp.com

Fiscal Assistant
 Donna Batten
 dbatten@genoatwp.com

ADMINISTRATION

Administrator
 Paul F Wise
 pwise@genoatwp.com

**Director of Human Resources/
 Community Relations**
 Linda Greco
 lgreco@genoatwp.com

Director of Development & Zoning
 Joe Shafer
 jshafer@genoatwp.com

SAFETY SERVICES COMPLEX
 7049 Big Walnut Rd.
 Galena, OH 43021

Fire (614) 568-2040
 Gary Honeycutt, Fire Chief
 ghoneycutt@genoatwp.com

Police (614) 568-2060
 Stephen Gammill, Police Chief
 sgammill@genoatwp.com

Maintenance (614) 568-2080
 Bob Mathews, Director of Roads & B&G
 bmathews@genoatwp.com

Genoa Township Community Calendar

March 2016

April 2016

March 2	Parks Advisory Board	7:00 p.m.	April 4	Zoning Commission	7:00 p.m.
March 3	Board of Trustees	7:00 p.m.	April 6	Parks Advisory Board	7:00 p.m.
March 5	Neighborhood Coalition	9:00 a.m.-noon	April 7	Board of Trustees	7:00 p.m.
March 7	Zoning Commission	7:00 p.m.	April 14	Seniors	noon
March 10	Seniors	noon	April 20	Health Clinic	1:30 - 4:00 p.m.
March 15	Election	6:30 a.m.-7:30 p.m.	April 21	Board of Trustees	7:00 p.m.
March 16	Health Clinic	1:30 p.m.-4:00 p.m.	April 26	Board of Zoning Appeals	7:00 p.m.
March 17	Board of Trustees	7:00 p.m.	Unless otherwise noted, or if changes occur after publication, meetings will be held in the Genoa Township Community Hall at 5111 So. Old 3C Hwy. Check at www.genoatwp.com prior to meetings for any updates.		
March 19	Easter Egg Hunt	10:00 a.m.			
March 22	Board of Zoning Appeals	7:00 p.m.			
March 28	Easter Monday	Offices Closed			

Precinct Information

Genoa Township Precincts
 6:30 a.m. - 7:30 p.m.
 Tuesday, March 15, 2016

Genoa D, I, M, N, O, Q
 Heritage Christian Church
 7413 Maxtown Rd.

Genoa A
 United Methodist Church
 5520 Harlem Rd

Genoa E, R
 Genoa Township
 Community Hall
 5111 So. Old 3C Hwy

Genoa B, C, G, H, J, K, L, P, S
 Genoa Baptist Church
 7562 Lewis Center Rd.

Genoa F
 Galena United Methodist Church
 2777 Sunbury Rd.



For additional information contact:
 Delaware County Board of Elections
 740-833-2080 or boe@co.delaware.oh.us