

**Trustees: Greg Kessen – 419-234-5082**

**Kevin Cox – 419-303-6810**

**Larry Sidener – 419-234-5122**



Greeting Perry Township Residents,

Changes are once again the main topic at the Perry Township house. I am Larry Sidener, your new trustee. I was elected by you last fall to complete the unexpired term on the board of trustees. Fiscal officer, Sandy Hofacker, completed her term March 31, 2024. The trustees appointed Christina Stombaugh to fill that position effective April 1, 2024. Sandy has graciously agreed to help Christina through this transition time.

On April 2, 2024, police chief, Robert Phillips, retired after serving Perry Township as a police officer and then police chief for 25+ years. The trustees join with the residents of Perry Township in wishing him well in his retirement. The trustees have hired John Iten as interim police chief to fill this vacancy, keeping the police department intact. Allen County Sheriff, Matt Treglia, has given his support for these changes and has offered to help should the need arise.

The next big item on the trustees' agenda is the proposed new industrial park in Perry Township. The Allen Economic Development Group and the Port Authority want 750+ acres of ground, stretching from State Route 65 to Greeley Chapel Road and from Breese Road to Hume Road for this site. AEDG and the Port Authority want to use approximately 350 acres in the township for construction of a data processing center. Some zoning changes would be required for this to happen. Many questions remain; especially concerning incentives or abatements. In other words, this could mean, MONEY for the township and Perry Schools.

But now for some very good news. "Lifewise Perry" is coming to our school district. Lifewise is a Bible-based character education provided DURING SCHOOL HOURS to elementary students in grades 1-6 who choose to participate. Much work still needs to be done, so prayers and financial assistance are needed. Plans are to use the Perry Church of Faith as a temporary site beginning in the fall of 2024. For more information go to:

<https://lifewise.org/district/3904578-oh-allen-county-perry-local>

or search Facebook for Lifewise Academy-Perry.

In closing, one of my favorite Bible verses is Luke 4:8 “You must worship the Lord your God and serve only Him.” I am very blessed to have this opportunity to serve the people of Perry Township where I attended school, graduated, and have made my home for my entire life.

Larry Sidener

Perry Township, Trustee Chairman



Greg Kessen, Christina Stombaugh,  
Kevin Cox and Larry Sidener

(from left to right)

**Fiscal Officer – Christina Stombaugh**

***419-221-2412***

Hello Perry Township from your newly appointed fiscal officer, Christina Stombaugh. My husband and I have owned property in Perry Township for 20 years and my husband and his family are Perry High School alumni. I grew up in Lima and went to Lima City Schools. I am looking forward to serving the township with the township’s financial needs.

I wanted to let you know that we have many resources that can be found on our website at: <https://perryallenohio.com> . You can find contact information, township meeting minutes, special events, pictures of businesses throughout township, zoning regulations and so much more. We also have an electronic space to apply and pay for zoning permits online. We also have our rental hall available for events. If you are interested please give Jerry Hunt a call at 419-296-6010.

If you have questions or concerns, please don’t hesitate to attend our meetings that are held on the first and third Tuesday of each month at 7:30pm.

**Perry Township Fire Dept – Chief Kevin Rader**

**419-221-2345**

Hello to the residents of Perry Township. The following is an update on the status of Perry Township Fire Department through 2023 and into early 2024. In 2023, we responded to a total of 1,279 calls for service (988 EMS and 291 Fire) which resulted in 1,009 patient contacts. The fire department currently has 7 full-time staff, with 5 full-time firefighter/EMS staff, a full-time fire chief and an administrative assistant; for a total 7 full-time staff. Our part-time EMS staff provides additional resources, to provide a minimum of a 2-person response crew 24/7/365. Perry Township Fire Department, continues to accept applications for part-time EMS staff. If you want information on becoming an EMT or a Firefighter, please contact the station Monday through Friday 8 AM – 4 PM.

Address: 2408 East Breese Road

Lima, Ohio 45806

Phone Number: (419)221-2345

Chief's Email: [rader@perrytownshipfd.com](mailto:rader@perrytownshipfd.com)

Website: [perryallenohio.com](http://perryallenohio.com)

The Fire Inspection Bureau with the two current inspectors, Iain Bruce and Bill Foster along with Chief Kevin Rader, have been active in the community inspecting current and new businesses. Fire Inspections are conducted to ensure the businesses that operate within Perry Township are keeping up to the Ohio Fire Code and are in compliance.

REMINDER: Change your smoke detector and CO detector batteries twice a year and test them monthly for proper operation. Always know your escape routes out of your home, have a designated meeting spot and practice with you family monthly. If you have any questions, please contact us for assistance.



Todd Gardner, words are not enough to thank you for everything you have done for us! Congratulations Todd for twenty years of service to Perry Township Fire Department, as a Firefighter/Paramedic, as serving in various leadership positions as a prior lieutenant, Assistant Chief, Deputy Chief and currently as a Captain.

Perry Township Fire Department would like to extend a Thank You, to the resident who donated \$50 gift card from Keystone Meats. This was used to help feed the crews during the April 8<sup>th</sup> Eclipse. An additional thank you to other donations that have been received.



Perry Township Fire Department took possession of a new 1,000-gallon Fire Engine (Engine 1404) in January.

Push in ceremony for new fire truck.

**Road Department Supervisor Corey Lehman**

***419-221-3949***

Hello residents of Perry Township. This winter was a very light one for snow with approximately 130 tons of salt mixture was used. There were 85 hours of overtime worked this winter. We logged approximately 1570 miles plowing. I would like to also ask that you check your mailbox posts 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 coming in at \$202,008.10. There will be 2.712 miles of roadway sealed. We will be paving 2.882 miles. We are able to pave extra miles this year due to receiving Issue 1 money from the state, which is received every 4 years. It will again be available in 2028. The township is required to pay for 20% of paving cost and 80% is paid by state. The price of paving and sealing are up in cost around 10 percent compared to last year, so unfortunately our money doesn't go as far. A mile of roadway 20 feet wide cost approximately \$100,000 to pave. So, as we increase money to be spent on our roadways, unfortunately, it is not getting us any more work done for the extra money. Our Dura-patching of roads is also included in the program. There were 10.5 miles of roadway patched in 2023 with plans to patch more miles this year.

Since 2009, the township has paved approximately 40% of roads and sealed approximately 40% of roads. So out of 47 miles of roadways to maintain 37.6 miles have had some treatment on them in the last 15 years; but, with rising cost of materials, money doesn't go as far. We are doing the best we can with money available to keep our roads in good shape.

If you see a basin that will not drain off once water has receded or has standing water 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 right of ways, 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 and 2025.

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**

Hello Perry Township. This is my 2<sup>nd</sup> year as your zoning inspector for Perry Township and it has been a busy one!

We've had several new homes and businesses added to our township with several more to come.

Also, we're still dealing with a high number of JUNK cards in the Township. As defined by the State of Ohio, section 505.173, a junk car is defined as follows:

1. The vehicle is at least 3 model years old; AND
2. Is apparently inoperable; AND
3. Is extensively damaged, such as missing wheels, tires, engine, or transmission.

If you have junk cars or boats or campers on your property, please be a responsible resident and get rid of them. They are a hazard and an eyesore.

In addition to the issues with junk cars, the township is still facing challenges with the number of homes that are in disrepair and properties that are overgrown and littered with trash and debris. To help address these issues, the township is currently working to update our zoning resolutions to add property maintenance codes. We also plan to have regular zoning board meetings. If you have an interest in serving on either our Zoning Board or Zoning Appeals Board, please apply on our website or contact me or trustee, Greg Kessen, directly.

Perry Township will once again sponsor our annual clean-up day on June 15<sup>th</sup> from 9:00AM to 1:00PM. Dumpsters will be located at the following locations: The Road Dept building on Breese Road; corner of 15<sup>th</sup> and Reese; and corner of Charledon Ave. & 9<sup>th</sup> street. This would be a great time to get started on your spring clean-up.

I will be out and about in the township and if you see me driving around checking properties, feel free to stop me. I will be happy to answer any questions and if I don't have the answer, I will get back to you.

We are working hard to improve our community and we appreciate your help in making that happen. Let's work together to make Perry Township a safe and beautiful community.

John Brewster, Perry Township Zoning Inspector

Phone: 419-419-204-7850

**Perry Township Police Department – Interim Chief John Iten      *419-221-1870***

First and foremost, we want to wish Bobby Phillips a wonderful retirement. Bobby has provided Perry Township with 25 years of dedicated service as a patrol officer and worked his way up to being the Chief of Police for the last 15 years. I have had the pleasure of working for Bobby for the last 7 years, the department will miss your laughter and guidance.

There have also been some staffing changes this year. Some officers in the department have chosen to move on with their careers and lives. I want to take a moment to thank them for their service to Perry Township and the Police Department, and good luck in the future.

I would also like to remind drivers that while driving through the school zone, the speed limit is 20 mph when school is in session. In my years of service here in Perry, most traffic stops are parents of students. Please slow down for the safety of our students as well as the bus drivers that are transporting children to and from school.

As a reminder to the residents of the township, the police department is a part-time department. If you have an emergency, please call 911. If you need assistance from an officer as soon as possible, please call the Allen County Sheriff's Office non-emergency phone number, 419-227-3535 for a deputy to respond. If it is an issue that can wait until a Perry Township Officer is on duty, please call 419-221-1870 and leave a message. An officer will return your call the next time one is on duty.

John Iten – Interim Police Chief.

## 2024 CLEAN UP DAY

PERRY TOWNSHIP CLEAN UP DAY IS SATURDAY, JUNE 15<sup>TH</sup> 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, 9<sup>th</sup> and Charledon Ave, 15<sup>th</sup> Street and Reese Ave.**

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

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### **-Hall Rental-**

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

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