

Olmsted Township Today



Olmsted Township

7900 Fitch Road

(440) 235-3099

www.olmstedtownship.org

Trustees: Larry Abbott, Jeanene Kress, Lisa Zver

Fiscal Officer: Brian Gillette

SPRING 2021

Bidding a Very Fond Farewell to Chief Vanyo

It is with mixed feelings that the Board of Trustees announces the retirement of Police Chief Matthew Vanyo after 27 years of service to Olmsted Township. Chief Vanyo entered the Department in May 1994 following Ohio Police Officer Training and was promoted to Sergeant in 2001.

In February 2009, Chief Vanyo was promoted to Lieutenant, second-in-command of an agency in a growing and changing Community that would, during this period, experience a 46% increase in population including the enforcement issues that accompany accelerated growth. He was promoted to Chief in May 2016.

Chief Vanyo instituted programs to strengthen the police-community partnership through the Community Engagement Initiative and was instrumental in support of our most at-risk population through his work with Christians in Action. In 2016, he co-created and initiated the Safe Passages Program with the Berea Police Department to assist opiate addicts seeking recovery options. For this, he received the City of Berea's "Spirit of Community" award.

Chief Vanyo was a member of the FBI National Academy Session #255 (April 2014-June 2014), is Lean Six Sigma certified and has served as an instructor throughout the area training young recruits on their path to a safety service career.

When Chief Vanyo was asked for some thoughts on his retirement, he said "I have tried to remember and act in line with Maya Angelou's often quoted remark, 'I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel'. I hope I have made those I have encountered over my tenure in Olmsted Township feel cared about, valued and respected".

He represented Olmsted Township and the agency throughout the region as a presenter at numerous law enforcement conferences and provided testimony to the United States Congressional Roundtable in Washington, DC regarding Ohio's opiate crisis in March 2017. Chief Vanyo's pride in Olmsted Township and the agency's Core Values... Courage, Integrity, Character, serve as a hallmark of his service and a point of reference for his "brothers and sisters in blue".

"During his tenure Chief Vanyo has provided a vision for the future and training to meet today's expectations. He has been instrumental in transforming the Township police department, now one of the most respected agencies in our region. On behalf of the Trustees, the men and women who have served with him throughout his career and the people of Olmsted Township he has served over the past 27 years, we wish him nothing but happiness and success in his future endeavors!", said Lisa Zver, Chair of the Board.



Follow us on Facebook or visit our website at
www.olmstedtownship.org for additional information.



DATES TO REMEMBER

Step Into Spring— April 24, 9am-noon, 7900 Fitch Road

First Yard Waste Pickup— April 16, weekly through November 26

First Branch Chipping— April 26/the last Monday of the month through October (except May)

American Red Cross Blood Drives—April 28, May 26, June 30, July 28, August 25, noon-6pm, 7900 Fitch Road

All Township meetings are currently held virtually via Zoom. Check our website for details.

Trustee meetings are held on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month.

Zoning Commission meetings are generally held on the 4th Thursday of the month. Check website for dates.

Board of Zoning Appeals meetings are generally held on the 3rd Wednesday of the month. Check website for dates.

Offices Closed/Memorial Day— Monday, May 31.

Offices Closed/4th of July observed—Monday, July 5.

All Township offices are currently closed to the public, but we are happy to receive your call to assist you as needed. Items may be dropped off at the Administration Building, 7900 Fitch Road in the drop box at the entrance to the office.

See you on Saturday, April 24th as we “Step Into Spring” at 7900 Fitch Road from 9am-noon!

TOWNSHIP CURRENT PROJECTS

- We accepted a bid for \$124,000 to replace the roof on the Service facility; \$90,000 of that total will be covered by a NOPEC grant.
- We received bids for Summer 2021 road repair, rebuild, resurface for Grace and Greenbrooke Drives, a portion of Crestwood Lane, Yellowstone Drive and Regina Lane.
- The demolition of the abandoned wastewater treatment plant on Usher Road has been let for bid. A site visit for contractors is scheduled with a bid opening on April 16th.
- We will begin to prepare the Schady Road site for the dog park (till, level, and plant grass) and plan to set the fencing in May, weather permitting. Opening of the park is anticipated in late August.
- We received \$125,000 in State and County funding for construction of our two parks as well as a commitment from NEORSD for support. NOPEC, our energy aggregator provided a \$2,000 grant for our Step into Spring event.
- We completed projects funded through the CARES Act 2020.
- The Schady Soccer Field project has been graded and seeded; the OF high school project is scheduled for completion in May. Both projects addressed long standing stormwater issues in neighborhoods adjacent to school properties.
- We just received notification that the Township was awarded a County grant for \$139,245 for ADA sidewalk ramps in Woodgate Farms.
- We have applied for a \$200,000 grant for sidewalks on Fitch Road through NOACA/TLCI funding and are awaiting the determination.

Our Current Project list is updated on a regular basis on www.olmstedtownship.org.

TOWNSHIP TO CONSTRUCT TWO PARKS IN 2021

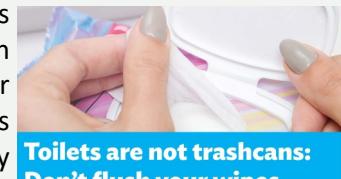
We invite you to become a donor or sponsor of our exciting Parks Initiative this year. We have already received some grant funding for these two projects, but individual and family support will be appreciated and critical to our success. You can help us make a difference in our Community.

As you may already know, our plans are a response to recommendations by residents through our Township Strategic Plan 2019 for increased recreation opportunities. Everyone benefits by the addition of parks and improved outdoor spaces—our neighborhoods, our environment, and our quality of life. Your support will be critical to the success of these two projects. Donations are tax deductible and can be made online.

To learn more about the projects and how you can support our Parks Initiative, see our website: www.olmstedtownship.org/parks.initiative.

WIPES CLOG PIPES

Disposable wipes have gained in popularity over the past years but especially during COVID when disinfecting has become important. This has now become a nationwide problem per the EPA, NEORSD and others since, disposable wipes, even if the label reads “flushable” do not degrade or disintegrate. They can clog home plumbing and cause even more problems in public sewer systems. They should not be flushed down the toilet. Other items that should be disposed of in the trash or by other means: medication, hygiene products, chemicals/solvents, paper towels. For a complete list of items, please see our website.



Toilets are not trashcans: Don't flush your wipes.

Drop off household hazardous waste at our Service Department 7924 Fitch Road. A medication drop-box is located at the Township Police Station near the corner of Fitch/Cook Roads.

