



*****VILLAGE NEWSLETTER*****

***NEWSLETTER OF THE VILLAGE OF NEWARK VALLEY
JANUARY 2013***

MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR:

Hello everyone,

Village Staff, Public Works, Code Enforcement, Trustees and Mayor are working toward budget finalization. The General Budget tax rate increase will be a bit under two percent while no increase is necessary for the operations of solid waste and the water department. The Trustees and Water Rate Committee are working with the debt service portion of the water department and we have good news but more on that a few paragraphs further along.

I reported last summer that your Village applied for Municipal Building external revitalization of brick, mortar and drainage thru the eight County Southern Tier Regional Economic Development Council. Our project was not selected for awards this current year. We contacted the New York State Agency requesting an analysis of thoughts and ideas toward next years funding request. This Historic Site is too valuable to allow a one year setback to revise our long term commitment. The Municipal Building houses more agencies than any other facility in Northern Tioga County.

The facility on Clinton Street previously housing the ‘Ladder Factory’ has no assessment determined by Tioga County Real Property which does impact valuation and tax base for your Village, Town and School District. The current

owner has no plan for that site and reports they do not have the financial resources to demolish the building. The Village does not wish to ‘take over’ this site but it may eventually be not safe as determined by Code and Fire Departments. The Village Trustees authorized an environmental review and report for funding utilization. This is the beginning of a long term effort to return this site to a tax base location for other owners. We will report further as time progresses.

In 1992 the Village eliminated our Police Department and began to rely on Tioga County Deputies to cover that protection and service. The Village pays Tioga County for this coverage as it is over and above the normal service accommodating the other Villages and Towns by the Sheriffs Department. The Village did receive correspondence stating this payment for additional coverage will cease. The information stated various budgetary and personnel reasons for this adjustment in staffing. We are working with our local County legislators and others to ascertain acceptable levels of protection. Negotiation is ongoing and we will update in future web postings

I wish, for a moment, to go back in time:

Five years ago I recommended a \$3.7 million dollar water system with funding thru USDA of \$0.5 million dollars (=) \$3.2 million dollar debt

Three years ago I revised the amounts to \$4.059 million dollar with funding thru USDA of \$1.5 million dollars (=) \$2.559 million dollar debt at 2.650% interest rate. Federal Stimulus for shovel ready projects and it became \$4.059 million with funding thru USDA of \$1.9 million dollars (=) \$2.159 million dollars at 2.125% interest rate
Final result: \$2.159 million dollar bonding for thirty-seven years at a 1.875% interest rate

On January 8th I authorized the \$2.159 million dollar thirty-seven year bonding for the reservoir and water distribution upgrade at a rate not to exceed 1.875%.

Because of this interest rate decrease over the next thirty-seven years; our annual pay back is less than originally plotted for 'debt reduction'. The Village Rate Committee and Trustees are working with those numbers to determine the debt service reduction amount. This is not an easy task to determine per household or business as the debt service charges are based on water usage as you well know. We will post these results on our webpage www.villageofnewarkvalley.com. Think about it! A municipality is LOWERING charges.

Our Village wishes to thank all volunteers for another wonderful HOLIDAY MAGIC. Those leaders and volunteers make it happen!

Winter is upon us – so have a safe and happy New Year!

*Best Regards,
Jim Tornatore
Mayor*

CLERK'S REPORT:

Happy New Year - 2013! Add a minute to each day and spring will be here before you know it!

We have been asked and here it is. Want to pay your bills by Debit/Credit Card or directly from your bank account? We are currently in the process of setting this convenient way for you to pay your Water, Solid Waste, Taxes, Trout Ponds, Noble Room fees, permits, or any fee due to the Village of Newark Valley. We are currently setting up this option to begin accepting credit cards at the counter, over the phone, and online. There is no cost to the village but it does include a convenience fee to you. You will be notified of the fees before you pay. We are thinking we will be ready to go by the end of January. We will put a post out on the website to let you know when the setup process is complete along with the instructions to do so. For those who do not have access to the internet we will have them available in the village office as well. You can visit our website for more information at villageofnewarkvalley.com.

We already have available, the electronic debit to remove the funds directly from your bank account free of charge. If you are interested in this option you will need to fill out, and sign a form, to be able to begin. We have gone through our first trial of this form of payment and it was quite successful, no hitches. Hopefully this second form of payment will go as smoothly.

The end of the fiscal year is upon us. Taxes will soon be out. Any unpaid bills remaining after February 18th will be levied to your next tax bill. We must

receive payment, in the village office, before February 18th to avoid placement on your next tax bill. They will be going out on March 1st, 2013. We will be collecting taxes beginning March 1st, 2013, and ending October 31st, 2013, at which time they will be turned over to the county.

Have a great New Year!

Mertie Pozzi
Clerk/Treasurer

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT:

Now that winter has set in, the DPW will be kept busy clearing streets and walks. If you live by a hydrant please take the time to shovel out around them. The DPW will get out and clear them as time permits but it would be a big help to us if as many as possible were done. If you have your driveway plowed please tell to contractor to not put the snow in the road as this hinders traffic. All sidewalks need to be cleared as soon as possible after a storm a stops and if you live on a corner please do not leave a pile of snow in the road. The DPW will clear off corners and piles of snow we make at intersections when time allows.

The solid waste has had less recyclable (cans, papers, magazines, plastic bottles and bags) but now that winter is here and the snow banks have started to grow please remember to place the cans at the curb side or at the end of driveways and not on the walks in back of the snow, this does not sound important but it saves us so much time if we don't have to walk around piles of snow.

The water department has had two main water breaks (Water St and Smullen Ave) that were repaired. They have been out weekly to listen for leaks

and look for problems. The new water system has been working good and has not had any leaks to report on since the end of the project.

The DPW will be driving around on the morning of FEBRUARY 15th to retrieve the readings.

William Foster
DPW Supervisor

CODE ENFORCEMENT:

It's wintertime again, so please keep your sidewalks shoveled, and help out our senior citizens with their shoveling. Any trace of snow or ice that can be hazardous to pedestrians, thus considered a safety hazard, must be removed from the sidewalks within a 24 hour period. There is no set amount of snowfall stated in the code books, as *any* amount can be dangerous to walkers. Village Code #140-27 says, All owners of Village Real Property which abuts upon or is contiguous to a public sidewalk shall be responsible for the maintenance of said sidewalk and shall be required to keep such sidewalk reasonably clear of snow and ice and shall not permit the same to accumulate. I hope I have helped to clarify this question.

For those of you who have a wood stove, please remember to clean your chimney on a regular basis to prevent chimney fires, and do not store hot ashes on your porch or near your house. If you are installing or replacing a wood stove, pellet stove, pea coal stove, and or furnace you need a permit to do so.

Remember the code changes all the time so please contact me before you do any construction to make sure you do it right the first time.

I'm in the office Mondays from 1-7pm or you can call the office and they will get in touch with me so I can help you.

Have a SAFE and WONDERFUL New Year.

*Lee Virtue
CEO*

TAPPAN SPAULDING LIBRARY

Throughout the holiday season, the Tappan Spaulding Memorial Library continued to be busy! Many visited the Library during Holiday Magic and enjoyed the festive holiday atmosphere. Children were given a book as a Christmas present. The Library sold delicious fudge as a fund raiser. Some who visited have become new library patrons. It was a fun festive night.

The Library is offering interesting events in the upcoming weeks. On Thursday, February 7th, Cal Walker and John Simon will present Read Along Love Stories for Babies. The talented duo will read and sing books for the youngest members of the family. The program will be in the Noble Room at 10:00 AM. All are welcome and it will be fun!

Wednesday, February 13th, Amanda Schiavalli, the Finger Lakes Library System Youth Director, will present a story time for children birth to 3. This will be at 10:00 AM at the Library. We are looking forward to singing, clapping and playing along with her.

The Book Club is meeting on January 15th at 6:30 PM to discuss "In the Kingdom of Men" by Kim Barnes. This lively group meets once a month to discuss their chosen selection. Please

contact the Library or Patti Schaffer (pattithenurse@stny.rr.com) for more information if you are interested. The group would love you to join us!

Patti Schaffer

NEW BUSINESSES:

The Farmhouse Malt
• 2 Whig Street

CLEANUP & BRUSH AND LEAVES

<u>Brush</u>	<u>Leaves</u>
16 th April	17 th April
14 th May	15 th May
11 th June	12 th June
9 th July	10 th July
6 th August	7 th August
10 th September	11 th September
8 th October	9 th October
5 th November	6 th November