



Village Contracts to Buy Church



The Village of Galena has entered into a contract to purchase the Galena United Methodist Church for \$283,000. The Village is selling bonds to finance the purchase of the 6,478 square foot building that it plans to eventually use for Village administrative offices. The building, built in 1829, features a 1,600 square foot sanctuary with seating for 140, a 2,400 square foot fellowship hall, a kitchen, and eight additional rooms. The church, located at 109 Harrison St., sits on $\frac{3}{4}$ acres with parking for approximately 100 vehicles.

The church membership is building a new church on Sunbury Road. The members will continue to use the church, leasing it from the Village, until their new building is completed. The Village will then need to remove and dispose of asbestos located in ceiling tiles and in the boiler room as well as improve access in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Other changes may be needed to convert the church into Village offices, council chambers, and community meeting space.

The Village currently has offices in a turn of the century bank building located at 9 W. Columbus St. The building has three offices being shared by four employees with council chambers in the basement.

"The current municipal building is adequate right now, but with the growth the Village anticipates, we will outgrow it soon. The church building was just too good to pass up," explained Mayor Tom Hopper. "With such a small commercial district, we don't have a lot to choose from and we weren't sure we were in the position to buy land and build a new structure."

Galena Donates Kinslow Memorial

At their January meeting, Village Council approved funds to donate a cross in honor of local soldier Anthony Kinslow for the Ohio Fallen Heroes Memorial in Sunbury.

Sewer Plant Design Submitted to EPA



The preliminary design for the Village's new wastewater treatment plant is complete and has been submitted to the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (OEPA). It should take 3-4 months to gain OEPA approval.

After receiving the Permit to Install from the OEPA, the plans for the 500,000 gallons per day membrane bioreactor plant will be finalized and bidding out the construction of the plant will begin. Construction should start this spring. The plant will be located between the existing plant

and the ball diamond at Ruffner Park on Harrison Street.

Public Records

Council passed a public records resolution that clarifies the state law's somewhat vague "reasonable amount of time" for fulfilling records requests. Records requests will be fulfilled promptly during business hours if the fiscal officer is on hand. If not, the person requesting the records will need to fill out a request form and the records will be made available within two days. Records requested in a format other than photocopies must be made in writing.

New Facilities Committee

A Facilities Committee was created to plan for the use of the Galena Methodist Church building. Eventually,

Galena Dates

The following are Village Council and committee meeting dates as well as other local events. Village meetings are open to the public and are at 7 p.m. in the basement of the Municipal Building, 9 W. Columbus St., unless otherwise stated.

Feb. 2 & 9	Trash Days
Feb. 14	Zoning & Planning
Feb. 16 & 23	Trash Days
Feb. 26	Council Meeting
March 2 & 9	Trash Day
March 10	Sewer Bills Due
March 14	Zoning & Planning
March 16	Trash Day
March 23	Trash Day
March 26	Council Meeting
March 30	Trash Day

the committee will review all Village facilities.

Council members Dave Simmons, Chris Underwood, and Ed Karn volunteered to serve on the committee. They also hope to recruit Village residents to be involved. If you are a Village resident and are interested in serving on the committee, contact the Village offices at 740-965-2484.

Police Radio

Sunbury Galena Police Chief Pat Bennett addressed Council explaining the police department's new 800 megahertz radio system. The system works very well with other safety services such as the sheriff's office, BST&G Fire Department, and emergency medical services.

Sewer Lawsuit

Council held an executive session in January to prepare for the February 2 pre-trial hearing and the February 8 trial in the lawsuit against Berkshire Lake Campground regarding non-payment of nearly \$70,000 in sewer fees and tap fees of \$216,000.

Income Tax Forms Available

If you live or work in the Village, you need to pay income taxes and file income tax forms. The Village has a one percent income tax levy. Regional Income Tax Agency (RITA) forms are now available at the Village Municipal Offices, The Delaware County Bank,

and the Galena Post Office. You can also file on-line at www.ritaohio.com

Sewer Bills

Please be sure to pay your sewer bill on time. Late payments will incur late fees. Bills two quarters past due will be certified to the County Auditor to be added as tax liens. The late payment amount, including late fees, will be added to your tax bill until it is paid in full. If payments are not made on an ongoing basis, you risk having your sewer service shut off.

The Village contracts with Water Quality Management to handle its sewer billing and payments. The next quarter's bill is for February, March, and April. You should receive it in February and it should be paid by March 10 to avoid late fees.

Car Seat Checks

Did you know that more than 90 percent of car seats checked locally are installed incorrectly? You can have your child's car seat checked free by a certified car seat technician 1-4 p.m. on Feb. 20 at the Genoa Township Fire Station, 7049 Big Walnut Road. Call 740-368-1700 to make an appointment.

Library Groups

Check out these events at the Community Library:

- Knit & Crochet Group - Feb. 8, 2:30-4:30 p.m.
- Feb. 14 - 6-7 p.m., Cello music

E-mail Newsletter

E-mail the Village with your mailing and e-mail addresses at galena@copper.net if you would prefer to receive the newsletter via e-mail rather than postal mail. You will receive it in a .pdf format in full color earlier than the mailed version.

Village Contacts

Village Offices 740-965-2484
FAX 740-965-5424
e-mail: galena@copper.net
GalenaClerk@copper.net
web: www.galenaohio.org
In an emergency, dial 911
BST&G Fire Dept. 965-3841
Del-Co Water 548-7746
Dog Warden 368-1915
Cable: Time-Warner 800-617-4311
Columbia Gas 800-344-4077
Electric: AEP 800-277-2177
Galena Post Office 965-2371
Health Dept. 740-203-2015
www.delawarehealth.org
Mayor Tom Hopper 965-1024
Phone: Sprint 800-407-5411
RITA (income tax) 800-860-7482
web: www.ritaohio.com
Sunbury/Galena Police 965-3946
Sunbury Post Office 965-2471
Waste Mgt. (trash) 800-343-6047
Wastewater Plant 740-602-1234
Lift Station
Emergencies 740-369-8613
Water Quality Mgt. 614-210-0250
(sewer billing)

Village of Galena
9 W. Columbus St.
P.O. Box 386
Galena, Ohio 43021
740-965-2484
galena@copper.net