

April, 2018



AUSTINBURG NEWS & VIEWS

Township Officials:

Township Fiscal Officer:

David Thomas – 812-9022

Trustees:

Jerry Burke – 440-275-1691

Byron C Dutton II – 440-344-6433

John Kusar – 440-275-0788 or 440-223-6511

Zoning Inspector:

John Beninato – 440-998-2493

Office – 440-275-1378

Fire Chief:

William Wilms

Road Personnel:

Mike Petro – Road Superintendent

William Wilms – Cemetery Sexton

John Luban – Roadman

Meeting Dates:

Township Monthly Meetings:

1st and 3rd Mondays of each month at 7:30pm in the Town Hall. **Please try to come!!**

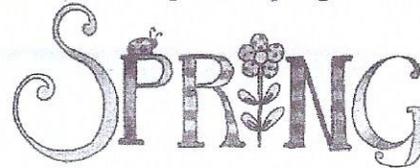
Zoning Commission:

1st Wednesday of the month – 7:00pm in the Town Hall

Township Hall Phone – 440-275-1378

Township Garage – 440-275-3402

Website - austinburgtownship.org



From the Desk of the Fiscal Officer

I hope you and your family have been off to a wonderful Spring so far this year! I am thrilled to share that once again Austinburg Township is in strong financial standing. Our Township ended 2017 with a healthy carryover balance that will last us for the first part of the year in all our expenses. This carryover then allows us to make greater investments back into our Township.

Projects that the Trustees discuss in their columns are possible because of the planned out way we use your tax dollars. Investments such as a generator for the Fire Department and Townhall, preservation of the Austin Cemetery on College Street, and upgrades to Forman Road are in the works to make lasting improvements to better serve you.

In 2017 we were one of the only entities in Ashtabula County to approve a new financial issue on the ballot, a \$500,000 ten year Bond Issue

to purchase a new Tanker Truck for the Fire Department. While the truck won't be delivered until Spring of 2019, we have already begun the process of paying down the debt and getting the best rates for you.

Lastly, I am always more than excited to help explain our budget and expenses. You can give me a call on my cell phone (440-812-9022), send me an email

(dtaustinburgfiscalofficer@gmail.com), or follow me on social media

(www.facebook.com/david.j.thomas15). If you prefer to search on your own, all of our expenses are online

(www.austinburgtownshipashtabula.ohiocheckbook.com/transparency) and our minutes can be viewable as well (www.austinburgtownship.org).

Thank you for giving me the honor of serving as your Fiscal Officer!

David Thomas
Austinburg Township
Fiscal Officer

Finally spring has sprung. It has been a long, cold winter. Make sure you take advantage of the upcoming Austinburg Township Clean-up Day. This gives us a chance to keep our township looking nice.

Please be conscious while driving on our thoroughfares. The winter season has been rough on our roads. Our road crew will be out patching and maintaining them. When you see the road crew, please slow down.

We will have a major paving project this year on Forman Road between St. Rt. 307 and Lampson Road. We have to wait for the State of Ohio to release funds granted to us. This project will take place late summer, early fall.

If anyone is interested in helping shape the future of our community, we are always looking for new faces to add to our zoning boards. Please contact any of the trustees if you are interested.

Our trustee meetings are the first and third Mondays of every month at 7:30 p.m. If the Monday is a legal holiday, the meeting will be on Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. We welcome everyone to attend. This is your opportunity to have your voice be heard.

John A. Kusar
440-275-0788
440-223-6511



spring cleanup

Spring is here and the Trustees have set the Annual Clean-Up Day for Saturday, May 5th from 8:00 am till Noon at the Township Garage - 1393 State Route 45. We will have roll-offs for scrap metal and for regular refuse. Please do not bring yard debris, tires, household wastes, or hazardous chemicals. We will accept appliances (no Freon). If you are interested in helping at Clean-up Day, please feel free to stop by.

Hello Fellow Residents of Austinburg

Hopefully this newsletter finds you all healthy, no flu here. I would like to thank you for your support in November. We have gotten all the work done for the bond to purchase the new firetruck that you voted for, and have selected the winning bid for the truck. Now we have to wait for them to build the truck, that should take about a year. The volunteer firemen have done the majority of the work on this fire truck purchase, and I would like to say thank you for keeping us safe.

Our road men have been doing a great job of keeping the roads open, even with the freezing and thawing. We have gone through a lot of salt and cinders with the icing conditions. We had only one major problem with our plow trucks and that was repairable.

Currently, we have three major projects on the table. The first one is to finish Forman Road. We were able to secure a grant to help with the paving of the road from Route 307 to Lampson Road. The second project is to secure the sliding of the bank in the Austin Cemetery, we don't want to lose anyone. The third project is to do a ditching project in the Orchard and Rodgers area to alleviate the flooding in this area.

We will hold Cleanup Day. We have scheduled it for Saturday May 5th from 8:00 to 12:00 at the Township Garage located on Rt.45. We want your trash, so bring it in. We are also working to get the recycling containers back in Austinburg at the Township Garage, should know more, later in the spring.

There is one more thing that may affect Austinburg. The school has a levy before us. I have been told that if this levy fails that the School Board may be forced to close Austinburg School to cut cost, and help balance the budget. Please do your research and decide what you think is right.

If you have any questions or concerns please call.

As always your faithful servant:
Byron C Dutton II

AUSTINBURG NEWS & VIEWS

Austinburg Township
P.O. Box 134
Austinburg, Ohio 44010

PRSRT STD
US POSTAGE
PAID
AUSTINBURG, OHIO
PERMIT NO. 5

Boxholder
P.O. Box Sections
Austinburg, Ohio 44010

Fire Dept. Corner



Winter has come and gone; with spring here I am asking that everyone make sure batteries in your smoke and carbon monoxide detectors were changed. The fire department would like to thank everyone who voted for our levy, the new truck was ordered and will be here in just under a year. Last year the department ran 102 calls last year, these calls were alarm drops, accidents, fires, and mutual aid calls. The fire department has two major fund raisers planned again this year, golf outing will be in August and Country Days to follow. A new generator was installed behind fire station and will power both fire station and town hall, this will allow us to have somewhere for local residents to get in to get warm or have power in case of long term outages. Thank you again for your support and if you have and questions please feel free to call.

46th Annual Austinburg Country Days

Friday, August 24th, 6pm – 10pm
Saturday, August 26th, Noon – 10pm
Sunday, August 27th, Noon – 8pm

Meeting Dates:

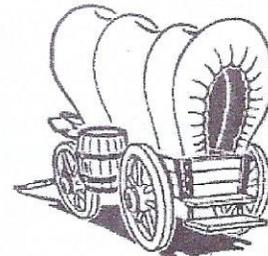
All Meetings Will Be At The Austinburg Town Hall at 7:00 p.m.

Upcoming meeting dates: April 24, May 22 & June 19 (meetings in July and August have not been scheduled)

NEW VOLUNTEERS WANTED

Crafters / Vendors Wanted

For More Information Visit Our Facebook Page.
Austinburg Country Days



AUSTINBURG HISTORY



The following is from an article from the Star Beacon, May 28, 1942.

As Memorial Day approaches a marked improvement will be noted in the four cemeteries of Austinburg Township.

A little more than 10 years ago, township trustees began the improvement and today this community may be proud of the Austin, Center, Eagleville and Mechanicsville cemeteries where are the graves of many early pioneer settlers of this section of the Western Reserve.

Rev. Walter Austin Snow of Ashtabula promoted the rehabilitation of the cemeteries. Through his efforts, money was raised by subscription for the labor from descendants living as far east as New York and as far west as Nebraska. The trustees furnished the material.

The cost of the labor was \$154 in the Austin Cemetery, where work was completed last fall. Every stone was reset, foundations reinforced and broken slabs were repaired. J.J. Corlew supervised the work.

The same work was accomplished at the Center more than a year ago, at a cost of \$176.

Ginny Seifert

Hi Ladies & Gents!

I don't know about you but I am tired of this cold weather and snow!

By the time you read this, the trustees will have awarded the bid for the new fire truck at a cost of ½ a million dollars, since the levy was approved in the last election. Only 2 bids were received. The bids for stone, emulsions will have been reviewed and the acceptance determined. Advertising will have begun for bids for the paving of Forman Rd. from Rt. 307 to Lampson Rd. This will complete the project

that was partially financed by the OPWC grant the township received last year.

As I have mentioned before, I have been working with Rebecca Armstrong of ODOT on improving the condition of the sidewalks in town. This was slated to begin last Fall but due to weather constraints it has been rescheduled for Spring.

Other projects include the beginning of the work on the project in Austin Cemetery to stop the erosion that is occurring on the West side of the cemetery. We will also be working with the County Engineer to develop a plan to solve the drainage problems at Orchard and Rodgers Streets in Mechanicsville. The township has purchased a natural gas generator to supply power to the town hall and fire hall during power outages. It still needs to be wired to complete installation.

Clean up day will be the first Saturday in May (May 5, 2018. I hope to see you then

Do not hesitate to contact me with questions or concerns.

Jerry Burke

Best way to contact: Cell 812-3581



Cemetery News

The trustees would like to remind all residents about a few of our cemetery rules. No artificial flowers on graves between April 1 and November 1. All planting should be on the grave within 18 inches of the headstone. If the plants interfere with the headstone or grow out of their perimeter, the township will trim them accordingly.

Austinburg Township Trustees