



Around The Township

Serving the needs of the
citizens and businesses
of **Butler Township**

Spring 2021

Township Envisions Unique Opportunity for Site

At the close of 2020, the Butler Township worked with IAP Government Services Group to demolish the buildings at 8524-8526 N. Dixie Dr., which most recently had served as the administration office and police department.

The township, Vandalia-Butler City School District and a local private developer, Jean Mayhack, are now partnering on an exciting collaboration they hope will entice new businesses to inject new life to the area.

Butler Township had tried to sell the buildings

None of the proposals received seemed like the right fit for the site. Trustees feel the site represents an excellent opportunity for a prominent development, considering its neighbors: a new Minster Bank branch to the north, the vacant school property across the street and adjacent vacant land on Sudachi Drive.

Also, the 20-acre site is located in the township's commercial district and adjacent to the current Government Center and police station, both major benefits.

Partners are hiring a design consultant

The consultant will provide a conceptual plan that builds on strategies outlined in the Miller Lane/North Dixie Drive Corridor Plan adopted by the trustees 10 years ago. It will identify potential uses, circulation patterns and landscaping schemes to produce a cohesive development that can attract buyers and tenants.

"A plan for these properties will enhance the potential for the sites, aid in marketing the land, and result in a substantial project," said Township Administrator Erika Vogel. "We see the potential to create something exceptional for the community."

Former Government Center demolition and new Minster Bank branch (left)



Website Goes Live

A new and improved website awaits visitors at butlertownship.com.

After an extensive selection process in 2019, the township selected Dayton-based marketing firm Catapult Creative to help with a refresh of the township's logo, a new website and other branding initiatives.

The logo was launched at the beginning of 2020, and at year's end, the new website went live with easy navigation and new ways to interact with your township government, including

- Paying your trash bill online
- Scheduling vacation house checks
- Submitting property maintenance complaints
- Learning more about your township, community events and notices

In This Issue

Water Rescue Team Brings Skills.....	3
Road Resurfacing Scheduled.....	5
Shred Day Returns.....	6



Fire Department Promotion

The Butler Township Fire Department has promoted Tyler Ullery to the rank of lieutenant. The position had been vacant for four years.

Tyler began his career in 2005 as a part time firefighter/EMT in Brookville. He was hired full-time by the city of Riverside in 2010 and joined the Butler Township Fire Department full-time in 2019.

He continues to work as a part-time captain in his hometown of Brookville where he is a proud, second-generation firefighter following his dad's footsteps.

Paddlers, Play It Safe

If kayaking or canoeing are part of your plans for summer fun, take a moment to think first about safety. The Butler Township Fire Department offers these tips:

- **Wear a life jacket.** 85% of canoeing fatalities and 48% of kayaking fatalities were not wearing a life jacket.
- **File a float plan.** Let someone know where you will be paddling and when you will return. Go online ahead of time to get a map of the waterway.
- **Take your cell phone.** Make sure it's fully charged and stored in a dry bag.
- **Know the forecast.** Be prepared for the weather.
- **Know the water venue.** Map your route so you can plan for potential dangers in the river, such as downed trees, low head dams and debris.
- **Dress for the weather.** Wear proper clothing AND footwear.
- **Don't go solo.** Never paddle alone unless experienced.
- **Watch water levels.** Never kayak or canoe when water levels are high.



New Medic Replaces Aging Vehicle

The township fire department will soon take delivery of a new 2021 Road Rescue medic unit. It will replace 2012 medic that's reaching the end of its useful life.

The total cost of the new medic is just over \$189,000.



Water Rescue Team Brings Specialized Skills

Since being formed in 1992, the Butler Township Water Rescue team has rescued people on the river, swimmers in flood-stage rivers, victims of auto accidents into the river, people in flooded neighborhoods and vehicle drivers caught in high water.

The team came into existence in response to a series of near-miss water incidents on local rivers that border the township. They started by buying a Zodiac boat and motor, building a trailer and taking specialized training from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources.

Cooperation with other communities

Today, water rescue team members number 14, with three or four members assigned to each shift. Trained personnel from the Vandalia Division of Fire are also available to assist with water rescues. Calls for service typically involve rescues on rivers, lakes or ice; body recoveries; and diver assistance.

In 2019, team members responded to six water rescues, with five mutual aid responses and one local incident on the Stillwater River. Through mutual aid agreements, the water rescue team travels anywhere needed to assist another community. They've responded as far away as northern Darke and Warren counties.

During mutual aid responses in the township or adjacent communities, the Butler Township and Huber Heights teams respond together to any type of water rescue. This positions more trained personnel to handle a variety of situations.



Training is critical

Team members must participate in annual training to be recertified. Today's water rescue training includes advanced rope rescue, water rescue, boat operations, basic and advanced swim techniques, victim search, victim rescue techniques and other life-saving skills.



New Dry Suits for Water Rescue

The township fire department has purchased four new dry suits for the water-rescue team. Rescuers always wear dry suits for protection from contamination and for warmth in cold water.

These suits replace four older suits that were in service for 12 years. Considered "breathable," the new suits are more comfortable and enhanced with features that make them wearable for extended periods.

Speed Trailer Hits the Road

One of the most effective tools for slowing down speeding on township roadways is back in action. Rebuilt, repainted and equipped with a solar-powered battery recharging unit, the Butler Township Police Department's speed trailer is making its way to neighborhoods.



Studies show the use of a speed trailer is highly effective for reducing speed and alerting drivers to slow down in school zones, work zones and parks. The device can have up to a 72% effectiveness rate in slowing vehicles down and keeping citizens safe from speeding.

The trailer provides immediate radar feedback to drivers to show how fast they are going. Most drivers are unaware they're speeding, and seeing their speed on the display is a reminder to slow down.

"The use of the trailer acts as a force multiplier by providing passive speed enforcement and allowing officers to be deployed where they may be needed the most," said Police Chief John Porter. "This can save the department money by reducing overtime costs related to traffic enforcement."

If you would like to see the speed trailer in your neighborhood, please call the police department at 937-890-2671 or email a request to police@butlertownship.com.

Thanks for the Help

Thanks goes to North Dixie Body Shop, at 8713 N. Dixie Dr., for assistance in rehabbing and painting the trailer, and Yipes Graphics, at 36 Haas Dr. in Englewood, for the applying the new logo and reflective markings.



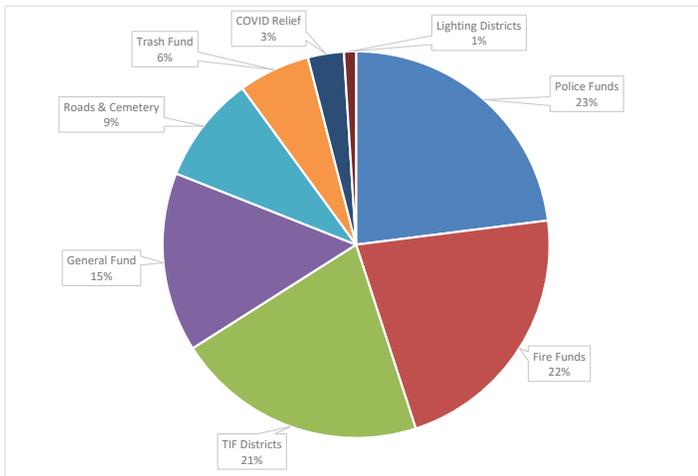
Township Finances Holding Steady - for Now

2020 proved to be one of the most trying years in memory. Between closures, lockdowns, and health concerns, uncertainty was a persistent feeling among Butler Township residents and businesses.

In terms of the township's budget, last year's expenditures totaled \$10.5 million, which nearly matched 2019 expenditures. Fortunately, total 2020 revenues were still up from 2019, by approximately \$500,000. This was due in part to the nearly \$400,000 the township received in CARES Act funds, which were allotted for local distribution.

Officials used those funds to pay for first-responder payroll expenses, as well as personal protective equipment, laptops for staff to work remotely, some touchless plumbing fixtures and a new voice-over internet phone system. (VoIP is a technology that makes communication easier, cheaper and faster by allowing voice calls to be made using a broadband internet connection instead of a regular phone line.)

Township Revenue Sources



Citizen's Academy: Come Learn about Your Police

The Butler Township Police Department will hold its second Citizen's Police Academy this fall. The program aims to create better understanding and communication between citizens and the department.

"We want to show the community what we do and why we do it," said Police Chief John Porter.

It will run as an in-person program.

The first citizen's academy ran for seven weeks in the fall of 2019, with 11 residents. The 2020 Academy was canceled due to COVID-19 concerns.

Topics to be covered include patrol functions, use of force, role play scenarios, K-9 demonstrations and detective operations, among others. Several field trips and hands-on activities are on the agenda. Students will be encouraged to ride along with an on-duty police officer during a regular shift.

Class size will be limited to 15 students, and they must be 18 years of age or older to participate. All applicants will be required to submit to a background check.

Registration packets will be available starting July 1, 2021, and are due no later than August 1, 2021. Pick up the forms from the Police Department at 3510 Sudachi Dr., or on the township's website at butlertownship.com.

Applicants may contact the Butler Township Police Department at 937-890-2671 for more information.



Roads to be Resurfaced

Butler Township's resurfacing program gets a fresh review every year during budget season. At that time, staff inspects roadways and prioritizes paving to align with the budget dollars available for the year. In a typical year, the township spends about \$200,000 on asphalt resurfacing.

"For many years, we've partnered with other jurisdictions in the Montgomery County Engineer's Office pool program for annual road resurfacing," said Service Department Director Jeff Barnett. "In this way, we're able to stretch our resources through the power of group purchasing."

The following roads in Little York Acres will be resurfaced in 2021: Aullwood, Kepler and Stoner roads, and Hanley Drive.

McSmith Court will undergo resurfacing and concrete repair to restore deteriorated curb and gutter. The cost of concrete repairs will be assessed to the property owners following a public hearing process.

County Offers Help with Sewer Backup Protection

Montgomery County Environmental Services is offering up to \$4,000 in financial assistance to help homeowners protect against sewer backups. The Foundation Drain Disconnect Program helps to pay for certain plumbing work, which may include

- Installing plumbing and valves
- Disconnecting downspouts, floor, foundation and sump drains from sanitary sewers
- Installing a sump pump and wet well

For more information, call Montgomery County Environmental Services at 937-225-4999, Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., or visit mcoho.org.

Yard Waste Dropoff It's Convenient - and FREE

In response to residents' request for a yard waste disposal opportunity, the township has partnered with Harris Sod and Seed Yard Waste Recycling Center, 8890 Dog Leg Rd., in Vandalia, to offer this service.

Residents can drop off yard waste at this facility, at no cost. Only yard waste and agricultural plant materials are accepted. Hazardous wastes, infectious wastes, asbestos, batteries or other prohibited materials will not be accepted.

Proof of residency, such as a utility bill or driver's license, may be required. The hours of operation are Monday through Friday – 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., and Saturday, 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

The facility is closed from Thanksgiving to February 28, each year, so during that time, drop off is not available.



Shred Day Scheduled

Butler Township is once again partnering with DayAir Credit Union for a FREE document shredding service for Butler Township residents on **Saturday, June 6, 2021, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.**, at the Government Center, 3510 Sudachi Dr.

Here are the details:

- You can securely discard documents with personal and sensitive information.
- The service is drive-up and contact-free. Township staff will unload boxes from your vehicle.
- The event is open to all Butler Township residents.
- Business document shredding is NOT permitted.
- No need to remove small items such as paper clips and staples.
- Confidentiality is assured. Trucks are on site and material is directly loaded into the shredder.

For additional questions, contact Butler Township at 937-898-6735.



ID Fraud Growing: Here's What to Do

A growing number of identity fraud cases are being reported in Ohio. If you find yourself a victim, you should first contact the **Butler Township Police Department at 937-233-2080** to file a report.

Experian: www.experian.com/fraud
(888-397-3742)

Equifax: www.equifax.com
(800-525-6285)

Transunion: www.transunion.com
(800-680-7289)

Unemployment fraud

Fraud-minded individuals are filing for unemployment benefits using another person's identity. If you suspect you've been a victim of identity theft to commit unemployment fraud, report it to the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services by completing an online form at **unemployment.ohio.gov**. Be prepared to enter your Social Security number and driver's license number.

If you do not have internet access, call ODJFS at 877-644-6562. (Please note: Wait times may be long.)

Identity theft

If you're a victim of identity theft, you should also consider monitoring your credit by placing a fraud alert on your credit reports. This simple move makes it harder for an identity thief to open accounts in your name. Credit agencies do not charge a fee to place an initial fraud alert.

You might also consider placing a security freeze on your credit report, which restricts access to your credit report. To do this, you must contact one of the credit reporting agencies:

IRS tax fraud / Identity theft

Scammers can defraud you at tax time by way of tax identity theft. This occurs when a person obtains your name, address and Social Security number and uses this information to file a tax return in your name before you do, in order to steal your tax refund.

Also remember, the IRS will not call you or ask for any identifying information. Find information and resources by visiting **irs.gov**.

Theft of mail

Victims of mail theft should contact their local post office branch to report the incident. An easy way to monitor for mail theft is by signing up for Informed Delivery by which the postal service emails you scanned images of the mail you'll be receiving that day. To sign up, go to **usps.com**.

How You Can Help Catch a Criminal

Police departments around the country – including Butler Township – are using a device found at many homes to help them track down criminals.

The new community policing program, Community Awareness Through Utilizing Residential Eyes, or CAPTURE, makes use of the video footage “captured” by doorbell and other residential cameras to investigate crimes committed in neighborhoods.

Here’s how it works:

Residents who have such cameras may register their contact information with the Butler Township Police Department. (All information is kept confidential.) If a crime is committed in the neighborhood, the department uses the database to locate possible video footage. If

registered with the program, residents are asked by the investigating officer to review specific camera footage for possible suspects or vehicles.

The program is completely voluntary, and does not give the department any direct access to a resident’s cameras.

Want to be involved?

Please email Sergeant Amy Carr at acarr@butlertownship.com to register.

Also, for crime prevention tips and resources, look for these sites online:



Butler Township Police Facebook - www.facebook.com/butlertownshippolice

Miami Valley Crime Stoppers - www.miamivalleycrimestoppers.com

Planning a Summer Project?



To maintain safety and appearance standards in the community, Butler Township requires permits before new construction can take place. This includes all additions, detached garages, sheds, gazebos, pools, decks and patios.

A zoning permit must be filed prior to moving forward with the project. Permit applications can be found online, printed, and then submitted, along with a site plan detailing the project and its location.

Detached structures must be in the rear yard and located a minimum of 5 feet from rear and side property lines. Each property is permitted up to two accessory structures. They may not exceed 3.5% of the total lot area and 3,000 square feet in total. For barns and agriculture uses, please call the township for more information.

You can find the township zoning resolution and permit applications at butlertownship.com.

Where to Park a Recreational Vehicle, Boat or Trailer

Recreational equipment, including RVs, boats and trailers, may be parked or stored on a residential property as long as they are not located in the front yard of the property. These vehicles must be stored behind the front foundation of the home and no closer than 3 feet to a side property line, except for temporary unloading and loading.



Questions?
Please contact Butler Township at 937-898-6735.



Government Center

3510 Sudachi Dr.
Dayton, Ohio 45414

Township Trustees

(937) 898-6735
Michael Lang – x1196
Kenneth Betz – x1199
Missy Pruszynski – x1197

Fiscal Officer

(937) 898-6735
Greg Brush - x1198

Township Administrator

(937) 898-6735
Erika Vogel - x1113

Police/Fire/EMS

Emergency
9-1-1
Non-Emergency Dispatch
(937) 233-2080

Fire Department Admin.

(937) 890-2491
Chief Dan Alig – x1403

Police Department Admin.

(937) 890-2671
Chief John Porter – x1231

Service Department

(937) 898-6735
Jeff Barnett, Director - x1302

Trash Department

(937) 898-6735 x1119

Zoning/Property Maintenance

(937) 898-6735 x1111

PRSR STD
U.S. Postage
Paid
Permit 137
Dayton, OH

Community Events Return (We Hope)



If COVID-19 numbers decline sufficiently, Butler Township residents will again be able to gather for community events that had to be cancelled last year. Find the tentative 2021 dates and times below:

Shred Day at Government Center, 3510 Sudachi Dr. - Saturday, June 5, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

National Night Out, StoneSpring Nursing Home - Tuesday, August 3, 6-8 p.m.

Cruise-In to Butler Township, Commerce Center Drive - Saturday, August 14, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Party in the Park at Art Van Atta Park - TBD October

Stay tuned for more information.



Hauler Expands Recycling Program

Butler Township’s residential waste hauler, Rumpke, has added tubs to its list of items accepted for recycling. Here are examples of acceptable tubs:

- Whipped topping
- Butter
- Cottage cheese
- Specialty dips
- Sour cream
- Yogurt containers of any kind
- Jelly and pudding snacks
- Fruit cups (think apple sauce or diced peaches)

The recycling program also accepts glass bottles and jars, metal cans, cartons, cardboard, paper, plastic bottles and jugs.