



Town Times

ISSUE
09 Quarter 1
2022

Meeting Times:

***Please check website and/or facebook for updates on meetings!**

Town Board: Second Tuesday of the month at 6:00pm.

Planning Board: Third Tuesday of the month at 7:00pm.

Zoning Board: Fourth Tuesday of the month at 6:30pm.

Communications Committee: First Tuesday of the month at 6:30pm.

Sustainability Committee: First Thursday of every other month (beginning in January) at 7:00pm.

Economic Development Committee: Fourth Wednesday of every other month (beginning in January) at 7:00pm.



this issue:

- Tax Payment Information
- Fire Department Highlight: North Side Fire Company, Inc
- Updates from Departments & Committees

From Supervisor Mark Venuti

Dear Town Residents and Friends,

A new year is upon us. I hope you have been able to enjoy the holidays. If you are struggling, let us know; we may be able to help or connect you with the right person or program. There is a relatively new service available: dial 211 and a representative will try to connect you with programs and services to fit your needs.

2021 was a busy year in the town. New housing is out of the ground in several areas and businesses are building and renovating. Our small building department, led by Code Enforcement Officer Floyd Kofahl, assisted by Amy Naegele, are working hard to keep projects moving forward.

In 2022 we hope to complete the upgrade of the town's water treatment plant and distribution system to keep up with increases in demand. Work is underway on a cyber security policy for the town that will help protect the water system and other government functions. We plan to put a fast-charge electric vehicle charging station in the parking lot of the town hall for the public and also for an electric vehicle we plan to purchase for the code enforcement officer. NYSEG has a program we will be going through in which it provides the power and make-ready services for a station at no cost to the town.

Highway Superintendent Bernie Peck and I recently met with the town's engineer, Pat Nicoletta, to discuss plans for needed work on Carter Road from Angelo Street to Gambee Road. The road surface will need work in the next couple of years, some culverts need to be replaced, and we are looking at making it a "complete street" that allows safe travel by auto, bicycle and foot; this would mean the addition of a

2022 Tax Payment Information Inside

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Communications Committee

- From Kim Aliperti,
Committee Chair

The Town Communications Committee has been quiet the past few months, just keeping up with the Town Website. We are looking forward to getting back to in person meetings soon. Our next meeting will be on January 4th at 6:30. We will be discussing the creation of a space for testimonials about the town from both businesses and residents. If you are interested in giving us a written testimonial about the Town of Geneva please contact Communications Committee Chairperson, Kim Aliperti at Kim@billsborowinery.com

From Supervisor Mark Venuti (cont'd)

sidewalk and bike lanes. We hope to make an application for grant funding for a comprehensive project in 2022 that, if awarded, would allow construction in 2023.

I recently had meetings with Seneca Watershed Steward Ian Smith and Tucker Kautz of the Ontario County Soil and Water Conservation District to discuss areas in the town with flooding problems during extreme rain events to see if we can come up with opportunities for controlling storm water. This is a difficult process; some events are so extreme, and we hope rare, there is no reasonable fix. Even the more feasible interventions like installing retention basins require a land owner willing to give up land and the money to pay for the project. We have installed several storm-water control facilities over the past few years and will continue as best we can. You can help by planting trees and other vegetation - a mature tree can soak up 100 gallons of water a day - and taking other steps to control run-off from your property. The town has a Lake Friendly Home program outlined on our web site. The Seneca Lake Pure Waters Association has a similar program you can check out as well.

Best wishes for this new year.

2022 TAX PAYMENT INFORMATION:

You should receive your bill the beginning of January 2022.

Taxes are paid at the Geneva Town Hall, 3750 County Road 6 Geneva, NY 14456

Tax Collector Hours:

January 2nd to January 31st: Monday- Thursday 8:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Saturday 8am - 12:00 pm. *January Only*

February 1st to March 31, 2022: Monday- Thursday 8:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

2022 County/Town Taxes:

- Make checks out to Lorrie S. Naegele, Tax Collector. *Put your phone number and bill number on your checks in case there is an issue.*

- In person payment can be made at the Town Clerk/Tax Collector office at the Town Hall.
- Drop off Taxes can be placed in Drop Box by the flagpole at the Geneva Town Hall.
- Mail to Town of Geneva Tax Collector 3750 County Road # 6, Geneva, New York 14456.

**Escrow payments: If you receive a bill and you have your payment in escrow, please take your bill to the bank that holds your escrow account.*

School Tax Assessment Relief Program

- From Vincent Fischer, Assessor

The School Tax Assessment Relief (STAR) program offers property tax relief to eligible New York State homeowners (you only need to apply once).

If you are eligible and enrolled in the STAR program, you'll receive your benefit each year in one of two ways:

- **STAR credit check:** If you are registered for the STAR credit, the Tax Department will send you a STAR check in the mail each year. You can use the check to pay your school taxes. You can receive the STAR credit if you own your home and it's your primary residence and the combined income of the owners, including spouses, is \$500,000 or less.

- **STAR exemption:** a reduction on your school tax bill. If you've been receiving the STAR exemption since 2015, you can continue to receive it for the same primary residence. As long as you remain eligible, you'll see a reduction on your school tax bill for the amount of your STAR exemption. Note: The STAR exemption is no longer available to new homeowners.

Building Department

-From Floyd Kofahl, Code Enforcement Officer

It's Winter Time! With winter comes several concerns that need to be addressed.

- First, for all property owners that have sidewalks in front of their property, remember that you are required to keep these sidewalks clear of snow and ice. The sidewalks are to be maintained within 24 hours of snow fall. This also includes after plow trucks go by and throw snow on to the sidewalks. This is a safety issue for the residents of the Town.

- Second, if you are thinking of doing any construction with a concrete element involved, be aware that during cold temperatures there are specific requirements to protect the concrete applications.

Please remember, if you are looking to do any type of construction, or you are unsure if you need a permit, you can call the Building Department and ask questions prior to designing your project.

My email address is codeenforcement1@townofgeneva.com and the phone number is 315-789-3922 x 303, if you have any questions or concerns you would like to have addressed.

I look forward to working with you on all your future endeavors.

Stay Informed!

Email users, give us your email address and we'll include you on periodic messages about important town and area events. Send an email to supervisor@townofgeneva.com to sign up! Your email address will never be shared with others, and you can be removed from the list at any time by hitting the unsubscribe button at the bottom of town messages.

Highway Department

-From Bernie Peck, Highway Superintendent

Just a reminder: The Town of Geneva is not responsible for damage to mailboxes. The majority of damage done to mailboxes is primarily from the snow coming off the plow wing. Most of the time it is the mailbox post that are old/rotten and in disrepair. We advise you to be sure your mailbox and post are in good condition and if not, replace them during the warmer months.

Please make our jobs a little easier by following these guidelines provided by the Ontario County Sheriff's Department:

With the winter driving season upon us, the Ontario County Highway Superintendents Association and the Ontario County Sheriff's Office would like to remind area residents how they can help snow plowing crews in performing their jobs.

Motorists are encouraged to operate their vehicles at a reduced reasonable speed with regard to road conditions and poorer visibility due to blowing and drifting snow. Motorists should drive defensively keeping in mind that you could encounter black ice, a slow moving snowplow or other vehicles entering the highway from behind high snow banks. Brake in a safe and efficient manner. Remember, that bridges and overpasses freeze first. In our cold and snowy winters, automobile drivers should remember to always wear their seat belt and make sure passengers do, too. Snow tires or, at the very least, all-season tires should be on your vehicle. Bring gloves, a coat and boots in case your car breaks down or gets stuck. Check the weather forecast for your destination. Tell someone where you are going and when you expect to return.

When you are plowing out your driveway, it is recommended that the snow be plowed from the road to the sides of the driveway. It is best to pile the snow on the right side of your driveway as you face the highway. This will help to keep snow from being plowed back into your driveway by the highway crews. **Snow should not be plowed from driveways and across a highway.** Not only is this type of snow removal illegal but the snow that is left behind in the highway presents a hazard to the motoring public and results in the Highway Department making a costly trip back to remove this snow hazard. The Highway Superintendents and the Sheriff's Office also encourage parents to make certain their children are not playing on or in the snow banks adjacent to the highway.

To ease the job of the highway snow removal crew, homeowners should shovel away the snow from around their mailbox. Not only does this allow mail to be delivered but provides the opportunity for the plow operators to see the mailbox. Unfortunately, many mailboxes are damaged yearly by heavy snow and ice as it is being removed from the roadway. The Ontario County Highway Superintendents Association reports that their crews are aware of the damage that is done to mail boxes by snow removal and as many precautions as are possible are taken to prevent mail box damage. When this unintentional damage occurs, it is the homeowner's responsibility to repair or replace the mailbox. The Highway Superintendents understand the frustration of homeowners when this type of unintentional damage occurs but they point out that the municipality cannot legally reimburse for mailbox damage while the municipality is engaged in snow removal.

The Ontario County Sheriff's Office also reminds motorists that parking along the highway, in snow plow turn-arounds and school bus turn-arounds, also can be hazardous and prevent highway crews from removing snow properly. If your vehicle becomes disabled, first notify the Sheriff's Office, then try to remove the vehicle as soon as possible. If the operator fails to follow these mentioned steps, the vehicle may get towed at the owner's expense for hampering snow removal.

Fire Department Highlight – North Side Fire Company, Inc

- Councilman Bob McCarthy

The Town of Geneva is very fortunate to be served by three volunteer fire departments. These service organizations are comprised of dedicated volunteers whose commitment to protect lives and property is appreciated by all. The past two issues of the Town Times highlighted the West Lake Road Fire Association and the White Springs Fire Association. This is the last article in the Times' series on the three volunteer fire departments, and will highlight the North Side Fire Company, Inc. (NSFC).

The NSFC was founded in 1960 and first incorporated in 1961. Their primary area of service in the Town of Geneva is from Johnson Rd east to PreEmption St and from CR 4 north. Within their district they protect 400 residences and several businesses. Their fire station has been in the same building on Carter Rd for many decades and is in need of some upgrades. While the building has been kept in excellent shape, today's fire equipment is just too big for the original truck bays - there is less than 2 inches clearance for their truck on each side mirror to mirror. They are presently trying to raise \$1.6 million to update their buildings and equipment. Their major fundraisers are direct mailings, boot drives, chicken bbqs, and bottle and can donations.



Presently NSFC has thirty-two volunteers and are led by Fire Chief Daniel Beckers and Deputy Fire Chief Todd Powers. Of their 32 members, three are Emergency Medical Technicians and one is a certified first responder. All volunteers have training in first aid, CPR, Narcan, and Automatic External Defibrillators. Deputy Fire Chief Powers stresses that NSFC is always looking for new volunteers - especially drivers, EMS technicians, pump operators, and fire police. Stop in at their fire station at 270 Carter Rd any Monday during their weekly training sessions from 6-9 to learn how you can join this very important service organization!

**Reminder: Geneva Lake
Friendly Living
Educational Series & Lake
Friendly Living Questions**

The Town of Geneva Sustainability Committee, in partnership with the City of Geneva Green Committee, has begun a series of educational events on Lake Friendly Living. Topics include: Eco lawn care, composting, rain barrels, and others as requested.

To view recordings of past events or to submit a Lake Friendly Living question please visit the town's website. These questions do not need to be specific to an upcoming program. We want to help with any questions or concerns you have when trying to be more eco-conscious!

Climate Smart

-From Sustainability Committee

The town will be receiving \$35,000.00 from NYS Energy Research & Development Agency (NYSERDA) clean energy communities program for the many Climate Smart actions we have taken over the past few years, including converting street lights to LED and most recently, which put us over the line to qualify for this grant, adopting the Stretch Energy Code. Thanks to Jacob Fox for leading this effort these past few years. The town plans to use these funds to build another EV charging station as well as procuring an electric vehicle for code enforcement. If the town can accomplish these two tasks, we can earn an extra \$70,000 from NYSERDA.

From the Town Clerk's Office



The new 2022 recycling sticker is on sale now. You will need the sticker on your car to enter the transfer station area. They are \$15.00 each.

Contact Us

Town of Geneva
3750 County Road 6
Geneva, NY 14456
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