

Village of Orchard Park

2012 NEWSLETTER



Board of Trustees

John B Wilson
Mayor

Trustee David A Rood
Deputy Mayor
Finance and Budget
Youth Coordinator
Solid Waste & Recycling
Building Dept. Liaison

Trustee Francis T Hogenkamp
Street Lights, Sidewalks,
& Signals
Senior Projects
Town Board Liaison
Business Community Liaison
Beautification

Trustee Joseph R. Wales
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Events & Celebrations
State & County Liaison
Planning Board Liaison
Master Plan Update

Trustee Jo Ann Litwin
Public Works / Water
Village Code Review
Zoning Board Liaison
Franchises
Insurance

*The Village Board meetings
are held the 2nd and 4th
Mondays of the month at
7 pm (see our website for
complete schedule)*

4295 South Buffalo St.

662-9327 Phone

662-0891 Fax

Office Hours: 9 am-5 pm
Monday-Friday

www.orchardparkvillage.org

A word from the mayor...

We can all look back at the Winter (?) of 2011 - 2012 and wonder if we really were in western New York. As we move into our new fiscal year our Village is in relatively good shape both fiscally and physically.

Physically, as a result of the very mild winter our roadways didn't suffer the damage of frost heave and the development of pot holes as in years past. The frost, if any, didn't penetrate deep enough to cause water breaks, and with the minimal snow fall, our staff and equipment weren't working overtime.

Fiscally, there were cost savings in a number of our accounts. Our overtime, road salt, equipment, fuel and water accounts fared well through our third quarter. Assuming we are spared any springtime weather or other unforeseen disasters, a modest surplus has been projected.

As you are aware, the Governor was able to pass a bill in the State Legislature that places a limit on the property taxes that can be assessed in a municipality or a school district. The "2 % Tax Cap" is somewhat confusing. It is not based upon the previous year's tax rate but rather on the annual tax levy which varies from year to year. The tax levy is based on property assessments and the assessed value of a community. It changes when property values increase and decrease, when development occurs and when the growth rate rises or falls.

The Tax Cap made producing a reasonable budget challenging. We received our Tax Cap formula from the State Comptroller's office. Upon calculating our anticipated tax revenue from property taxes, we were limited to just over \$14,000.00 for budget year 2012 - 2013.

The comptroller's office also informed us that our NYS Retirement System costs would exceed \$7,000.00 leaving \$7,000.00 or so to cover the increase in health care for our employees, employee raises, fuel cost increases, office supplies, etc.

We were able to provide an increase in the Village paid portion of our employee's health care cost and offer merit raises under the second year of the employee evaluation merit raise system.

The projected winter budget surplus, water and public improvement reserves and a reduced capital projects list allowed us to stay under the Tax Cap.

On a lighter note, Summer is upon us! That means the Village will be alive with activity. The Garden Club has spent countless hours planting our beautiful hanging baskets and planters and Arthur's Hardware has sponsored the "Village Garden" in front of Mangia's Restaurant. Our colorful planters and baskets are funded through donations from the public. If you enjoy the colors and are so inclined, donations to BOP II are accepted at the Village office.

The WNY Railway Historical Society has been active restoring our historic railroad station. They will be celebrating the station's centennial this year. Watch for the announcement of activities later this summer. Stop in and visit them on Wednesday and Saturday mornings; they are happy to show you around.

There is plenty to do: we have the Orchard Park Performing Arts Pavilion with more than twenty entertaining performances, Quaker Days for bargains, Caribbean Night for a taste of all that's good to eat in OP, and the 4th of July fireworks. And of course we can't forget the Village Ice Cream Social with Nick Chartap's ice cream and the Street Dance with the Boys of Summer.

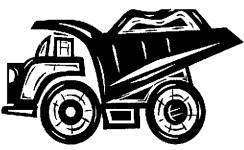
So, take some time for yourself, get out of the house and spend some time in the Village. Relax over dinner or a glass of wine at a sidewalk table. Window shop on a warm summer evening. There's plenty of good food and warm atmosphere within walking distance.

And finally, at times being Mayor is a heavy load to carry. There are, however, a few opportunities that come along that make it all worth while. I have been asked to participate in the rededication of the final resting place of a Revolutionary War veteran whose remains rest in the Duell Cemetery in our Village. I'm looking forward to doing my part.

I'm excited and energized as we move into our new year. It will be challenging and we will go forward in a positive direction. And remember... Get to me before you get mad.

Best Regards,
John B. Wilson, Mayor

Mary Beth Jensen, Village Clerk-Treasurer • **Andrew Slotman**, Director of Public Works
Kelly Stressinger, Deputy Clerk-Treasurer • **Jeffrey N Sweet**, Code Enforcement Officer
Clara Lewis, Part-Time Clerk, ZBA and Planning Board Secretary



Department of Public Works

662-3866

The Public Works Department is responsible for many services provided by the Village. We can be reached at 662-3866 from 7:00 am to 3:00 pm Monday thru Friday. Employees are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to handle emergencies – by contacting the Orchard Park Police at 662-6444. They will then contact the necessary personnel.

The department takes a proactive approach in trying to maintain the roads in good quality. This includes an annual assessment of the 12.50 mile road network in order to create our long-range paving schedule. In the previous year, we were able to mill and repave .75 miles of road and install a surface treatment to an additional .50 mile.

We are responsible for monitoring and maintaining the water distribution system. This requires daily monitoring of residual chlorine and quantity of water used. For more information on water quality, see the enclosed Annual Water Quality Report.

The department is implementing the Storm Water Management Plan (SWMP) to satisfy the requirements of the State DEC. We are currently working on mapping the entire storm sewer collection system as required by the State. We also inspect the storm water outfalls to determine if the water has signs of pollution. Every spring we clean approximately 20% of the storm sewer system which equals 3 miles of pipe and 150 catch basins.

Every year we work with the Orchard Park Garden Club to plant and maintain the hanging baskets and flower boxes placed throughout the Village. The flowers are on display from Memorial Day until the middle of September and require daily watering.

We also provide the curb side collection of brush and leaves. The requirements for brush collection are that branches (4" diameter maximum) can be placed at the curb with the cut end towards the street. Grass clippings will not be picked up; they are not accepted at the Orchard Park Composting Facility and should be bagged for garbage pickup. In the fall, leaves will be collected using leaf vacuums. The leaf piles must be free of any foreign objects to prevent damage to the equipment and injury to the employees. The brush and leaves are processed at the compost facility at 6909 Milestrip Road and mulch or compost is available for purchase by Village residents; for more information, contact the Town Clerk at 662-6410 or the compost facility at 667-6066.

Sidewalks within the village are the responsibility of the property owner to maintain and repair. During the winter months the Village operates a sidewalk plow to assist in snow removal; however, if additional clearing is necessary, it is the property owner's responsibility.

The Village prohibits the placing of snow into the municipal right of way (ROW). If a property owner places snow in the ROW, they may be charged for any expense the Village incurs to remove the snow. Please notify your snowplow contractor of this regulation. The practice of plowing snow into the street or across the street is a burden on our department and creates unsafe driving conditions.

The department prides itself on providing service at a level above the expectations of our residents. To do this we are constantly looking for feedback. Please contact us with any comments or concerns at 662-3866.



Building Department

662-9327

To protect all residents and property owners, Building Permits are required to assure compliance with the NYS Fire Prevention and Uniform Building Code and the Village of Orchard Park Municipal Code. Permit applications can be found on our website (www.orchardparkvillage.org, Department Tab - Code Enforcement).

A Building Permit is required:

- For all new construction or additions
- When the cost of a repair to an existing building exceeds \$10,000.00
- When a repair affects the structure of an existing building
- When an electrical circuit is installed or extended
- When a generator is installed
- When remodeling involves the removal or relocation of walls; or affects the structure of a building
- When a solid fuel device, such as a wood burning stove or fireplace is installed or repaired
- When the use of a building is changed (i.e. a retail store to a doctor's office)
- When the required fire safety features in an existing building are affected by repairs, remodeling or alterations
- For a shed, fence, pool, sign or new paved surfaces
- **All swimming pools that can contain 18" or more of water. This includes inflatable pools.**

Other Information:

- House numbers are required to be placed on all houses in the Village of Orchard Park. Numbers must be at least 4" high and visible from the street.
- Remember to keep all generators, pressure washers or other gasoline-powered tools outside and NEVER store or use in garage, carport (covered patio) or basement. Keep all gasoline powered tools well away from windows, doors and air-intakes. They all produce large amounts of carbon monoxide (CO) that can build up to dangerous levels in minutes.
- **Recreational fires are permitted. Such fires must burn only seasoned firewood, must be a minimum of 25 ft. from structures and must NOT produce smoke that is offensive or objectionable. A method of extinguishing the fire must be available. Such fires must be constantly attended until extinguished. Open burning of combustibles other than seasoned firewood is PROHIBITED.**

As of February 22, 2010, Carbon Monoxide (CO) Detectors are required:

1. Within each dwelling unit or sleeping unit, on each story having a sleeping area.
2. Within each dwelling unit or sleeping unit, on each story where a carbon monoxide source is located.
3. Where the dwelling unit has appliances, devices or systems that may emit carbon monoxide or has an attached garage.

PROHIBITED LOCATIONS: Carbon Monoxide alarms shall not be located within or near the openings to garages, bathrooms or furnace rooms. Shall not be located in or near locations specified as "prohibited", "not recommended" or the like in the manufacturer's installation instructions.

Jeff Sweet, Village Code Enforcement Officer, will answer questions and help with the permit process. He is available Monday-Friday 4- 5 pm, after hours or Saturday mornings by appointment.

Garbage and Recycling

824-3766

Modern Disposal Services, Inc. is contracted to provide garbage and recycling collection for all one, two and three family homes in the Village. Each Tuesday all refuse and recycling must be within three feet of the roadside by 6am. They will collect up to eight cans/bags from each residence. Acceptable waste must be in watertight garbage cans with lifting handles or watertight plastic bags not to exceed 40-gallon capacity. Each can or bag must not exceed 60 lbs. Bulk items will be collected the first Tuesday of every month. Recycle bins can be purchased in the Village Office for \$7.50. A list of garbage and recycling guidelines can be picked up at the Village office or found on the Village website.

A low volume discount is available, call the Village Office for more information. For hazardous household waste disposal, call 858-6370.

If the following holiday falls on a Monday or Tuesday, your collection day will be on Wednesday for that week only: New Years Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, and Christmas Day.

Planning Board

The dedicated volunteers who presently serve on the Planning Board are Chairman Gunner Tronolone, Dale Pyne, Michael Borowiak, Matt Hartung, Myrna Woodard and Alternate Stephen Bray. Clara Lewis is the Secretary. The board reviews permit applications in residential and non-residential zones, all referrals from the Zoning Board of Appeals, and any other permits or matters referred by the Code Enforcement Officer or the Village Board. All permit applications must be submitted to the Village Office no later than noon on the Wednesday, one week prior to the meeting date. The Code Enforcement Officer and the Planning Board Secretary can be reached at the Village Office and will be happy to assist you through the process. Meetings are held in the Municipal Center the first Tuesday of every month at 7 p.m. as needed.

Zoning Board of Appeals

The Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) is also comprised of dedicated volunteers: Chairman Ted Pieczonka, Steve Snyder, Gary Phillips, Amy Glowczynski, Bill Riter and Alternate David Obrochta. Clara Lewis is the Secretary. The Village Code Enforcement Officer reviews all permit applications to determine if variances to the Village's Municipal Code are needed. If a variance is required, the applicant completes a Zoning Board of Appeals application and a public hearing is scheduled. A public hearing is published in the Orchard Park Press and notices are sent to all property owners within 200' of the subject property. At the public hearing the ZBA reviews the application and interested parties are given the opportunity to express concerns. The ZBA, which must follow specific criteria for granting any variance, then votes on the requested variance. Meetings are held the third Wednesday after the first Tuesday of every month at 7pm as needed.

Selling a House in the Village?

A sewer inspection must be done on any property changing ownership in the Village of Orchard Park. The cost of the inspection is \$75.00, payable to "Village of Orchard Park". Please contact the Village Office when selling a house and we will contact Erie County Sewer to schedule the inspection. Once completed, we will issue a Certificate of Compliance.

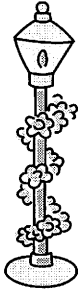
Village Justice Court

662-6415

The Village Court is in session the first Thursday of each month at 3 pm in the court room of the Municipal Center. The Village Court is represented by Village Justice Daniel B. Kane, Prosecutor Nancy Hart, and Acting Village Justice Philip M. Marshall, who is also the Village Attorney.

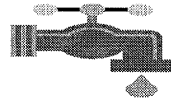
Tree Planting and Beautification

Through the enthusiastic efforts of Maureen Davern and many other volunteers, financial contributions, and the commitment of the Village DPW, we enjoy hanging flower baskets and planter boxes. Anyone wishing to make a tax deductible donation to Beautify Orchard Park II (BOP II) may do so through the Village Office. Each year trees are added and dead or diseased street trees throughout the Village are replaced. Your concerns regarding trees can be called into the Village Office.



Rain Barrel

A Rain Barrel is a great way to help conserve water and reduce harmful water pollution to the Buffalo and Niagara Rivers. It collects and stores rain water for future uses, such as watering landscaping, and for decreasing the amount of storm water runoff that leaves your property. More information on rain barrels, as well as how to purchase one, can be picked up in the Village Office.



Annual Water Quality Report

Enclosed please find a copy of the Annual Water Quality Report, complying with State & Federal regulations. The purpose of this report is to raise your understanding of drinking water and awareness of the need to protect our drinking water sources. Additional information is available in the Village Office, or on the internet at www.ecwa.org

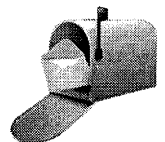
POLICE—FIRE—EMERGENCY 911

NON EMERGENCY 662-6444

The police station is located in the back of the Municipal Center. Police Chief Andrew Benz and his very competent detectives and police officers are always available to serve and protect us. The police department uses an enhanced 911 emergency calling system that helps locate the origin of any call received. The appropriate police, fire, or medical emergency personnel are then sent in response. Fingerprinting, by appointment, is available for adoptions, naturalization, securities licenses, liquor licenses and numerous other reasons, to all Orchard Park Town and Village residents at no charge.

Post Office 662-4110

The Orchard Park Post Office is located on School Street between South Buffalo Street and South Lincoln Avenue.



The hours of operation are:

Monday thru Friday 8:30am — 5:00pm
Saturday 8:30am — 1:00pm

Library

662-9851
4570 South Buffalo Street

The Orchard Park Library is part of the Erie County Library System. It is located at the corner of Highland Avenue and South Buffalo Street.

RECREATION

Yates Park— Parking stickers are available at the Recreation Building or in the Town Clerk's Office for Orchard Park residents. For information regarding shelter rentals, call 662-6450.

Chestnut Ridge Park 662-3290

Senior Citizens

Senior Center 662-6452

OP Senior Citizens 649-5043

Meals on Wheels 662-7178

Senior Citizen Van 895-0400 / 662-8378

Senior Nutrition 662-8378

Senior Discount Cards 858-8526

Youth

Boys & Girls Club 662-1941

Town Recreation 662-6450

YMCA Eggert Rd. 662-9369
Southwestern Blvd. 674-9622



ORCHARD PARK CENTRAL SCHOOLS

www.opschools.org

General Information 209-6200

4040 Baker Road

South Davis Elementary 209-6246

55 South Davis Street

Eggert Elementary 209-6215

3580 Eggert Road

Windom Elementary 209-6279

3870 Sheldon Road

Ellicott Elementary 209-6278

5180 Ellicott Road

Middle School 209-6220

60 S Lincoln Avenue

High School 209-6242

4040 Baker Road

Community Education 209-6295

4040 Baker Road

Churches and Organizations

A complete listing of area churches appears in our local phone book "Who's Who in Orchard Park". This book is prepared as a yearly fund-raiser by the local Boy Scout Troops. Copies can be purchased for \$5 in the Village Office or at various local businesses.

A list of community organizations and phone numbers appear on the bulletin board in the main hall of the Municipal Center.

AREA EVENTS

Memorial Day Parade: May 28, 9:00am from the Library to Veteran's Park, where a service is held.



Quaker Arts Pavilion Concert Series: (662-7387)
Concerts June thru August by a variety of musical performers. Programs available.

Fourth of July: (870-9091) (virgop@roadrunner.com)
8pm parade from Baker Road to the Middle School. Fireworks at dusk.



Caribbean Night: July 25 (Wednesday) (6:00-10:00 pm)

Summer in the Park:

Ice Cream Social: July 27 (7-9 pm)
(followed by fireworks)



Car Show & Street Dance: July 28
Car Show begins at 11:30 am
Street Dance from 7:30-11:30 pm

Erie County Fair and Expo: August 8-August 19
(649-3900) www.ecfair.org

Orchard Park Symphony Orchestra: (662-5701)
September-March at the Orchard Park Middle School

Quaker Arts Festival: (667-2787)
September 15-16 at the Orchard Park Middle School

Veterans' Day: November 11
Service in Veterans Park at 11:00 am



Holiday in the Park: December 1 at the Depot

UTILITIES

Water Village of OP 662-9327

Sewer Erie County 823-8188

Electric NYSEG 1-800-572-1111 service
1-800-572-1131 emergency

Gas National Fuel 686-6123 service
1-800-444-3130 emergency

Information is available in the Village Office regarding the Prevention of Stormwater Pollution.