



Westfield Township News

January, 2024
Issue 49

Trustees: Brian Barkley, Chr. (740) 272-1539 Elwain Dreyer, V. Chr. (740) 225-2733 Terry Dickson (740) 287-0123

Fiscal Officer: Jessica Bendle (740) 272-2282 • **Zoning Inspector:** Joel Staley (740) 222-0090

Zoning Commission: Matt Clinger, Chr. Joel Staley Judy Miley, Sec. David Rawlins Wes Wigton

Zoning Board of Appeals: Ron Ruggles, Chr. John Hall, V. Chr. Amy Hyre, Sec. Tracey Parks Paul Gandelot

Morrow County Regional Planning Commission: Tracey Parks

Township Meetings: 1st Monday of the month at 7:00pm., except when Monday is a holiday, then meetings are the 1st Tuesday following the 1st Monday.

Renergy News

Litigation continues between the Ohio Attorney General's Office and Renergy. Any updates will be posted on the Township website and in our next newsletter. All of the storage tanks that were on the Renergy site in violation of a consent decree have been removed.

Township Roads

Thanks to **Randy Grimm** and **Ralph Miley** for the outstanding work they do keeping our Township roads clear of snow and for mowing weeds in the ditches.

The 2023 road work was completed by **Small's Asphalt Paving Inc. Co** on TR 162 and 152 along with some berming being completed.

Goodman Excavating installed new and larger culverts on TR 25, 147 and 162.

The Trustees ordered cones and road signs for the safety of our crew during roadside mowing and maintenance. **Great Dane Tree Service** completed tree trimming services on all Township roads. **SPH Construction** replaced a culvert on TR 158 and successfully resolved the drainage issue on Oak Street. The Township purchased a new **Freightliner** truck outfitted by **Dexter** for snow and ice removal to replace our existing vehicle that is 16+ years old. The truck has been delayed awaiting parts but will hopefully arrive before heavy snow. The Morrow County roads department announced they will begin striping a majority of the roads in the county.

Cemeteries

The Township Trustees would like to recognize and thank **Erin Barkley** for the 15 years of dedication and service to our community. Erin was essential in making sure all 5 of our cemeteries and the Township Hall grounds were presentable, accessible and beautiful for our community. **C & S Restoration** completed platting of the remaining 5 acres of Westfield Cemetery. Flags were placed on all veterans grave markers in observance of Memorial Day and were removed on Veterans Day weekend. Damaged flag holders and flags are being replaced and are provided by the Morrow County Veterans Service Office at no cost to the Township. New flags were installed on cemetery flag poles at Westfield, Baptist, Peak and Shawtown cemeteries. Please remember artificial flowers and decorations are permitted from November 1st to April 1st. All new grave markings need to be on a concrete footer. Plots are only available in the Westfield cemetery, contact a Trustee for details. We would also like to welcome our new contractors, **Custom Edge Lawn Care** for mowing and lawn maintenance of our cemeteries and Township Hall.

Westfield Township Website

Please visit the Township website where you can find useful information and news about our Township and Morrow County. Check it out at WWW.WESTFIELDTWP.ORG

Zoning

Please contact the Zoning Inspector Joel Staley at (740) 222-0090 prior to any construction to obtain proper permits and inspection in compliance with zoning regulations. Failure to comply could result in delays and other potential penalties.

Township Hall

Tri-Township Fire Department completed the maintenance on all of our fire extinguishers for the Township hall. A new flag and flagpole light were installed. **Agri-Electrical Service LLC** will be upgrading our lighting outdoors and inside the maintenance shop and garage to LED's, for safety, security and energy efficiency. The Township purchased a new air compressor for maintenance of Township vehicles..

Tire Recycling Drive

The Trustees held a successful tire recycling drive at the Township Hall in October, collecting over 200 tires from the community. This service is provided by Westfield Township in coordination with **DKMM Solid Waste Disposal**. We plan to have tire recycling drives every fall to help keep our community safe and clean and environmentally friendly.



Township Nuisance Properties

As we are all aware we have properties within our township which can be properly described as "nuisance properties" due to junk, unlicensed autos and trucks, trash, and buildings that are in a state of disrepair on the property. This situation is a detriment to our Township and presents a health hazard and hurts our property values. Township Trustees do have legal recourse that is clearly stated in the Ohio Revised Code (the general laws of Ohio) which provide a legal process for the cleaning up of these properties. We have taken action in working with the Morrow County Health Department and the Morrow County Prosecutor and we are beginning to have a positive effect on these situations. The Trustees initiated a cleanup on a nuisance property located on County Road 156, removing approximately 40 vehicles. We have worked successfully with some property owners to remove debris and vehicles without legal intervention. We have passed resolutions to take action on properties located on County Road 146, 21 and 158. We will continue to work with property owners and provide updates as we successfully pursue action with those properties in violation of code.

Note: Passenger vehicle removal can often be provided at no cost to residents. Contact your Trustees or 24/7 Towing and Recovery Service 937-594-8216 for more information.

Current Resident or

Westfield Township Trustees
1699 County Road 156
Ashley, Ohio 43003