

April, 2019



Township Officials:

Township Fiscal Officer:

Kanda O'Dell - 216-409-0952

Trustees:

Jerry Burke - 440-812-3581

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

AUSTINBURG NEWS & VIEWS

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

My name is Kanda O'Dell. I am the newly appointed Fiscal Officer of Austinburg Township. I was born and raised in Austinburg Township. My husband Brian and I also have had the privilege of raising our kids Kyle and Emily in Austinburg. My parents Ted and Mary Ann Wilms along with my three brothers still reside here in Austinburg Township so I understand the need to make sure our township stays active and thriving. This is going to be a learning process for me at first but feel free to call me at the Township Office if you have any questions or concerns. I will do my best to help you or at least guide you in the right direction.

Thanks,

Kanda O'Dell
Austinburg Township Fiscal Officer

I would like to thank you, residents of Austinburg, for your support and encouragement during my time as your Township Fiscal Officer. I have truly enjoyed serving you and continuing the great work of Barb Schaab.

In my new role as your County Auditor beginning March 11th, I anticipate not only using the lessons learned as Fiscal Officer, but also keeping in constant touch with our Board of Trustees and the new Fiscal Officer. I look forward to Kanda O'Dell's tenure and will be helping in whatever way I can. We have been working together since January 1 to make this a smooth transition.

As your new County Auditor, should you have any questions over property values, CAUV, tax amounts, or anything else- please never hesitate to contact me at my personal email thomas15david@gmail.com or cell phone 440-812-9022.

Thank you again and God Bless,

David Thomas
440-812-9022

Hello Fellow Residents,

It's hard to believe that another northeast Ohio winter is almost gone. We are all a year older and a year wiser. As winter turns to spring please be patient while our township employees continue repairing our roads. If you see them alongside the road, please slow down for their safety as well as your own.

Don't forget cleanup day May 11th from 8am to noon. We accept all trash except tires, paints, solvents, and yard waste. We also accept all types of scrap metal. We recycle these materials to help pay for our cleanup day. Bring your discarded and excess items in to help make our township beautiful.

I would like to wish David Thomas congratulations as our new County Auditor. The Trustees have appointed Kanda O'Dell to fill out the remainder of his term as Township Fiscal Officer.

The Township is getting a new hotel near the freeway. This is very good for our Township. We will receive a large percentage of the bed tax that this new establishment will produce. Our Township is in a unique position because we have an exit on Interstate 90. This will allow us to collect a significant amount of revenue while keeping the rest of our Township rural. The last major change we have had to our zoning was over twenty years ago. Our zoning commission is volunteer and made up of Austinburg residents. If you are interested in helping forge our future by volunteering please contact any of the Trustees.

We have purchased a new truck for our Township road department. We are currently looking for a used road grader. Our commitment to live within our budget and properly manage your tax dollars has allowed us to purchase this equipment outright.

If you have any concerns or questions please feel free to contact me at (440) 223-6511, as I have disconnected my land line.

John A. Kusar
(440) 223-6511
745 Forman Road
Austinburg Ohio, 44010



Fire Department Corner

Another new year is upon us and last year was a busy one for your fire department. Last year we ran on 134 calls, this is up from the year before when we only ran 102 calls. These calls consist of alarm drops, car accidents, mutual aid response, grass fires, and house fires. The new fire truck that was ordered last year due to your overwhelming support of our fire levy should be here the end of March, beginning of April. We will be upgrading some equipment on the new truck with money that has been raised at our annual golf outing and the Country Days beer booth. These two events are the only fundraisers we do and appreciate any and all of your support so please come out for your first responders. Fire prevention week at the school went well; we had very good feedback and handed out over 20 new smoke detectors for families to install. Any questions please feel free to contact Assistant Chief Todd Dutton (440) 813-5290. Thank you for support!

Hi Ladies & Gents!
I really can't wait for the early spring the gopher promised!

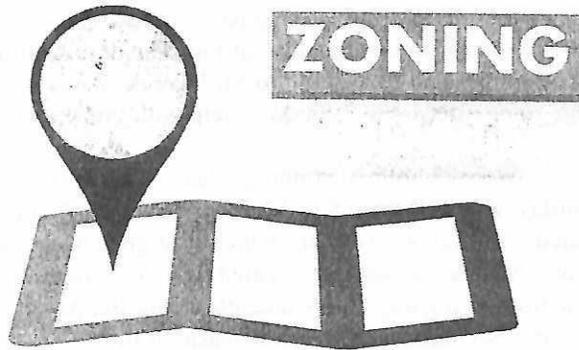
I am sure that a lot of you have noticed that the paving of Forman Rd. from Rt. 307 to Lampson Rd. was completed just before the snow flew last fall. This was done as part of the 50/50 grant the township received from OPWC.

Last fall I applied for a similar grant from OPWC to do base improvement of Forman Rd. from Allen Rd. to Eagleville Jefferson Rd. It looks like the township will receive this funding so we can continue the improvement project.

The township has just received a new one-tone dump truck with a stainless steel bed,

I would like to thank the voters for passing the levies and the bond for the firetruck. We will continue to spend your tax dollars as wisely as possible. We are trying to promote growth at the interchange to help relieve the tax burden on all of us. If you have any questions or concerns, please ask, we are here to serve you.

**Your Faithful Servant
Byron Dutton II**



Austinburg Township Zoning Commission

Hello Fellow Austinburg Township Residents!

In 2019 we are currently working on amending the zoning text in the areas of fencing and tiny homes. Please attend our next meeting if you'd like to contribute to any of these topics or other topics you'd like us to look at. We welcome feedback! Austinburg Township is in dire need of creating and implementing a comprehensive land use plan. What is a comprehensive land use plan? The comprehensive plan, also known as a general plan, master plan or land-use plan, is a document designed to guide the future actions of a community. It presents a vision for the future, with long-range goals and objectives for all activities that affect the local government. This includes guidance on how to make decisions on public and private land development proposals, the expenditure of public funds, availability of tax policy (tax incentives), cooperative efforts and issues of pressing concern, such as farmland preservation or the rehabilitation of older neighborhoods areas. Most plans are written to provide direction for future activities over a 10- to

20-year period after plan adoption. Plans should be reviewed and possibly updated every five years.

- **The plan provides continuity.** The plan provides continuity across time, and gives successive public bodies a common framework for addressing land-use issues.
- **It is the means by which a community can balance competing private interests.** John Public may want to store oil drums on his property. Jane Citizen, his neighbor, would like to open a restaurant on her property. Planning seeks to strike a balance among the many competing demands on land by creating development patterns that are orderly and rational, provide the greatest benefits for individuals and the community as a whole and avoid nuisance conflicts between land uses.
- **It is the means by which a community can protect public investments.** Planning is the means by which a community avoids digging up last year's new road to lay this year's new sewer pipe. Well-planned, orderly and phased development patterns are also less expensive for a community to provide with public services than low-density, scattered development.
- **It allows communities to plan development in a way that protects valued resources.** Planning can identify environmental features like wetlands, agricultural lands, woods and steep slopes and suggest strategies for preserving those resources from destruction or degradation by inappropriate development.
- **It provides guidance for shaping the appearance of the community.** A plan can set forth policies that foster a distinctive sense of place.
- **It promotes economic development.** The plan contains valuable information that drives the location decisions of prospective firms.
- **It provides justification for decisions.** Plans provide a factual and objective basis to support zoning decisions and

snow plow and salt spreader. This is a replacement of the previous truck which was tired and had serious engine repair needs.

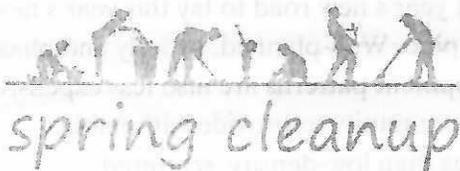
Bill Wilms and the rest of the fire department are looking forward to receiving the new Class-A pumper truck either late in March or early April.

The township is in need of a few people to serve on the Zoning Board. Please attend a township trustee meeting and learn the latest news.

Congratulations David for winning the election. We wish him the best in his new role as Ashtabula County Auditor. We will miss him in the township office as he has done a good job in the role of fiscal Officer.

Jerry Burke

Since we no longer have a land line please contact me on my Cell 812-3581 if you have questions.



Hello Fellow Residents

Time to bring you up to speed on what we have done this past year and what we hope to accomplish this year.

First, I would like to wish our former Fiscal Officer David Thomas good luck and thank you for your service to the community. David started out on the Zoning Commission at 17 for Austinburg. He has been elected to Ashtabula County Auditor's office. Someday when he is president I hope he will show me the oval office, good luck David.

We had three residents that put in applications to become the intern Fiscal Officer. They all were well qualified for the job. We selected Kanda Wilms O'Dell for the job. Kanda has been very active in the community, servicing on the Austinburg Country Days Committee, 4-H, Austinburg Fire Dept., and with the Austinburg Church. Welcome aboard Kanda. I would like to congratulate David Thomas and Mile Petro our road supervisor for getting an ODOT grant for \$24,000 for our road signs. These signs make you aware of what is ahead.

Fire Chief Bill Wilms and the volunteer firemen and women need to be thanked for their service to Austinburg, and for the hours that have been spent on specifying out the new firetruck. The lead time on building a new fire truck is about one year, we hope to see ours out later this spring. Thank you for passing the bond needed to replace the old firetruck.

Last year our biggest project was to get Forman road paved from route 307 south to Lampson road. This has been a two year project, ditches had to be set back, drive culverts had to be replaced, and the road base had to be improved. We still need to pave some drive aprons, which will be done this spring. The next section will be from Allen road south to Mill Creek. We are again going after issue 2 funds to help with this project.

We will hold Austinburg Clean-Up Day on Saturday May 11th from 8 to 12 at the Township Garage located on Route 45. Help us make this a great success, donate. Also the county has located recycle containers at the township garage, they take glass, plastic, paper, and cans. No garbage, hazardous waste or tires accepted.

We have been having a lot of truck problems this last year. Our one ton Ford truck was 10 years old, and had 95,000 miles developed a bad motor, we purchased a new truck and snow plow for about \$68,000 to replace it. Then our International dump truck lost power, and we took this to the dealer and replaced a lot of the pollution equipment. The truck was returned, only to have to be towed back to the dealer because it failed to run. We were informed that the motor was bad, when taken to another mechanic for a second opinion he confirmed it. Because this truck is a 2011 with 35,000 miles we have decided to replace this motor, and the cost of the new truck would be around \$170,000. We are finding that equipment is not built like it used to be, and with all of the pollution equipment that is required, we are having to be returned to the dealer for serving.

Tote Road Park has seen a large increase of people with boats wanting to get into the Grand River. We have expanded the parking lot and increased the maintenance of the grounds. If you see something that would make your visit more enjoyable let us know.

We will be bidding out our stone and emulsions, for our chip and seal program, to control the dust on the roads. This is one of the biggest costs to the township. We have been working on cutting back on the chip and seal program and using some of that money to pave the roads, it costs about \$250,000 to pave one mile of road. This is a long range program and will take years to complete.

can be used by communities to defend their decisions if challenged in court.

- **Through public dialogue, citizens express a collective vision for the future.** Last, but certainly not least, the planning process provides citizens an opportunity to brainstorm, debate and discuss the future of their community. A plan developed through a robust public input process enjoys strong community support. Subsequent decisions that are consistent with the plan's policies are less likely to become embroiled in public controversy.

We are still in need of residents to sit on the zoning commission board. We welcome you to attend a meeting. The more input we receive from our residents the better! Regular zoning commission meetings are held the 1st Wednesday of every month at 5:15pm in the Austinburg Township Hall, Trustee meeting room.

"Planning is bringing the future into the present so that you can do something about it now." — Alan Lakein, author

Happy Spring!

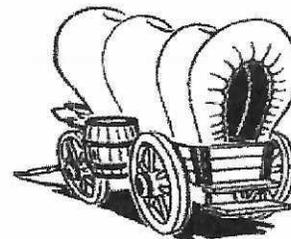
**Jacklyn Krysa, Austinburg Township
Zoning Commission Vice Chair**



Austinburg Easter Egg Hunt
Saturday, April 20, 2019
Austinburg Township Park
10:00am

47th Annual Austinburg Country Days

Our annual festival will be held August 23, 24 & 25, 2019 in the Austinburg Township Park. We have entertainment for the family throughout the weekend including games and activities for people of all ages. Saturday will be a fun filled day starting with a parade at noon. There will be several activities in the park for kids including a pet show, a pizza eating contest, sponsored by Capp's Pizza and a petting zoo including pony rides. Sunday children can join the frog jumping contest, enter in various yard games and the water battles sponsored by the Austinburg Volunteer Fire Department. We will have live bands Friday, Saturday and Sunday evenings. Please stop by and support many local food vendors and be sure to visit the beer tent sponsored by Austinburg Volunteer Fire Department (all proceeds from the beer tent go to the fire department).



We are opening Friday Night!

Friday, August 23rd, 6pm – 10pm

Band: Redneck Cadillac

Saturday, August 24th, Noon – 10pm

Band 6pm to 10pm

Bobby Hayes & the H2O Band

Sunday, August 25^h, Noon – 8pm

Meeting Dates:

For upcoming meeting dates contact Marcy Hejduk 440-812-7281

*All Meetings Will Be At The Austinburg Town
Hall at 6:00 p.m.*

NEW VOLUNTEERS WANTED

Crafters / Vendors Wanted

For More Information Visit Our Facebook
Page. Austinburg Country Days

AUSTINBURG NEWS & VIEWS
Austinburg Township
P.O. Box 134
Austinburg, Ohio 44010

PRSR T STD
US POSTAGE
PAID
AUSTINBURG, OHIO
PERMIT NO. 5

**Boxholder
P.O. Box Sections
Austinburg, Ohio 44010**

Austinburg Annual Clean Up Day

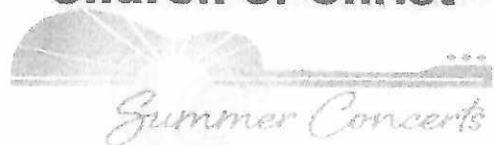
Saturday, May 11, 2019
8am to noon

Austinburg Twp. Garage
1393 Route 45

See information enclosed in
newsletter regarding items that
will be accepted

Keep our township beautiful!!!!

Austinburg First United Church of Christ



Summer Concerts

**Join us for free
concerts in the park**

(Inclement weather may cause concerts to be indoor)

June 20th

June 27th

July 11th

July 18th

July 25th

August 1st

Concerts begin at 7:00pm