

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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COVID-19 Update – April Township Meetings Cancelled
Livestream Meeting Broadcasts to Commence in May

Twinsburg Township, Summit County, Ohio – April 7, 2020 – As part of longstanding efforts to promote open communication and transparency, the Township has video recorded all Township meetings for more than a decade. All Township meetings from 2006 onward are viewable on the Township website, www.twinsburgtwp.com, along with meeting agendas, minutes, and other documents. Meeting videos are usually uploaded to the website within a day after each meeting date.

In mid 2019 the Board of Twinsburg Township Trustees authorized additional communication and transparency initiatives. This included first the Township’s online notification portal, Instant Connect, which was launched in November 2019, and then a separate effort to livestream Township meetings, which is nearly ready for implementation. This new ability to livestream Township meetings is (unfortunately) timely, due to the current need for social distancing, as well as orders for all to stay home.

In light of COVID-19, all April Township meetings have been cancelled, including Tuesday April 7 regular meetings of the Board of Zoning Appeals and Zoning Commission, and the Wednesday April 8 regular meeting of the Board of Trustees. All agenda items have been deferred to future meetings. The next scheduled regular Township meetings are on Tuesday May 5 (Board of Zoning Appeals and Zoning Commission) and Wednesday May 13 (Board of Trustees). Because the Township’s livestream function should be up and running by then, future Township meetings should be able to proceed regardless of whether or not the State’s “stay at home” order has concluded by or is still in place on those dates.

The State last month modified open meeting provisions in the Ohio Revised Code to allow for meetings to be closed to the public, provided that the public has the ability to see and hear what is happening at the meeting via livestream or other available technology. The State explicitly designed this temporary exception in response to the current public health emergency, in an effort to comply with public health orders and recommendations to limit group assembly. The Township must and will always comply with open meeting requirements, and the Township's new livestream function will help greatly in that regard.

The Board of Trustees continuously monitors information provided by County and State officials and urges all to follow all public health orders and recommendations. Current information and updates on COVID-19 can be obtained from Summit County Public Health (www.scph.org), the Ohio Governor's Office (www.governor.ohio.gov), and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (www.cdc.gov).

About Twinsburg Township

Twinsburg Township was founded in 1817, had a population of 2,828 in 2010. Twinsburg Township is home to an unparalleled combination of rich history, abundant natural resources, outstanding parks, well-planned neighborhoods, thriving businesses, and top-notch institutions. Whether you're looking for a great place to live or do business, or just a spot to spend a quiet afternoon, you'll find it all right here in Twinsburg Township. So stop by and see us sometime, and if you can't make it in person, please check out www.twinsburgtwp.com to get a glimpse of all that Twinsburg Township has to offer. For more information, contact Robert S. Kagler, Township Manager, via telephone at (330) 425-4497 or via e-mail at rkagler@twinsburgtwp.com.

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