



Village of Port Dickinson

Spring 2008

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: Edward Corcoran 724-1965
Police & Fire: Richard Felo 724-4170
Public Works: Steven Horoschak 772-0573

From the Mayor...

VILLAGE TAXES: The proposed budget for the Fiscal Year 2008-09 will raise taxes approx 1.94% or .14 per \$1,000. assessed valuation. This equates to an approx. \$8.40 annual increase to the average home in the Village. This budget allows for the continued annual replacement of capital equipment without borrowing. It also contains funding to initiate preventive maintenance and replacement construction projects throughout the village. I want to extend a sincere thank you to our Trustees, Treasurer, Clerk, department leaders and employees for their conscientious efforts and input to this budget in a way that minimizes the impact to our taxpayers but allows us to progress and expand our services to our residents.

SEWER & WATER RATES: The Town of Fenton is raising what we pay them for water by .25 cents per hundred cubic feet. Due to our ongoing review we will only have to pass on to our residents .15 cents PHCF.

Primarily due to the damage at the BJC Joint Sewage Treatment plant we need to raise our sewer rates by .15 cents per 100 CF. We are constantly monitoring these rates and with proper management and anticipation will hope to lessen the impact of the fees that are imposed on the Village.

YARD WASTE PICKUP- Lawn debris pickup will be on Mondays beginning April 7, (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 Landfill has a limited capacity and the alternatives will prove very costly.

GARBAGE and RUBBISH REMOVAL: The Village Code states that persons in charge of any private lands in the village must remove their garbage once a week at his own cost and expense. **Also this garbage shall be placed at the curb line not earlier than the evening preceding the collection day in suitable containers or securely stacked in bundles so as to prevent blowing and scattering.** If the person in charge of this property fails to comply with the provisions of this section, all accumulated garbage or rubbish will be removed at the home owner's expense by Department of Public Works or a private contractor. **In either event the expense shall become a lien upon the property involved and be added to and become a part of the next annual tax levy against the property.** The code also allows for a fine of up to \$250.

There have been several occasions where the person fails to arrange to remove extra items e.g. Ranges, TV's Sinks, Construction Debris etc. These unsightly items get left at the curb for several days after the normal collection provoking numerous complaints. **If these items are not removed by the evening of collection we will have them removed and as several homeowners can attest it will be a costly expense for this special pickup.** Please understand we do not want our home owners to incur any additional costs but to avoid this condition and respond to the complaints properly we have we will continue to be persistent.

Also please be considerate of your neighbors and remove your garbage cans as soon as possible after collection.

Are you planning to remodel, add on, install any type of pool, or carport ???

ALL REQUIRE BUILDING PERMITS.

Building Permits are **REQUIRED** for **VIRTUALLY ALL CONSTRUCTION**. **PLEASE CALL THE BUILDING INSPECTOR @ 771-8233 WITH ANY QUESTIONS PRIOR TO INITIATING YOUR PROJECT 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!

COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION: For fifty years the **Port Dickinson Community Association** has served the youth of our Village. Their programs include Soccer, Softball, Basketball, Baseball and the extremely popular **SUMMER FUN PROGRAM** for boys and girls 5-12 years of age. Their financial support is generated through dues that are charged for membership and fund raisers such as candy bars and chicken barbeques.

Over the years the cost of maintaining their properties and equipment has risen, therefore they are asking our Village Residents for financial support. Your donation will help fund much needed improvements to all of our fields, buildings, concession stands and facilities.

They have qualified as a not for profit corporation and for tax exemption. All donations are tax deductible. Your contribution no matter how large or small will help insure that the PDCA is able to continue to serve the youth of your village for years to come. They thank you for any consideration or support you may be able to provide them.

Please mail any donations to the PDCA c/o 786 Chenango St. Binghamton, NY 13901 or put them in the drop box in the front of the Village Hall.

FLOODING: Of special interest to Terry & Watson Ave., Riverview Rd., and aprox. 694 to 710 Chenango St. area residents. The DEC has informed us they will be installing machinery to keep the flood water intake at the levee clear of debris in the event of high water. In addition they have purchased several large volume portable pumps to assist in the removal of water from the low area adjacent to the levee.

The Local DEC is working with us and we hope to receive some more permanent relief to the situation

MILLENIUM PIPELINE UPDATE: We have been recently notified that the pipeline as it passes through the village will be by a horizontal underground drilling. This drilling work will begin during soon originating on Upper Front St. in the Town of Chenango and resurface several times before it ends out on upper Phelps St.

This sizeable drilling effort once it starts will most likely continue on a 24 a day basis. This is caused by the fact that if the drill is stopped it may not be able to be restarted due to the condition of the ground it is drilling through. I have been informed that there may be considerable sound associated with this operation.

We as a municipality have virtually no recourse toward the sound nuisance associated, as this is a Federal approved and inspected project.

The Pipeline Company will soon begin a door to door distribution of an informational letter that will provide a list of names and phone numbers of Millennium Personnel to contact with questions. Please note the drilling will have no impact on our Park.

FIRE DEPARTMENT: Our Fire Department is currently conducting a membership drive. New members are always needed especially during the day hours and for the Fire Police Division. Call the Village Hall at 771-8233, leave your name and a member will call you back.

Please consider becoming a Fire Department Member. There are many areas of interest to be involved with. The service they provide us is immeasurable! The Fire Department protects us in many ways. If not for their commitment during the floods the resulting damage to our Village could have been much more severe.

TREE PLANTING: The Village Code long ago established standards for tree planting and maintenance in the area between the public sidewalk and highway curb. This code was enacted as a result of the trees roots in these locations invading the sewer lines and causing extensive sewage back up damage to homes.

The list of allowed trees for curb area planting is:

Small Trees: "American Hornbeam", "Goldenrain", "Flowering Crabapple" and "Japanese Tree Lilac."

Medium Trees: "Honeylocust"(thornless), "Kwanzan Oriental Cherry" and "Callery Pear."

In addition no trees may be planted closer to any curb or sidewalk than the following: Small Trees - 1 and one-half (1.5) feet; and Medium Trees - 3 feet. No trees may be planted closer together than the following: Small Trees, 25 feet; and Medium Trees, 35 feet. For further information call the Village Hall.

POLICE DEPARTMENT:

Spring is the time when **Door to Door Solicitors** increase their activity. Village Law states that all solicitors must register at the Village Hall with Photo ID prior to starting and only between 9AM and sunset.

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

Please do not hesitate to call if you have a question about anything!

Your Police Department is there to SERVE YOU!

VILLAGE HISTORIANS: Have developed a respectable archive but are in need of more historical information of the Village. If you have any old photographs, news clippings, letters etc., please contact one of our Historians. They will arrange to pick it up, scan it, and return it to you. Even if you don't think your item(s) might not be of value or importance, we would urge you to contact Bob Blakeslee or Roger Shaller so they may review it. Call the Village Hall at 771-8233 and leave a message.