

# Bazetta Township Trustees

3372 State Route 5, N.E. – Cortland, Ohio 44410-1699

Office Phone: 330-637-8816 / Fax: 330-637-4588

[www.bazettatwp.org](http://www.bazettatwp.org)

June 24, 2022

To: The Residents of Bazetta Township

Subject: Township Update

Dear Residents,

The Bazetta Township Board of Trustees have hit the ground running since the new Board's commencement on January 1<sup>st</sup> of this year. We have made significant strides in the first 6 months but also recognize there is a lot more to achieve. Unfortunately some projects take some time however, we would like to give you an update some of the accomplishments by department.

## **Road Department:**

- Acquired State Issue 1 Grant for Burnett Drive for \$111,951.00 Total Construction Cost of \$225,233 to be completed this year by Kirila Contractors, Inc
- Replacing 2000 International dump with snow removal equipment. Split between two fiscal years of funding
- 2022 Fiscal year we bought a 2022 Freightliner cab/chassis for \$83,250
- 2023 Fiscal year and currently in process of being built by Concord Road Equipment is the dump body and snow removal equipment for above cab/chassis \$84,186
- Grand total \$167,436
- Collected 98 tires from our Tire Drop Off collection with a cost of \$469.50 and paid for by a grant totaling \$469.50 through Geauga-Trumbull Solid Waste Management District
- Turned in Annual and Spring EPA reports for MS4 reporting through Trumbull County Soil and Water
- Repaired hazardous dip on Durst Clagg Road

## **Fire Department:**

- Donations received – A 2022 Fore Explorer from Mark Thomas Ford, Tactical Equipment, Lock boxes, And cash donations for a total of \$37,638.80
- Inhouse cuts saving tax dollars – Replaced a scheduling program saving \$810.00 a year
- Replaced our fire reporting program saving \$2,750.00 a year
- Currently operating at 5% under budget for the First Quarter
- Attended Easter Egg Hunts, Park clean up, Station tours
- Installed several smoke detectors and lock boxes for our seniors
- Sold out of commission vehicles; Ambulance and Tahoe. This will help offset the cost of upfitting the new vehicle

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## **Police Department:**

- We replaced two older cruisers with new ones and have another one in the works to replace another cruiser
- The police department has a drug drop off box available to the community during normal business hours M, W, F 0800-1600 and T, TH 1000-1400 instead of only on National Drug Takeback days
- New Digital cameras were purchased through a grant to help officers in the field with photos, video, etc.
- We are looking to hire more Part Time police officers to help control the times that one officer is working a shift
- Received Body Armor Grant from the Ohio Attorney General's Office in the amount of \$7,686.00 with our matching share of \$1,921.50 bringing the grant total to \$5,764.60
- Received Grant from Walmart in the amount of \$4,000.00 that helped bring back Safety Day and Shop With A Cop and Firefighter programs

## **Administration:**

- Fiscal Officer's Monthly Financial Reports are now posted on our website in an effort to improve transparency
- Updated Rental Agreements of township amenities
- Pressure washed township buildings
- Added gravel and leveled the Administration parking lot
- Started a pest control program for administration building
- Started a cleaning maintenance program for the administration building with a deep cleaning
- Have started performing maintenance township buildings and grounds
- Pressured washed township buildings
- Added gravel and leveled the administration parking lot
- Cleaning up landscaping
- Planted and lighted the Veterans Memorial
- Restructured the Trustees Regular Meetings to follow the Ohio Sunshine Law of Open Meetings Act
- Currently reviewing credit card processing companies to start accepting credit/debit cards for the convenience of our residents
- Created a new Bazetta Township Facebook Page in an effort to improve communication and transparency by informing residents of township business, events and general information
- Upgraded the telephone system as the old one was not working properly
  
- Updated Cemetery Recording program to The Crypt Keeper for only a \$60.00 fee annually, from a 40-year-old system to maintain accurate and inclusive information going forward
- Instituted Microsoft 365 with SharePoint to streamline file sharing and keep accurate records
- Opened the Administration Office once again to serve the residents needs
- Negotiated the Administrative Secretary position from full time to part time to save money

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- Add a “Rain Date” to the Garage Sale permits
- We are once again renting out the Township Hall which helps offset the maintenance costs

## **Parks and Recreation Board:**

- Bring the Imagination Station back online to be used once again as a clean, safe, and operable play area.
- In depth review of the 2019 inspection report with the head engineer from Play by Design (Lee Archin). This was done to affirm the current state of repairs made by us to the Imagination Station play area concerning safety issues noted from the 2019 inspection report.
- Clean and seal all the play structure and fencing.
- Additional inspection and repairs made to the structure and play area to help extend the life expectancy of the play area out to an additional 10 years. (Special thanks must go out to Don Petrosky for his generous donation of time, material, and labor to accomplish this)
- Reinvigorate the Park Board and reset the near-term objectives of the Park Board to help assist the Ohio Department of Natural Resources in building the new Storybook Trail, new parking lot, new roadway, and the upgrading to the support facilities around and at the trail head of the new Storybook trail.
- Clean, paint and stain all three park picnic pavilions, all four baseball dugouts and numerous picnic tables to date. (Special thanks has to go out to Jacob Shaker and Shaker painting for their generous donation of time, labor and equipment to accomplish this)
- Clean and repair the park bathroom facilities
- Reestablish two volunteer “clean-up the park” events which are now scheduled as annual events. (Coffee and donuts included)
- Conducted a joint “Easter Egg Hunt” event with the city of Cortland which was a great success and is scheduled now as an annual event with a new corporate sponsor Apostolakis Honda.
- Established a new kindergarten class annual “out of the classroom” learning event/experience with the Lakeview School System. This event is to coincide with the annual new book announcement/change made in May at the Storybook Trail.
- Scheduled the field use and grass cutting maintenance at the park baseball fields to assist the Lakeview Athletic Club. (Special thanks must go out to Jeff Liber and all the LAC dads that helped repair the two baseball dugouts)
- Added two new members to the Park Board
- Set in motion to accomplish more park improvements
- Added an interactive Park Calendar to our website to clarify on Shelter and ballfield availability

## **Zoning Board of Commissioners:**

- The Board has been working on and is awaiting the approval from our legal counsel for the use Electric Vehicle Charging Stations, Solar and Wind Power language that will be added to our Zoning Resolution
- Both the Board of Commissioners and Board of Appeals seats have all been filled

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We would like to thank our residents for their continued support, volunteerism and for making Bazetta Township a great place to live and conduct business. As a reminder, the Trustees Regular Meetings are held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays of every month at 7:00pm and the public is encouraged to attend. Do not hesitate to contact us at the information below, we look forward to hearing from you.

In closing, we wish everyone a safe and happy summer. Please get out and enjoy all the free amenities and natural resources our beautiful township has to offer.

Bazetta Township Board of Trustees

3372 State Route 5

Cortland, Ohio 44410

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