

A VIEW OF THE FALLS

Office of the Mayor - Richard B. Milne

March 11, 2013

Dear Friends,

It has been some time since I had presented any updates to our residents about Village business and projects occurring in our community. As we are in the midst of budget discussions, I feel it an appropriate time to bring up some points of interest in an effort to keep you as updated as possible. Our Village staff continues to do its best to keep up with road and sidewalk maintenance. While we are certainly on the downswing for snow removal, we need to continue to be prepared for late storms. I also get a couple calls each year or emails about some of the damage caused by our sidewalk or snowplows. We do our best to minimize damage done to the grassy areas of residential and business properties within our plowing areas but we also understand that damage is done each year. We will be out as soon as possible to repair damage created by our plows and are also sensitive to the concerns some of you have. Like in any business, we can't keep everyone happy, but we do strive to do so. I have been asked to consider eliminating the sidewalk snow-plowing practice and from a safety stand-point, I believe the potential for impassable walk areas and a heightened potential for safety issues outweighs the damage to lawns etc. I will not agree to elimination of this practice and risk our residents' safety. I will however, commit to bringing this up before the Village Board and Village Administrator for discussion.

Village Projects:

- Our comprehensive plan efforts are well underway, we have a very active (Advisory Committee) that is assisting and I'm very happy with the progress made thus far. Currently a community survey is in draft form and being reviewed and this will be pushed out to the residents in the near future. Your support and participation of this survey is a key component of the success of the project. It will be available in many forms as this moves forward and we need you to take part!
- Another project that will move forward later this summer is a new sewer line on North Main Street. This project will create some traffic issues as it progresses, but it is a key need for eliminating sewer congestion in the Village and especially important to on-going development. A separate article on this project will be published in the future.
- The Village Veteran's Memorial Project is also progressing nicely and we expect this project to move forward in April. The memorial wall around the flag poles, walk way and memorial bricks will be installed and dedication of this is expected for Memorial Day. You will want to be at the Memorial Day service to take part in this celebration.
- The Village Hall – Auditorium project has been slowed, but this is really due to the need to complete our Comprehensive Plan and see how the auditorium fits in to the overall Future of the Village. The project does however continue and some minor planning is taking place.
- A new piece of fire-apparatus will be delivered for the HFFD in late March. This new pumper is replacing a truck that was over 20-years old and we look forward to having this new piece of equipment in Honeoye Falls. An article and photos will be forthcoming when the truck is delivered.
- The Village has partnered with the Town of Mendon, Town of Lima, Village of Lima and HFL School District to develop a (new) Summer Recreation Program that is unified and supported by the four municipalities and school district together. Information is forthcoming and registrations will be taking place in April. This important program will be consistent for all our school district communities and will be greatly enhanced to make this a singular program that is consistent for our whole school district.
- Lastly; discussions and deliberations on our Village Budget are well underway. We believe that overall our budget will be fairly flat. We expect there to be a small increase to the sewer rental fees. This will help to maintain the current system and plan for future upgrades. Our tax rate levy is expected to be within the 2% tax levy increase imposed by the State of New York although our overall fees and mandates imposed by the same state, of which we have no control, will be over the 2%. We hope to send out a mailer to all residents and business owners detailing our budget numbers and also showing where your tax dollars go. We've done this in the past and have received great feedback from this publication.

Rick Milne
Mayor, Village of Honeoye Falls