

September 11, 2016, 2017

Supervisor's report

This month I had several opportunities to visit the Lakeside Commons project. The construction has been proceeding at a remarkable pace and I have been pleased, not only with what I have observed, but with reports of the project and oversight and with discussions with officials from the Newman Group. There have been a few changes and we have recommended that these be summarized and brought to the Town Planning Board for review. We have discussed progress regarding installation of the sewer line and replacement of the Ontario Heights pumping station. It is expected that we will be meeting with them again in the near future.

Last month I mentioned a review by NYMIR and some of the recommendations coming from them and from the NYS Comptroller's office. Many of the items on tonight's agenda, including the proposed local law and the new Town policies are in direct response to these recommendations. The proposed sale of the long unused Town Gravel bed is also a result of their suggestions. We continue to work with these agencies to strengthen our internal policies and procedures and to continue to grow this Town in a fiscally responsible manner.

Often, being fiscally responsible has to do with more than just maintaining a consistent and reasonable tax rate. To that effort, the Town has worked hard at cutting expenses and at looking to bring in additional revenue. After discussion with both NY State and Federal officials, this month we filed a Letter of Intent to pursue an application for federal Hazard Mitigation funds to try to ease some of the impact of flooding and coastal erosion in the town, specifically in regards to septic and sewer systems. We will continue to work with these officials and representatives of other local communities in efforts to address common issues and problems. Including in this will be continued efforts in developing formal shared services agreements with our neighbors.

This month the Town Board accepted the resignation of our long time Code Enforcement Officer, Mr. Wayne Newton. The Town wishes him well on his new endeavors. It has been a focus of this board to improve the Town through the use of fair, consistent, but diligent Code Enforcement efforts. One of the items on tonight's agenda relates to the current review of the Town's Comprehensive Plan being undertaken by the Town Planning Board. This is just one step toward ensuring the goals of the community are being addressed and that our rules regarding planning and zoning are in keeping with current practices. We will soon be appointing a new Code Enforcement officer, and we look forward to a fresh perspective in this area.

September is officially the month when the Town starts its budget preparation. Unofficially, budget preparation and review is an ongoing, year-round process. Tonight, I have provided the Board with some additional background information to be used as references in preparing the budget. I encourage any and all comments, not only from Town Board members, but from the general public. I would like to remind people that all Town reports are open for public review and that the public is free to come in to the Town Hall with questions.