



# **Newsletter**

# **April 2019**

## **VILLAGE OF LANSING *Incorporated 1974***

2405 North Triphammer Road \* Ithaca, NY 14850 \* 257-0424 \* (FAX) 257-3230

Office Hours: Monday - Thursday, 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Web Page Address: [www.vlansing.org](http://www.vlansing.org).

Board of Trustees' Meetings: 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday, 7:30 PM

Planning Board Meetings: 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday and last Tuesday, 7:00 PM

Board of Zoning Appeal Meeting: 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday as needed; 7:30 PM

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## **COMMENTS FROM MAYOR DONALD HARTILL**

This winter the Village Department of Public Works staff has again taken care of the snow removal from the Village streets, paths and sidewalks. So far we have not had any large snowstorms but two to four inch falls take almost as much salt and fuel for the trucks as big storms do.

We will be busy as soon as the weather warms and dries a bit repairing the usual winter damage to the roadways. Potholes will continue to be patched as soon as we hear about them and more permanent repairs will be carried out as soon as the asphalt batch plants re-open in the spring. Crack sealing and shoulder repairs along with street sweeping and re-striping will be carried out as soon as weather permits. We will be resurfacing a number of roadways in the Village as part of our long-range maintenance program this summer so it will be a busy summer. The other rite of spring is the annual brush pickup by the Village and Town crews on April 29th. The guidelines appear later in the newsletter and I hope you will take advantage of this opportunity.

Installation of the new water main along Northwood Road to Coventry Walk that was planned for last construction season will be installed this summer and will provide a second path to the ground tank at the airport in addition to the line along Dart Drive. It was scheduled for completion last fall but work on the new Village Village park consumed all of our available resources. This redundancy will enable work on either line without serious reduction in flow to the rest of the Village served by that tank. There are several other small water main replacement projects that will be carried out this summer. These projects are all part of our long-range infrastructure maintenance program. By carrying out these projects in a planned way, we avoid the serious failures that are very expensive to repair when they occur. We are still debating what to do about the water main along Warren Road that had two difficult failures this past winter.

Our engineers have carried out the detailed design that will expand our sewer service area in the Village. The plan will install new sewer mains during the coming construction season along East Shore Drive and Cayuga Heights Road. Private developers in the Town of Lansing will pay for about one third of the cost. A joint project with the Village of Cayuga Heights in the Highgate Road area that will relieve several reliability issues in that region is also planned for this summer.

We have completed the budget process for the coming fiscal year and have a proposed budget that will be presented at a public hearing scheduled for 7:35 pm on April 15th. The assessed value of the properties in the Village has increased by 0.6 % compared to last year. We have need to reconstruct between one- and- a- half to two miles of our roadways each year to keep our eighteen miles of roads in good shape and it will be partly paid for using funds from our General Capital Reserve Fund. In analyzing our long-term needs, we have found it necessary to increase the property tax levy to avoid reducing our capital reserve fund to an unhealthy level. The proposed tax rate for this year is \$1.50 per thousand dollars assessment that yields a property tax levy that is 7.9% above last year's. Over the years, the Village has systematically reduced its reliance on New York State financial aid so that budget issues in Albany have only minor effects on Village finances. Copies of the proposed budget are available as usual in the Village Office and it is posted on the Village website.

The Village of Lansing continues to have one of the lowest tax rates in New York State for the level of services that we supply. Good fiscal management and out-sourcing as much of our needs as possible makes this all possible.

I would urge all residents who are interested to attend our Board meetings so that their input can be heard as the Boards go about their business.

Finally, Village elections for the Mayor and two Trustees will be held from noon to 9 pm on Tuesday April 23rd at the Village Office (2405 N. Triphammer Road). I encourage you to vote.

## **VILLAGE CLERK'S OFFICE**

### **Job Opportunities in the Village**

The Village has two employment opportunities. We are looking for someone who would like to attend our Planning Board and Board of Zoning Appeal meetings and take minutes. This position would also cover the office when our Clerk/Treasurer is out and carry out special projects. The position would average up to 20 hours a week. It would be perfect for someone that has kids in school since the office hours are from 9am-1pm and the meetings are the second Monday and last Tuesday of each month.

The second position is for a summer laborer. The position would be great for a college student or someone that is retired. Our highway department needs summer help with mowing, maintaining our gardens, and help keeping our Village beautiful.

We would really like to fill these positions with a Village resident. Please help us spread the word. If this is something you would be interested in, please go online to Tompkins County Personnel and complete an application. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call the Village.

### **Budget Public Hearing**

The Public Hearing on the proposed Village of Lansing Budget for Fiscal Year 2019-2020 is scheduled for Monday, April 15<sup>th</sup> at 7:35pm. Village residents attending the meeting have the right to provide written and oral comments. The aggregate salaries for the Board of Trustees are proposed in the amount of \$24,000, \$6,000 for each Trustee, and the salary for the Mayor is proposed in the amount of \$14,000. \$3,255,141 in appropriations is proposed for the General Fund. The proposed General Tax Rate is \$1.50 per \$1,000 of assessed value. A special assessment of \$.03 per \$1,000 of assessed value and \$6.70 per sewer unit is proposed for the Sewer Collector debt payment. Copies of the proposed budget may be inspected at the Village of Lansing Office during office hours: Monday - Thursday from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. The Proposed Budget is also posted on the Village Webpage.

### **Water Rate Increases as of April 2019 Billing**

The 2019 Bolton Point component of your water rate has increased from \$4.96/1,000 gallons to \$5.16. The water surcharge will remain the same at 40%. This means that the Village minimum rate for 5,000 gallons of water is \$36.10.

Village of Lansing Residents receive a water/sewer bill quarterly at the beginning of January, April, July, and October. All water/sewer bills are due by the 20<sup>th</sup> of that month and can be either mailed in or you may bring your payment to the Village Office at 2405 N. Triphammer Rd. If you would like to drop a payment off after hours, there is a secure drop box inside the entry way to our administration building. The Village of Lansing is part of the Southern Cayuga Lake Intermunicipal Water Commission (SCLIWC).

Jodi Dake, Clerk/Treasurer

## **VILLAGE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT**

Spring brush and limb pick-up will be provided by the Town and Village of Lansing Highway Departments on Monday, April 29<sup>th</sup>. Residents are asked to leave all materials near the roadside by 6:00 am Monday morning. To assist the work crews, all limbs and brush (up to 5 inches in diameter) should be piled with the cut ends facing the same direction. The limbs should be no longer than 6 feet in length. Also, the piles should not be tied, but should be left loose. Please do not put out bags of yard waste. This pick up is only for limbs and brush.

John Courtney, Supt. of Public Works

## **VOTE FOR VILLAGE TRUSTEES AND MAYOR**

The Village Elections will be held Tuesday, April 23, 2019. Voting will take place at the Village Office at 2405 N. Triphammer Road from noon to 9pm. This year, we will be electing a Mayor and two Trustees. Absentee ballot applications are available at [www.votetompkins.com](http://www.votetompkins.com). You can also stop by and pick up an application located on the brochure rack in the foyer of the Village Office or call the Board of Elections to obtain the applications and ballots. The Board of Elections is located at 128 E. Buffalo Street, Ithaca, NY, and open M-F 8:30-4:30. For more information, contact Commissioners Elizabeth W. Cree (R) or Stephen M. DeWitt (D) at 274-5522.

## PLANNING BOARD NEWS

October through December, normally a quiet time, continued to be very busy for the Planning Board while it continued focusing on a proposal by the Beers Properties for a Planned Development Area (PDA) comprising 90+ senior housing rental cottages on a parcel between Millcroft Way and Lansing Trails I. After almost six months of meetings and deliberations, the Planning Board recommended to the Board of Trustees that no action be taken on the proposal and no change be made to the current Medium Density Residential zone designation for that parcel.

Other New Activities and Updates since the September 2018 Newsletter:

- A subdivision project on East Shore Drive and a proposed tram installation providing access to the lake at the same location
- A new development proposal from the Maguire Family car dealership to build a Nissan showroom at 35 Cinema Drive next to the Chevrolet/Cadillac showroom
- Opening of the Alcohol & Drug Council of Tompkins County facility on North Triphammer
- Still no activity or new news about the twenty senior-housing duplexes approved for Lansing Meadows (aka BJ's PDA) at the east end of Oakcrest Road. The developer has until July 2020 to finalize the project.
- The Ithaca winter has not seemed to slow down the building of the six condominiums on Nor Way in Lansing Trails II or the 140 East Point Apartment units and clubhouse on Bomax Drive. Both projects are targeted to be completed by the end of the 2019 construction season provided summer weather cooperates.

The Planning Board is so fortunate over the past six months to have had the support and talents of Mike Scott, Code Enforcement Officer, and Tammy Milliman, part time clerk, who both joined the Village staff last fall.

Since the fall we have also had some changes to the makeup of the Planning Board. As you may know, Chairman, Mario Tomei left the Planning Board at the end of September after 13 years of service. I had the privilege of working with Mario for 8 of those years before trying to fit into his shoes. When I moved to Chair, Alternate Member, Monica Moll became a full member, and Tony Ingraffea was appointed as our new Alternate Member, filling out our "Planning Board Team".

We invite you to join us at a Planning Board meeting and meet the board members and our Code Officer, Mike Scott. Meetings are held the second Monday and the last Tuesday of each month, 7:00 - 9:30pm (holidays may impact the schedule). If you would like to receive an email with the upcoming Planning Board agendas that are sent out approximately four days in advance of a meeting, please contact Mike Scott at [codeofficer2@vlansing.org](mailto:codeofficer2@vlansing.org) to be added to the email distribution list. Alternatively, check the <https://vlansing.org> website (Village Meetings icon) where you can find Board agendas and can catch up on past Planning Board activity by accessing the meeting minutes.

Lisa Schleelein, Planning Board Chair

## CODE & ZONING

I would encourage individuals who are interested in additions, new construction, remodeling, installation of a solid fuel burning heating appliance, chimney or flue, installation of new heating equipment, decks, pools, etc. to visit the Village of Lansing Office at 2405 North Triphammer Road for any questions they might have. On the Village website you can find addition information and specifications for what is required for certain permits. Also please remember to check/replace the batteries in all Carbon Monoxide and Smoke Detectors--Your family is worth it!

I would like to thank all of the Village Boards, DPW and fellow Village Inspectors for their help and support over this past 6 months. Thank you to Tammy Milliman for all of her hard work and help to keep (and increase) the organization of the Code Department. And a special Thank You to Jodi Dake and Marty Mosley for their patience and non-stop fielding of inquiries. I hope and plan to remain in the Village for many years.

**Village of Lansing  
Code Enforcement Officer's Report  
Building and Land Use Activity  
From 1/1/2018- 12/31/2018**

Type of Construction	Number of	Total Value
Commercial Improvement	40	\$7,147,918.00
New Commercial	20	\$15,124,386.00
New 2- Family Residential	1	\$425,000.00
Residential Alteration	36	\$2,176,423.58
Tent Event	4	\$0.00
Roofing	2	\$0.00
Change of Occupancy	7	\$0.00
Subdivisions	2	\$0.00
Temporary Commercial Activity	4	\$0.00
<b>Totals</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>\$24,449,152.58</b>

Michael Scott, Code, Zoning and Stormwater Management Officer

## VILLAGE TRUSTEE REPORTS

### **Village Awarded Grant for Park Benches**

The Village applied for and received a \$5,000 Parks and Trails Grant from the Tompkins County Department of Planning and Sustainability. The grant funds will be used to purchase four benches for Village parks. The grant's benches will be included in a larger Village bench order to be purchased with 2019-2020 Village budget funds. All benches will be installed by the Village DPW staff as part of the 2019-2020 park maintenance cycle.

### **Village Participates in Air Services Board (ASB)**

With the upcoming expansion of the Ithaca Tompkins Regional Airport, the Village has participated in recent, scheduled Air Services Board meetings. The Village liaison, currently Trustee, Ronny Hardaway, participates as a non-voting member in the meetings to share Village perspectives and concerns with the airport's expansion plans. Village concerns include water and sewer expansion plans and their impact on the Southern Cayuga Lake Intermunicipal Water Commission and on the Village of Cayuga Heights limitations on sewer treatment capabilities. Pertinent information from the ASB meetings is communicated back to the Village Trustees and to the Village Code Enforcement Officer, Mike Scott, for further follow-up if needed.

Ronny Hardaway

### **New Village Community Hall**

The old Village office building, to the east of our new building, has been modified to accommodate a New new Community Room. The old offices have been converted to a record retention area and the old conference room is now a community space. The room Community Room is available for Villages residents to rent. You may can find the Rental Agreement form on our website.

John O'Neill

## YOUTH PROGRAMS

### **YMCA of Ithaca & Tompkins County**

The YMCA is located in the Village and offers many great programs. The YMCA will be switching over to their Summer hours starting on June 17th. Hours will be as follows:

Monday - Friday: 5:30 am - 8:00 pm

Saturday: 7:00 am - 6:00 pm

Sunday: 9:00 am - 6:00 pm

### **Red Cross Certifications at the Y:**

Babysitting Certification: -April 18- If you have CPR training, or April 15 & 17- If you need CPR

Lifeguard Certification: April 6,7,13 & 14 May 18, 19, 25 & 26

Lifeguard Re-Certification: May 11 & June 22

Waterfront Module Certification: May 12 or June 15

CPR for the Professional Rescuer: April 23 & 25 or May 28 & 30

Wilderness and Remote First Aid: April 5 & 6, April 13 & 14, May 4 & 5, June 15 & 16



**Summer Camp Registration is open! All fees and themes can be found on [ithacaymca.com](http://ithacaymca.com)**

**\*YMCA Camp Adventure:** 9 individually registered themed weeks beginning July 1 and running through August 30, 8:00am – 5:45pm (early drop off at 7:30am, extra fee). Swimming, weekly trips to outdoor education center and Taughannock Park, sports and games, arts and crafts, music, character development. Ages 5-12 broken into 2 ages groups: 5-9 and 10-12 (Camp Adventure Empowered). A series including Water Sports is also offered.

**\*Counselor in Training (CIT):** there will be four 2-week sessions beginning July 1 and running through August 30. 8:00am – 5:45pm. Red Cross certifications, leadership training to prepare youth to gain skills as a camp counselor. Ages 12-17.

**\*YMCA Camp Takoda:** 5 individually registered themed weeks beginning July 8 and running through August 9 with overnights on Fridays. 8:00am – 5:30pm. This camp takes place at the Y Outdoor Education Center, 1349 Mecklenburg Road. Program focuses on our Native American influence, primitive origins, outdoor classroom, safety in marksmanship, survival skills, and outdoor play. Ages 7-14.

**\*Pre-K Summer Blast:** 9 individually registered themed weeks beginning July 1 and running through August 30. Two sessions per day. Arts & Humanities at 8:00-10:30am and Imagination Station at 10:30am to 1:00pm (includes swimming). Ages 3-5

**\*Ping Pong Tournament - April 14 - Sign up on our website or stop at the Welcome Center Desk. Session 3 Programs Start on April 22** with sign ups starting on April 8 for members and April 15 for non-members.

**\*Swim Lessons, group and private:** 8- week programs starting new sessions on April 22. For all ages starting at 6 months. See website for fees, times, and swim levels. We also offer Adult Masters and Youth Barracudas swim teams.

**\*Safety Around Water Program:** a new aquatics program, which teaches kids water safety and basic swimming skills that help reduce the risk of drowning and build confidence in and around the water. Safety Around Water is a grant- funded program, offered free to participants. It is open to those in the community who want their children, ages 5-14, to learn how to be safe in and around water and who cannot otherwise afford to participate in swim lessons. Please contact Aquatics Director, Alyson Murphy at [amurphy@ithacaymca.com](mailto:amurphy@ithacaymca.com) for more information.

**Group Fitness and Personal Training:** We offer a variety of group fitness classes, including, but not limited to, : Zumba, Yoga, Boot Camp, Pilates, Aqua classes, functional training, and many more! Sign up with one of our fitness coaches to who offer you personal training that is customized to you and your needs.

**\*Senior Dollar Days:** Calling all community members age 60 and up! Join us on Thursdays for just

\$1. Take a class, swim in the pool, go to a workshop, and socialize!

**\*Healthy Kids Day 2019:** April 27 from 1:00 – 3:30pm in the gym featuring fun activities for kids of all ages- **This is a free community event.** Family Luau in the Pool from 2:00-4:00pm. All children 6 and under must have a parent or guardian accompany them in the water. Free mini performance by Galumph!

**\*Kids to Camp Golf Tournament:** June 10<sup>th</sup>, 11:00am, Country Club of Ithaca & Cornell Robert Trent Jones Golf Course.

## **TOMPKINS COUNTY RECYCLING**

The recycling calendar is available at the Tompkins County Solid Waste Management Division office, Recycling and Solid Waste Center at the Drop-off Area, and online at [www.recycletompkins.org](http://www.recycletompkins.org). There are also copies available in our brochure rack in the Village Office vestibule, which is always open.

A digital version of the Spring 2019 4RTimes newsletter is available at this link: <https://conta.cc/2JVNAcA>. This quarter's highlights includes 2019 Household Hazardous Waste Collection Dates, Public Space Recycling Expands, ReBusiness Revisits the Dryden Café, and more.

Geoff Dunn, Communications and Administrative Coordinator for Tompkins County Recycling and Materials Management

## **LANSING STAR**

The Lansing Star Online is a great place to find out what's happening around Tompkins County. IthaCalendar is also a prominent part of <http://www.lansingstar.com>. Dan VeanorVeaner, Lansing Star Online Editor, attends most Village of Lansing Board meetings and continues to provide good coverage of both Town and Village of Lansing meetings.

## **TOMPKINS COUNTY LEGISLATURE**

As this newsletter goes to press, we in the County Legislature are just learning about the passage of the New York State budget for 2019-2020, and trying to determine exactly how it will affect us in Tompkins County. The new budget makes the tax cap permanent, but offers counties little, if any, relief from the unfunded mandates imposed by Albany. This year, 67 cents of every dollar of your county taxes will go to pay for those mandates; only 33 cents is available to fund services provided by Tompkins County. It doesn't look like this situation is likely to improve any time soon. Meanwhile, the County will begin its budget process for 2020 with a legislative "budget retreat" on April 30.

Other notable inclusions in the State budget are criminal justice reform and a ban on single-use plastic bags. The criminal justice reform will eliminate cash bail in misdemeanor and non-violent felony cases. This will alleviate some of the overcrowding problems in our County jail. The ban on single-use plastic bags is limited to bags used to carry retail purchases out of stores, so it will not



apply to bags used in the bulk foods and produce departments of grocery stores, to garbage bags, and to the sandwich and storage bags you purchase to use in your own home. Moreover, the ban will not go into effect until next spring, so retailers and consumers have plenty of time to prepare for this change in the law. As I understand it at this moment, the law will also allow counties to opt in to charging a 5-cent fee for paper grocery bags. I'd be interested in hearing your thoughts on whether Tompkins County should opt in to the paper bag charge.

Work continues on the airport upgrade and on the plans for the State Department of Transportation facility on Warren Road just south of Hillcrest Road.

Recently, the open detox facility proposed for the former AutoCad building on North Triphammer Road, just south of Graham Road, has become a topic of concern to Village of Lansing residents. This is a facility that is a priority for the New York State Office of Alcohol and Substance Abuse Services (OASES), and would be operated by the Alcohol and Drug Council (ADC) of Tompkins County. Residents should be aware that the ADC is *not* an agency of Tompkins County; it is a private, not-for-profit organization, and the detox facility would be a private enterprise operated in the public interest and, in part, with State funding through OASES. If you have questions or concerns about the facility, I urge you to contact the ADC directly, at (607) 274-6288. Residents should also be aware that there may be legal hurdles to a residential facility based on the Village's Zoning Code.

Deborah Dawson, Tompkins County Legislator, District 10

## **DON'T MISS AN ISSUE**

The Village Newsletter is currently published twice a year in March and October. The newsletter is available on the Village website at [www.vlansing.org](http://www.vlansing.org). You can also sign up to receive notice of our publication by clicking on "Subscribe to Village Mail List" at the top of our home page. If you prefer to receive a paper copy, just call the office to get be added to the mailing list. Copies are also available at the Village Office. Spread the word to your neighbors about the newsletter!

# Happy Spring!

## VILLAGE OFFICIALS

Mayor Don Hartill 272-7671  
[DLH13@cornell.edu](mailto:DLH13@cornell.edu)  
Deputy Mayor Ronny Hardaway 351-8042  
[rjhardaway@yahoo.com](mailto:rjhardaway@yahoo.com)  
Trustee John O'Neill 266-8392  
[johnoneil5@aol.com](mailto:johnoneil5@aol.com)  
Trustee Patricia O'Rourke 272-4029  
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Trustee Gerry Monaghan 257-2367  
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BZA Chair-Lynn Leopold 273-3457  
Planning Bd. Chair-Lisa Schleelein 272-4280

## VILLAGE EMPLOYEES\*

\*All can be reached at their extension when calling 257-0424

Clerk/Treasurer	Jodi Dake	ext. #221
Clerk Part Time	Tammy Milliman	ext. #22
Code /Zoning Officer	Michael Scott	ext. #223
Supt. of Public Works	John Courtney	ext. #224
MEO Nolan Hatfield & Chris Zavaski		ext. #225
Fire Inspector	Brian Quadrozzi	ext. #222
Electrical Inspector	Floyd Ferris	592-5829
Village Accountant		
Ciaschi Dietershagen Little & Mickelson		272-4444
Village Attorney		
Barney Grossman Dubow & Troy		273-6841
Village Engineers	TG Millers	272-6477
Engineering Consultant	Brent Cross	

## EMERGENCY NUMBERS

John Courtney, Superintendent of Public Works  
257-0424, Ext. 224 or cell 280-4893

## VILLAGE REPRESENTATIVES

Southern Cayuga Lake Intermunicipal Water Commission.....Don Hartill, Michael Newman  
Tompkins County Board of Representatives, District 6.....Michael J Sigler  
Tompkins County Board of Representatives, District 10.....Deborah Dawson  
Tompkins County Environmental Management Council..... John Dennis  
Tompkins County Joint Youth Commission..... Ronny Hardaway

## STATE AND FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVES

N.Y. State Senator Pamela Helming (R)	N.Y. State Assembly Barbara Lifton (D)
54th State Senate District	125th State Assembly District
409 Legislative Office Bldg.	106 E. Court St.
Albany, NY 12247	Ithaca, NY 14850
(518)455-2366	(607)277-8030

U.S. Senator Charles Schumer (D)  
313 Hart Senate Office Bldg.  
Washington, D.C. 20510  
(202)224-6542  
100 S Clinton St. Rm 841  
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U.S. Senator Kirsten E. Gillibrand (D)  
531 Dirksen Senate Office Bldg.  
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100 S Clinton St. Rm 1470  
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U.S. Rep. Tom Reed  
1504 Longworth HOB  
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