

Trustees: Greg Kessen – 419-234-5082

Kevin Cox – 419-303-6810

Jack Neal– 419-233-1963

Greeting Perry Township Residents,



Since our last newsletter, we as a township have experienced a fair amount of staff changes. Perry Township puts out a newsletter in the spring of the year, and tries to keep the public updated. With that, I would like to introduce Jack Neal, who came on board last June, to complete the three-person trustees board. This is but one change Perry Township has experienced since our last newsletter. I would like to thank Lynn Hanson for accepting the Fiscal Officer position in late 2021 and staying with us until our township board of trustees selection process was completed before resigning in June of 2022. She

has been a very big help to our new hire, Sandy Hofacker as Perry Township's Fiscal Officer, who came on board in July of 2022. Lynn has stayed on part time to help Sandy get acclimated to her new position. Sandy has been working very diligently for our township, maintaining the daily activities and keeping our township moving forward. Sandy Hofacker was the only applicant to step into the demanding job of Fiscal Officer.

After this action, the board went through the process of hiring a Zoning Inspector; the township had three applicants and wants to publicly thank them for their interest in the township. After due process by the board, I would like to introduce John Brewster as the Zoning Inspector. Please welcome John, who came on in November of 2022. John has been very busy since taking this position over and we ask for everyone's patience with him. And finally, at the beginning of this year, we hired a new fire chief, due to our past chief taking another position outside the township. I would like to welcome and introduce the Township's new Fire Chief Kevin Rader.

I wanted to bring the township up to speed on all the positions that the board of trustees has had to fill. The board of trustees wishes to thank all of those individuals who applied and thank them for their interest in the township. The board of trustees would like to extend an invitation to our residents, if you feel like you would have any interest to serve on a board, please send your information to the township's e-mail at perry45806@yahoo.com.

The board of trustees works well together to maintain the township and tries to move our township forward in a positive way. Currently our manpower seems to be filled, but; we could always use volunteers for our fire department. Please reach out to Chief Rader if

you have an interest in the fire field. Along with manpower, equipment, goods and services and the rising cost of doing business, comes brings funding and budgetary concerns. As the township continues to grow, we appreciate the support of you, the residents, in continuing to support renewal levies. The board is very mindful of the township's operating budget.

Some of you may be aware of Perry Township's disagreement with the Allen County Commissioners regarding the 80% increase in the cost of our annual dispatching services. This of which we strongly disagree with as a board. This may be an ongoing battle.

In closing, we would like to ask all to be good neighbors and good stewards in our township. Remember - *Perry Township: Where all the nice people live.*

Matthew 22:37-39.....GOD BLESS

Gregory J. Kessen – Chairman

Fiscal Officer – Sandy Hofacker

419-221-2412

Hello Perry Township from your interim fiscal officer, Sandy Hofacker. I transitioned from my former role as zoning inspector to complete the term of the former fiscal officer. This is an elected position and will be open in November, 2023. If you have any interest in running for fiscal officer, please reach out to the trustees or myself.

I would like to thank Natalie Scott, who held the fiscal officer position for many years. She did an excellent job and has been a big help to me in learning this job.

Also, thanks to my assistant, Lynn Hanson, who filled the fiscal officer position temporarily and has stayed on to help me. She is a life saver!

Thank you also to John Brewster, who took my place as zoning inspector. He's doing a great job and staying very busy. We can all help him by doing our part to clean up and mow our properties. Perry Township is a great place to live and work and we should all do our part to make it better.

Perry Township Fire Dept – Chief Kevin Rader

419-221-2345

Hello Residents of Perry Township. I am honored to have become your new Fire Chief. On behalf of the department, I want to thank former Fire Chief Justin Roberts for all that he has done for the community during his time as fire chief. I am excited and eager to continue the success of the Fire Department. On behalf of Perry Township Fire Department, I would like to say how proud we are to serve the

community of Perry Township. Our values include compassion, professionalism, respect and integrity. We strive every day to make a positive difference to those we serve and provide a safe community. It is my honor and privilege to lead a community-based department. Perry Township Fire Department is a combination department and our station is staffed 24/7 365 days a year. We were very busy during 2022. We responded to 1,024 calls for service. We encourage Perry Township residents to dial 911 in the event of an emergency. I encourage you to contact us if you have any questions or suggestions on how we can improve our services to you or just stop in and say HI!!

Address: 2408 East Breese Road
Lima, Ohio 45806

Phone Number: (419)221-2345

Chief's Email: rader@perrytownshipfd.com

Website: perryallenohio.com

This year Perry Township Fire Department will be hosting an open house for the community and stake holders on October 20, 2023 from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm. We invite everyone to stop in meet the staff, check out the apparatuses and equipment that we grateful to have.

Our Fire Inspection Bureau in 2020 wasn't in the community due to early unknowns of COVID-19. In the following years of 2021 and 2022 inspectors retired, transferred to other agencies and took different career paths. We have invested in two new inspectors this year. We will be starting fire inspections for our businesses this year to ensure that they are complaint with the Ohio Fire Code. The Fire Inspection Bureau's mission is to keep residents, employees, customers and firefighters safe.

Remember to change the batteries in your smoke detectors twice a year and test them monthly for proper operation. Always know two escape routes out of your home, have a designated meeting spot and practice this with your family monthly. If you have any questions, please contact us for assistance.

Perry Township Fire Department is very appreciative for the support and turnout for our annual Pancake Day that was held on April 15, 2023. The support we receive every day from the community is amazing and we're blessed to work for the residents of Perry Township!!

To Ken Lucas and Bill Foster: Words are not enough to thank you for everything that you have done for the fire department!



Congratulations Ken Lucas for twenty years of service to the Perry Township Fire Department and the community as a Fire Inspector.

Congratulations Bill Foster for twenty-two years of service to the Perry Township Fire Department as a Firefighter, Advance EMT, Captain and becoming a new Fire Inspector.



Congratulations Jason Smedley for twenty years of service to the Perry Township Fire Department. We appreciate all the billets you have filled over the years including currently serving as the Deputy Chief.

Perry Township Fire Department received a donation from the VFW Post 1275 Lima, Ohio. To assist with the replacement of our Thermal Imaging Camera (TIC). We're very grateful and honored to receive this donation. The VFW is currently looking for new members! Thank you for everyone that has served in the Armed Forces!!



Back row Left to Right: Firefighter/Paramedic Hull, Trustee Tom Reaman, Quarter Master George Downing, Fire Chief Rader
Front row Left to Right: Commander Tim Casey and Trustee Mike Craft

If you're interested in serving the community, please contact us for job opportunities to become a Firefighter/ EMT- Basic. On behalf of Perry Township Fire Department, I would like to sincerely thank you for your continued support as we continue to offer you the best services.

Kevin Rader - Fire Chief

Road Department Supervisor Corey Lehman

419-221-3949

Hello residents of Perry Township. This winter was a very light winter for snow, approximately 100 tons of salt mixture was used. There were 44 hours of overtime worked this winter. We logged approximately 800 miles plowing. I would like to also ask that you check your mailbox post to make sure they are in good condition and not rotten. The force of the snow coming off the plows will break rotten posts and we are not responsible to replace rotten poles or broken plastic boxes. Just a reminder for next season.

Our road program this year is a coming in at \$209,798.22. There will be 2.69 miles of roadway will be sealed. Last year's sealing work was not completed in time and will be done this year, which was 3.07 miles for a total of 5.76 miles. We will be paving 1.48 miles. The price of paving and sealing are up in cost around 10 percent compared to last year, so our money doesn't go as far unfortunately. A mile of roadway that is 20 feet wide costs approximately \$90,000 to pave. Because of these increases, we are not able to improve the roads as much as we would like to. Our Dura-patching of roads is also included in the program. In 2022, 11 miles of roadway were patched in 2022 with plans to patch more miles this year. We are working with Auglaize Township to do some crack patching in both of our townships. We have a great working relationship in that we can share work that requires additional manpower. More work can be accomplished if both townships work together.

If you see a basin that will not drain off once water has receded or is standing when it has been dry, please contact us at the road department so the issue can be looked into and taken care of. If you see any large holes in the right of way, please contact us so the broken tile can be fixed so it doesn't create potentially larger problems. Some crossover and basin work will be taking place this year on roads that are on schedule to be paved in 2024.

Mowing of the ditches this summer will be done as usual with mowing starting in early May. Cutting of ditch banks will also be done with the arm mower, as needed. Cemetery mowing is also a big part of our maintenance work in the spring and summer. A list of cemetery rules and regulations are available on our website or can be picked up at road department office. Also, if any drive permits or tile tap permits are needed please contact our office. We will also continue on our spraying of underbrush along woods to prevent overgrowth.

If you have any questions about the roads or ditches contact Corey Lehman (Road Supervisor) or Nick Adams at 419-221-3949. Someone is usually in the shop or office from 7:00- 8:00 AM, 11:30-12:00, and 3:00-3:30 PM. If we are not there, please leave a message with name and number so we can return your call. Hope you have a great year.

Zoning Department – John Brewster

419-204-7850

Hi! Let's start with my name. I am John Brewster, the new zoning inspector for Perry Township. Now that spring has arrived here, it's a good time to get started on our clean up throughout the township. I'm looking forward to working with all of you. Perry Township will once again have their annual clean-up day on June 17th from 9:00AM to 1:00PM. Trash dumpsters will be available at the following locations:

- Road Department on E. Breese Road
- Corner of 15th and Reese
- Charledon Avenue & 9th Street

We are still seeing a high number of junk cars in the township. The Ohio Revised Code (ORC) section 505.173 defines a junk car as one that is:

1. At least 3 model years old
2. Apparently inoperable
3. Extensively damaged such as missing wheels, tires, engine or transmission.

When you see me out driving around the township checking properties, feel free to stop me with any questions you may have. If I don't have an answer for you, I will get you one.

We are all hoping to see positive changes but know that it will take time. There are procedures we have to follow so be patient. We will do everything we can to have and safe and beautiful community. Thank you!

John Brewster - Zoning Inspector

Perry Township Police Department – Chief Bob Phillips

419-221-1870

Spring has finally sprung and I am sure you are just as ready as I am for sunshine and warmer weather. If you see one of our cruisers while you're out enjoying the warmer weather, don't forget to flag them down. The officers enjoy visiting with the residents of Perry Township.

Our younger residents will also be out enjoying the sunshine, which means they will be out playing and riding their bikes. Please be mindful that children at play often forget to watch for traffic. Slow down when driving through neighborhoods and watch for children who might dart out into the roadway. Also, watch for bicyclists on both our neighborhood and country roadways.

As many of you may already know, on January 3, 2023, Governor Mike DeWine signed Senate Bill 288 that states it will be illegal to use or hold a cell phone or electronic device while driving in Ohio. This new law went into effect on April 4,

2023. This bill was put into place to strengthen the already in place ORC 4511.204, Driving While Texting Law. You are still able to make and receive calls while using the Bluetooth capabilities on both your phone and vehicle. However, this law does state that under most circumstances, if you are driving while also holding your phone an officer has the right to pull you over and issue a citation.

I would like to take this time to congratulate Terry and Kim White. Both Terry and Kim retired from our department in January. While they were only with our department for a few short years, they have been serving and protecting the residents of Allen County for a combined total of over 70 years. Their knowledge and dedication will be missed and I wish them nothing but the best in their retirement.

In closing, I would like to remind our residents that we are a part-time police department. If you have an emergency call 9-1-1; or, if an officer is needed, please call the Sheriff's Department. If a Perry Township officer is on duty, they will be dispatched to your location. For all other questions or concerns call 419-221-1870 and leave a message. It will be returned when an officer becomes available.

Have a safe year!

Bob Phillips-Perry Police Chief

2023 CLEAN UP DAY

PERRY TOWNSHIP CLEAN UP DAY IS SATURDAY JUNE 17TH FROM 9AM-1PM. NO TIRES OR HAZARDOUS WASTE WILL BE ACCEPTED. PERRY TOWNSHIP RESIDENTS CAN BRING UNWANTED ITEMS TO BE DISPOSED AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS AT NO COST TO THEM:

Perry Township Garage, 9th and Charledon Ave, 15th Street and Reese Ave.

IF YOU ARE ABLE GET OUT AND HELP YOUR NEIGHBORS, PLEASE FEEL FREE TO LEND A HELPING HAND.

-Hall Rental-

Need a space to host a shower, party or event?

Call Jerry Hunt at 419-235-2714 for more information!