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# Village of Boston Heights

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## NEWSLETTER

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March and April of 2008

### Calendar of Upcoming Events

ALL MEETINGS LISTED ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC!

Mar. 25 Finance Committee Meeting, Tues., 7 PM

Mar. 26 Comprehensive Plan Committee, 7:30 PM

Apr. 2 Planning/BZA Meeting, Wed., 7 PM

Apr. 3 Park Board Meets, Thurs., 7 PM

Apr. 9 Council Meeting, Wed., 8 PM

Apr. 22 Finance Committee Meeting, Tues., 7 PM

Apr. 23 Comprehensive Plan Committee, 7:30 PM

May 7 Planning/BZA Meeting, Wed., 7 PM

# Village Bulletin Board

## **RESIDENTS ARE REMINDED THAT J&J TRASH SERVICE INCLUDES SEPARATE RECYCLE PICKUP AT NO EXTRA CHARGE. THE SECOND YEAR OF OUR TRASH HAULER CONTRACT BEGINS APRIL 1, 2008.**

Whether you pay \$42.63 for three months using your own bags or container, or \$45.63 for three months using the J&J green 96 gallon tote, you may recycle plastic, glass, tin cans or newspapers (bag newspaper separately) in blue bags conveniently next to your weekly trash pickup. **Aluminum cans placed in the collection container, behind our fire station, donates money to the Akron Children's Hospital burn unit.** Your Village asks that you voluntarily recycle to save and reuse our natural resources. J&J picks up recyclables in a separate truck at no additional cost to our residents. Any questions concerning trash service should be directed to the J&J Toll Free number of 1-800-201-0005. Please call Mayor Goncy at 330-650-0267 if your issue with J&J has not been resolved by a call to them first. (Some stores still use blue bags to package your purchases, which could be used for recyclables, or purchase a box of blue bags at a store where you pick up your other bags for disposal of waste.)

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## **MAYOR GONCY ACCEPTS THE RESIGNATIONS OF THREE RECREATIONAL ADVISORY MEMBERS (Park Board) AND APPOINTS SIX NEW MEMBERS TO THE COMMITTEE FOR 2008.**

Former member Caroline Darrow has moved out of the Village and Linda and Al Ball resigned but all three agreed to help with planned activities when they were available. Mayor Goncy appointed Denise and Larry Bee, Cheryl and John Beyer (to complete Linda and Al Ball's term) and Lisa and Doug MacKay to work with members Linda Bremenour (new mom to Christopher born 1-1-08), Jeff Cross and Cindy Palumbo. The first meeting was March 6, 2008, 7 PM at which time the committee chose Lisa and Doug MacKay as co-chairpersons. Members agreed to alternate secretarial duties for meeting minutes and set future meeting dates to be the first Thursday of the month at 7 PM held at McFall Hall. **Park clean-up day is May 17<sup>th</sup> from 11 AM to 2 PM. PLEASE MARK THAT DATE ON YOUR CALENDAR AND COME TO HELP OPEN YOUR VILLAGE PARK!** Lifeguard applications are being submitted to the Clerk's Office. Kristen Palatas attended the meeting and will be returning as Pool Manager. Park Board will be reviewing pool rules and making pool fee recommendations to their Council committee members. Baby pool improvements will be on the next meeting schedule [April 3, at 7 PM].

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**CHIEF VARGA ENCOURAGES RESIDENTS TO PARTNER WITH THE SUMMIT PROSECUTOR AND SHERIFF IN THE “TAKE ME HOME” PROGRAM TO BETTER SUPPORT PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES WHO MAY NEED HELP COMMUNICATING IN AN EMERGENCY.**

This program helps to identify and return home safely any citizens who could not communicate vital information about themselves to law enforcement officers. This information is critical in finding lost children and adults as quickly as possible. You may register an individual by contacting the Summit County Prosecutor at:

[www.co.summit.oh.us/Prosecutor](http://www.co.summit.oh.us/Prosecutor) or Sheriff at: [www.co.summit.oh.us/Sheriff](http://www.co.summit.oh.us/Sheriff) .

The form you file identifies the person by description, disability (if appropriate), asks for a picture of the person and who to contact if missing. This information is placed in the “Take Me Home” database and law enforcement officers can access that information when a lost child or adult is found. If you have problems accessing the “Take Me Home” websites, pamphlets with the forms are available at Village Hall.

A call to 9-1-1 when someone is missing activates this program and law enforcement officers can be contacted via radio or cruiser laptops (which some communities have, Boston Heights does not have laptops in the police cruisers). Non-emergency calls to our police department should be made to: 330-653-5911

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**THE FAIRVIEW CEMETERY COMMITTEE MET ON MARCH 6, 2008 TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO THEIR COUNCIL COMMITTEE TO CREATE NEW PROVISIONS FOR THE GARDEN OF ANGEL PORTION OF THE CEMETERY. FUTURE MEETINGS WILL REVIEW FEES FOR BURIALS AND UPDATE CEMETERY BY-LAWS.**

In addition to the information already set to go before Council about the “Garden of Angels” section of Fairview Cemetery, the Trustees are researching area interment and maintenance fees for the cemetery. Boston Township cemetery trustees are providing comparison estimates along with other area cemeteries. Possible deed restrictions for future burial plot sales are to be reviewed. Cemetery trustees also asked Mayor Gony to procure the military guard unit, minister, area band and flags for the Memorial Day Ceremony (May 26, 2008) at Fairview Cemetery. Availability of the military unit and band regulate the time and will be posted in a future newsletter. Former Mayor Ray McFall has agreed to contact the minister.

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# Mayor's Updates

A few residents have contacted me about ongoing drainage issues. I have instructed our road supervisor to replace failing driveway pipes as soon as the work may be scheduled because of safety and flooding issues. Ditching issues will be addressed when reseeding can occur immediately afterwards to prevent soil erosion from occurring. Of course, immediate action will be taken if needed and stabilization of areas will need to occur with silt fence and straw bales. I plan to have a presentation by the Summit Soil and Water Conservation District sometime in May to inform residents of solutions to drainage issues. Residents, please let me know whether evenings or weekends are best for this meeting at Village Hall by calling: 330-650-4111 or my home: 330-650-0267.

Both the Village and golf course landowners have submitted discovery information to the court for the lawsuit filed by the landowners. Our Village insurance company legal representative and Solicitor have no further information at this time.

Seniors, I have contacted Bob Otterman from Senior Service. This is a new program launched by Summit County to help keep seniors healthy, happy and living in their homes for as long as possible and provide information on programs and opportunities available to seniors. I would like any residents interested in finding out more about programs available to contact me so that a meeting with Mr. Otterman can be scheduled. He told me that he was involved in similar statewide programs and would offer information on forming a senior group in our Village.

Your Village with guidance from the Summit County Department of Development has passed legislation creating a Community Reinvestment Area (CRA) in each school district. Residential and commercial property owners who qualify may apply for this program of deferred payments to improve their properties.

I get the weekly updates about Mayor's Court legislation from the Ohio Municipal League and have a link to both the Ohio House and Senate on line. Mike Cassetty, our Village Solicitor and I are ready to respond by going to Columbus and addressing the subcommittee on the Mayor's Court issue and its impact to our Village.

On a final note, thanks to our three member road crew, who put in long hours the weekend of March 7,8&9 keeping main roads and side roads open for our residents' safety and our police department for answering numerous calls for help during the worst storm that I can remember since the blizzard of 1977-78.

Your Mayor,

Public Hearing, February 13,  
2008, 7:30 PM

Resident input was taken on zoning amendments contained in Ordinances #3&#4.

Council Meeting, February 13,  
2008

The Mayor opened the regularly scheduled meeting at 8:00 PM with all Council, Clerk-Treasurer, Solicitor and Village Engineer present.

COUNCIL AGENDA FOLLOWS:

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, APPROVAL OF THE FEBRUARY 13, 2008  
AGENDA, APPROVAL OF JANUARY 9, 2008 MINUTES AS CORRECTED.**

**CORRESPONDENCE**

Mayor Goncy announced that Linda Ball, Al Ball and Caroline Darrow have resigned from the Park Board and that new members would be presented under New Business.

The Ashbrooke West newsletter thanked Boston Heights Police officers Jeff Lyle, Randy Robison and Sgt. Ray Heatwall for their quick response at apprehending four youths after a brief foot chase. The youths had walked away from the Cuyahoga Youth Development Center and were hiding in evergreens behind a Colesbrooke Drive resident's home. Chief Varga emphasizes to homeowners to lock doors to your home and garage when away and at night. Do not present the easy opportunity to enter your home or car and always take car keys out of unattended vehicles.

Time Warner Cable announces to cable customers that sometime in March-April a new channel alignment will occur to allow for clustering of like programs. Changes are available at the Time-Warner website as well as in fliers sent with cable bills.

ODOT announced that Rt. 303 would be resurfaced from west to east boundaries in the Village in 2009. The bridge on Rt. 303 over the Bike and Hike Trail is scheduled

for replacement in fiscal year 2015. Permissive legislation for both projects will need to be passed by Council. Both projects are to be funded entirely by the state.

## **AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION**

## **LEGISLATION PASSED BY COUNCIL**

**ORDINANCE 2 – 2008:** AN ORDINANCE REGARDING COMPENSATION FOR EMPLOYEES OF THE VILLAGE OF BOSTON HEIGHTS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. [Established pay rates for all employees with up to 3% increases]

**ORDINANCE 3 – 2008:** AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE COMPREHENSIVE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE VILLAGE OF BOSTON HEIGHTS CODIFIED ORDINANCES TO ADD A NEW CHAPTER 720.01 “SITE SUBSTANTIALLY CLEARED OF TREES AND VEGETATION DECLARED A NUISANCE” AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. [Site plans must be approved and permit issued before land is cleared thereby better controlling soil and erosion control]

**ORDINANCE 4 – 2008:** AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE COMPREHENSIVE ZONING ORDINANCES OF THE VILLAGE OF BOSTON HEIGHTS CODIFIED ORDINANCES TO AMEND CHAPTER 1153 TO ADD 1153.08 “REMOVAL OF SOIL OR EARTH” AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. [No soil, sand, earth or gravel shall be removed from a residential district unless a permit has been issued in conjunction with grading for construction of or an addition to a building]

**RESOLUTION 7 – 2008:** A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR THE CONTINUATION AND MAINTENANCE OF A MOTORCYCLE DIVISION WITHIN THE POLICE DEPARTMENT OF THE VILLAGE OF BOSTON HEIGHTS.

**RESOLUTION 8 – 2008:** A RESOLUTION PROVIDING THE EMPLOYMENT OF THE ASSISTANT CLERK TREASURER FOR THE VILLAGE OF BOSTON HEIGHTS, OHIO, FOR THE YEAR 2008. [Laurie Stoddard was named to the job]

**RESOLUTION 9 – 2008:** A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO THE CONTRACT WITH THE PUBLIC DEFENDER’S OFFICE AND TO ACCEPT THE AMENDMENT TO THE 2007 CONTRACT.

A **MOTION** TO ACCEPT THE DECEMBER 2007 FINANCIAL REPORT WAS MADE AND PASSED.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Teri Slane** – reported the Cemetery Trustees would meet February 18 at 7PM and the Cemetery Committee of Council would meet February 19 at 7 PM.

**Kevin Lightner** – had no report.

**Mike Cheung** - reported on the February 6, 2008 Planning and BZA Meeting.

- BZA approved a variance for A-1 Motors at 6395 Chittenden Road.
- Planning Commission (PC) approved the parking lot for A-1 Motors.
- PC postponed a site plan and lot split for Tony Umina's property on Chittenden.
- Reviewed the Mayor's Court Bank Reconciliation for Dec. 2007 & Jan. 2008.

**Mike Cassetty** – announced that he would be available for Village Business input prior to 4 PM Mayor's Court on each Tuesday beginning around 1 to 2 PM.

**Carol Zeman** – reported that access to any public records requested has always been provided as expediently as possible.

**Steve Schreiber** – reported that adjustments to the new signal at Rt.8 and Rt. 303 were yet being made by ODOT and joint maintenance agreement with Hudson was to be completed. Meetings on the Akr.-Cleve. Rd. bridge generated state fund application.

**Scott Foss** – said progress was being made on the village hall basement repairs.

**Jim Hudson** - the service department in the past month has replaced furnace filters at village hall, plowed snow as needed and repaired roads.

**Janet Miller** – Safety II (fire) met with ME Architects to discuss work with design build teams for the proposed fire station addition.

## OLD BUSINESS

## NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Goncy appointed Denise and Larry Bee, Cheryl and John Beyer and Lisa and Doug MacKay to serve on the Recreational Advisory Committee (Park Board).

**ADJOURN**

**Council Meeting, March 12, 2008**

Mayor Goncy opened the meeting at 8 PM with Council Members Mike Cheung, Scott Foss, Jim Hudson, Kevin Lightner, Janet Miller and Teri Slane in attendance. Also present were Clerk-Treasurer Carol Zeman, Solicitor Mike Cassetty, Village Engineer Steve Schreiber and village residents.

COUNCIL AGENDA FOLLOWS:

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, APPROVAL OF THE MARCH 12, 2008 AGENDA, APPROVED MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 13, 2008, AS AMENDED AND THE SPECIAL COUNCIL OF FEBRUARY 26, 2008.**

**LEGISLATION PASSED BY COUNCIL**

**ORDINANCE – 5:** AN ORDINANCE APPROVING THE PERMANENT ANNUAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE VILLAGE OF BOSTON HEIGHTS FOR THE YEAR 2008 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

**ORDINANCE – 6:** AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 951.04 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES FOR THE VILLAGE OF BOSTON HEIGHTS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. [Officially creates the “Garden of Angels” area in Fairview Cemetery for interment of infants one year or younger.]

**RESOLUTION – 10:** A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE OF BOSTON HEIGHTS TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE CITY OF MACEDONIA FOR THE PROVISION OF RADIO DISPATCH SERVICE. [This is the yearly contract for our police and fire department communications.]

**RESOLUTION – 11:** A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CLERK-TREASURER TO FILE ON BEHALF OF THE VILLAGE OF BOSTON HEIGHTS AN APPLICATION TO THE SUMMIT/AKRON SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY (THE “AUTHORITY”) FOR COMMUNITY



RECYCLING ACCESS GRANT. [“SASWMA” grants are available to encourage communities to promote recycling and in part fund this newsletter.]

**RESOLUTION – 12:** A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CHIEF OF POLICE OF THE VILLAGE OF BOSTON HEIGHTS TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE SUMMIT COUNTY OVI TASK FORCE FOR 2008 TO REDUCE THE NUMBER OF ALCOHOL AND DRUG RELATED CRASHES. [Our police department works with the OVI (operating a vehicle while impaired) Task Force in saturation patrols mainly around holidays to make our roadways safer for you and we are reimbursed for our officers’ participation.]

A **MOTION TO ACCEPT THE VILLAGE FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR JANUARY 2008 WAS MADE AND ACCEPTED.**

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Teri Slane** – gave no report.

**Kevin Lightner** – reported that all five new police cars were in service and that the one trade in cruiser with a transmission problem through Officer Keller’s intervention had repair costs reduced from over \$2000 to around \$600. [“Thank You” to Lou.]

**Mike Cheung** – announced that only Planning Commission convened on Mar. 5<sup>th</sup>.

- A site plan for 6395 Chittenden Road was approved.
- A lot split at the same address was requested and approved.
- Zoning code changes on parking requirements postponed to next meeting.

**Mike Cassetty** – will compose a letter for the Cemetery Trustees to send. The letter will ask for a present headstone placement to be modified if agreed upon by the infant’s family.

**Carol Zeman** – had no report.

**Steve Schreiber** – Steve met with the Mayor, Summit County Engineer, County Council President and other GPD engineers to discuss bridge-funding sources. A report on the Akron-Cleveland Road Bridge was then filed to seek state funding. Steve reported that FEMA would be holding a public Flood Risk Open House on April 10, 2008 at the new Cuyahoga Falls fire station #5 at 3497 Wyoga Lake Road from

4:30 PM to 7:30 PM, area residents invited. The Mayor injected that FEMA fliers for this event were available on the council table and that the village official information period for the Open House was earlier from 1:30 PM to 3:30 PM.

**Scott Foss** – had attended an Ohio Municipal League training seminar for Council and reported that the Park Board scheduled Park Clean up for May 17 and would make pool and park recommendations to the building and recreation committee of Council.

**Janet Miller** – reported attending a training seminar for Councilpersons sponsored by the Ohio Municipal League. She also reported that no Safety II meeting had been scheduled and that the economic development committee meets on the third Wednesday of the month.

**Bill Goncy** – made note that new Park Board members Cheryl and John Beyer would be fulfilling the uncompleted terms of Linda and Al Ball which expire on 12-31-08.

The Mayor also reported that the Comprehensive Plan Committee for the village meets the last Wednesday of the month from 7:30 PM to 9:00 PM. The second meeting of the group on February 27, 2008 finalized the Mission, Vision and Objective statements of the group charter. The next meetings are March 26 and April 23 each at 7:30 PM in McFall Hall, PUBLIC IS INVITED TO ATTEND.

Nordonia Hills Schools and Hudson City Schools acknowledge the Village's creation of the Community Reinvestment Areas (CRA) in their districts and Woodridge Local School District's Superintendent has called for more information on the CRA.

In closing, Bill noted that he would be meeting with the consultant gathering information on northern Summit County for area wide future growth along the Rt. 8 corridor. This study was initiated in a Northfield Center/Macedonia JEDD meeting several months ago and Boston Heights is being included at no cost to us. Hudson has also been contacted since they have developable land along the Rt. 8 corridor.

<b>OLD BUSINESS</b>
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<b>NEW BUSINESS</b>
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Janet Miller had new business, which she will bring to the Finance Committee table.

<b>ADJOURN</b>
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