

THE JERSEY JOURNAL

Jersey Township
Licking County, Ohio

Inside This Issue:

- *Utilities Update*
- *Historic Preservation Update*
- *Radio Communications Training*
- *Fiscal Officer Notes*
- *CPR Classes*
- *Staff Shout Outs*
- *Trustee's Message*
- *Rumpke Update*
- *2026 Road Paving*
- *Tax Reduction Grants*



UTILITIES UPDATES

Jersey Township is a member community of the Licking Regional Water District (formerly the Southwest Licking Community Water and Sewer District). The Township and the District entered into a services agreement in 2022 whereas the District will provide service extensions to the Township's growth areas. In turn, the Township requires the new development to pay its own way for those utility costs so as to not pass that burden onto Township residents or District customers. In November 2024, the District restructured, which brought Jersey in as a member community.

A number of development projects are either currently being planned, are headed to construction, are in construction, or have recently been completed. A few of those are as follows:

Summit and Morse Water and Sewer Extension

Construction for this project began July 2026 and runs for 12-14 months. The project area begins on Summit Road north of Cable Road, continues to Morse Road and extends east along Morse Road ending near Harrison Road. The improvements include the installation of approximately 11,400 feet of 8-inch and 16-inch PVC waterline and nearly 10,300 feet of 12-inch PVC sanitary sewer.

While service is an option, the Licking Regional Water District is not requiring residential property owners in the project area to connect to water or sewer lines upon completion of this project.

Morse and Putnam Roads Water Line Extension

Design of the water line extension from Morse Road near Harrison Road to the east to Putnam Road and then north to Worthington Road has now been completed and the project has been published for contractors to submit bids. This project will complete the water line loop back to the Worthington Road water line. Again, the Licking Regional Water District is not requiring residential property owners in the project area to connect to water lines upon completion of this project. Construction is expected to start late-Fall 2026.

Burnside Road Water Line Extension

Construction is underway on the water line from the new water tower at Hatch Road, under SR161 and north on Burnside Road to Jug Street. Extension west on Beaver Road and east on Jersey Mill Road are also included.

Residents and property owners who would like to review any project plans or learn more about water or sewer service associated with these projects are encouraged to contact the Licking Regional Water District at 740-927-0410 or customerservice@lickingregionalwater.gov.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION UPDATE

Jersey Township and the Gateway Community Improvement Corporation (CIC) continue to work and plan for the historic preservation of Jersey Township. The CIC is the economic development and historic preservation arm of the township, and exists in large part to acquire, hold and/or redevelop historic properties in the township. Three such properties are featured below:

The old **Jersey Presbyterian Church**, built in the mid 1850's and located at 12239 Morse Road, was acquired by the CIC in July 2025. The lease with the current tenant, Jersey Reformed Baptist Church, was assigned to the CIC at the acquisition. This means the building will continue to be used as a church and maintenance will be ongoing. While all efforts are made to keep with the original design and architecture of the building, the parking area was paved in November 2025 and public water will be hooked up once the waterline project along Morse Road is completed in 2027.



The old **Blacksmith Shop** has been a landmark in Jersey for decades. It is well-known for the large Catalpa tree growing out from under the foundation of the southern wall of the shop. It was acquired by the CIC in late 2023 with hopes of being able to save the structure. Further investigation revealed extreme disrepair and damage. In early 2026, it was discovered that the Catalpa tree was decayed and hollowed out and at risk of falling. The wind storm on March 13, 2026 caused the metal roof to collapse further into the building. These factors led the CIC to determine the best course of action to be notation of measurements and design for a potential future rebuild, and then removal of both the tree and the structure. During late June and early July, the township and the CIC partnered on the removals.



HISTORIC PRESERVATION UPDATE CONT'D

The **Mead Hotel**, formerly located at 12400 Morse Road, was acquired by the CIC in October 2025. It had also fallen into disrepair. After many years of abandonment, it had become home to varmints and had suffered damage from wind and rain. In June of 2025 it had experienced a fire that severely damaged the roof and second floor. The structure was unable to be saved and the CIC ultimately determined the best course of action to be removal. The township and CIC also partnered in this endeavor after measurements and pictures were taken and logged for design of a potential future rebuild. In January 2026, the structure was removed and the basement filled in.

The acquisition of 12400 Morse Road included four adjoining parcels totaling just under one acre. It is the hope of the CIC that once water and sewer services become available along Morse Road, the property can be redeveloped into a boutique retail use that benefits the residents of the township.



RADIO COMMUNICATIONS TRAINING

Woodline Tracking 101 Radio Class

The Jersey Township Board of Trustees are partnering with Woodline Tracking to provide an emergency radio use training class for residents.

When: Saturday, August 8, 2026; 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Where: Jersey Township Offices; 1481 Mink Street

This class will go over 2M/70CM types of radios and equipment, how they work, and how to use them during times of emergency.

Radios will be provided, however, if you have a 2M/70CM radio that you would like to use, please feel free to bring it.

In order to attend, residents must RSVP by calling (740) 927-0331 or by emailing Laura Brown at lbrown@jerseytownship.us



FISCAL OFFICER NOTES

Greetings from the Fiscal Office;

I am happy to report that the township's audit for the 2024-2025 time period has been completed satisfactorily. As a reminder, when I first assumed office in 2016 the township books had been declared to be un-auditable by the Auditor of State; this has been completely remediated.

The township's current financial position remains strong. The disbursements awarded to the township by the federal government, (CARES Act and ARP Act) allowed the township to minimize the negative economic impacts occurring over the last six- year period.

Our current trustees have continued the fiscally conservative policy of their predecessors. In addition, the trustees chose not to place the expired Road and Bridge Fund levy back on the ballot for the November election; the Road and Bridge Fund can continue to subsidize current operations without a new levy into the immediate foreseeable future.

In closing, you may rest assured that the Fiscal Office of Jersey Township is strongly positioned to meet current needs and preparing itself as best as possible for future needs and challenges.

Best regards,

Marko F. Jesenko

Fiscal Officer, Jersey Township

CPR CLASSES

Jersey Township and the Gateway CIC are working to make CPR training and certification available to Jersey Township residents. Classes will be offered by one or both of the Fire and EMS providers that serve Jersey Township, and the cost will be covered by the CIC. Details will be made available in the Fall 2026 edition of the Jersey Journal. Classes will be limited in size, so registration will be required. Please watch for future information.

STAFF SHOUT OUTS

The Board of Trustees would like to extend a special "Thank You!" to the township staff for their outstanding work and commitment to Jersey Township. Tyler Freese and Jason Arnett in our Road Department kept our roads clear of snow and ice this past winter, especially during the heavy snows we had in January. They are now busy keeping our roads and cemeteries maintained, among other miscellaneous jobs throughout the summer. Bud Witney and Laura Brown continue to help guide and process the zoning issues we are continually faced with, and Marko Jesenko and Kathy Wetzel keep the township's books and finances in order. Additionally, the township benefits from considerable job crossover as Administrator Rob Platte is able to assist in various township roles as needed thanks to his more than 26 years of experience in local government.

Finally, the board members are thankful for the commonality they share among one another that is centered around excellent township services to residents, decreasing tax burden, and strong schools and safety services.



Jersey Township
1481 Mink Steet
Pataskala, Ohio 43062

Administration Office Phone: 740-927-0331
Service Department Phone: 614-374-6975

Emails:

Dan Wetzel, Trustee - dwetzel@jerseystownship.us
Jeff Fry, Trustee- jfry@jerseystownship.us
Ben Pieper, Trustee - bpieper@jerseystownship.us
Service Supt. - Tyler Freese - roads@jerseystownship.us
Marko Jesenko, Fiscal Officer - fo@jerseystownship.us
Rob Platte, Administrator - rplatte@jerseystownship.us
Bud Witney, Zoning - bwitney@jerseystownship.us



The Board of Trustees renewed the service contract with Rumpke for years 2026—2028. Monthly rates are as follows:

Year 2026

Solid Waste \$16.76	\$15.08 (Senior Citizen)
Recycling \$6.00	\$3.00 Cart Rental

Year 2027

Solid Waste \$17.26	\$16.14 (Senior Citizen)
Recycling \$6.00	\$3.00 Cart Rental

Year 2028

Solid Waste \$17.78	\$16.62 (Senior Citizen)
Recycling \$6.00	\$3.00 Cart Rental

Please check the Jersey Township website for a current list of items eligible for recycling.

TRUSTEE'S MESSAGE

"COLLABORATION IS KEY"

With limited state funding available, and our strong commitment to reduce taxes on our residents, we actively seek shared services and collaboration efforts between local governments. To that end, when the City of Johnstown had to remove some equipment from service during the heavy snow events in January 2026, Jersey Township stepped in to provide equipment and manpower to help out. Similarly, Jersey partnered with ODOT and the City of New Albany in April 2026 to pick up trash along the SR161 roadway between Beech Road and Mink Street.

While we all strive to provide excellent service to our respective residents, we occasionally benefit from collaborating and sharing resources for the greater good. We are thankful to and appreciative of our local government partners in western Licking County.

Dan Wetzel, President

2026 ROAD PAVING

The Board of Trustees has selected Hatch Road and Sycamore Lane to be repaved during the 2026 paving season. The Shelly Co. has been awarded the contract and work is to be completed by mid-October. Residents along those roads will be notified prior to commencement.

TAX REDUCTION GRANTS

The Gateway Community Improvement Corporation (the "CIC"), the township's designated historic property preservation and economic development entity, has again issued a \$500.00 grant to Jersey Township residents that qualify for the State of Ohio Homestead Exemption property tax reduction program. The grant is automatically applied to the recipients' property tax bill and the affected residents have been notified by mail.

This grant award is the result of a program created by the CIC in conjunction with the Township and is intended to provide some amount of property tax relief from the increases we have recently seen. Please be aware that while we continue to be committed to excellent Safety and Community Services, we will also continue to provide tax relief for residents when we are able.

Jersey Township Development Plan

COMMUNITY VISIONING WORKSHOP



AUGUST 20, 2026

5:30 pm - 7:00 pm



Jersey Church

13260 Morse Rd SW, New
Albany, OH 43054

As a part of the Township's ongoing Development Plan, Jersey Township invites you to participate in a Visioning Workshop to help shape the future of your community!

Email us your questions at:
lbrown@jerseystownship.us



Jersey Township
1481 Mink Steet
Pataskala, Ohio 43062