



Town of GLENVILLE

FALL 2017
Newsletter

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From the Desk of the Town Supervisor



I am pleased to submit my 2018 tentative budget to the Town Board. This is a conservative spending plan which once again stays within the state imposed real property tax cap limit. The Town of Glenville has stayed under the tax cap every year since it was implemented. As we have done every year, we have managed to achieve tax cap compliance without relying on gimmicks

such as new fees on residents or the deferral of required payments to the state retirement system.

The overall proposed 2018 tax levy increase is 1.68%, which is below our New York State tax cap. A typical Glenville homeowner outside the village will see a total 2018 town tax bill increase of \$7 which covers all town items on your January tax bill: town general, town outside, highway, water, sewer, and all special districts. A typical village homeowner will see a 2018 increase of \$3.

The 2018 budget also once again reduces our reliance on using fund balance. This will be the eighth consecutive budget in which we have reduced total fund balance appropriation in the town general, town outside, and highway funds. We will also continue to avoid unnecessary borrowing, in keeping with the philosophy which has seen us reduce the overall Town debt load from \$23.1 million to \$14.9 million since taking office in 2010. The 2018 budget will result in a further net debt reduction of over \$1 million. As with fund balance appropriation, we anticipate a further reduction in the Town's overall debt in the 2019 budget.

In recent years, we have made significant investments in Town infrastructure and equipment. We have recently begun replacement of all water meters in the Town with new automatic-read meters which will save time and money for both residents and staff. These new meters should be fully installed by spring 2018. In early 2017, the Town utilized \$100,000 from capital reserves to purchase the historic Yates Mansion and save the building from possible demolition. In a matter of months we have been able to shore up the building and secure \$150,000 in grant funding to begin

this multi-year rehabilitation project. In the past few years this Board and Highway Superintendent Tom Coppola have worked diligently to find the funds necessary to replace the aging, neglected DPW equipment that we inherited. We have also made a number of key investments in Town parks including creation of the wildly popular Andersen Dog Park; improvement of the roads and playing fields in Indian Meadows Park; and the addition of a second entrance at Maalwyck Park.

Additionally, in 2018 the Town Board and I will continue to strongly advocate for Glenville's fair share of sales tax revenue. From 2003 to 2016, the amount of annual sales tax revenue received by the Town of Glenville grew by less than \$200,000 - a total increase of only 7.8% over 13 years. During that same time frame, Schenectady County increased its net annual sales tax revenue from \$37 million to \$62 million, an increase of 68%. Glenville, like the other towns and villages in the county, has been forced to make due with basically flat sales tax revenue for a decade and a half while watching the county government consume an extra \$25 million in sales tax revenue. This is grossly unfair to our residents.

In closing, this tentative 2018 budget is fiscally sound, operationally effective, and fair to all. We will again stay within the tax cap, invest in our community, and make significant progress in creating a long-term, sustainable economic base for town residents. I offer my thanks to the Town Board, the Deputy Supervisor, the Town Comptroller, the Highway Superintendent, department heads, our employee unions, and the entire town staff for their hard work on this budget and for helping this Town Board create and maintain a fiscally strong foundation for the people of Glenville.

All the best,

Christopher A Koetzle
Supervisor

Freemans Bridge Road Redevelopment Underway



This past month the Verizon Retailer was approved to build their new 2,575 sq ft store on Freemans Bridge Road. The site was home to the former Schenectady Seed and has long been a focus of potential redevelopment. The site can accommodate up to two more retailers, although there are no plans for any at this time.

Additionally, the town started the work that is funded by a New York State grant of studying the redevelopment of Freeman Bridge Road using the Complete Street concept, which will provide a roadmap for implementing future land use and transportation planning policies that integrate safety improvements, minimize environmental impacts, encourage economic growth, and build a Complete Street that is

safe, convenient, and comfortable for all ages and abilities using any mode of transportation.

Watch for more exciting news on these projects in the coming months.

Yates Mansion Fund Raiser Nets \$160,000 Toward Restoration



This past winter, the town purchased the historic Yates Mansion on Maple Avenue with the intent of undertaking a long and extensive restoration of the house. The ultimate goal is to restore the home back to its former glory by 2020, the

town's bicentennial, and open it to the community for all to enjoy. We hope to make this building our History and Community Center where we can interpret and present our town's history and culture to the community. We envision also utilizing the grounds to present public events and presentations for all to enjoy.

The mansion was home to Joseph C Yates. Joseph became Schenectady's first mayor in 1798 and governor of the state in 1822. He was also a state senator, a Supreme Court judge, a founding member of Union College, and the first president of Schenectady's first savings bank. The Glenville plantation is viewed by our community as an important building and worthy of public investment to restore and save.

To that end, the town started a multi-year fund raising effort and held a dinner this past September. The town raised \$160,000 from the event with a \$100,000 grant coming from Assemblymember Mary Beth Walsh and a \$50,000 grant coming from Senator Tedisco. The rest was raised from the dinner and included proceeds from the sale of note cards with the reprint of a painting of the house. These note cards are still available and for sale at the Town Clerk's office at Town Hall. They make a perfect gift for the holidays.

Follow the progress at glenville2020.com.

Glenville Gets Over \$2 Million in Grants

Senator Tedisco Secured:

- \$1.5 Million Grant to upgrade our Police Department
- \$220,000 Grant to enhance our Senior Center
- \$200,000 Grant to expand our Sidewalks
- \$50,000 Grant to refurbish Yates Mansion

Assemblymember Walsh Secured:

- \$100,000 Grant to refurbish Yates Mansion

The Town Board would like to thank Senator Tedisco and Assemblymember Walsh for their hard work and dedication to Glenville and appreciate all that they do to help us invest in our community.

News From the History, Events and Culture Committee

Koetzle Helps Celebrate 90 Years at ESAM

This past July, Supervisor Chris Koetzle presented members of ESAM with a proclamation honoring the 90th anniversary of Charles Lindbergh's visit to the Schenectady Airport in Glenville.



Glenville Holds 1st Annual "Thursday's in the Park"

The Town, in partnership with sponsors, held the town's first "Thursday in the Park" series this August in Indian Meadows.

The summer concert and movie series welcomed hundreds of residents this year. Stewart's Ice Cream offered free sundaes before ET, Mr. Twisty entertain the crowd before Sing and the Town Board provided free popcorn during all 5 shows. Watch for news on the 2018 series.

Town Hosted 8th Annual Oktoberfest!

The town held its 8th Annual Oktoberfest community celebration on September 30th, from 12 to 9 at Maalwyck Park. This annual town festival offers something for everyone as the



town welcomes around 10,000 people. We had another great year as guests enjoy authentic German food, bands, crafts, fireworks, outdoor movie, and so much more! Mark your calendar for next year: the last Saturday in September!

Town Re-opens Greens Corner School House after three years and extensive renovations



The school house, built in 1823, has served the educational needs of W. G'ville for over 120 years before it was closed in 1946. We had the great honor of Ann Farina joining us today. She was a graduate of the school in the 1930's and is 100 years old. She had some great memories to share. Also on hand was the school's caretaker for many years, Adrian Karir. This is an important step in the town's efforts to better preserve and present our rich, long history. Special thanks to Bruce McConnelee, the Scotia Rotary, the Glenville Rotary, and all the volunteers!

From the Water Department

Water Meter Replacement Project Update

Reminder that the Town's Water Meter Replacement Program is under way. If you have not already, you will be receiving a letter from the town stating that the town's contractor, East National Water, LLC, will be sending you a green

postcard asking you to schedule your appointment. The postcard will provide you with all the details needed to make the appointment. We appreciate your cooperation to ensure that we complete the meter replacement process in a timely manner. Feel free to give our office a call, at 518-688-1217, or email, cvisco@townofglenville.org with any questions. Thank you!!

Fire Hydrant Snow Removal

Winter can be a time for enjoying the great indoors with friends and family. Help keep your home safe from winter fire hazards by ensuring your fire hydrants are clear and readily accessible in an emergency. In addition to removing snow and debris covering the hydrant, please maintain a shoveled path from the street or driveway to the fire hydrant so it is visible from the road. We often have only small crews available for clearing snow from fire hydrants, your continued help with snow removal is greatly appreciated!

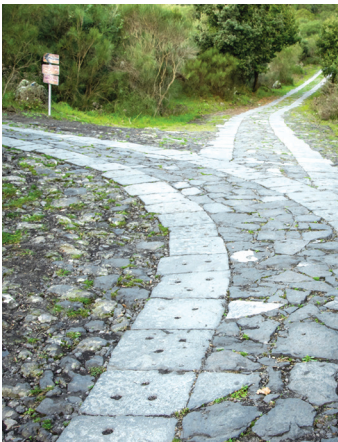
If you are unable to complete this task, please contact the Glenville Highway Department, at 518-688-1240, for assistance. Again, we appreciate your help in the past, as well as going forward.

*Tom Coppola, Commissioner of Public Works
Dana Gilgore, Deputy Commissioner of Public Works*

Town of Glenville Expands Sidewalk System

The Town Board has aggressively pursued the expansion of pedestrian trails and sidewalks to add on to the success of its Town Center upgrades. The next phase includes a pedestrian trail to Woodhaven, that will help connect our neighborhoods, our commercial center and, eventually, our parks by going down Van Buren to the dog park. Additionally, the town has secured an agreement to connect Anderson Park with Indian Meadows and work on that connector trail has begun.

To help with this project, Senator Jim Tedisco (R,C,I,REF-Glenville) has secured a \$250,000 state grant for the Town of Glenville's Glenridge Road Pedestrian Connection Trail which is a half-mile pedestrian trail to connect the neighborhoods off Glenridge Road to the businesses and offices in the Town Center. "This new pedestrian trail will enhance the great work Supervisor Chris Koetzle and the Town Board have done to rejuvenate the town's business district and enable residents who live off of Glenridge Road to safely walk, jog and ride their bikes to that part of town," said Senator Jim Tedisco.



Aldi Receives Town Approval to Build



After several months of consideration and review by the Town's various review boards and commissions, the Aldi project proposed for 303 Saratoga Road has received final site plan approval

by the Town's Planning & Zoning Commission (PZC). The PZC, along with the Town Board and Zoning Board of Appeals all had jurisdiction over this proposal, since the project required a zoning change (for a small portion of the property), area variances, and site plan approval.

The Town's review boards and nearby residents focused on several elements of the project as it worked its way through the Town's planning/zoning process. Issues included south side location of the loading dock, buffering along the south and west sides of the store, the original request for two driveways on Route 50 instead of just one driveway at the signal (only one driveway was approved), the timing and noise associated with truck deliveries, and parking layout.

The new Aldi store will consist of 17,825 sq. ft. on a 2.6-acre parcel. The property is located directly across the street from Market 32, at the traffic signal just south of Subway (formerly Pizza Hut). This property, which has been an eyesore since it became vacant over a decade ago, has long been a target for redevelopment by Supervisor Koetzle and his administration.

Senior Center Expansion Set to Start

Thanks to the support of Senators Farley and Tedisco, the Glenville Senior Center received a \$200,000 grant from the state of New York to pay for the center's expansion. The new wing of the center will add 1,000 sq ft to the 7,000 sq ft building to increase programs and expand services offered to area seniors. The new space will allow for additional recreational and educational space as well as new volunteer space. Proposed programming for space includes increased driver education, outreach to the homebound, legal counseling and Alzheimer's support services. Much thanks to the Senators for their continues support.



Town-Village Joint Vision Committee Begins Their Work

The town and village have appointed the committee members to the joint visioning committee and the first meeting was held in mid-September. The committee will start to look at ways that the town and village can share more, save more, and work on more joint projects together in order to promote more shared services and lower costs. The members will be charged with presenting ideas to the respective Boards for further consideration. The next meeting is set for mid-October.

From the Police Department



Glenville Police Detectives have been conducting an investigation into six burglaries in the West Glenville area that occurred from September 1, 2017 through September 4, 2017. The incidents all appear to have occurred at night, and all but two, were perpetrated while the homeowner was home. One incident occurred while the

homeowner was asleep, and the suspects entered his home. There is evidence that more than one suspect has been present during the crime and that property was taken from unsecured residents and out buildings. Three of the six burglaries involved the theft of firearms. Glenville Detectives are following leads and have been assisted by the Montgomery County Sheriff's Department, the Rotterdam Police Department, the Fulton County Sheriff's Department and the New York State Police, as similar burglaries have occurred in those jurisdictions with similar modus operandi. Glenville Police urge residents to make sure that their homes, barns, sheds and vehicles are locked and that firearms are kept in a secure location. Please call 911 if you observe any person or vehicle out of the ordinary or acting suspiciously.

With school back in session we now see school bus traffic in the morning and in the early afternoon. Please watch for stopped school buses and keep in mind that some children may be overzealous and

enter the roadway before the lights are flashing. It is also important to know that when a stopped school bus, with its red lights activated, is loading or unloading children, you must stop while traveling in the same direction or opposite direction on any public highway or parking lot. This includes a two-lane highway, four-lane highway and a divided highway.

With fall weather right around the corner, residents will begin to rake their leaves to the edge of the roadway in anticipation of our leaf pick-up program. Please make sure that children refrain from playing in leaves along the roadway for obvious safety reasons.

Glenville Police will once again be participating in the national Drug Enforcement Agency drug take-back day on October 28, 2017 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Residents may drop off their medications to the Police Department at no charge. The drugs may consist of prescription medications and/or over the counter medications. No syringes or needles will be accepted.

Glenville Police are currently using social media to release information about pertinent arrests, special events and crime sprees in the town. You may follow the Glenville Police on Facebook by searching "Glenville Police Department". More information about the department and our functions may be seen on the Town of Glenville website by selecting the police department icon.

Comprehensive Plan set for Adoption in October

After three years in the making, the new Town of Glenville Comprehensive Plan is set for Town Board adoption in October. Depending on the publication date of this Newsletter, the Plan may already have been adopted. The 2017 Plan will replace the previous Comprehensive Plan, which was adopted in April, 1990.

The Comprehensive Plan is a far-reaching Town policy document that establishes goals and initiatives (actions) for a number of subject areas. The "Plan Initiatives" chapter of the Plan details these goals and initiatives for the following 11 subject areas:

- Recreational Resources, Facilities, the Arts, and Historic and Cultural Resources
- Community and Economic Development
- Commercial and Industrial Facilities
- Housing
- Natural Resources
- Institutional, Government and Educational Resources/Facilities
- Infrastructure and Utilities
- Transportation
- Health and Emergency Services
- Agricultural Resources
- Renewable Energy

In total, the Comprehensive Plan identifies 145 initiatives that are to be pursued. The Town, or various boards, committees and staff of the Town, have responsibility for implementation, or joint implementation of most of these initiatives. Several outside agencies and private entities also have responsibility, or partial responsibility for making some of these initiatives happen. Implementation of the Plan is, therefore, a significant challenge, and one that requires the Town to continue existing partnerships and develop new ones as well.

Special thanks go out to the following two committees who oversaw preparation and editing of the draft Plan:

Comprehensive Plan Committee

Jenny Lippmann, Co-Chair
Armand Canestraro, Co-Chair
Nicole Brower
Michael Carr
Mark Storti
Pat Morris
David Hennel
Emil Jarczynski (liaison from RAC)

Residential Advisory Committee

Emil Jarczynski, Chairman
Caryn Canfield
James A. Flanders
Michael O'Brien
Erica Welch
Bruce Wurz

Appreciation is likewise extended to Kevin Corcoran, Town Planner, and James Martin, Town Councilman, for actual drafting of the Plan. Thanks also to Mark Storti of the Schenectady County Planning Department for preparation of the majority of maps and illustrations found within the Plan. Keeping preparation of the plan "in-house" and not hiring a paid consultant saved the Town hundreds of thousands of dollars.

A copy of the new Comprehensive Plan can be found on the Town of Glenville website.

Picture right: Town Supervisor Christopher Koetzle and Town Councilman James Martin lead a discussion at the Alplaus Fire Department during the October 11, 2016 public information meeting on the Plan



From Department of Public Works

This fall we continued with our paving plan and paved the Birch Ln area down to and including Helen Estates.

With the cold nights, leaves are already changing and before you know it, it will be Leaf Picking Season. Please keep the following in mind while placing your leaves out for pick up:

- Please refrain from placing loose leaf piles on the blacktop as it creates narrow roadways and if leaves are wet, slippery conditions. These are dangerous conditions for motorists and pedestrians.
- We ask that leaf piles be no wider than 5ft. so the hose can reach. Anything wider will slow the process down
- No other debris such as branches, sticks or stones can be mixed into the leaf piles. These items create costly damages to the leaf machines.

We will do our best to complete two passes through town as weather permits us to. We have 186.32 lane miles of town road, 119.54 lane miles of county roads and a few state roads to pick leaves from. This program is a huge task that grows every year as the trees grow.

Just as we finish picking up the leaves, it will be Winter Plow/Ice Control Season.

To help with a safe and efficient season, please keep the following in mind:

- Garbage - Please do not place your garbage containers in the roadway. They slow down our important task of clearing the roads.
- Snow/Ice - Please note that placing snow/ice in the town's roadways either by shovel, snow blower or plow is strictly prohibited.
- Basketball hoops - hoops should not be in the roadway or the town's right of way as they hinder the process as well.
- Roadside parking - parking of vehicles is prohibited on town roadways between the hours of 3 am and 6 am commencing November 15th through April 1st and during snow emergencies.
- Property drainage - sump and foundation lines should not discharge to the roadway, this causes icing and dangerous situations. Property drainage must be a minimum of 10ft. off of edge of pavement to not cause icing issues.
- Mailboxes - clearance under the box and/or support arm should be at least 48". If you believe the plow has damaged your box or post, please contact the highway department immediately.
- Driveway - we do not intentionally wish to dump snow in your driveway. Please remember it is our job to have all paved road surface clear of snow so you and your family can travel safely and without major delay.

It is the full intention of the town to continue with the Bulk Item Program in the spring time. At the time of writing this newsletter, we have sent out bid packets to begin the process.

Just a reminder that the highway department's office has been moved to town hall permanently. Please come see us there or contact us at our new number of 518-688-1240. We also invite you to visit our web-page for more details.

Thomas R. Coppola, Superintendent of Highways
Dana W. Gilgore, Deputy Superintendent of Highways

Koetzle and the Board Secure \$1.5 Million From Senator Tedisco to Upgrade Police Department

Senator Jim Tedisco has secured a \$1.5 million state grant to improve the safety of our law enforcement personnel and the public at Glenville Town Hall by renovating the Police Station wing of the building. "Working with Supervisor Chris Koetzle, the Glenville Town Board, and Glenville Police Chief Steve Janik, I am working on obtaining state funding to provide much-needed renovations to the Glenville Police station which will improve the safety of our police officers, staff and visitors," said Senator Jim Tedisco. Koetzle praised the Senator for delivering the grant. "Senator Tedisco has always been a good friend of Glenville and we are so thankful for his help on getting us this grant," said Koetzle. Work is expected to start in 2018.



From the Assessor: Improvements to the STAR communication process

For all recent new homeowners, the STAR program's administrative procedures continue to improve. Starting last year, owners of recently purchased homes, must register with NYS Dept. of Taxation and Finance in order to receive a STAR benefit in the form of a rebate check (vs the traditional discount applied to the school tax bill). Many homeowners, of recently purchased homes, have asked when they will be receiving their check since it can be challenging to get an answer from NYS. Part of the reason is due to the fact that they process a significant number of checks each year. To illustrate, this year alone, they have processed over 36,000 STAR rebate checks with thousands more every day.

As a result, and in an effort to decrease the number of phone calls they receive on a daily basis, NYS Dept. of Taxation and Finance has created a nice enhancement to the communication process by creating a quick search tool on their website.

www8.tax.ny.gov/SCDS/scdsStart

Copy the above web address into your browser. This will lead you to a page on their website where you can obtain a status on your STAR rebate check by entering your county, school district, and town into the search fields. Once that information is input, you will receive a message on-screen indicating when your STAR rebate checks were, or will be mailed out.

If other questions arise, or if additional information is needed, you can still continue to utilize their call center at (518) 457-2036.

Lastly, over the course of the next 30-60 days, our office will begin mailing out exemption renewal forms, primarily for enhanced star & low income senior citizens. Did you know that the enhanced STAR program offers an automatic renewal program? It's called the Income Verification Program (IVP). Call our office or stop in for more information.