



From the Desk of the Supervisor *Peter Ingalsbe*

I know it's spring, but this week is more like summer. Yesterday, May 17th, Governor Cuomo provided mask wearing relief to those vaccinated and to our local businesses.

Hopefully we are close to a "new normal" for the general population.

New projects in Farmington: How about an ice cream shop or a hair salon? Have you had a hard time crossing County Road 41 on the Auburn Trail? How about a new credit union bank and a new industrial park? You can find out more on these topics by reading through our June Newsletter.

Good news!

The NYS Budget has passed and the expected lost Highway Funds and Video Lottery Terminal Funds have been reinstated.

With all the new home sales and homes being resold, the Mortgage Tax Receipts were the highest ever for the period of October 1st, 2020 – March 31, 2021.

Sales tax, believe it or not, has rebounded and looks promising for the rest of the year.

New home construction continues with 62 new applications processed as of April 30th.

Beaver Creek Park is progressing well with tree and shrub plantings, binder blacktop on all parking lots. The pavilion and bathrooms are close to being finished and the Recreation Advisory Board has selected the new playground equipment. The soccer fields are in and the baseball/softball field is under construction. Now we need some grass to grow.

LED streetlight status – I hope this is the last time I have to mention this! Eighty "cobra" style streetlights have been replaced and we hope the remainder of the upright designed streetlamps will arrive so the project will be closed out by August 1st. When complete this will hopefully eliminate the #1 complaint that my office and the Highway Department receive.

Our Building Department has great information on swimming pool requirements and the Highway Superintendent has included a list of summer road improvement projects.

The Town Comprehensive Plan is almost complete and the Route 332/96 Corridor study is in its 1st draft. Both of these plans will have public meetings in the near future.

As always, I have an open door policy to discuss your concerns or you can call me 315-986-8100 ext. 2 or email at pingalsbe@farmingtonny.org.



From the Desk of the Town Clerk *Michelle Finley*

First and most importantly I would like to thank all our residents who have been supportive during this time of restrictions and protocols. Our office has been and still is providing all in-person services for our residents.

The Town Clerk's Office is open Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., and on Wednesday evenings until 7:00 p.m. For your convenience, there is a drop box located to the right of the front entrance at the Town Hall. Payments by check may be placed in the drop box. The drop box is checked daily at 8 a.m. on regular business days.

The Town Clerk's Office provides a variety of services to our community including issuing marriage licenses, hunting, and



fishing licenses, dog licenses, accessibility parking permits, Town and County tax collection and the collection of water and sewer payments. The Clerk's Office also takes park reservations for our four parks (Farmbrook Park, Farmington Grove Park, Town Park, and Pumpkin Hook Park, and one lodge (Mertensia Park Lodge). Call the Clerk's Office at 315-986-8100 option 1 to check for availability.

Rabies Clinics for 2021 – All will be held at the Ontario County Public Works Building at 2962 County Road 48 in Canandaigua from 9 a.m. until noon. Dates are June 12th, August 7th, September 11th, and October 16th. Clinics are free but donations are appreciated. For any questions, call (585)396-4343.

Please remember to license your dog once they reach the age of 4 months. Bring proof of rabies and if they have been spayed or neutered to the Clerk's Office. Fees are:

Spayed/Neutered - \$16.00

Not Spayed/Neutered - \$25.00

If you are over 65 years of age, the fee is \$9.00 for spayed/neutered or \$18.00 if not.

Email: townclerk@farmingtonny.org
(315)986-8100 x4090



Planning & Development

Ronald Brand, Director of Development

Comprehensive Plan Update

A public review and comment period was provided during the month of April, ending on Friday, April 30th. The Plan Update, including the 18 maps and results of the Residents Survey, was also posted on the Town Website. Information was provided to the Town's newspaper, the Daily Messenger and postings were provided on the Town's Facebook Account and bi-weekly articles were provided in the Town Operations Report to the Town Board. Comments received have been incorporated and will be included in a public information meeting being planned for June. The information meeting will be in person, via Zoom and via Facebook Chat. Following the information meeting, a final draft plan will be submitted to the Town Board for the formal adoption process which should occur later this summer, or early in the fall. For those who may have missed the review period, the documents are still posted on the Town's website for your review and information.

Pedestrian Crossing Signals – Auburn Trail Crossing of County Road 41

Design plans have been prepared by Fisher Associates and forwarded to the Ontario County Department of Public Works for their approval of the installation of activated flashing signals for Auburn Trail users to cross County Road 41. The installation of these warning devices is expected later this summer. Please keep in mind, however, that even with the signals flashing trail users will be reminded not to enter the highway until vehicles have come to a stop.

Moratorium on Solar Collection Systems and Solar Farms

The Town Board moratorium on new applications for solar collection systems and solar farms continues in effect until August 9, 2021. The six-month extension of time allows for input on potential amendments to our current solar regulations; and allows time for the Town to consider the pending decision from a Supreme Court Judge who is currently reviewing an Article 78 Proceeding that has been brought against the Town. The lawsuit was filed by three property owners, for the Planning Board's decisions made upon the Delaware River Solar Project that is proposed to be located on land at the intersection of Yellow Mills and Fox Roads. On May 11, 2021, the Town provided the Court its' Response (Verified Answer) with over 500 attached documents.

Main Street Overlay District Regulations

The Town Board, on March 23rd, adopted zoning overlay district regulations to affect the future development of the Town of Farmington's defined Main Street, State Route 96, from the Victor/Farmington Town Line on the west to Fairdale Glenn Townhomes on the east is the defined Main Street Corridor. To date, four (4) properties have either completed the streetscape improvements (i.e., lawn areas, streetlights, sidewalks, benches, and trash containers), or will soon begin making these improvements. Byrne Dairy has completed their improvements. Meyer's RV Superstore and Maddies Power Sports have started their streetscape

improvements. The new Auto Wash site (formerly Country Club Car Wash) will be including their streetscape improvements later this summer.

Ice Cream Store/Beauty Shop

The Town Planning Board will be receiving an application in June for a commercial building to be located at the northwest corner of State Route 96 and Commercial Drive. The front portion of this building (facing State Route 96) will be an ice cream store with outdoor seating. The rear portion will be a beauty shop. This project is yet another contribution to the Route 96 Main Street Corridor and will be providing streetscape improvements.

GLN Farmington Realty

The developer of the land located along the south side of State Route 96, between Mertensia Road and the intersection with State Route 332, continues moving forward with plans that will bring new locations for a branch bank and a fast-food drive-through restaurant. As part of these two projects, there will be a new intersection created with State Route 96 which will provide the beginning of the northern portion of Mercier Boulevard and its future connection to the south with the cul-de-sac on Mercier Boulevard. In the future, when traffic warrants exist, this new town road will become a future signalized intersection on State Route 96. Completion of this segment of new town highway will enable town residents a by-pass solution from State Route 332 for meeting their local needs.

Farmington Commons Plaza Expansion

The parcel of land located at the southwest corner of State Routes 96 & 332, the Auto Zone Plaza, Burger King and Aldi's, is proposing additional development of their lands. The first phase involves a Credit Union Bank Building and related site improvements on land just north of the Burger King Restaurant. Other phases identify a new restaurant and a three-story medical office building. In addition to these buildings, there will be site improvements including a new driveway entrance from State Route 96, streetscape improvements along the Route 96 frontage and speed reduction features through the plaza's parking lot.

Blackwood Industrial Park Expansion

Construction is expected to begin later this summer on two new office/warehouse distribution buildings, each building containing a total of 208,000 square feet (a total of 416,000 square feet) and related site improvements. The site is located on the north side of County Road 41, west of County Road 8 and at the northwest corner of the round-a-bout intersection of these two County highways. The buildings will serve as regional distribution centers for several commercial stores.

Loomis Road Industrial Park

Subdivision plans have been received to create 10 new industrial lots, from a 32.8-acre site, located along the north side of Loomis Road, east of the former Finger Lakes Hotel and Conference Center. The site will become an industrial park with a new town road serving 8 of the 10 sites. The remaining two sites will front along the north side of Loomis Road. The site is opposite Ewing Lettering & Graphics and United Rental Corporation.

How to Stay Informed

With all of the projects on-going within the Town, of which there are approximately 38 underway, I remind everyone to periodically check the Town's website www.townoffarmingtonny.com for the bi-weekly Town Operations Reports to the Town Board. These reports generally are posted the day of the Town Board meetings. Go the Building/Planning/Zoning Dept. tab and then click on New Development Information. This practice has been on-going for the past four (4) years in an effort to Keep Town Residents Informed of what's happening in Farmington. Other ways to stay informed is to join our zoom meetings, or the in-person meetings held at the Town Hall.

Email: rlbplans@gmail.com

(315) 986-8100 ext. 4010



Building Department

Dan Delpriore, Code Enforcement Officer

Happy Summer Farmington Residents! Hope your 2021 has been better than your 2020. Here in the Building Department, we have been busier than ever keeping up with the Town's many ongoing and new projects. That includes the many projects you, as residents, are constructing at your homes. Many of you took my suggestion of making your winter dreams a reality, from the previous newsletter, literally.

With all the development occurring within the Town, I wanted to take a few minutes to go over a few guidelines to follow when applying for your building permits and completing your projects.

*All of our permit applications can be found on our website at www.farmingtonny.org under the Building/Planning/Zoning tab or stop into our office to obtain an application.

*There are a few different ways to submit permit applications. Applications can be submitted through our Online Portal or emailed to our Office Administrator at smitchell@farmingtonny.org, mailed, or stop by and see us to drop it off in person.

Want to skip coming to the Town Hall to apply for your building permit? That's easy, about a year ago we launched our Online Portal which allows you to apply for building permits from the comfort of your own home. It's simple, just head over to our website www.farmingtonny.org and click on that scrolling green box at the top of the page labeled "Online Submission Portal for Permits, Complaints and Parcel Search." Once there, simply click on the action you would like to perform, create an account and you are on your way! But do not worry if you get stuck, just grab your phone, and give us a call. Our staff can walk you through the process.

*Once a completed application has been received by the Building Department there is up to a 7-day review process. This 7-day review process is associated with permits such as, but not limited to, roofs, decks, pools, additions, patio enclosures, and fences.

*Building a new house? Once a completed application is received for a new house the review period is up to 30 days.

*All inspections are conducted Monday – Friday between the hours of 9am - 3:30pm. During the Summer months, we require at least a 24 to 48-hour notice to schedule all inspections. Unfortunately, we cannot accommodate any same day inspection requests.

*Plan in advance from the beginning, starting with your permit submittal through completion of your project.

*Do your research when it comes to choosing your contractor, regardless of the size of your project.

*Questions? Please reach out to our office with any questions you have along the way. My staff and I can walk you through the whole process from beginning to end.

Summer, in the Building Department, is also known as lawn mowing season. Remember that no growth of weeds or grass shall exceed six inches in length or height and to ensure that there is no accumulation of dead weeds, grass, or brush. It is illegal to discharge any materials other than stormwater into Town streets and gutters, so remember do not discharge your grass into our roadways. Since our Code Enforcement Officers and Zoning Officer drive the Town daily, this will help to eliminate the number of violations issued.

Inflatable Pools are popular pools that take just minutes to inflate, but they still fall under New York State Building Code requirements for Swimming Pools and require a permit and inspections. There is no provision for a "temporary" swimming pool in the code.

All inflatable swimming pools require:

A permit, electrical inspection, alarm and safety enclosures, such as fencing, to prevent children from wandering too close to the water.

A swimming pool is:

Any structure intended for swimming or recreational bathing that contains water over 24 inches deep. This includes in-ground, above-ground and on-ground swimming pools, hot tubs, and spas.

"Contains" means:

The pool wall is high enough for the pool to be **capable of containing** water a depth of more than 24 inches when filled. The term does not mean that you can "limit" the water depth to less than 24 inches in a pool that can contain deeper water.

Swimming Pool Alarms:

Each residential swimming pool installed, constructed, or substantially modified after December 14, 2006, shall be equipped with an approved pool alarm which:

- (1) is capable of detecting a child entering the water and gives an audible alarm when it detects a child entering the water;
- (2) is audible poolside and at another location on the premises where the swimming pool is located;
- (3) is installed, used, and maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions;

- (4) is classified by the Underwriter's Laboratory, Inc. to reference standard ASTM F2208, ENTITLED Standard Specification for Pool Alarms, as adopted in 2002;
- (5) is not an alarm device which is located on person(s) or which is dependent on device(s) located on person(s) for its proper operation.

Let's ensure a safe and healthy Summer!



From the Assessor's Office

Michelle Nicodemus

Hello Farmington!

Summer is finally within reach. It certainly is nice to live in a region where many come to vacation this time of year. I hope we all have the opportunity to enjoy the perks of living in such a beautiful area. All you have to do is look at the homes selling around you to see how high in demand this area is. Many are shaking their heads right now at buyers paying well above assessment and even having bidding wars! Homes are selling in record time; leaving no doubt that the Farmington area and Farmington homes are high in demand.

So, this brings me to the subject of real estate market value and revaluation. As most of you know, the objective of a revaluation is to keep community assessments up with current market values and one of the benefits of doing that can be that the tax rates stay flat. The State sets the valuation dates that we can use to calculate your assessments. In Farmington, it is always July 1st of the year prior to the reval year and two years before that date. So, for the 2022 reval, the property sale values that the State says we can use to value your properties would be sales between July 1st, 2019 and July 2021. So, if you would like a preview of possible changing property values, pay attention to current sales in your area.

Changes to an assessment can be categorized in two ways. A physical change or an equalization change. A physical change is exactly what it sounds like. It is a physical change to your property. This can be an increase, a decrease, or no change, depending on circumstances unique to every property. An equalization change is an attempt to equal market rate of homes in your area. What are homes like yours selling for? Whether the market is good, great, or bad; it is the Assessor's responsibility to make assessment changes that reflect the current market and adhere to Real Property Tax Law. Physical changes or equalization changes...the same rule applies.

The next subject I would like to address is how to get relief from taxes that are based, in part, on your assessment. Everyone wants to talk about that, right? The most popular form of tax relief is the STAR [School Tax Assessment Relief]. In our last newsletter, I wrote a little bit about the different types of STAR. So, there is the STAR credit and the STAR exemption and the Enhanced STAR credit and exemption. The only difference between the basic STAR and the Enhanced STAR is age and income threshold.

Folks can get the basic STAR at any age and the income limit, depending on the credit or the exemption, is much higher than the Enhanced STAR. The income limit for the STAR credit [check from NYS] is \$500,000 and the income limit for the STAR exemption [comes directly off your tax bill] is \$250,000. Lastly, the income limit for the Enhanced STAR is adjusted annually and for 2021 is \$90,550. One last thing about the Enhanced that some folks do not know is that you do not have to be 65 by March 1st to get it. You should apply for the Enhanced STAR the year that you are turning 65. Even if you don't turn 65 until December 31st, you should apply the year you turn 65. Don't forget, though, if you plan to apply at the Assessor's office, your application still has to be in by March 1st.

That brings us to our next subject, switching to the STAR or Enhanced STAR credit. This means a few things but most importantly it means that you would opt to have a check sent to you from New York State instead of getting the STAR taken directly off your tax bill. It also means that instead of having a STAR amount that will never increase, you may see as much as a 2% increase annually in your STAR amount. This is not a guarantee, but it is guaranteed that your STAR exemption amount [the one that comes off your tax bill] will never increase. It is the most it will ever be. Another important point about making a switch to the STAR credit from the STAR exemption is to make sure and tell our office. The last thing you want to do is accidentally have two STARs. We do *normally* get notification from the State regarding these changes, but I highly recommend following up with a phone call to the Assessor's office to ensure that everything is in order. To change your STAR, call 518-457-2036 or visit tax.ny.gov and search 'Make the Switch'.

Last but not least, I would like to mention that our office may be out in the community taking pictures over the summer. So, do not be alarmed if you see someone you do not know taking pictures of your property. It is just us updating our database with current photos of the Farmington community. We will be courteous and respectful while we fulfill this part of our duties and we will not enter your property uninvited. That is, unless there is a cool glass of lemonade on a windowsill, all by it's lonesome. Just kidding.

Email: mnicodemus@farmingtonny.org

(315) 986-8100 ext. 4092



Highway Department

Don Giroux, Highway Superintendent

Summer road maintenance is underway and once again this summer's list includes but is not limited to those listed in this article. There will be 3,000 gallons of crack fill material on several town roads. This is a process that fills in spidering and cracks on the road surfaces. This is one of the most economical surface treatments to ensure longevity of your roads to try and avoid more costly surface treatments as well as total rebuilds. Slightly more costly surface treatments include chip sealing, fiber mat surface with cape sealing. This year we have Scheduled 5 miles of chip seal which include Herendeen Road, Shortsville Road and Payne Road and a portion Collett Road. The fiber mat/cape seal roads include: Barberry Lane, Huckleberry Road, Heather Lane, Bittersweet Drive, Honeysuckle Lane, Old Mill and Creekside Drive. These

surface treatments also contribute to the longevity of our roads thus reducing the need for more costly rebuilds. Other areas of work for this summer include the largest section of drainage work, curbing and sidewalks on Canandaigua Farmington Townline Road Project, as well as a portion of road recycle to be done on Collett Road between County Road #8 and Payne Road. Shortsville Road from County Road #8 to County Road #28 will be receiving a 1½ inch overlay process. We will publish time frames on the Town website for each of the projects as they become available and scheduled with outside vendors, with the understanding that weather often becomes a factor in previously scheduled work. As always, we will try to minimize any inconvenience in your commute and apologize for any we may cause. Please be mindful of your speed when driving; walkers and children are playing in our neighborhoods.

PARK'S DEPARTMENT

The current updates to our town parks, both Pumpkin Hook and Farmbrook Park have each added new freestanding swings (2 belt seats, 2 tot seats and an ADA Swing). The construction was completed over the Winter and into the spring. The new Beaver creek park is currently under construction with the maintenance building and bathrooms completed as well as a pavilion. Soccer fields have been established, drainage installed, and grass seed planted. There is also a baseball field that has been constructed which is in the early stages of grass growing. It is our intent to continue the development of this park with playground structures with the hopes of limited use late this season and with anticipation of full use in 2022.

Help Keep Our Town Parks Enjoyable for Everyone

We're proud to make our parks available for all to enjoy. Our Town employees work hard to maintain these spaces for sports, activities, play and gatherings. We appreciate your help in keeping parks clean and safe – please remember to carry out or properly dispose of waste. Thank you for helping us keep our parks ready and welcoming for our whole community!

For more information call the Town of Farmington Highway Department at (315) 986-5540 or visit our website at http://www.townoffarmingtonny.com/highway_parks for more information.

Email: dgiroux@farmingtonny.org



Water & Sewer
*Robin MacDonald, Acting
Superintendent*

Building construction has begun at Hathaway Corners. The development of this area will include townhomes, single family residences, and eventually commercial businesses. The names of the new roads are Savalla Boulevard, Osborn Lane, Barry Place, Eddy Gate, and Holmes Place. Welcome new neighbors to Farmington!

The new water tank on Brickyard Road will be put out for bid by mid-June. The project is anticipated to begin this fall. The

replacement of a new and larger water tank will help maintain consistent water pressure and provide water for the growing population in the area.

The new water main installation on Yerkes Road in the Town of Canandaigua is complete. This area of our water district has seen a lot of growth in the past decade. The existing 8" water line was old and showing signs of wear.

Replacement of old fire hydrants will resume this summer. We will notify you in writing if your street will be affected.

At the wastewater treatment plant, we will be installing two new pumps in the Sand Filter Building. The last steps of treating influent water require it to pass through the sand filtering process before reaching the aeration vault and then on to the UV Building before being discharged into Beaver creek.

The second quarter CFWD water and sewer bills will be mailed out on or before July 1, 2021, with a due date of July 31st. A 20% penalty will be applied to outstanding sewer charges on August 2, 2021. Online payments are a quick and easy way to pay your bill. There is a small fee associated with this payment method. For those of you who like to save a stamp and prefer writing a check or money order, there is a night drop box at the Farmington Town Hall located at 1000 County Road 8. For our Victor customers we have the Direct Debit Payment Plan available. Contact our office at 585-924-3158 to request an application.

Enjoy your summer!

Recreation News

Mark Cain, Recreation Director

Julie LaRue, Recreation Advisory Board Chairperson

WERQ (cardio dance workout) will be starting up again beginning April 7 at the Mertensia Lodge Wednesdays, 7-8pm, Cost is \$5

Please see the Farmington Recreation page on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/FarmingtonNY/> and our website www.townoffarmingtonny.com/recreation_department for updates.

Farmington's Rich History



Donna Herendeen, Town Historian

Office hours Tuesday 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Dear Community Members,

Since my last article, the Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) has been busy with cemetery work. With the help from Scout Troop #60 they cleaned up the Payne cemetery grounds. One HPC member will begin researching the history behind the burials and will eventually identify the grave sites missing headstones. Payne cemetery is the resting place of first settler John Payne and his family. There are ten recorded burial sites and one unrecorded. John Payne may have been a Revolutionary War soldier, but further research

Town of Farmington
1000 County Road #8
Farmington, NY 14425

RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMER

needs to confirm this. Work will continue in the historic Power cemetery with the removal of more trees and laying foundations to reset the headstones. Plans are in place to install a gated fence around the cemetery. Public access to the historic Hathaway cemetery is targeted for 2022. Two Eagle Scout projects in the South Farmington cemetery are completed.

Did you know that at one time Americans picnicked in our cemeteries? During the 19th century snacking in the cemeteries was an accepted "pastime to eat and relax among the dead". Unlike today, most municipalities lacked recreational areas so cemeteries before the early 20th century were the closest thing to a modern-day public park. New cemeteries were located outside church and city grounds and designed "like gardens for relaxation and beauty" in rural areas. The public was invited to enjoy the grounds. Reporters during that time called eating in cemeteries a "fad". Yellow fever and cholera flourished, children died young and frequently their mothers died in childbirth. It was popular to picnic on family cemetery plots so the family could "talk" with both the living and dead. In 1884, a young man was quoted as saying "we are going to keep Thanksgivin' with our father as though he was as alive and hearty this day as last year. We brought something to eat and a spirit lamp to boil coffee." By 1920, the number of cemetery picnics was decreasing due to the establishment of public parks. But the "fad" isn't entirely dead today. Only a few cemeteries across the United States have a no picnic rule. So, if you plan to "break bread" with your family just remember to clean up after yourselves and respect the grounds!

Work continues at the South Farmington chapel. New drywall, insulation, interior doors and a utility service pole are slated for completion this fall. Thumbs up to the volunteers who have been busy raising money for the project! Anyone wishing to join this group should reach out on their Facebook page "South Farmington Friends Cemetery Association".

Finally, after a year of Covid dread, spring has arrived with the promise of returning to "normalcy". I wonder what did we learn from our year of hibernation? Personally, I discovered that business meetings can go on using Zoom (darn!) and how really small my world is. I would love to hear about our residents experience this past year! Email me (farmhistorian@yahoo.com) your comments and they will be added to our Covid journal.

Don't forget to visit the museum room at the Lyons National Bank.

Have a wonderful summer everyone.

Your historian,

Donna Herendeen

Get Involved in Our Town

All Town of Farmington board and committee meetings are posted on the Town website's calendar. You can sign up on the website to receive email notices, as well.

We currently have vacancies on the Conservation Board and Agricultural Advisory Board.

If you are interested in becoming a committee or board member, please send your resume and letter of interest to:

Marcy Daniels
1000 County Road 8
Farmington, NY 14425

Or via email: mdaniels@farmingtonny.org

Town of Farmington Boards & Committees

Town Board: Meets the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. Supervisor: Peter Ingalsbe

Planning Board: Meets the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m. Chairperson: Ed Hemminger

Zoning Board of Appeals: Meets the 4th Monday of each month at 7 p.m. Chairperson: Jeremy Marshall

Conservation Board: Meets the 4th Monday of each month at 7:30 p.m. Chairperson: Sue Hilton

Agricultural Advisory Committee: Meeting the 3rd Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m. Chairperson: Henry Adams III

Historical Preservation: Meets the 2nd Thursday of each month at 6 p.m. Chairperson: Jessica King

Recreation Advisory Board: Meeting the 2nd Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at Mertensia Lodge Chairperson: Julie LaRue; Recreation Director: Mark Cain

Meeting dates, times and locations are subject to change. Please check with the Town Clerk's office to confirm.