January 2008 Newsletter

Village of GALENA FOUNDED 1809

Happy New Year!

Making a List, Checking it Twice

Santa came to town on Dec. 15 to the delight of more than 50 local children. The little ones brought their lists and the parents brought their cameras to catch that magical moment with Santa Claus. Families enjoyed hay rides, a petting zoo, and special treats, too.

Miller Farm Rezoning Approved

At their December meeting, Galena Council unanimously approved an amended rezoning application for the 192-acre Miller Farm development at Vans Valley and Sunbury roads to a Planned Residential District (PRD).

The development will include 385 single-family homes and condominiums, averaging two units per acre, with nearly 34 acres of open space.

Even though the public portion of the hearing was closed, Council Chambers were packed and several township and village residents spoke on the issue during the guest input portion of the Council meeting.

The rezoning amendments included concessions the developer made for adjacent landowners. The rezoning was passed as an emergency and will go into effect immediately.

Mayor Tom Hopper addressed all the questions that had been raised about the development and its history in an itemized speech. He also addressed the reasons for the emergency language saying the Village needs to be able to proceed with the reconstruction of the deteriorating Joe Walker Road. That project is contingent on the rezoning since Maronda Homes and Homewood Corporation are funding the project. The Village also needs to know the potential number of sewer taps in order to assess its ability to finance a new wastewater treatment plant construction.

Walnut Creek Plan Modified

The Village also approved a modified development plan for Maronda Homes' Walnut Creek development on Joe Walker Rd. At the time of the original development plan, Joe Walker Rd. was in Berkshire Township. Now that most of it has been annexed into the Village, revisions were needed to detail commitments by the developers to rebuild the road. The developer will fund the widening and improvement of Joe Walker Road. No taxpayer dollars will be used for that project.

Trails Grant Application

Mary Kerr, representing Delaware County Friends of the Trail, addressed Council again regarding application for a grant to build a bridge over Big Walnut Creek to link the proposed Kane's Crossing Trail with the Walnut Creek Trail. Council held a first reading on a resolution while funding details are being worked out.

Council Actions

Council adopted a resolution hiring special counsel Rich, Crites, and Dittmer to investigate local, state, and national impact fees. Second readings were held on appointing personnel for 2008.

Land Use Plan Update

Council also held second readings and passed resolutions transferring funds and hiring Poggemeyer Design Group to update the Village's 2004 Land Use Plan. The 2004 plan was never adopted because, at the time, the Village was formulating its 208 Area-wide Water Quality Management Plan and was awaiting Ohio Environmental Protection Agency approval of those planning boundaries. Those boundaries affected the Land Use Plan.

Trash Contract

Council authorized Public Service Director Dave LaValle to negotiate extension of the Waste Management trash

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.

2008 Dates are Tentative

Jan. 1	Village Office Closed
Jan. 3	Council Organiz. Mtg.
Jan. 4	Trash Day
Jan. 9	Zoning & Planning
Jan. 11, 18	Trash Days
Jan. 25	Trash Day
Jan. 28	Council Meeting
Feb. 1	1st Qtr. Sewer Bills Mailed
Feb. 1, 8	Trash Days
Feb. 13	Zoning & Planning
Feb. 15, 22	Trash Day
Feb. 25	Council Meeting
Feb. 29	Leap Day, Trash Day

hauling contract for an additional year. It is anticipated that prices will increase due to increased fuel costs.

Downtown Plans

The Village's Zoning and Planning Commission held a hearing Dec. 12 to review the Amendment to a Development Plan from Zoar Developers, LLC, the new owners of 46 W. Columbus St. Zoar plans to remodel the existing house at the corner of Columbus and West streets into a restaurant with carry out/delivery services and limited seating for 12-15 people. The firm also plans to build approximately 2,200 square feet of commercial space for lease at the corner of Columbus and Middle streets.

The Commission had numerous questions regarding delivery truck parking, building height dimensions, traffic impact on W. Columbus St., sidewalk accessibility, exterior lighting, solid waste removal, parking lot surfacing, and driveway access, bollards, and diagonal parking on West St. The developers requested that the matter be tabled so they could address these issues for the next hearing on Jan. 9.

Sewer Bills

Village Sewer Bills will be mailed out February 1st and are due to Water Quality Management by March 10 to avoid late fees. The bills will be $114.48 for the February, March and April quarter. Be sure to pay on time to avoid penalties and further action.

Snow Emergency

Winter certainly came roaring in during December. Thanks to those who voluntarily moved their cars to aid the Village in snow removal.

The mayor may declare a snow emergency if:

- more than 2" of snow falls within a 24-hour period; and,
- additional snow is expected; or,
- ice accumulates to the point it impairs safe movement of traffic.

Snow Emergency No Parking signs are being installed on the specified streets. Vehicles would need to be moved from the following streets if a snow emergency is declared:

- Columbus St.,
- Front St.,
- Middle St.,
- Water St.,
- West St.,
- Rose St.,
- Quinn St.,
- Heathermere Drive,
- Heathermere Loop,
- Tristaine Court,
- Zoar St.,
- Melimare Dr.,
- Caleb's Court,
- Nesting Court,
- Hawking Drive,
- Village's portion of Joe Walker Rd.,
- Village's portion of Vans Valley Rd.,
- Village's portion of Dustin Rd., and,
- Village's portion of Alexander Rd.

Snow emergency notification procedures are being established. Check these local media for notification of a snow emergency in the Village:

- WBNS 10 TV (www.10tv.com)
- ONN (www.ohionewsnow.com)
- The Columbus Dispatch (www.dispatch.com)
- WBNS Radio 97.1 FM/1460 AM
- WLVQ Radio 96.3 FM
- WHOK Radio 95.5 FM
- WSNY Radio 95 FM
- WOUB Radio 107.9 FM
- WJZP Radio 104.3/103.5 FM

Other media will be added as procedures are established.

Clear Sidewalks

Please be courteous to your neighbors and visitors. Residents and businesses are responsible for keeping the sidewalks in front of your property clear for safe passage. Thank you.

Newsletter

E-mail the Village with your mailing and e-mail addresses at galena@embarqmail.com if you would prefer to receive the newsletter in color via e-mail rather than postal mail.

Village Contacts

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FAX	740-965-5424
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	GalenaClerk@embarqmail.com
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.	740-368-1700
	www.delawarehealth.org
Mayor Tom Hopper	965-1024
Phone: Embarq	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. (sewer billing)	614-210-0250

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