

TOWN OF TORREY BOARD
PO Box 280
56 Geneva St
Dresden, New York 14441
Phone 315-536-6376 Fax 315-536-5655

Newsletter
September 1 - December 31, 2020

The Torrey Town Board is sending this newsletter to bring residents up to date on some of the issues the town has considered and/or are working on since the last newsletter (May 1 - August 31).

Town Officials

Patrick Flynn	(Supervisor)	Flynn.farms@hotmail.com
315.536.9781		Term: January 1,2020 - December 31,2021
Colby Petersen	(Deputy Supervisor)	colby@ycsoilwater.com
315.536.1014		Term: January 1,2018 - December 31,2021
Larry Martin	(Councilman)	larmart64@gmail.com
315.759.3374		Term: January 1,2020 - December 31,2023
Peter Martini	(Councilman)	martinivms@gmail.com
315.536.2182		Term: January 1,2020 - December 31,2023
Grant Downs	(Councilman)	gjdowns1946@gmail.com
315.531.8441		Term: January 1,2018 - December 31,2021
Betty Daggett	(Town Clerk)	townclerk@townoftorrey.com

315.536.6376 Term: January 1,2020 - December 31,2021
 Tim Chambers (Hwy Supt.) townclerk@townoftorrey.com
 315.729.2706 Term: January 1,2020 - December 31,2021
 George Thompson (Town Judge) townclerk@townoftorrey.com
 315.536.5655 Term: January 1, 2020 - December 31,2023
 Dwight James (Code Enforcement Officer) torreycodes@gmail.com
 315.536.6376 (cell 315.730.3291)
 Patricia Brede (Assessor) assessor@townofbenton.us
 315.536.7551

From the Desk of Town Supervisor (Pat Flynn):

- Jeremy DeLyser, engineer with Clark Peterson Lee (**CPL**), has completed final design work for Water District 1. There remains five (5) easements outstanding.
- An agreement has been reached with Norfolk Southern Railway on behalf of Water District 1 for the seven (7) crossings of their tracks for Water District 1.
- A revised water agreement between the Town of Torrey and the Village of Dresden was received January 11,2021

From the Desk of the Town Board:

- Adopted the Town Budget for 2021

Summary of Torrey Town Budget

Fund	Appropriations & Provisions	Less Est Rev	Less Unexp Balance	Less Pilots Payments	Amount Raise by Taxes
Gen A	431,614	131,671	21,710	13,835	264,398
Gen B	26,393	8,841	1,320	841	15,391

HWY DA Town	244,346	61,560	12,317	7,849	162,620
HWY DB Outside Village	192,700	57,436	10,635	6,777	117,852
Subtotal	895,053	259,508	45,982	29,302	560,261
Health District	500	0	0	0	500
Fire Cnt	96,900	0	0	0	96,900
Totals \$ (2021)	992,453	259,508	45,982	29,302	657,661
Totals \$ (2020)	1,158,985	451,416	54,166	22,590	630,813
Totals \$ (2019)	918,588	174,060	94,500	22,483	627,545

Town of Torrey Tax Rate per 100/Unit

Year	Town Tax Rate Outside Village	Town Tax Rate Within Village	Torrey Fire District
2021	3.000419	2.239000	.517019
2020	3.276265	2.634106	.594706

The 2021 total Town Tax Levy represents a 4.90% increase of the 2020 Town Tax Levy mainly due to the fallout from the Pandemic

- Adopted on December 8, 2020 Water District 1 Bond Resolution to finance the Capital Improvements

- A lawsuit regarding the Greenidge Data Center has been served on the Town Board, Planning Board, and Greenidge
- Because of the COVID-19 surge and the possibility of inclement weather, the regular monthly Town meetings of February 9th and March 9th may be held in the basement of Dresden Methodist Church, 60 Cornelia Street, at 7:30 pm.
- A special public Town meeting will be held at the Dresden Methodist Church on January 26th at 7:00 pm with the Town of Milo regarding an annexation of property to the Town of Torrey. This will be followed by at 7:30 pm with a review of the status of the Torrey Water District 1 and Water District 2

From the Desk of Town Clerk (*Betty Daggett*):

- Town Office is open Monday through Thursday from 9:00am - 4:00pm. Call 315-536- 6376
- Notary Public available- NoFee
- Tax Collection is in full stride, the new collection system introduced by the county in 2018 was plagued with glitches, the problems have been resolved, and the 2020 tax collection is running smoothly.
- This year, on the tax bills is the option to pay Town & County Taxes online at <https://www.yatescounty.org/519>, - standard processing fees will be applied.
- Fee collection such as building permits, fines & fees issued by Code Office, Watershed Inspection for property sales
- Registrar of Birth / Death Certificates Vital copies - \$10.00 fee.
- Handicap Parking Permits
- Hunting / Fishing Licenses are now for sale
- Marriage License Requirements: Bride/Groom/Spouse must be present to obtain a license. The license is good for 60 days. There is a \$30 fee. Evening or Saturday appointments are available.

- Dog Licenses: State Law requires all puppies to be licensed at 4 months. At time of licensing, a rabies certificate and neuter/spay certificate must be presented. Licensing Fees: Unspayed/Unneutered \$18 and Spayed/Neutered \$10.
(It is NYS Ag & Market law- **ALL dogs** harbored in the Town of Torrey must be licensed yearly at the Town Clerk office)

From the Desk of Town Highway Superintendent (Tim Chambers):

- Off hours emergency callout number: 315-729-2706
- Replaced the septic tank and distribution box at the Torrey Town park
- Tires on the 2001 Backhoe need to be replaced
- Gear box on the 2019 brush mower which is attached to the 2006 excavator must be repaired or replaced
- 2006 pickup truck with 114,000 miles will be put up for auction
- Hometowne Fuel now has the Yates County fuel bid
- As a **safety** precaution, especially this time of year when snow plowing is possible, trash cans should **not** be placed on Town Roads, but rather on the right-of-way.
- *Reminder according to NYS law:*
 - + throwing trash, garbage, rubbish, litter or refuse on Highways and adjacent lands is prohibited
 - + the town superintendent of highways shall sue for and recover a penalty not to exceed \$100 from any person depositing ashes, snow, ice, stones, sticks, etc. upon a highway or on grass or loose stones adjoining a town highway

From the Desk of Town Code Enforcement Officer (Dwight James):

- Call the Town Office at 315-536-6376 (cell 315-730-3291) or email at torreycodes@gmail.com to inquire about Permits.
- Total Permits issued for 2020 were 89
- Permit fees collected for 2020 were \$8591.60
- Total inspections for 2020 were 61

- Total variances for 2020 were 12
 - Total violations issued in 2020 were 19 with 13 being resolved
 - Total C of O/C of C for 2020 were 17
- Reminder all short term rentals must be registered with the Town

- Answered a call from the Yates County Sheriff Department about an incident of “social distancing” **not** being observed. Everyone is encouraged to wear a mask, wash hands regularly, and practice social distancing during this pandemic!

From the Desk of Town Planning Board (*Dave Granzin*):

- Meets the third (3rd) Monday of the month at 7:00 pm in the Town Building
- Processed several standard site plan reviews, lot line adjustments, and variance requests, some of which were forwarded to the Zoning Board of Appeals.
- The Planning Board was the lead agency in the SEQR process regarding Greenidge’s application for a Data Farm on its existing site. The Planning Board established November 7, 2020 for the receiving of public comments on the proposed project. Some three hundred twenty two (322) comments from the public were received and reviewed by the Planning Board to which they responded in a statement. The comment forms expressed concerns about impacts to Seneca Lake and impacts with regard to climate change. However, during its analysis of potential impacts on Part 2 of the Environmental Assessment Form, the Planning Board found that there would be no impacts on surface water, including Seneca Lake, and no impacts on climate change. The Applicant holds valid permits from the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation with respect to air emissions and water discharges, is operating in compliance with

those permits, and will continue to operate in compliance with those permits even after completion of the Project.

The Planning Board also noted the comment forms did not raise any issues that identify potentially significant environmental impacts that were not considered by the Planning Board during its SEQRA review or provide substantive information regarding the inadequacy of the proposed mitigation measures. The Town has also received a copy of correspondence from the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation noting that there is no basis to reopen any of the Applicant's (Greenidge) existing permits.

- At the November 14, 2020 Planning Board meeting approved the site plan for a data farm with a conditional negative SEQR declaration. The three (3) conditions for approval are
 - Power will be generated onsite for the data farm and not to be drawn from the grid
 - A noise level test will be conducted to measure any increase in noise due to the new operation. If the additional noise exceeds the zoning code limit of 50 dB, the facility will not be allowed to operate
 - Applicant will fulfill all DEC requirements relative to the Greenidge Generation operations
- The Town Board at the request of the Planning Board passed a six (6) month moratorium on the seeking of establishing dog kennels in the Town. The time will be used to review Planning Board regulations for dog kennels.
- The Planning Board is reviewing three (3) Solar Farm projects in the town.

From the Desk of Town Judge (Hon. George Thompson)

- Court is held each Tuesday at 2:00pm on the West side of the Town Building. The phone number is 315 536 5655

- Criminal court is held the second Tuesday of the month at 2:00 pm
- Town Board members Grant Downs and Larry Martin audited the Town Justice books and found no discrepancies for Judge George R. Thompson, September 1, 2019 - August 31, 2020
- Town Court is applying for a **JCAP** Grant to finance installation of a Security system for the building and courtroom.

From the Desk of Town Watershed Inspector (*Yates Cty Soil & Water*)

The Town's inspectors can be contacted at the Yates County Soil and Water Conservation Department 315- 536-5188.

In November of 2014, the Town of Torrey passed a local Wastewater Law effective January 1, 2015. Under the new law, any onsite wastewater treatment system within 200' of Seneca Lake or a DEC classified stream is required to be inspected every 5 years. The cost of the inspection is borne by the Town of Torrey (unless this is a property transfer). However any pumping of the septic or repair is a cost to the homeowner. We are now in year 6 of these inspections.

From the Desk of the Mayor of Dresden (*Bill Hall*):

- Village elections will be held Tuesday, March 16, 2021
- Mayor Bill Hall (Term: March 2019 - March 2021)
- Village Trustees
 - Brian Flynn (Term: March 2020 - March 2022)
 - Bret Siegrist (Term: March 2019 - March 2021)
- Village organizational meeting will be held Wednesday, March 17th at 7:00 pm which is the regular monthly meeting
- Colleen Riviello is the Village Clerk. Office hours are Monday - Friday, 8:00 am to 2:00pm, phone number 315-536-2477
- Village had constructed a 2 stall garage for housing Village equipment
- Village completed repairs to the Village Water Tank on Rte 54

Upcoming Community Event

- **YATESCOUNTYPUBLICHEALTH.ORG** homepage has information on when and where Vaccination clinics will be held and who is eligible
- New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) puts out a weekly bulletin each week detailing projects throughout the State.

The Environmental Notice Bulletin (ENB) is available at:

<https://www.dec.ny.gov/enb/enb.html>

Yates County is in Region 8

- **Town Logo Contest** is being planned with specific details being developed. It is anticipated the contest will run from March 1 to April 9, 2021. Final details will be available after the February 9th board meeting and made available to those interested afterwards. In the meantime put your thinking hats on!
- **Seneca Lake Pure Waters Association (SLPWA)**
Stream sampling along the Keuka Outlet continued in 2020 in conjunction with the Department of Environmental Conservation. There were only a couple of sampling events taken because of budget considerations. Harmful Algal Bloom (**HABS**) monitoring continued this Summer under the direction of Bill Roege of Benton. The results were quite different from previous years despite a hot and dry Summer. There were only a few localized events on Seneca Lake especially along the Town of Torrey shoreline.

A dock monitoring and sampling experiment initiated in 2019 was continued in 2020 and proved very promising. It demonstrated we can find more blooms than with just volunteers and that there is significant nutrient variation along the shoreline.

A toxin field test kit that homeowners could use to test their own for the presence of HABS based toxins was tested

Check their website www.SenecaLake.org for additional Information or to volunteer!

- **Friends of the Keuka Outlet (FOTO)** check their website www.KeukaOutletTrail.org for details of events to be held this year and to volunteer. The **FOTO** Board of Directors meet monthly at 7:00 PM at the Lyons National Bank and the public is welcome. Beginning in January of 2020, the FOTO Newsletter will be sent by email. Please submit your e-mail address to the above website. If you would still like a hardcopy, then write:

FOTO, Inc.
PO Box 65,
Dresden, NY 14441

- **Yates Transit Services** provides public bus service throughout the County including a route from/to Dresden and Penn Yan. Call 315.694.7700 or go to their website- yatestransitservice.com for additional information.
- **Yates County Board of Elections** needs Poll Workers/Inspectors. This is a paid position with training provided. Full day or half day workers/inspectors are needed for all primary and elections in 2021. If someone is interested, they should contact the Yates County Board of Elections at 315-536-5135 or email directly to- rschwarting@yatescounty.org

rbrechko@yatescounty.org

From the Desk of the Newsletter Editor (*Grant Downs*):

- The response to the Town of Torrey newsletters initiated in 2018 continues to be very positive. Additional feedback and/or comments are welcome and can be submitted by either calling 315-536-6376 or sending an email to: townclerk@townoftorrey.com
- Newsletters will also be posted on the Town of Torrey website: townoftorrey.com
- As we make the transition from a hardcopy newsletter to electronic copy **only**, this issue will only be sent via email to those who have signed up. There will be a limited number of hardcopy newsletters available at the Town Office
- Those wishing to have future newsletters sent by email should provide the following information and send it to the town clerk:

NAME: _____

EMAIL Address: _____

Mailing Address: _____