

NORWICH

TOWNSHIP

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Charles Wm. Buck
Larry Earman
Michael D. Cope

2009 TRUSTEE MEETINGS

OCTOBER 5, 12:00 PM

OCTOBER 19, 6:30 PM

NOVEMBER 2, 12:00 PM

NOVEMBER 16, 6:30 PM

DECEMBER 7, 12:00 PM

DECEMBER 21, 6:30 PM

MEETINGS ARE HELD AT:

Norwich Township
Safety Services Building
5181 Northwest Parkway

If you have questions,
please call (614) 876-7694.

A MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES



WHEN YOU STRIP away the excessive language contained in the Ohio Revised Code, the primary duty of a Township Trustee is to look out for the best interests of the Township. Often this duty involves being a steward of public funds and providing cost-effective and efficient services to our residents. On occasion, however, our duty is to defend residents from what we consider to be unreasonable or unwarranted assaults on their standard of living. In recent months, we have been involved with two such cases.

The first case involves a request by Verizon to install a wireless communications facility (cell tower) along Dublin Road near Darbyshire Drive. We do not oppose cell towers in general, but we oppose this location for a tower since it is in a residential area and adjacent to a school. The Board has formally notified the Franklin County Board of Zoning Appeals and the Franklin County Commissioners of our opposition to a facility at this location. Members of the Board of Trustees have actively participated in public meetings, most recently one hosted by Verizon at the Panera Restaurant Community Room. While we are confident that Franklin County will agree with our position and deny Verizon's application, we are not sure that will end it. Verizon could appeal the denial and take the case to the Court of Common Pleas. In that case, we are not at all certain of what will happen. We encourage residents to contact Franklin County Economic Development & Planning at (614) 462-3094 to get the latest information on this cell tower proposal.

The second case involves a proposed increase for water service filed with the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO) by Ohio American Water (OAW). This proposed rate increase would affect approximately 8,000 homes in Franklin County, including about 280 homes in Norwich Township's Timberbrook subdivision. Ohio American Water and its predecessors have a history of this sort of extreme rate requests. If the rate increase is approved by PUCO, water rates for Timberbrook residents would rise by 60% over the next four years for a total increase of 240% since 1999. We believe this request is outrageous, excessive, and unwarranted. Norwich Township has joined forces with other affected townships in Franklin County to oppose OAW's absurd rate increase. We encourage all Township residents to contact PUCO, Ohio Consumers' Counsel, Franklin County Commissioners, and state legislators to voice your opinion. You can find additional information at www.fightthehikeohio.com.

Norwich Township Trustees:

Chuck Buck

Larry Earman

Mike Cope



NORWICH TOWNSHIP

www.norwichtownship.org



“The Nixle notification system is a free service that can be used to send e-mails and text messages to those residents that sign up for the service.”

www.nixle.com

STAY INFORMED WITH NIXLE

In September, the Norwich Township Trustees approved a new information service to the community. Working with a company called Nixle, we will now be able to send out important notifications to area residents. The Nixle notification system is a free service that can be used to send e-mails and text messages to those residents that sign up for the service. This information can include road closures, notice of public meetings, weather alerts, or other special services being offered within the community. (The Nixle system would have been a great way for the Township to relay information during last year's wind event.)

If you would like to receive these notices, it is a simple process to sign up. Go to www.nixle.com and follow the prompts to register your e-mail and cellular phone. You can select the types of notices that you would like to receive and what areas you would like information about. For instance, you might want to list your home address, work address, and your child's school address. This way you would receive notices for any events that might affect any of these locations. This system is flexible so that you can make changes to your personal settings at anytime by going to the Nixle web site. Nixle sends out severe weather notices from the National Weather Service based on the areas you have signed up for.

The Township wants to assure you that you will not receive any advertisements over this system; there is no cost to sign up or to receive notices. The only cost would be based on your cellular plan and any fees they would charge for text services. The system is protected so that only authorized users can send out notices.

Other agencies in Central Ohio are also signing up to provide this service. This includes the cities of Hilliard, Dublin and Marysville. Since Nixle is a new service, we are certain more will participate in the near future.

Please take advantage of this important tool to provide you with the latest information in the case of a community emergency. 🌿



NORWICH FIRE DEPARTMENT'S NEW ENGINE



Trustee Mike Cope, Trustee Chuck Buck, Fiscal Officer Jamie Miles and Trustee Larry Earman

In order to best serve the community, this engine was designed to perform several functions. It first is a fire engine, carrying the normal equipment such as axes, hose and water to fight fires. Secondly, it is equipped as a medic unit. It has all the equipment and supplies necessary to perform emergency medical care to patients that are injured or sick. The only thing this engine cannot do that our medics can is transport you to the hospital. Finally, this engine is a rescue unit. It has the equipment required to remove an injured person that is trapped in an automobile accident and carries an assortment of rope, shoring and other items to help rescue victims.

While the price tag may seem steep, this engine will provide service to the community for a minimum of fifteen years. At the end of those years, this engine will serve as a reserve engine. 🍀

In August, the Fire Department took delivery of a new fire engine. While dubbed as a “toy” by the local paper, this half a million dollar engine is far from a toy. This engine was designed by a committee of Fire Fighters and Officers that will use this engine on a daily basis. They looked at the functions it needed to perform and the equipment that was necessary to accomplish those functions and built the engine around them. It was manufactured by the Sutphen Corporation with the cab being built in Hilliard, the chassis in Springfield and the rest of the engine in Dublin.

“This engine was designed by a committee of Fire Fighters and Officers that will use this engine on a daily basis.”

WHAT DO I DO WITH MY LEAVES?

For those residents new to Norwich Township, the Township does NOT have the financial or personnel resources available for a leaf removal program and burning leaves is prohibited. Instead, leaf removal is incorporated into the Township's waste collection agreement with Local Waste Services. Leaves should be put into recyclable paper yard waste bags or a receptacle marked “yard waste” and placed with the rest of the trash for pickup. If you have questions about this program or encounter any problems, you may contact Local Waste at (614) 409-9375. 🍀



NORWICH TOWNSHIP

Norwich Township

5181 Northwest Parkway
Hilliard, Ohio 43026
(614) 876-7694

Board of Trustees

Chuck Wm. Buck, *Chairman*
Larry Earman, *Vice-Chairman*
Michael D. Cope, *Trustee*

Administration

Wayne A. Warner, *Administrator*
Mildred Brooks, *Administrative Assistant*

Road/Cemetery Department

Steve Montgomery, *Road Superintendent/Cemetery Sexton*
Mike Johnson, *Asst. Road Superintendent/Asst. Cemetery Sexton*
3225 Dublin Road
Hilliard, Ohio 43026
(614) 876-2236

Fiscal Office

Jamie Miles, *Fiscal Officer*
Ellen Woodford, *Assistant Fiscal Officer*

Fire Department

Dave Long, *Chief*
Robert Kaufman, *Assistant Chief*

ORC 9.03 Allows for Public Funds to be used for newsletters

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SCHIRTZINGER ROAD PROJECT UPDATE

The Franklin County Engineer's Office completed construction of a retaining wall along Holcomb Ditch in the area of 4085 Schirtzinger Road to prevent further erosion along the roadway. In addition, engineers have been conducting a study of drainage issues in the Schirtzinger Road corridor in an effort to develop final long-range plans for the improvement of the road without changing the rural nature of the neighborhood. Schirtzinger Road residents are encouraged to attend a **Public Involvement Meeting November 16, 2009, at 7:00PM at the Safety Services Building on Northwest Parkway**. Residents will be given the opportunity to view and respond to the final plans and interact with officials from Norwich Township and Franklin County regarding this project.

Finally, in response to the major tree damage from last September's encounter with Hurricane Ike, Norwich Township retained the services of an arborist to inspect trees in Township rights-of-way. A number of trees were identified that need to be pruned or removed to reduce the potential for damage from another serious storm event. As a result, you may see some work being done on trees along Schirtzinger Road. This is strictly precautionary and not the result of our road improvement plan. 🌱



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