

Williamsburg Township Newsletter

P.O. Box 499, Williamsburg, Ohio 45176-0499

FALL / WINTER 2004-2005

James Taylor
Chairman
724-3368

James Danbury
Vice Chairman
724-7852

Bari Henning
Trustee
724-2994

Gregory W. Carson
Clerk
724-8333

www.williamsburgtownship.org

Township Trustee Meetings ~ 2nd & 4th Monday 7:30 PM at Township Hall, located on Alexander Ln.

From The Trustees

We as township trustees are responsible for maintaining all township roads within Williamsburg Township. This includes such items as road maintenance, road improvement, cutting of weeds and debris within the right-of-way, road drainage, and snow removal. However not all roads within Williamsburg Township are township roads. This sometimes creates confusion to residents as to who is responsible for maintaining their road. The village maintains all streets located within the Village of Williamsburg corporation limit, with the exception of State Highways. All state highways are maintained by the state, the county maintains all county roads and the township maintains all township roads. Also within the township there are private streets and roads, which are the responsibility of all abutting landowners. If at any time you have a question, or a problem, and unsure who to contact, please feel free to call any trustee, and we will do all we can to assist you. We have listed below all Williamsburg Township roads that are the responsibility of, and maintained by the township.

Happy Hollow
Hennings Mill
Cobb
McKeever Schoolhouse
Ashton
Story
Sally Dr.
N. 8th Street
Rapid Run

Bass
Todds Run
Ireton
Cain Run
Coon Ave.
Maple Dr.
Mathis
E. Island Trail
Glancy Greenbush

Musgrove
Hagemans Crossing
Hibbs
Elston Hockstock
Ellis
Alexander Ln.
North Ellis
Island Trail Dr.

We now have smoother railroad crossings in Williamsburg Township. If you have traveled Hagemans Crossing, Tollgate Road, or Half Acre Road, you are aware that over the years the crossings have deteriorated and have become extremely rough. The trustees contacted Norfolk Southern last year requested they upgrade the crossings. In December 2003, a representative of Norfolk Southern met with the trustees. At that time the Norfolk Southern representative agreed the crossings needed attention and stated he would take care of upgrading and resurfacing the crossings. He also advised us we could upgrade the crossings from wood timbers to rubber if we were willing to pay the extra expense for rubber. Rubber has been used for several years and proven to make a smoother crossing and last much longer than wood timbers. We felt the rubber would be a better fix and agreed to use rubber.

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OR CURRENT RESIDENT

Keeping you informed.

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Williamsburg, Ohio 45176-0499

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From The Trustees - cont.

Since Tollgate and Half Acre are county roads we contacted Pat Manger, our county engineer, to see if the county would pay for the rubber on these two roads. Mr. Manger also felt the crossings needed upgraded and agreed to cover the cost for the upgrade on these two roads. After several delays the railroad has upgraded the crossings resulting in a much-needed improvement for Williamsburg Township.

Another much-needed change has taken place at the intersection of SR 32 and Dela Palma road. After observing the intersection and hearing numerous complaints the trustees contacted the Ohio Department of Transportation, ODOT, requesting a change. The trustees then contacted the county commissioners, the State Highway Patrol Commander at the Batavia post, and the mayor of Williamsburg, all of which agreed a change was needed and was willing to contact ODOT as well. Also providing a great deal of assistance in this matter was State Representative Tom Niehaus. ODOT has since changed the constant flashing light on S.R. 32 to "Prepare To Stop When Flashing" making the intersection much safer and consistent with other intersections along the 32 corridor.

We recently have had requests from citizens to have the speed limits reduced on two township roads. The Ohio Revised Code does not give township trustees authority to raise or lower speed limits on township roads. To get a speed limit changed a traffic study must be done. After a study, it is up to the Director of ODOT to approve or deny any speed limit change. The trustees are currently going through the channels to request a speed limit reduction.

News From Your Emergency Services

SOME OF YOU MAY HAVE NOTICED THE CONSTRUCTION GOING ON AT OUR BUILDING. WE ARE ADDING A DAY ROOM, EXERCISE AND FITNESS ROOM, MEN'S AND WOMEN'S SLEEPING QUARTERS AND SHOWERS. THE COST IS SHARED WITH A COMMUNITY BLOCK GRANT AND THE TOWNSHIP. WE ALSO BUILT A POLE BARN IN BACK OF THE FIRE HOUSE, WHICH IS USED FOR STORAGE.

WINTER IS NOW UPON US, WE WOULD LIKE TO REMIND EVERYONE TO CHECK YOUR SMOKE DETECTORS, AND IF YOU HAVE NOT CHANGED THE BATTERIES YOU SHOULD DO SO NOW. YOUR HEATING SYSTEM AND CHIMNEYS SHOULD ALSO BE CHECKED.

WE HAVE FREE SMOKE ALARMS TO BE GIVEN OUT TO OUR CITIZENS. ALL YOU NEED TO DO IS COME UP TO THE STATION AT 915 W. MAIN ST. WILLIAMSBURG AND ASK FOR THEM. THIS PROGRAM IS AVAILABLE THROUGH THE AMERICAN RED CROSS.

YOU CAN STOP BY DURING THE DAYTIME FOR A FREE BLOOD PRESSURE CHECK. ANOTHER SERVICE AVAILABLE IS CPR CLASSES FOR A SMALL CHARGE.

FIRE CHIEF RICHARD R. MALOTT

Williamsburg Township Zoning Office

The Williamsburg Township Zoning Commission has prepared a "Land Use Plan" and updated the sign resolutions.

The Land Use Plan gives the Township a better direction for builders when there is new construction. This plan bolsters the resolutions in the zoned districts.

Then there are changes to Article #7, concerning signage. Whether you have a residential or business sign there are rules and regulations to follow. The location of the sign is important because of visibility for the sign and most importantly visibility for traffic. The size of a sign is to be considered because different sizes can be for different purposes. Then according to which zoned district your property is in will depend on the type and size of sign that is permitted. Any type of sign may or may not need a permit. You need to call the Williamsburg Township Zoning Department at 513-724-5529 to find out. Violations can be issued for any sign that does not meet Williamsburg Township Article #7 concerning signs.

We have recently filled openings on the Williamsburg Township Zoning Commission Board and Zoning Board of Appeals. But if someone is interested we will keep a list of potential members.

The purpose of the Williamsburg Township Zoning Commission is to change zoned districts and to change text of the Williamsburg Township Zoning Resolutions. The purpose of the Williamsburg Township Zoning Board of Appeals is to appeal resolutions that property owners may have for a specific problem for a specific property that does not meet the criteria of a Zoning Resolution.

Office hours for the Zoning Office are 8am to noon Monday through Friday (except holidays) and by appointment. For more information call the Williamsburg Township Zoning Office at 513-724-5529.

November, 2004

From the Cemetery Sexton and Road Maintenance Supervisor

Cemetery grave spaces are available in the Williamsburg Cemetery and Concord Cemetery at a cost of \$200.00 per grave for residents of Williamsburg Township and \$400.00 per grave for nonresidents. For more information call the Cemetery Sexton, Earl Whiteman, at 724-1110 (office) or 724-2112 (home).

