



# SUMMER NEWSLETTER

*... From Mayor Finlayson's Desk*

## **LOOKING TO THE FUTURE**

The spring newsletter had a very informative article concerning what type of 'green space' could be created on the land when the intermediate school is no longer in use. It will be turned over to the village for a use to benefit all residents. Besides using it as a green space there are other alternatives to this plan.

We have received a lot of input from residents of the village and what they would like to see happen. One big consideration to remember is that the village will lose \$15,000 to \$20,000 in income tax money when there are no longer school employees working in the village. Although not a large amount it will curtail smaller projects that could be financed with that money.

Our current administration building, and council chambers are very small and inadequate. There are very few seats for visitors and concerned individuals to sit in when attending meetings. We need more secure storage for equipment and village records. There is no large conference room for meetings in either of our town buildings. Saving and utilizing the back part of the school could give us additional space.

If the back part of the school was saved there would be a gymnasium for the community to have access to plus restrooms and 6 classrooms. The rooms could be used for a senior citizen center, card clubs, Council Chambers, office area, record, and equipment storage to name a few.

There is also the option of selling part of the property for new homes that would bring in property taxes, income taxes, and more customers for our businesses.

We have many 'green space' areas in our township. There is the Waterwork Park with 2 ball fields and plenty of space. There is the Ohio-Erie Canal Trail winding through the village, and many sidewalks to walk on in town. Lawrence township has the 'River Park', the Wilkshire Blvd. trail, the Zoar Arboretum, the Bolivar Dam playground and soccer area, and the Commons Pool.

Of course, all these ideas and more are being discussed among many residents and council members. It's something that will take many hours of thought and consideration to decide the best course of action. Please feel free to contact me at [mayor@villageofBolivar.com](mailto:mayor@villageofBolivar.com), or any of the other council members, for suggestions, questions, or concerns. The school has until the spring or summer of 2024 to make their final determination on a 'demolition' timetable. The school will be used for storage for the following school year. Thanks for all your input! Tedd Finlayson/Mayor.

## **Bill PAYMENT NOTE:**

Any resident that pays for their water and trash through their bank account needs to allow up to ten (10) days for processing and mailing time. We are receiving those payments late and could charge a late fee to your account.

## **TUSKY VALLEY BASEBALL/SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION**

Tusky Valley Baseball/Softball Association is a local organization run by a board of volunteers. Our mission is to provide a safe and competitive environment for young players, ages 4 to 14, to learn and enjoy the game of baseball and softball. Our goal is for each player to have fun while gaining knowledge of the game. We strive to create and maintain an environment of teamwork, honesty and fair play with a secondary importance placed on winning. All our volunteers work to achieve this mission. We believe our children are our most precious assets and represent the future of our communities. Through our involvement in their lives, we will strive to leave a positive, lasting impression. The association is run entirely on sponsorships and donations from the local community. If you or someone you know wants more information on the month-to-month decisions and discussions the board faces, they meet the 3rd Tuesday of every month in the Lawrence township building. All board meetings are open to the public.

## **IMPROVING POTABLE WATER PRESSURE/VOLUME IN THE VILLAGE**

We have started the procedure to improve the water pressure and volume of water by replacing the 4" water mains in the village with larger diameter pipe, and/or changing some connections to established larger diameter pipe already located near the 4" pipes. Mike Jones, director of the Tuscarawas County Water and Sewer District, has been instrumental in finding several cost saving ideas for our project. A special THANK YOU goes to Mike.

## **UTILIZING "GROUP STOPS" FOR STUDENTS IN THE VILLAGE**

I have had several meetings with school personnel concerning the new bus routes in the village. They are going to be utilizing more "Group Stops" to pick up students in areas in addition to the school grounds. I have been in contact with groups that could work with us to provide more sidewalks to make travel safer. We will keep you posted, as will the school, on any changes being made.

## **DOG WASTE COMPLAINTS**

We see many residents walking their dogs on village sidewalks and the Ohio-Erie Canal Trail, but many of the people refuse to clean up after their pets. Please stay in your own yard while 'Fido' does his business or pick up their waste when they are done on you walk. Please enjoy your village. Thank you.

## **"LOVETUSC" MONUMENT FOR BOLIVAR**

"Love Tusc Monument" for Bolivar a Reality. A big thank you to all of the individuals that donated to the LoveTusc Fund, various businesses as well, and a special thank you to policeman Eric Minor for putting in the final amount needed. The monument, 4 ft. tall and 3 ft. wide, was designed by Synergy of Strasburg. It weighs 30 lbs., though it is made from Styrofoam with a steel layer inside.

Two students from Tusky Valley are doing the artwork – Danika Dolek and Piper Symons. All of their drawings and sketches have paid off as they started the actual painting last week. The monument will be displayed on a park setting across from the Huntington Bank on Canal St. Because we were asked to paint all four (4) sides, the monument will be placed in such a way for all to see. Thank you, Bolivar.