



## New Osprey Platform Installed



A second Osprey platform was installed this winter on Hoover Reservoir near the Hoover Boardwalk in Galena. Local bird enthusiasts Dick Phillips, Dick Tuttle, and Jim Martin spearheaded the effort. The trio also straightened the existing platform that was bowed over due wear from the elements. Tuttle and Phillips have established successful Osprey nesting platforms on Delaware Lake, Alum Creek Lake, and Hoover.

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Dick Tuttle, Jim Martin, and Dick Phillips have spearheaded local Osprey reintroduction and conservation efforts.

In the past three years, the first Hoover platform has successfully fledged seven endangered Osprey, also known as fish hawks. The raptors winter in South America and will return to Ohio in late April. Take your binoculars on your next walk on the boardwalk and maybe this spring you will witness their majesty!



Photos courtesy of Jim Martin.

## Council Reviews Financial Matters

Galena Council reviewed a variety of financial matters at their February meeting. At Council's request in January, the Village's Infrastructure Committee met February 9 to discuss wastewater treatment plant financial matters. They recommended that Council increase sewer fees by six percent. Council then held a special meeting February 16 to discuss a 2010 levy for the Village.

At its February meeting, Council held a first reading on an ordinance to revise the sewer fee schedule. A six percent increase would raise fees from the current \$38 per month to \$40 per month or to \$121.35 per quarter. While the fee increase is minimal for customers, it would increase the Village's projected annual income in the sewer fund to \$154,234 for 2009.

Council also again reviewed levy information that Fiscal Officer Marty Mazzie presented at the January meeting. The current levy costs residents \$55.23 annually (\$4.60 per month) per \$100,000 home real estate value. Mazzie recommended increasing revenue by renewing and increasing the levy. Various levels would be as follows:

- 1 mill = \$30.63 per \$100,000 home value would yield \$17,945 in revenue;
- 2 mill = \$61.26 per \$100,000 home value would yield \$35,890 in revenue;
- 3 mill = \$91.89 per \$100,000 home value would yield \$53,835 in revenue;
- 4 mill = \$122.52 per \$100,000 home value would yield \$71,780 in revenue; and,
- 5 mill = \$153.15 per \$100,000

home value would yield \$89,725 in revenue.

For a \$100,000 house, all of these options would be less than \$0.50 per day per household.

Mazzie recommends at least a 3-mill property tax levy which would cost residents an additional \$36.66 annually or a ¼ percent income tax increase (to a total of 1¼ percent) just to stay at revenue levels similar to the beginning of 2007.

In other business, Council approved revisions to two previous ordinances changing the reissuing of bonds for the Wastewater Treatment Plant and the future municipal office building from Fifth/Third Bank to The Delaware County Bank at an improved interest rate of 2.5 percent.

Council also reviewed a resolution to hire Maintenance Employee Pam Hamilton. It had been tabled in January. Due to the seasonal nature of Hamilton's work, Council opted to table her hiring again until April.

Council also held a second reading on extending the police services

## 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.

- March 6 Trash Day
- March 10 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Sewer Bills Due
- March 11 Zoning & Planning Commission
- March 13 Trash Day
- March 20 Trash Day
- March 23 Council Meeting
- March 27 Trash Day

contract with the Village of Sunbury through the end of 2009.

Council approved adoption of American Legal Publishing's Ohio Basic Code 2009 as the code of ordinances for the Village.

The Village is preparing an application for submission to the Ohio Department of Transportation to request federal stimulus money to pave Walnut Street.

Council passed a lease agreement with the City of Columbus to lease a parcel of land at the corner of Middle and Columbus streets for \$1/year. The Village must also carry insurance on the property. The land will eventually be converted into a parking lot to assist with parking around the square when Zoar Development adds 6,000 square feet of new residential and commercial buildings.

Council held a hearing and approved amendments to the subdivision code. They also held a hearing on revising the zoning districts map to include newly annexed territory. No action was taken on the map.

Council read a special purpose flood damage reduction ordinance required by the Federal Emergency Management Agency. The ordinance is necessary even though the Village has no land in the floodplain that private individuals could build upon.

## RITA e-Services

Tax time is coming. If you live or work in the Village, you are required to pay Galena's one percent income tax. Check our map on-line at our web site: [www.galenaohio.org](http://www.galenaohio.org) to be

sure you are within the municipal corporation limits since the Galena postal address is much larger than the Village limits.

The Regional Income Tax Agency (RITA) handles income tax collection for the Village. RITA offers a variety of services to help you with your taxes on-line at [www.ritaohio.com](http://www.ritaohio.com). The site can help you calculate your taxes, file on-line, transfer funds electronically, and pay on-line.

## Mark Your Calendars

Mark these fun events on your calendar today:

- Big Walnut Schools Spring Break, March 30 - April 3
- Galena Easter Egg Hunt, April 11, 1 p.m., Ruffner Park
- Community Open House, Trade Fair & Health Expo, April 23, 5-8 p.m., Big Walnut High School

## Sewer Bills

First quarter sewer bills for the Feb./March/April quarter are due March 10th. Residential bills are \$114.48. Be sure to pay on time to avoid penalties and further action. Mail payments to Water Quality Management at 161 S. Liberty St., Powell, OH 43065. Call them with any questions at 614-547-0484.

Customers can set up monthly sewer bill payments at the Delaware County Bank's Galena branch. Bring your sewer bill with you the first time.

## Newsletter

If you would prefer to receive the newsletter via e-mail, just e-mail the Village with your mailing and e-mail addresses at [galena@embarqmail.com](mailto:galena@embarqmail.com).

## Village Contacts

**Village Offices** 740-965-2484  
**FAX** 740-965-5424

e-mail: [galena@embarqmail.com](mailto:galena@embarqmail.com)

[GalenaClerk@embarqmail.com](mailto:GalenaClerk@embarqmail.com)

web: [www.galenaohio.org](http://www.galenaohio.org)

**In an emergency, dial 911**

**BST&G Fire Dept.** 965-3841

**Big-O Refuse** 888-924-2446

**Cable: Time-Warner** 800-617-4311

**Columbia Gas** 800-344-4077

**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](http://www.delawarehealth.org)

**Immediate Urgent Care, 101D W.**

Cherry St., Sunbury, 740-965-8305

**Mayor Tom Hopper** 965-1024

**Phone: Embarq** 800-407-5411

**RITA (income tax)** 800-860-7482

web: [www.ritaohio.com](http://www.ritaohio.com)

**Sunbury/Galena Police** 965-3946

**Sunbury Post Office** 965-2471

**Wastewater Plant** 740-602-1234

Lift Station

Emergencies 740-972-8646

**Water Quality Mgt.** 614-547-0484

(sewer billing)

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