



VILLAGE OF STAMFORD



December 1, 2016

84 MAIN STREET, STAMFORD, NY 12167 OFFICE: 607-652-6671 FAX: 607-652-3567
WWW.STAMFORDNY.COM

VILLAGE CONTACTS

Mayor

Joan Hinman - 607-201-5538

Trustees

John Bonhotal - 607-652-5172

Reid Golden - 607-652-9560

Darren Hanway - 607-652-4334

Maryann Dwyer - 607-214-4071

Village Clerk & Notary Public

Nancy Milea - 607-652-6671
Ext. *#

Village Treasurer

Pamela Hladik - 607-652-6671
Ext. 1#

Public Works Superintendent

Joe Hornbeck - 607-652-4710
Cell: 607-221-7411

Pool Director

Josh Burroughs - 607-435-3463

Village Attorney

Kevin Young - 518-438-9907

Codes Enforcement

Tom Tompkins - 607-267-3767

Animal Control Officer

James Milea - 518-965-4290

Tax Assessor

Charles Ferris - 607-652-7730

Village Historian

Anne Willis - 607-652-7839

Village Health Officer

Dr. Richard Ucci - 607-652-7583

Planning Board Chairman

Aree Bray - 607-434-7273

Zoning Board of Appeals

Chairman

James Milea - 607-214-4028

Tree Board Chairman

Frank Parks - 607-643-5771

Comprehensive Plan

Committee Chairman

Skip Heath - 607-652-6833

Eight Years of Village Improvement Projects

Roughly 8 ½ years ago when I joined the Village of Stamford Board of Trustees (VOSBOT), I learned quickly that many of the mechanical systems in the village were in rough shape. We were in need of several culvert replacements; the wastewater treatment plant was in rough shape and in need of a substantial overhaul; and the water system, though some maintenance and water main replacement had been done, we continued to have substantial problems with failing mains in several areas due to significant stretches of main that are in excess of 100 years old, and lest I forget, a failing water storage tank at the top of Kirkner Hill. Compounding the problem was a serious shortfall of funds needed to do this work. Of course, the VOSBOT as conscientious representatives recognized the importance of keeping taxes low, long before we had the mandated NYS Tax Cap of roughly 2% per year. In fact we managed to keep tax increases significantly below the tax cap, long before it was imposed, through cost savings efforts. Those of you who know me know that I am a mechanical systems guy and took this news like an enormous weight hanging over my head. So, with limited funds, and a few generous grants, including but not limited to The Robinson Broadhurst and O'Connor Foundations and the Army Corp of Engineers,

we began to repair, overhaul and replace these failing systems beginning with a culvert replacement on South Delaware Street in 2008. Though it took a few years to get started on other projects, we have renovated, replaced and restructured essential components of the Wastewater Treatment Plant which resulted in the reduction of energy costs by 2/3 through the efforts of Delaware Engineering and Joe Hornbeck and our Village Crew. When there were outside grants available to renovate the water system, we decided to replace manageable stretches of the water main and we replaced the main on Roosevelt Avenue, again through the efforts of Joe Hornbeck and our Village Crew and a generous grant from the Robinson Broadhurst Foundation. Over the past few years, Lucas and Ralph from Cedarwood Environmental working shoulder to shoulder with Joe and the Crew have refurbished our Pumping Station at the Kelly Well House, the Water Filtration Plant by rebuilding of the Air Lifts, Sand Filters and pumps. We have worked diligently to insure water quality and reliability, though we have had a few issues that caused us to enact "Boil Water Alerts." Subsequently, to insure reliability of the water system, we are in the process of installing a new Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) system, a control system that uses

computers, and networked data communications to monitor and control our water supply and treatment system through any computer with internet access. The SCADA system will be online early in December when we switch our water supply from the Kelly Well to the Taylor Reservoir and the Water Filtration Plant. At a cost of roughly \$50,000 the SCADA system will replace the Sensitive Remote Monitoring system which has been problematic, largely due to the sporadic reliability of the phone lines in the area of the Kelly Well House and Filtration Plant. Though no system is trouble free, we strive to eliminate water quality issues and provide consistent water service to our residents. That brings us up to date with most of the significant accomplishments to our village infrastructure over the past 8 ½ years. However, there are more major projects in our future. If all goes as planned, we will see the replacement of nearly 2 miles of water mains, a new state of the art water tank atop Kirkner Hill, the replacement of 2 more culverts, and a significant improvement to the look of Main Street most of them within roughly the next few years. In the meantime we thank you for your patience and understanding as we work to provide better service to you.

~ John Bonhotal

RURAL FIRE DISTRICT MERGER PROGRESSION

On January 1, 2017 the Stamford Fire Department will be under the jurisdiction of the newly formed Stamford Joint Fire District. The Village of Stamford will no longer oversee the administration of the department. This is a desirable action because it will reduce government and streamline the operation of the fire department. Though the fire department will not change in the way it responds to emergency incidents; fires, medical calls and other assistance calls, there will be a significant difference in administrative operations. The Stamford Fire Department was formed in 1870 when men in the village organized and formed a fire company. Since then and up to this time the fire department has been under the jurisdiction of the Village of Stamford and subject to the provisions of the NYS Village Law. The village owned

several pieces of apparatus, some firefighting equipment and the fire house on Main Street. The village annually provided money from its general fund to buy equipment, maintain the fire house and provide insurance. In the mid 1930's the Stamford Rural Fire District was formed to provide emergency services to portions of five towns surrounding the village. The District contracted with the village for fire department members to respond to emergencies located in the outlying area. The Fire District is a taxing entity. It has an annual budget that provides money to purchase, maintain and insure firefighting equipment used by the Stamford Fire Department. Over 85% of the emergency equipment and apparatus in use by the department was acquired through district funding. Negotiations between the Fire District commissioners and the village

board of trustees led to a decision to have the Fire District take over all administration and funding of the fire department. Although the fire house building will continue to be owned by the village all other apparatus and equipment has been turned over to the Stamford Joint Fire District. All residents of the new Fire District, including village residents of the towns of Harpersfield and Stamford, will receive the same level of emergency service and will contribute to fire department operations by way of a tax levy on their property. ~ B. Sharick, Rural Fire District



You can now make payments online through our website (www.stamfordny.com) for water, sewer, and tax payments. We cannot take payments over the phone however if you do not own a computer we can take your credit

ONLINE PAYMENTS

cards at the office using the online access. We do still accept personal checks for payment as well as cash if it is close to the bill amount. We do accept partial payments and advanced payments for water and sewer. Advanced pay-

ments will be added to your account and your bills will be deducted from your balance. Partial payments are taken by previous arrangement with the village clerk and are still expected to be paid in full by the shut off date.

ICE RINK RETURNS

Volunteers will once again install an ice skating rink at the South Street basketball court in January. The Stamford Village Improvement Association purchased the rink last winter with matching funds from the O'Connor and Robinson-Broadhurst Foundations. This year the Stamford Central School Technology Class is fabricating brackets to better support the walls.

Stamford Cub Scout Pack 32 will fill sand bags to hold the brackets and the Stamford Fire Department will fill the rink with water. Volunteers are needed to install the rink when weather permits; four days free of precipitation with temperatures below freezing. Jane Macintosh-Martin will loan skates for the season from her private collection and Stamford Farmers Coop will

provide space in its garden center to store skates that can be borrowed on a daily basis. Donation of small straw bales are needed for seating. Check the Stamford Skating Rink Facebook page for announcement of opening day (when skates will be on loan for \$5 deposit). To volunteer or donate straw bales, drop us a line on Facebook, or call 214-4094. ~ J. Barnes, SVIA



COMPREHENSIVE PLAN PROGRESS

The Village of Stamford has recently started work on updating its Comprehensive Plan. A Comp Plan is a road map that will guide the village's future decisions related to its growth and development. It is a document that expresses the vision, goals, strategies, and policies of the community and is intended to be implemented over 10 to 15 years. Comp plans cover a wide range of topics including land use, historic and cultural resources, transportation, environmental resources, open space, utilities and infrastructure, housing, and economic development. The committee is made of up

residents, business owners, and representatives from the Planning Board, Zoning Board, Tree Board and Village Board to work with a planning consultant to update the prior plan. The planning process will include three steps: 1) is to learn as much about the Village's population, economy, people, and characteristics as possible. 2) develop a vision for the future and goals to work towards, 3) develop a set of strategies, actions and programs that can be put in place to help reach the vision. The Committee has met twice and has already begun work on data collection and planning for public input.

Involvement of residents and business owners is critical and there will be multiple opportunities for people to get involved. The Committee is planning on a series of focus groups, a village-wide workshop, and a survey. The strength of a comp plan comes from its public involvement so the Village hopes that everyone will participate. Watch for future newsletters and notices for upcoming events. It is hoped that the draft plan will be ready for review by next fall. ~ N. Stolzenburg, Community Planning & Environmental Associates



DELAWARE COUNTY VILLAGES ASSOCIATION



The Village of Stamford with the other 9 Villages in the County (Delhi, Deposit, Fleischmanns, Franklin, Hancock, Ho-

bart, Margaretville, Sidney, and Walton) have decided to form an association in order to work through problematic areas within our villages, share information on processes and methods, such as water meter billing systems, tax foreclo-

sure process, and more. We plan to meet every three months and help each other with whatever we can. Opening the lines of communications will help us stand strong as one and give us all support to fight for our village's rights.

SNOW ORDINANCE

Beginning December 1st, the village of Stamford's snow ordinance will go into effect. Any vehicle left parked on village streets, when a winter storm is forecasted, after 1AM until 7AM, will be ticketed and fined \$50.00, which will be issued with a \$100 fine for each subse-

quent ticket. If a second ticket is issued the vehicle will be towed and stored at the owner's expense on village property. If after one month any vehicle remains unclaimed, it will be sold at a Village auction. This ordinance will remain in effect until April 30th. It is the owner's responsi-

bility to be aware of the weather!

PLEASE NOTE: It is against New York State Law to plow or snow blow the snow into the roads, please find another way to rid your driveways and sidewalks of snow.



VILLAGE OF STAMFORD

The Village of Stamford is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Complaints of discrimination may be filed with:

USDA Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Ave. Washington, DC 20250 or call 800-795-3272 or TDD 202-720-6382

“Queen of the Catskills”



Village Hall Hours:

Monday - Friday

9:00AM - 4:30PM

Closed Holidays, Open Thru Lunchtime

(Payments can be left in the outside drop box at anytime!)

[Street Parking with Handicap Access at the rear of the Building]

Village Crew Hours:

[All water emergency calls should be directed to Joe Hornbeck at (607)221-7411]

June - August

Monday - Friday

6:00AM - 2:30PM

September - May

Monday - Friday

7:00AM - 3:30PM

Make your **Water**, **Sewer**, and **Tax** payments on our Website at www.stamfordny.com

**** Please be advised that our payment center does not work with Firefox Browser ****

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Village of Stamford will be having a public hearing on December 20, 2016 at 6:45 pm.

Local Law Number 6 of 2016 Amending the Water Law

Be it enacted by the Village of Stamford as follows:

§ 1 – Amendment to Confirm Fee For Re-Establishing Water Service.

Section 1 (“General Rules”), Subsection B of Local Law No. 1 of 1995 (as amended by subsequent local laws) is hereby amended as follows:

(B) Discontinuance of service for non-payment. All bills are due and payable, within 30 days after rendition. In case any water bill or charges provided for in and by these rules shall not have been paid within 60 days following the rendering of the bill, the Village may discontinue water service to the customer, and service will not be reinstated until the water charges are fully paid. Additionally, the resident will be charged a fee of \$50.00 for suspension and recommencing of water service (\$25.00 for each). Moreover, an extra \$50.00 fee will be charged

for reestablishing a service connection after 4:30 PM. These fees must be paid prior to restoring services.

§2 - Severability.

If any provisions of this local law is held to be unconstitutional or otherwise invalid by any court of competent jurisdiction, the remaining provisions of the local law shall remain in effect.

§ 3- Effective Date.

This local law shall take effect upon filing with the Secretary of State.

