

Council Organizes for 2013



Village of Galena Council Members for 2013 include (front row, l. to r.) Mayor Thomas Hopper and Nancy Feole, (back row, l. to r.) Paul Bolander, Chris Underwood, Dave Simmons, Grace Piper, and Council President Dave Adams.

The Village of Galena held two Council meetings in January, an organizational meeting and a regular monthly meeting. David Adams was elected to serve as Council president. Stan Swisher was reappointed to a new three-year term on the Zoning and Planning Commission and committee appointments were made.

Council appointed Jeanna Burrell as its new Village administrator. Burrell has served as Galena's administrative assistant, assistant public service director, and interim village administrator. She comes to the job with a decade of experience with the Village and rewrote the Village's master plan in 2010. Burrell was also appointed deputy zoning inspector. She has more than a decade of experience in zoning and planning having served as a charter member of the Kingston Township Zoning Commission; as the zoning secretary who assisted in writing the initial township zoning resolution and comprehensive land use (master) plan and established the zoning office. She also served as the Kingston Township Zoning



Commission chairwoman and assisted in later revisions to the zoning resolution and master plan. Prior to joining the Village's staff, Burrell also had 15 years of experience in public administration and served as the public relations director on the president's staff for 12 years at Marion Technical College. She handles the Village's public relations efforts with news releases, a monthly newsletter, and the web site and also is the editor for the Marburn Academy *Panther Pride* newsletter and the *Kingston News*. Burrell is an Ohio State University graduate.

Council reappointed Marty Mazzie as fiscal officer; Michelle Dearth as assistant fiscal officer; Dave LaValle as zoning inspector, property maintenance official, and floodplain administrator; Sally Hopper as Zoning and Planning Commission clerk; and, Ken Molnar as solicitor. Josh Cherubini was appointed in December as maintenance employee for a 90-day probationary period. A 2013 calendar was also established and Council passed temporary 2013 budget appropriations of \$937,725.

January Council Actions

Council passed resolutions to apply for a Clean Ohio Trails Fund grant to pave a section of the Galena Brick Trail and improve the Little Walnut Creek Bridge.

This would complete a section of the Ohio to Erie Trail through the Village. They also passed an ordinance to lease a room in the Galena Village Hall to the newly formed Galena Historic Foundation.

Council passed annual ordinances approving the Ohio Basic Code as the Village's Code of Ordinances and creating an exemption allowing agricultural landowners with 40 or more acres to hunt. Resolutions were approved to discard obsolete equipment and to designate the Delaware County Bank as the official public depository for the Village's active deposits.

Following an executive session to discuss real estate, Council passed an ordinance to advertise for bids to sell or lease the Village's municipal building on the square at 9 W. Columbus St. Council set a minimum price of \$190,000 for sale and a minimum of \$1,100 per month to lease the building with the lessee also paying taxes, insurance, and utilities.

2012 Recap

- An Americans with Disabilities (ADA) compliant bathroom was added to the Galena Village Hall as well as fire

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 Galena Village Hall, 109 Harrison St., unless otherwise stated. Holiday changes * = trash day moves to Saturday; ** = Council meeting changes.

Feb. 1	1 ST Quarter Sewer Bills Sent Out
Feb. 1	Trash Day
Feb. 11	RITA Income Tax Delinquencies Subpoena Program, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
Feb. 8, 15	Trash Days
Feb. 18	President's Day - Village Offices Closed
Feb. 20	Zoning & Planning Commission
Feb. 22	Trash Day
Feb. 25	Council Meeting
March 1, 8	Trash Days
March 11	1 st Quarter Sewer Bills Due
March 15	Trash Day
March 20	Zoning & Planning

escape safety, electrical, and lighting improvements. Asbestos was removed from a mechanical room and termites were treated. The stage was reconfigured and a sound and recording system was added to the new Council Chambers. Walls were patched and painted, new flooring was added in some areas, lower level floors were painted, and the entire building was wired for new technology. The first Council meeting was held in the building in October and staff moved into offices in November. The Village was also notified that its application was approved for a Community Block Development Grant to add ADA access to the lower level.

- The Galena Historical Foundation was created as a stand-alone entity with John Bland serving as president. Bland plans to donate historical items to the foundation which will lease a room in the Village Hall. Volunteers are encouraged to join the new organization.
- Phase 3 of the Miller Park train-themed playground equipment was installed. Swing sets were cut down to lower heights in both parks to be in compliance with new fall zone safety requirements. Batting cages and a well house were completed for the irrigation system at Ruffner Park. Seventy-five percent of these projects' costs were funded by the Preservation Parks of Delaware County's Community Parks Improvement Grant (CPIG). CPIG funds were also approved for the final phase of the Miller Park playground for 2013 which includes a spiral slide as well as picnic tables and bike racks.
- An Ohio Public Works Commission grant/loan with \$250,000 in grant funds and \$137,266 in a zero percent loan was approved for the Phase 3 reconstruction of Walnut St. with sidewalks from High to Church streets. The survey and design is complete and bids will be advertised soon.
- The Village collaborated with Big Walnut Schools administrators on survey issues related to the Big Walnut Schools property. The schools plan to trade land at the intersection of Walnut and Harrison streets needed for the Phase 4 relocation of that intersection in exchange for the Village vacating building encroachments on Walnut St.
- The Village has worked with the Delaware County Engineer's Office and utility companies in preparation for the county's Sunbury Rd. bridge replacement scheduled for April-November. The Village worked successfully to get a bike lane and new street lights added to the bridge.
- The Village worked with Sunbury to set up a public meeting with American Electric Power (AEP) to discuss supply

problems and reliability. AEP is studying moving the Village to another, smaller circuit.

- Staff cleaned up after four major windstorms within a one month period.
- The Village participated in the planning process and Council approved the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission's (MORPC) Big Walnut Watershed Planning Partnership's plan.
- Eight new homes were under construction in 2012.
- Galena worked with the Ohio Water Resources Council/Balanced Growth Ohio on rewriting its subdivision code into a low impact development code. A team of experts was assembled to assist in the process which is still under way.
- A three-year extension for the Miller Farm development was approved.
- Zoning hearings were held and an amended Zoar Development Plan for property downtown was approved.
- Properties were inspected and several property maintenance and zoning violations were issued. A great deal of time has gone into trying to bring these properties into compliance including legal remedies for two properties.
- The 2012 year ended under budget.
- The residential trash/recycling contract with Big-O Refuse was extended.
- The Village's Special Events Committee sponsored the always popular Easter Egg Hunt, Ice Cream Social, Halloween Costume Contest, Tree Lighting, and Santa Claus events.
- The Greater Galena Civic Association's Summerfest was again a big success bringing thousands of people to Galena.

Income Taxes

Remember, if you live or work in the Village, you owe 1% income tax payable through the Regional Income Tax Agency (RITA). Make sure you are actually in the Village because many Galena addresses are outside the municipal corporation limits. If you are unsure, check the map on our web site or call us.

Residents are reminded that if they received a subpoena for overdue income taxes from RITA, they should meet RITA officials to discuss delinquencies, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., on February 11 at the Village Hall.

Sewer News

After a third reading on an ordinance, Council voted to increase sewer use fees three percent. Residential sewer bills are \$53.64/month (\$160.92/quarter). Anyone doing automatic payments should adjust their payment amounts.

Since the Village bills quarterly to save customers money, paying on time is crucial. Be sure to pay your bills in a timely fashion to avoid late payment

penalties, property tax liens, and other legal actions. Sewer billing is on the following calendar:

Bill Sent	For Quarter	Bill Due
Feb. 1	Feb./March/April	March 11
May 1	May/June/July	June 10
Aug. 1	Aug./Sept./Oct.	Sept. 10
Nov. 1	Nov./Dec./Jan.	Dec. 10

The following applies for delinquencies:

- Upon one day of being delinquent, a ten percent late charge will be assessed.
 - Thirty days or more delinquent will result in a lien being filed, including administrative fees and costs, and a lawsuit may be filed to collect overdue fees.
 - At 100 days past due, the sewer service will be terminated. Once terminated, the property owner will have to pay a reconnection fee as well as all past due fees.
- There are several payment options:**
- Mail payments to the Village of Galena, PO Box 386, Galena, OH 43021. Call us with any questions at 740-965-2484.
 - Set up monthly sewer bill payments with no additional fees at the Delaware County Bank's Galena branch. Bring your sewer bill with you the first time.
 - Set up automatic payments to have \$52.08 debited from your checking account at any bank on the 8th of each month. Forms are available in the Village offices and on the Village's web site at www.galenaohio.org/forms/autowithdraw.pdf. Remember that if fees increase, you need to contact your bank to authorize an increase in your automatic payments.

Electronic News

Get our newsletter by email by contacting adminassistant@galenaohio.org.

Important Contacts

Village Offices	740-965-2484, FAX 740-965-5424
web:	www.galenaohio.org
Thomas Hopper:	mayor@galenaohio.org 965-1024
Marty Mazzie:	fiscalofficer@galenaohio.org
Jeanna Burrell:	adminassistant@galenaohio.org
Josh Cherubini:	maintenance@galenaohio.org
Dave LaValle:	codecompliance@galenaohio.org
In an emergency, dial	911
BST&G Fire District	965-3841 www.bstgfiredistrict.org
Big-O Refuse	888-924-2446
Cable: Time-Warner	800-617-4311
Columbia Gas	800-344-4077
Del. Co. EMS	833-2190, www.delcoems.org
Del-Co Water	548-7746
Dog Warden	368-1915
Electric: AEP	800-277-2177
Galena Post Office	965-2371
Health Dept.	740-368-1700 www.delawarehealth.org
Immediate Urgent Care	965-8305 101D W. Cherry St., Sunbury
Phone: Century Link	800-407-5411
PUCO	614-466-3292, 800-686-PUCO (7826) www.puco.ohio.gov
RITA (income tax)	800-860-7482, www.ritaohio.com
Sheriff	833-2800
Sunbury Post Office	965-2471
Wastewater Plant	740-513-9943
Lift Station Emergencies	740-972-8646