

Bazetta Township

3372 State Route 5, N.E.
Cortland, Ohio 44410

PRSR STD
ECRWSS
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
EDDM Retail

SUPPORTING OUR COMMUNITY

TRUSTEES MEETINGS:

Township Administration Building
1st & 3rd Monday of each month

Residential Customer

Cortland, Ohio 44410



JUST A REMINDER

Trick or Treat
Saturday, October 31st
6pm-8pm

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS

Set Your Clocks Back November 1st

DON'T FORGET TO



NOVEMBER 3RD !

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

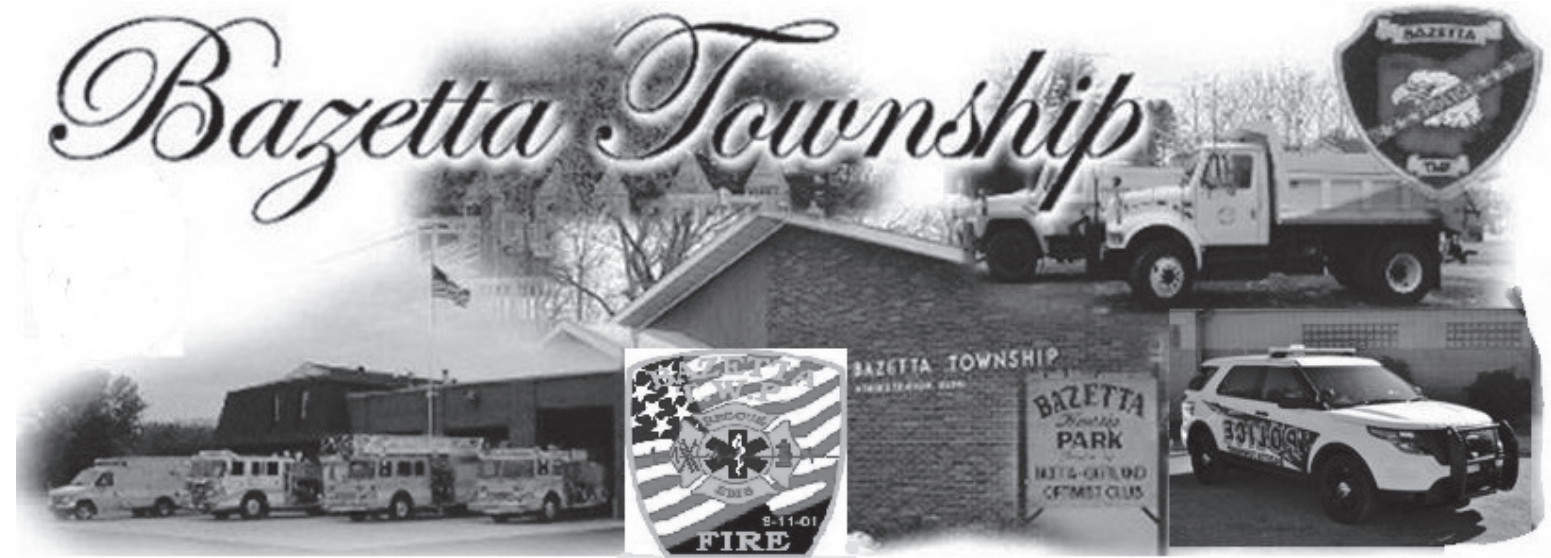
Emergency	DIAL 911
Non - Emergency	330-675-2730
Bazetta Township (all Departments)	330-637-8816
Visit us on the Web:	www.bazettatwp.org

ZONING COMMISSION

Curtis Lonsbrough, Chair.	Rita Benoit, V. Chair.
Walter Maycher	Howard Wetzel
Jack Hineman	Jean Eddy, Sec'y

BOARD OF APPEALS

William Gardner, Chair.	Craig Fess, V. Chair.
Paul Carlson	Rod Prodonovich
David Ross	Jean Eddy, Sec'y



SUPPORTING OUR COMMUNITY



FROM THE TRUSTEES:

This news letter is being provided to the residents of Bazetta Township to keep everyone informed on how your tax dollars are being spent. Each department will detail what they have accomplished to stretch those tax dollars.

Fiscal Officer, Rita K. Drew, will detail what has happened in the last several years regarding the State of Ohio and funding that is no longer available that are the responsibility of the general fund including administration, road department, cemeteries, the park, and zoning.

Road Superintendent, Kris Parke, will address issues that he has to deal with regarding available funds for road maintenance, resurfacing, and repairs. Money from the general fund helps him maximize what can be accomplished when a grant is received and there must be a local match.

Police Chief, Michael Hovis, explains how the budget crunch has affected his department. There has been very creative thinking from him and his staff on how to plug those gaps. His department's primary objective is to keep our community safe.

Fire Chief, Dennis Lewis, and his department face many challenges on a daily basis. Mosquito Lake separating our township creates many issues that include manning of the stations, response time, and additional costs to maintain two locations. Being pro-active and applying for many grants,

helps add to the department's effectiveness to provide quality care and service to the community.

Every employee and elected official of Bazetta Township work hard towards the goal to provide quality service to the residents of the community. By the residents supporting our township, good things can happen. Let's keep moving Bazetta Township forward.

Trustees: Ted Webb Paul Hovis Frank Parke

FISCAL OFFICER:

RITA K. DREW

I would like to report that our township, for the most part, will be in strong financial health for the next few years, with your continued support. As you can see throughout this newsletter, the Trustees, Department Heads, and I have been working diligently to cut costs, increase revenue, and maintain or improve the level of service provided to Bazetta Township residents.

This is all being done in a financial environment where state funding cuts over the past several years have been crushing to townships. Below are just a few of the cuts we have experienced.

FISCAL OFFICER: RITA K. DREW - CONTINUED

- ▶ Reduction (2011-17) & Total Loss (2018) of Tangible Personal Property Reimbursement
- ▶ Complete Loss of Public Utility Tangible Property Reimbursement (2011)
- ▶ Reduction of Local Government Fund (25% in 2012, 50% in 2013)
- ▶ Complete Loss of Estate Tax Payment (2013)

The first three cuts alone mean \$357,000 less revenue in 2016 than the township had in 2011. Add in the loss of the estate tax and that number could climb to \$479,000 per year.

For the past 5 years, the township has been able to absorb these cuts by lowering expenses and finding alternative revenue streams. The one area where we are now having difficulty stretching the budget is the General Fund. We will be placing an

additional levy on the ballot in November to replace the 0.4 mill levy that failed in 2014 and will no longer be collected. This new levy should secure the budgets in the following areas that are supported by the General Fund for years to come.

- ▶ Administration (All administrative expenses)
- ▶ Street Lighting (All non-assessed lighting)
- ▶ Township Park (All park expenses)
- ▶ Cemeteries (Annual budget shortfalls)
- ▶ Zoning (Annual budget shortfalls)
- ▶ Road Department (All road paving projects)
- ▶ Police & Fire Departments (Any budget shortfall)

If any resident has questions about the township expenses, revenues, investments, or any other aspect of the budget, please do not hesitate to contact my office. I will gladly take the time to explain anything you might not understand and answer any question that you might have.

POLICE CHIEF:

MICHAEL J. HOVIS

- ✓ As of 2015, our police budget will see a decrease in state funding to the amount of \$100,411.50. In 2016, that amount will increase to \$112,045.00.
- ✓ Since 2013, take-home cruisers for officers not residing in the township were eliminated. Only the department Detective is permitted to take home his cruiser while residing outside of the township due to his on-call availability.
- ✓ We obtained grants for Mobile Data Terminals (MDT) to offset the cost of 911 dispatching. As a result of the grant, our cost for 911 dispatching in 2013 and 2014 was reduced by over \$10,000.
- ✓ Currently, our fleet of 10 cruisers is serviced free of charge for labor. Parts are purchased from wholesale companies and this has been a cost savings of nearly \$20,000-\$30,000 annually.
- ✓ Free natural gas to heat the police station was reinstated and the cleaning service of the station was eliminated for a total cost savings of over \$7,000.

- ✓ We have accepted the donation of a 2015 Ford Utility Police cruiser from Mark Thomas Ford. This generous act has saved tax payers over \$30,000 and permitted us to rid our department of repairing an aging cruiser.
- ✓ We have built a great relationship with our residents and business owners in an attempt to stifle the state budget cuts as much as possible. We believe in providing the highest quality of policing services all while thinking creatively in different ways to save tax dollars.

MOVING FORWARD

Neighborhood patrols, residential spot checks and continuing to take care of our seniors of the community will also be points of focus during the upcoming year.

Being a proactive police department has allowed us to keep crime rates low and to send the message that Bazetta Township is a safe community. **KEEPING CRIMINALS OUT OF BAZETTA IS OUR MAIN GOAL!**

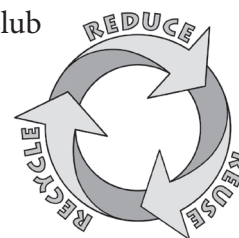
BAZETTA POLICE DRUGS TAKE BACK DAY

Saturday, September 26th ■ 10am-2pm at Police Station. Bazetta Police now has a drop box that aims to provide a safe, convenient and responsible means of disposing of prescription drugs. Visit us at: 2671 McCleary Jacoby Rd. ■ Cortland, OH 44410 ■ 330.638.5503

PARK BOARD FUNDRAISER

When: Saturday, October 10, 2015
Where: Bazetta / Cortland Optimist Club
Time: Doors Open at 6:30 PM
Cost: \$20 per ticket

Have you visited our Recycling Bins?
Provided by: Geauga Trumbull Solid Waste Management District



ZONING INSPECTOR:

MICHAEL MILLS

The Township is aggressively pursuing solutions to the growing number of abandoned homes and properties. We are working with the Trumbull County Soil and Water District in attacking both past and present flooding problems.

JUST A REMINDER: Appropriate permits are required.

PERMIT FEES:

Garage Sale:	\$5.00	Dumpster:	\$5.00
Fence:	\$5.00	Swimming Pool:	Varies
Driveway	\$25.00	Building:	Varies

ZONING BOARD: The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 7th at 7pm at the Township Administration Building. The board will be reviewing zoning rules and regulations.

FIRE CHIEF:

DENNIS K. LEWIS

This year, the Fire Department has focused on collaboration with other fire departments to save money in purchasing and testing of equipment. The collaboration efforts have produced savings to Bazetta Township residents of over \$5000.00 this year alone. The fire department in 2015 has seen a reduction in state funding of \$104,069.00. In 2016 this will increase to \$113,973.00.

Here are just a few of the things your Fire Department has accomplished in the past few years.

- ▶ Just received \$619,048.00 grant to replace a 25 year old fire truck.
- ▶ Since 2003, Firefighter Assistance Grant has funded replacing obsolete equipment for the Fire Department in excess of 1.9 million dollars.
- ▶ 2012 to 2014, a \$200,000 grant paid 100% of the salaries & benefits that replaced two firefighter positions that was lost to attrition.
- ▶ Selling of 4 obsolete vehicles instead of trading them – sold on an auction company and gained approximately \$27,000.00 more than trade in value.

MOVING FORWARD

- ▶ We will continue to apply for grant funding when it becomes available as we have done in the past.
- ▶ We will continue taking care of our seniors by providing free smoke alarms and home inspections.
- ▶ We will continue safety prevention programs for our most precious asset - our children.
- ▶ Will continue advancing our Emergency Medical Service with the most advanced care that can be provided to you.

BAZETTA TOWNSHIP SAFETY SERVICES WILL BE HOLDING THEIR "ANNUAL FOOD DRIVE"

Food Drive to benefit Cortland Area Cares Food Pantry. Food items and money may be dropped off 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at WARMART on Saturday, October 31st.

ROAD SUPERINTENDENT:

KRIS PARKE


This year, the Road Department had used State Issue 1 funding to repave the four lane portion of Millennium Blvd. The total for this project was \$92,490.00, 61% paid for by grant and 39% from the General Fund. Partial depth repairs to McCleary Jacoby Rd is another Issue 1 project that should be done by fall with 54% paid for by grant and 46% from the General Fund.

Here are just a few of the things your Road Department has accomplished in the past few years.

- ▶ In 2010, reduced workforce by 1 position at cost savings of roughly \$35,000 per year.
- ▶ Since 1992, Issue 1 grant funding for road resurfacing is nearly 2.5 million dollars.
- ▶ Maintained a cooperative purchasing agreement with the Trumbull County Engineer that saved the township more than \$27,000 last year alone.
- ▶ Licensed township employees as herbicide and fertilizer experts, saving more than \$1,400 every two weeks during the mowing season.
- ▶ Traded in antiquated equipment on a tractor for a total cost of \$0, saving \$25,500.

The Road Department will have a levy renewal on the November Ballot. This money is used for maintenance of township roads, snow and ice control, very limited paving projects, roadside mowing, and maintaining equipment. This levy renewal is vital for day to day operations and will not increase property taxes.

The Road Department would like to remind residents to not put any grass, shrub or tree trimmings along banks of streams or creeks, as they will float downstream, clog inlets and outlets, and may flood your neighbors!



Winter Parking Ban

- Drivers be warned:

DO NOT PARK ON THE STREETS

- Bazetta Township's Winter Parking Ban Effective November 1st
- The seasonal ban will be in effect whenever road conditions become hazardous or snow covered.
- Violating the winter parking ban can result in a towing fee and a ticket .

PARK BOARD:



MEMBERS

Steve Belcher, Chairman
 Arnie Roman
 Eleanor Governor
 Robert Giering
 Meghan Giering
 Ron Jones

Email us: parks@bazettatwp.org



BAZETTA POLICE
BAZETTA FIRE
BAZETTA TOWNSHIP