



Village of Port Dickinson

Spring 2011

Important Telephone Numbers:

Village Hall Business – 771-8233
Building Inspector & Code Officer 771-8233
Police – 722-1255

Police & Fire Emergency – 911

WEBSITE: www.portdickinsonny.us/

MAYOR:

Kevin M. Burke – 723-5674

TRUSTEES:

Administration & Codes: James DeGennaro 773-8078

Parks, Water & Sewer: Robert Aagre 217-4122

Police & Fire: Richard Felo 724-4170

Public Works: Michael Cashman 724-6764

From the Mayor...

VILLAGE TAXES: As most everyone knows, the Village, like all municipalities, is faced with record increases in NYS Retirement costs along with healthcare rates. Despite these extraordinary outlays we feel we have prepared a responsible operating budget. The proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2011-12 will raise taxes 2.8% or approx .22 cents per \$1,000 of assessed valuation. (E.g. A home assessed at \$50,000 will pay \$11.00 more a year.) I want to thank the Trustees for their dedication in assembling this coming year's budget.

As the year progresses we will be carefully monitoring our sales tax revenues and expenditures to insure that the services and security you have come to rely on will continue without interruption.

The Village is joining with all County Municipalities in presenting resolutions to ask the Broome County Legislature to reinstate the original sales tax distribution formula. This would eliminate the current formula where local municipalities share shall not exceed one-half percent (.5%) of the average distribution of the prior year. As the economy recovers along with the sales tax on clothing being added back in there will be significant increases where as the County would be the only entity to benefit to any measure.

SEWER & WATER RATES: Good news, no rate increases for either.

WATER METER READINGS: Due to an increase in the number of property owners neglecting to read their water meters and returning the reading card we were forced to increase the fine for non readings to \$50.00. Next reading cards will be due June 10, 2011.

Are you planning to build a Deck, Pool, Carport, Addition?

These all Require

BUILDING PERMITS.

BUILDING PERMITS are **MANDATORY** for **VIRTUALLY ALL NEW CONSTRUCTION**. Including **In & Above Ground Pools, All Decks, Certain Size Sheds, All Additions, Fire Place/Wood Burners and Porches** just to name a few.

CALL THE BUILDING INSPECTOR @ 771-8233 WITH ANY QUESTIONS PRIOR TO INITIATING YOUR PROJECT. THIS WILL ALLOW YOU TO AVOID DELAYS, LEGAL ACTION & ADDED COSTS.

Please allow time for the Inspector to return your call. You can pick up permit applications at the Village Hall. PLAN AHEAD!

Projects scheduled for this Fiscal Year

- We will be installing new playground equipment in the Community Park. We are looking at modular sets so our plan is to increase the size and equipment available over the next few years.
- We have negotiated with Millennium Pipeline and have received \$75,000 from them to rebuild Phelps St. from the Service Rd to the Town line.

POLICE DEPARTMENT: Your Police Officers ask you to help them help you. Don't hesitate to call them if you have a question or concern regarding anything.

722-1255 or 911 for EMERGENCY

If you desire to talk to an officer, just state your request to the dispatcher and a PD Officer will either visit you or phone you if you request. You can report anything anonymously if you wish.

Be a good neighbor and help to protect our Village and to preserve the quality of life we all enjoy.

Please call your Police if you **see or hear any suspicious or uncommon activity.**

- Police Phone Stickers are available by calling the Village Hall 771-8233 and they will be mailed to you.
- **Remember to Always Lock your Car Doors!**

WELCOME: Village Trustee Bob Aagre. Bob began his Trustee service in January and will take over the Water, Sewer and Parks Trustee duties. Bob has been the driving force in our Village Tree Planting Program. Bob and his crew are responsible for planting over 100 new trees in the village in the last 2 years. Bob has also been recognized on local news for his tireless work in establishing schools in Myanmar (aka. Burma) for many years. Welcome to the Board Bob.

WATER RUN OFF – The EPA is directing all communities to be aware of, and restrict what we allow to flow into the waters of streams and rivers with respect to runoff. Our street drains will be marked to indicate which ones flow directly into rivers and streams. Please be cautious in applying any fertilizers/weed killers with respect to overuse or misuse.

**EXTREMELY IMPORTANT
FEDERAL FLOOD MAP CHANGES**
FEMA had updated the Flood Insurance Rate Maps last March and now we understand they are being reevaluated. These changes have affected several properties within the Village regarding placement on the maps and the need for flood insurance. Right now FEMA tells us that “they have no idea when mapping will continue.” Please take special notice and be watching the media for any news that is forthcoming on this important issue. We will try to keep you informed as to any news we receive.

GRANTS BEING APPLIED FOR: We are currently in the process of applying for a \$400,000 Grant that would allow us to remodel the 2nd floor of the Village Hall. The main item is installing an elevator that would make our facility handicap accessible. There would be upgrades to the rest rooms and food service area also. This would allow for all of our community to have a local facility to enjoy and call home.

CODE ENFORCEMENT: IMPORTANT NOTICE.
House Numbering- Village Code and the 911 Law require that all properties must have their number affixed in a conspicuous manner in a conspicuous place near the front entrance. Help your emergency responders to help you and clearly number your house.
Grass in Streets- It is illegal to discharge grass or any debris into the street. This debris seriously complicates drainage especially in severe storms. Code & Police will enforce this violation.

COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION: For over fifty years the **Port Dickinson Community Association** has served the youth of our Village. Please support their activities as all proceeds go to support our youth programs.

UPCOMING PDCA EVENTS

April 29 & 30 Tag Sale- accepting donations of any household item, clothing, toys etc.

April 30 – Grand Opening of the new concession stand and thank you to the contractors who donated their time.

For information call: President: Jen Green 621-0225
Vice President Rob Moss 723-6388

FIRE DEPARTMENT: *“When a person becomes a Firefighter their greatest act of bravery has been accomplished. What they do after that is all in the line of duty. Firefighters do not regard themselves as heroes because they do what business requires.”* Excerpt from Chief Edward Croker FDNY (1899-1911)

Most of you are aware of the dedicated and unselfish service provided to us by your PORT DICKINSON VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT every minute of every day. Please support their activities and take a moment to thank them for their noble work in protecting us. Their service is never ending!

The Port Dickinson Fire Department is always looking for new members, please call the Village Hall at 771-8233 and leave your name and a representative will contact about how you can serve your community.

TREE REPLACEMENT PROGRAM: We are continuing this popular program into 2011. Any Village property owner wishing to have a free tree planted this spring, please call Ed Corcoran at 724-1965 and place your order. Accepting requests on a first come basis. The tree & planting is free, also pruning for the first few years. Various trees are available and are suitable for northeast planting. Our Tree Board members are Bob Shields, Ed Corcoran and Kim Walling from our DPW.

YARD WASTE PICKUP: Lawn debris pickup will be on Mondays beginning April 5, (weather permitting). All debris must be in containers (**Max. 50lbs.**) Branches must be tied in 4 ft lengths. **NO PLASTIC BAGS or TRASH.** Place containers or bundles between the sidewalk and the curb. Please consider composting your lawn waste whenever possible. The Village Compost facility has a limited capacity and the alternatives will prove very costly.

WATER CONSUMPTION TIP: To find out if you have a leak within your home - take a meter reading the last thing in the evening and once again the first thing in the morning. There should be virtually no consumption. An increased reading would indicate an internal leak.