



Village of Wellsville

Office of the Mayor

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Mar. 21, 2017

Dear Fellow Citizens of Wellsville,

Yesterday we welcomed the first day of Spring, following a relatively mild winter (snowfall-wise) which was kind to our Streets Department budget. Now we look forward to nice days and nights, while continuing your Board of Trustees' work on major issues facing the Village of Wellsville.

Our Village Tax Rate will be lower in 2017. This occurs even though we lost \$376,000 of taxable property assessment. Our rate reduction is due to the collective effort and attention of all village employees and the Board. (By comparison to Wellsville's tax cut, NYS guideline is a 1.15% maximum tax increase.) Our 2017-2018 Budget is to be ready mid-April.

The Burrous Project continues. Much has been written and said about this. Please let me describe the status as clearly and briefly as I can. To date, we have been awarded \$2Million in outside grants for this project. We had requested \$3Million to create a developer-ready "white box" (sound structure, HVAC, rough electric and plumbing). Because of this \$1Million shortfall difference, we engaged engineers to provide a lesser \$2Million white box plan and a consultant to advise on the marketability of that plan. At the same time, we continue to pursue other potential grant funding sources. There is NO consideration of the Village borrowing, bonding, or in any way self-funding the \$1Million shortfall.

Main Street Gateway Project which will provide handicap accessible ramps and crosswalks to Main St intersections should be in active construction this Summer. The majority of this project is funded by NYS Department of Transportation.

Unsafe Properties and Code Enforcement are two areas we will address as aggressively as circumstances allow. We are pursuing outside grant funding for properties' demolition and ways to hold deadbeat landowners accountable.

These are only the highlights of a few of the activities of your Village government. I encourage you to attend Board Meetings (2nd and 4th Monday each month) and to read the minutes at our enhanced website www.wellsvilleny.com.

Respectfully,

Randy M. Shayler,
Mayor

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