

# Boardman Township Reporter

SPRING, 2023



Market St. Elementary School  
Demolished To Make Way  
For Stormwater Park

ABC District Sanitary Back-Flow Assistance Program For Boardman Residents  
Eligible Boardman Township Residents Can Receive \$1500...Page 4



# BOARDMAN TOWNSHIP

## • OHIO •

### TRUSTEES

Larry Moliterno  
Tom Costello  
Brad Calhoun

### FISCAL OFFICER

William D. Leicht

### ADMINISTRATION

Jason Loree

Administrator

Stephanie Landers

Deputy Administrator

### POLICE CHIEF

Todd Werth

### FIRE CHIEF

Mark Pitzer

### ROAD DEPARTMENT

Marilyn Kenner

### PLANNING/ZONING

Thomas 'TJ' Keiran

[www.boardmantwp.com](http://www.boardmantwp.com)

### ON THE COVER

In March, the demolition of Market St. Elementary School got underway to make way for the development of a stormwater park that will be designed to help alleviate surface water flooding during peak rainfall periods. The project is expected to be completed next year and is fully supported by more than \$3 million in local, state and federal grant monies. Pictured in upper right are Boardman Trustees Brad Calhoun, Larry Moliterno and Tom Costello as they receive a proclamation from the Ohio Legislature from State Rep. Al Cutrona, at right, recognizing their efforts to develop the property to benefit the township. The stormwater park is the first of its kind to be constructed in the state of Ohio. Through the efforts of Rep. Cutrona, and State Sen. Mike Rulli, a \$750,000 Ohio Capital Grant was awarded to support the development of the stormwater park.



**Boardman Township Elected Officials**, from left to right, Trustee Brad Calhoun, Trustee Tom Costello, Fiscal Officer William Leicht and Trustee Larry Moliterno remind residents and those who visit the community that Boardman Township is currently served by Lanes Life Trans for emergency medical services.

## Lanes Life Trans Provides Ambulance Service

Boardman Township would like remind residents that the community is currently served by Lanes LifeTrans for EMS (Emergency Medical Services.) The township recognizes the EMS industry, like many others, has been hit with shortages of paramedics and cuts from federal and state funding through Medicare and Medicaid and long wait times at emergency rooms. It has been no secret that many communities are struggling to find EMS services whether through private or public services.

Boardman Township has been working in part with other communities through an EMS Committee, formed by Mahoning County Commissioners, to study the current issues impacting the industry, and consider ways to improve the current EMS system. Boardman Trustee Thomas Costello serves as the chairman of the committee.

In addition, Boardman Township had explored the development of EMS services for the community and commissioned a committee to review the costs. The committees have determined if Boardman Township were to start an EMS additional funding would be needed to operate units from each of the three Boardman fire stations. It would also require additional staffing in the Fire Department and possibly the Dispatch Center. Knowing this is a major hurdle and not something that can be done without taxpayer support, Boardman Township is currently looking at a public-private partnership with Lanes-Life Trans to see if a hybrid model is feasible.

This model could potentially allow for one Boardman Township EMS run crew to work in conjunction with Lane Life Trans as a third ambulance working out of one of our fire stations. This option would help support the EMS system which finds itself struggling at times to clear the hospitals and/or have a paramedic available to provide care. This is not a perfect solution but it is a possible viable stop-gap measure as additional options are explored with our area partners as well as internally at Boardman Township.

# Thomas 'T.J.' Keiran Named New Boardman Director Of Planning/Zoning

Boardman Township Trustees have named Thomas 'T.J.' Keiran as the Director of Planning and Zoning, succeeding Krista Beniston, who retired.

Mr. Keiran has 20 years of experience in community development/planning and comes to Boardman after serving as a Planner with the Trumbull County Planning Commission where his responsibilities included administration of flood plain management regulations, as well as property inspections and code enforcement. He also was employed part-time with Howland Township where he served as a property maintenance inspector, enforcing zoning code regulations and was a member of the Comprehensive Plan Update Steering Committee.

Mr. Keiran also was employed as a Public Works Director and Zoning Officer for Shenango (Pa.) Township, and was a land use planner with Hanover Engineering Associates.

He holds a degree in natural resource management from Grays Harbor College and a bachelor of arts degree in geography from Central Washington University.

From 1986-1988 he served as a Forward Observer/Field Artillery with the United States Army.

He holds a professional certification as a Certified Geographic Information Systems Professional (GISP).

"I am excited for this opportunity because Boardman Township is the center of development in the Mahoning Valley, and I anticipate working as the Director of Planning/Zoning will be a fulfilling career," Mr. Keiran said.



T.J. Keiran

## Zoning Permits, Property Maintenance, Rental Registration

The Planning and Zoning Department serves the community through permitting for residential and commercial properties, property maintenance, rental registration, and planning. You can apply for permits, put in a property maintenance complaint, or register a rental property on our website at <https://www.boardmantwp.com/zoning/>.

### **Permitting**

Zoning permits are important to ensure that any new structures or businesses in Boardman Township meet all the applicable standards and are compatible with its zoning district. In 2021, the Department issued 1,265 zoning permits.

As a Township, zoning permits are issued by Boardman Township and building permits by Mahoning County Building Inspection. While zoning primarily looks at the size, location, and use of property, building inspection looks at building standards. Most structures require both permits. If you have questions about whether a project requires a permit or not, it is always best to call.

### **Residential Permits Required**

- Fences
- Outbuilding (Shed/detached garage/gazebo/ pergola/pavilion/carport)
- Pool and Hot Tub
- Porch
- Deck/Ramps
- New Construction

- Additions
- Home Occupations
- Driveways (through the Road Department)

### **Property Maintenance**

The goal of the Property Maintenance Program is to maintain property values, strengthen our neighborhoods, and keep Boardman beautiful. In 2021, there were 1,324 property maintenance complaints and 4,403 inspections completed. There were also 935 separate high grass complaints.

### **Common violations include**

- Garbage and Debris
- Weeds or High Grass
- Broken Windows
- Peeling Paint
- Siding, Roof, & Gutter Issues
- Oversized vehicles, RVs, trailers, or boats



### **Rental Registration**

The Rental Registration Program was created to ensure that each rental unit meets the basic standards for habitation, sanitation, and safety. We work with property owners, property managers, and tenants to ensure compliance with our community standards and work to make Boardman a safe community for all. In 2021, there were 1643 properties registered.

**Thomas Keiran, Planning/Zoning Director**

**For a Full Listing of permits, setbacks and allowable uses please visit <https://www.boardmantwp.com/zoning/permit-applications-and-fees/> or call the office at 330-736-4177 if you need help or have questions. Permits now can be filled out On-Line!**

# ABC District Sanitary Back-Flow Assistance Program for Boardman Residents

## Eligible Boardman Township Residents Can Receive \$1500

**The ABC Water and Stormwater District is excited to announce a Sanitary Back-flow Assistance Program for Boardman Township Residents. This program is a supplemental program based on the Mahoning County Sanitary Engineers Program.**

### What is the Mahoning County Sanitary Engineer's **Backflow Control Program?**

Currently and since 2019, the Mahoning County Sanitary Engineer's Department offers up to \$3,600 for the installation of a backflow device that also requires property owners to remove any clear water source (footer drains and downspouts) from the sanitary sewer lines. This program is designed for property owners serviced by the Mahoning County Sanitary Engineer.

### How will the ABC District Program **Work with the County Program?**

Any resident of Boardman Township who has already received funding from the County Program can submit documentation proving funding was obtained from the county, and upon review of the ABC District, can receive an additional \$1,500. This would extend to anyone who has previously put in a backflow control device from 2021 through 2023. This program will be initially funded with \$50,000 and checks will be issued on a first come – first serve basis.

### **How can I get these additional funds?**

Starting in May 2023, Residents can stop into the Boardman Township Government Center at 8299 Market St., Boardman Oh., 44512, during regular business hours with a copy of documentation from the Mahoning County Sanitary Engineer's Office and complete a one page form. Once confirmed, the ABC Water and Stormwater District will contact residents to pick up a check to receive \$1,500.





# Six Police Officers Recognized For 30 Years Of Service



**Capt. Albert Kakascik**



**Lt. Rick Balog**



**Lt. Steve Riwniak**



**Sgt. Mike Hughes**



**Sgt. Chuck Hillman**



**Ptl. Anthony Ciocctelli**



Six Boardman Police Department officers have been recognized for distinguished service, serving Boardman Township for 30 years or more. They are Capt. Albert Kakascik, Lt. Rick Balog, Lt. Steve Riwniak, Sgt. Chuck Hillman, Sgt. Mike Hughes and Ptl. Tony Ciccotelli. A resolution approved by the Board of Township Trustees noted the officers have consistently displayed dedication to the community, a willingness to support fellow employees, and a high level of professionalism; and through their many years of exemplary service as police officers have represented Boardman Township in an outstanding manner.

**To report suspicious activity and concerns, call the BPD at 330-726-4144**

# **Public/Private Partnership**

## **BOARDMAN TOWNSHIP PROVIDES FREE SITE FOR RESIDENTS FOR YARD-WASTE DROP-OFF**

*Boardman Township Trustees will provide composting for residents **FREE** of charge in partnership with Elliott's Garden Center, 1283 W. Western Reserve Rd. Boardman residents can drop off grass clippings, brush, tree prunings and leaves Monday through Friday 9-5, Saturday 9-3 and Sunday 11-2. All days and times are weather permitting.*

### **ELLIOTT'S RECYCLING GUIDELINES ARE AS FOLLOWS**

#### **All non-commercial residential yard waste **MUST** be separated**

- 1) Absolutely no mixed loads. There are separate piles for grass, leaves, and brush.
- 2) Yard waste must be unloaded into the appropriate pile.
- 3) All plastic bags must be emptied and plastic discarded.
- 4) Leaves will only be accepted in paper bags or loose bulk.
- 5) Absolutely **NO TRASH**. Plastic, glass, metal, rocks, or food waste etc. will not be accepted.
- 6) All residents must stop in the office to sign in before dumping. Anyone disposing of trash or non-acceptable waste will be asked to leave and to not return.

#### **Yard Waste Accepted by Elliott's Garden Center**

- Brush 4' or less in length. Brush is considered any branch less than 6 inches in diameter.
- Tree and shrub prunings.
- Grass clippings (plastic bags are not accepted please discard them.)
- Garden Waste (vegetative and perennials).
- Leaves (loose bulk or paper bags)
- Ornamental Grasses. Please remove all products used to bundle them.
- There is a Dumping fee for tree trunks, logs and stumps 6 inches in diameter or larger. Trunks and logs need to be cut, not exceeding 30 inches in length.
- Pallets which are clean (no oil, grease or chemicals) and have no wrappings or metal banding attached.

#### **Yard waste **NOT** accepted by Elliott's Garden Center**

**ANIMAL WASTE • BATTERIES • LANDSCAPE FABRIC • METAL  
PLASTIC • RAILROAD TIES  
TREATED LUMBER • FENCING (PAINTED OR STAINED) • TRASH  
CONCRETE • ROCKS • BRICKS • SOIL**



# Boardman Police Department Achieves Full Compliance With Ohio Collaborative Law Enforcement Standards

Ohio Gov. Mike DeWine has announced that 89% of Ohio's population is now served by a law enforcement agency meeting or seeking to meet standards developed by the Ohio Collaborative Community-Police Advisory Board.

There are approximately 900 law enforcement agencies in Ohio, and among them only 163 agencies are fully certified by the collaborative, including the Boardman Police Department.

"Uniform standards for law enforcement increase the trust between the public and local agencies," Boardman

Police Chief and former FBI Special Agent Todd Werth said.

The Boardman Police Department is certified in each of the five categories developed by the collaborative. They are---Group 1 (use of force, and hiring and recruitment); Group 2 (community engagement, body-worn cameras, and telecommunicator training); Group 3 (bias-free policing and employee misconduct); Group 4 (vehicular pursuits); and Group 5 (mass protests and agency wellness).

Sgt. Michael Sweeney oversees The Boardman Police Department's compliance with the collaborative's standards.

## Dash Cameras In Police Vehicles Augment Body Worn Cameras

In November 2022, the Boardman Police Department adopted the use of patrol vehicle-mounted dash cameras. The dash cameras augment the department's individually worn body-worn camera (BWC) systems the were adopted in 2021.

Vehicle cameras provide an additional angle to the BWC footage captured by the cameras each Boardman police officer wears while on patrol. The two systems are synchronized so that video and audio of any interaction officers have on calls can be viewed together during any review by the department, or for use in court.

The department initially reviewed and tested seven different systems before selecting WatchGuard-Motorola as the vendor for its camera systems. The BWC and dash camera systems are also synchronized with the department's computer-aided dispatching and report-writing software.

In addition to the BWC and dash camera systems, the Boardman Police Department is also replacing its interview room cameras with the Motorola system.

All of the video evidence from these three systems are uploaded into a cloud-based storage program, accessible by the department and the Mahoning County Prosecutor's Office through Motorola's Command Central evidence system.

"This facilitates investigations, prosecutions, training, public records requests, and quality control in our everyday operations," said Police Chief Todd Werth.

The camera systems (BWC, vehicle, and interview room) are instrumental in recording interactions between the public and the department's officers. The cameras are known to help increase trust between the police and the communities they serve because the video evidence collected provides an independent, unbiased and objective record of these interactions.

Boardman Township and its Police Department implemented this program to improve officer safety, increase evidence quality, and provide a better process to address complaints and reduce agency liability.

The Boardman PD currently averages approximately 160 to 175 recordings every day.



Dash Camera Inside BPD Patrol Car

## High Grass Complaints

With summer just around the corner, the Boardman Township Zoning Department would like to take this opportunity to share with the residents that one of the primary functions of the office is dealing with high grass, junk, weeds and debris in and around property.

The Zoning and Planning Department is complaint driven. Once a complaint has been submitted either by phone or online report, a Boardman Township property enforcement specialist will review the complaint. If confirmed, a letter will be sent to the property owner seeking compliance.

High grass complaints are valid when grass is over 10 inches and this process is a bit different than the other nuisance complaints---Once the complaint has been received, the property owner is notified of the violation and has seven days to cut the grass. After seven days, a field inspector will check the property, and if high grass conditions still exist, Boardman Township will cut the grass at the owner's expense. From the time the complaint is received, it is typically two to three weeks until the grass is cut.

Please contact the Zoning and Planning Department with any questions regarding Nuisances and High Grass Complaints at 330-726-4181.

**SAVE THE DATE: SEPTEMBER 9, 2023**

**COMMUNITY DAY IN BOARDMAN PARK**

**FROM 4:30 P.M. 'TIL DARK  
FAMILY FUN,  
CONCERT, FIREWORKS**

**BOARDMAN TOWNSHIP**  
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BOARDMAN, OHIO 44512  
www.boardmantwp.com

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**RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMER**

**PRESCRIPTION AND OVER-THE-COUNTER MEDICINE DISPOSAL ONLY**  
**NO SYRINGES OR LIQUIDS**

**Ohio Prescription Drug Drop Box Program**

Safely dispose of your unused medications here.

**GOT OLD DRUGS?**

Turn in unused or expired medication for safe disposal at the Boardman Township Police Department located at 8299 Market Street. Drugs can be dropped-off Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Prescription and over-the-counter medicine disposal only: no syringes or liquids. All medications are incinerated. No need to remove prescription labels. **\*For after hours disposal, please enter the Police Department lobby; and use the phone on the wall to speak to a dispatcher.**



**Internet Buyer's Exchange Location**

A Safe Place For Internet Purchases/Exchanges

Boardman Township provides Internet Buyer's Exchange Location Sites for those in the community who buy, sell and trade items online. The sites allow people to exchange items in a public place that is under surveillance. The Internet Buyer Exchange Location Sites are located at the Boardman Township Government Center, 8299 Market Street. There are two locations — in the main parking lot and inside the building. Both locations are under 24/7 surveillance by the Boardman Police Department.

**Boardman Township Boards & Commissions**

**Zoning Commission**

Peter Lymber, chairman; Frank Centofanti, Nancy Terlesky, Dan Durkin, John Burgan, Michael Fagan, alternate.

**Zoning Board of Appeals**

Atty. John Shultz, chairman; Patricia Brozik, Ken Tirpack, Marilyn Scheetz, Brian Racz, Tom Varley, alternate; Atty. Matthew Gambrel, alternate.

**Architecture Review Board**

Michael Fagan, chairman; Courtney Boyle, Edwin Beach, Margaret Wellington, Kedar Bhide

**Civil Service Commission**

Atty. Marty Bushey, Aaron Frank, Rick Schafer