

# **\*\*\*VILLAGE NEWSLETTER\*\*\***

## ***NEWSLETTER OF THE VILLAGE OF NEWARK VALLEY***

**JANUARY 2012**

### **MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR:**

Hello Everyone,

Your Village Trustees, Village Clerk and Village DPW Supervisor are working toward final budget for the coming year. It appears preliminary numbers are as follows: Water Department equals no increases in rates, Solid Waste Department equals no increases in rates and general budget equals less than two percent increase in tax rate. The Village employees indicated to the Board that salary freezes seem to be a good thing to do, so no salary or hourly increases for staff, trustees, code enforcement and attorney are forecast for the next fiscal year. We all share in the tough economic times. We will discuss the preliminary and second round review of budget at our first meeting in January. The final numbers and budget adoption must be before February 1<sup>st</sup>, so look for special meeting on January 24<sup>th</sup>. We will post the day/date on the website [www.villageofnewarkvalley.com](http://www.villageofnewarkvalley.com) and via other postings.

When I began Mayoral duties, staff was: DPW Supervisor plus three hourly employees; Village Clerk plus one full time and one half time person. Shortly after that, we reduced DPW staff by one full time position. Beginning January 16<sup>th</sup>, we will reduce office staff by one full time position. Village Clerk, Mertie Pozzi suggests we see how it goes with this staff reduction and collectively make a decision down the road; to replace or not to replace. Two years ago

I explained to all why we increased office staff from 2.5 to 3.0, and now I will explain this reduction to an office staff of two people. The Village Reservoir and Distribution System project is nearing completion so financial oversight and other duties necessary during these phases were justified. At summer's end or autumn, most of those duties should be complete and also the hours involved. With that being stated; we are leaving our options open concerning this staff position.

We consistently explain advantages of local shopping and spending, and long term negative effects of ignoring local business by going 'over town'. Our Village is unique in that many businesses exist that are not available in municipalities of our town's size elsewhere. One of those businesses is your own DPW Village Solid Waste Department. I do not know why residents may choose other more expensive services and bluntly, it is none of my business; but inquiring minds wish to know. If anyone has questions concerning this matter or other matters, please contact me.

FEMA and Insurance reimbursements are primary concern to many residents and your local governments. We are not waiting for those dollars to proceed with structural repairs necessary for safety and quality of life. The Slosson Creek cement repair on Rock Street, the Owego Creek treatment within the Trout Ponds, the ball diamond fencing and

repair within the Trout Ponds, the Tappan Spaulding Library repair of furnaces and children's center, the Village Municipal Building's furnace repairs and many other municipal projects are complete or near complete.

We trust everyone attending 'Holiday Magic' truly believes tradition and the value of these events. We saw friends, neighbors, kids and kids at heart having a great time. Our thanks go to all volunteers who make it possible.

Have a great winter!

*Jim Tornatore  
Mayor*

### **CLERK'S REPORT:**

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!! 2012

We are going into the New Year with one less employee in the village office. Our goal is to remain that way. We are confident that we can re-organize and streamline the office to accomplish this goal. If you come to the village office, and realize it is not during our regular business hours, please feel free to use the drop box, which has now been moved to the main door of the village office, at the back of the Municipal building. If you have a need to obtain and fill out forms, permits, etc., please go to the website [villageofnewarkvalley.com](http://villageofnewarkvalley.com) to print off the forms, fill them out and return with required fee, by mail, or place in the drop box. Please be sure a phone number is on the form for any questions. We are optimistic about maintaining the same services we have in the past, and we want to thank you in advance for your assistance and understanding while we re-organize and streamline the office.

Also, good luck to Tracey as she moves forward.

February is the end of our fiscal year and any remaining unpaid water bills will be levied to the taxes. Payment must be made into the village office, by February 15<sup>th</sup> to avoid them from being placed on your next tax bill. We will be collecting taxes beginning March 1<sup>st</sup>, and ending October 31<sup>st</sup>, at which time they will be returned to the county.

**Elections** for the Village of Newark Valley will be held on March 20, 2012 in the Municipal Building, from noon to 9 PM. There are two Trustee positions, each with a four-year term. The last day individuals may register with the county board of elections to vote in the village election is March 9, 2012. Republican Caucus will be held January 24<sup>th</sup> at 6PM and the Democratic Caucus will be held January 25<sup>th</sup> at 7PM, both in the Noble Room.

**Solid Waste** - Change of service forms must be into the village office BEFORE the billing period for any changes or cancellations. Services are billed quarterly on March, June, September, and December 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Recycling** – The Village of Newark Valley does not provide the recycling service. If you have any questions regarding recycling, please refer them to Southern Tier Recyclables at 687-6710.

Enjoy the rest of winter!

*Mertie Pozzi*

**Enclosed – Annual Drinking  
Water Report for 2011**

**BRUSH AND LEAVES**

<u>Brush</u>	<u>Leaves</u>
April 17	April 18
May 15	May 16
June 12	June 13
July 10	July 11
August 7	August 8
September 4	September 5
October 16	October 17
November 6	November 7

**PUBLIC WORKS REPORT:**

I hope everyone had a Merry Christmas and a happy New Year. The weather has been exceptional for this time of year but as winter arrives, it is important to remember the Village of Newark Valley has a no parking law. Please see the copy of the code and where there is no parking during the prohibited times at the end of this newsletter.

There are fines and your vehicle can be towed at your expense, so please don't park on the roads during these hours.

The solid waste and recycle policies are changing again, and we can no longer accept electronics, televisions or appliances. At this time, I don't know what will be done during the yearly clean up, but I will let you know as soon as I can. There is a place in Ithaca and Binghamton that will accept computers and electronics. Chairs and small furniture can still be picked up, but you must go to the office and pick up a tag, then place it next to the garbage cans.

The trout ponds will be ready for baseball in the spring, we are in the process of having the backstop fences repaired or replaced and the center fence replaced with a new type of net that will break away and not destroy the fence

posts so that DPW can repair it with minimal cost. The only damage that is left to repair is the creek bank at the trout ponds which we will be doing next year when our permit allows us.

Thank You,

*William Foster*

**CODE ENFORCEMENT:**

Winter will arrive at some time with its snow, ice and wind! It is important that within 24 hours after any amount snow/ice, sidewalks are to be cleared. If you are unable to keep sidewalks clean, then make arrangements with a family member or volunteer, or seek paid snow removal. If the Village Department of Public Works is sent to clear/plow then the property owner will be billed.....and will have monthly penalties added until paid; plus this can be levied onto Village taxes. Those community members who can "adopt" a resident in order to help clear sidewalks would be a welcome "gift" that keeps on giving! Thank you to those helpers already who have adopted a neighbor!!

Winter also brings on issues with heating. Carbon monoxide and smoke detectors should be in place. Once a month each should be tested, and batteries should be changed yearly.....some people change at the start of daylight savings (usually early November), with others remembering on January 1st each year....whatever works for you, but please make it a part of your maintenance routine to keep everyone healthy and safe. Remember also NOT to put ashes in any container that can burn or melt, or set it on any material that can burn, such as a porch. Get

yourself a proper container specifically for ashes. Please remember to inspect and clean your chimney if using wood, wood pellet, or coal.

For those new or improved winter projects, give the office a call to see if a permit is needed; we can refer you to the specific Village and/or state codes to further explain.

Lastly, for those interested, the Family Dollar Store should be opening 5-6 weeks after blacktop plants reopen in the Spring. Progress has been monitored and is moving along.

Have a warm, safe and healthy winter season.

*William Swagler*

**MESSAGE FROM TRUSTEES:**

As we reflect on the events of last year, we hope everyone is recovering from the disastrous flooding in the Village and surrounding areas. We hope everyone enjoyed the various concerts, Newark Valley Days, Holiday Magic, and other events in the Village. We are looking forward to having the new Family Dollar store being built on North Main Street in the Village. A new event is being planned for the Village Green this year. A Farmers Market will be held on Sundays 10:00AM - 2:00PM from May 20th thru October 20th. We are currently looking for vendors in these areas: produce, candles, baked goods, ready-to-eat food concessions, honey, soap, dairy, jewelry, syrups, meats, and wood-working. All items must be handmade. For more information, please contact Eric or Jessica Krenner at 607-657-8251 or e-mail

[crosscreekfarmfamily@yahoo.com](mailto:crosscreekfarmfamily@yahoo.com).

We hope you will come down to the Green and support our local farmers and craftspeople. We Trustees want to wish everyone a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year,

Sincerely,

Dennis Carlin

**TAPPAN SPAULDING LIBRARY:**

Happy New Year to everyone. After some setbacks that were beyond our control, the children's reading room will be re-opening very soon. The men from Public Works have done a great deal to make this possible. We are shooting for January 14th for the Grand Re-opening. All are invited to come and see all the work people have done. We hope to have some special guests here, so watch our front door for all the details. There are so many people to thank for all their help. We have posted on our website and Facebook page a list of thanks to many of those who have helped and will be adding to it. I also want to add a big WOW to the students in Mrs. Rubitski's 5th grade class who headed up the book drive to "Fill a Bus with Books" with a big thank you to the students at the Dewitt Middle School in Ithaca for all the books they brought in, and to the students at the Soule Road Elementary School in Liverpool, NY who raised \$665.00 for us with the sale of their decorated pumpkins. You can see the pictures on Facebook. Thanks to all the students and adults who have donated their books to the library. Thanks also to my staff here at the Library who have helped me stay somewhat sane and have helped with so many things I don't have space to list it all. Last, I want to thank my husband for putting up with my long hours at

work, my bringing things home to work on into the wee hours of the morning and his ability to paint up by the ceiling without using a ladder.

We are NOT taking any book, magazine or video donations at this time. We have too many items we have to process now, and we have no room to store anything.

We are accepting monetary donations to help in the replacement of program materials that were lost in the flood. The total cost of books lost in the flood is \$41,331.50; the total cost of other supplies used for programs at the library is: \$6,844.00. The cost of the damage to the building is being handled by the Village because the Village owns the building and the Library is responsible for the contents of the building.

We have a newly formed Book Club at the Library headed up by Patti Schaffer. The next meeting will be Thursday, January 19, 2012 at 7:00 pm at the Library. Please check out our

Facebook page to find out more information. I am hearing of many people who received "Kindles" for Christmas. Check out the Finger Lakes Library System web page, flls.org, for our newest ebooks that you can download for free.

Please check out the updated web site for the library at <https://sites.google.com/site/tappanspauldinglememoriallibrary/home/kids>

You'll find lots of fun things for kids, teens and parents.

*LuAnn Whirl*

**FROM THE MAYOR, VILLAGE TRUSTEES, CLERK'S OFFICE AND DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS:**  
**Have a safe and happy winter.**

**PARKING CODE**

Parking Lot	Side	Hours/Days	Location
A. Any highway or private road within the corporate limits of the Village	Both	12:00 midnight to 6:00 a.m. from November 1 to April 1	Village of Newark Valley
B. Parking lots contiguous to the municipal building on 9 Park Street (except for designated areas for emergency personnel)	All sides	12:00 midnight to 6:00 a.m. from November 1 to April 1	Village of Newark Valley

