



Town of Torrey

PO Box 280
56 Geneva St
Dresden, NY 14441
Phone: 315-536-6376
Email: townclerk@townoftorrey.com
Website: townoftorrey.org

Newsletter January 1- April 30, 2023

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 is working on since the last newsletter (September 1 - December 31, 2022).

Town Officials -

Peter Martini	(Supervisor)	martinivms@gmail.com
315.536.9781	Term: January 1,2022 - December 31,2023	
Colby Petersen	(Deputy Supervisor)	colby@ycsoilwater.com
315.536.1014	Term: January 1,2022 - December 31,2025	
Larry Martin	(Councilman)	larmart64@gmail.com
315.759.3374	Term: January 1,2020 - December 31,2023	
Bruce Henderson	(Councilman)	blhenderson83@gmail.com
315.521.7108	Term: January 1,2022 - December 31,2022	
Grant Downs	(Councilman)	gjdowns1946@gmail.com
315.531.8441	Term: January 1,2022 - December 31,2025	
Betty Daggett	(Town Clerk)	townclerk@townoftorrey.com
315.536.6376	Term: January 1,2022 - December 31,2023	
Tim Chambers	(Hwy Supt.)	townclerk@townoftorrey.com
315.729.2706	Term: January 1,2022 - December 31,2023	
George Thompson	(Town Justice)	townclerk@townoftorrey.com
315.536.5655	Term: January 1, 2022 - December 31,2023	
Dwight James	(Code Enforcement Officer)	torreycodes@gmail.com
315.536.6376 (cell 315.730.3291)		
Stephanie Holz	(Town Assessor)	assessor@townofbenton.us
315.536.7551		

A Note from Town Supervisor Peter Martini

- Proposed and had the Town Board pass Local Law Overriding the State Tax Cap limit in case the 2024 budget exceeds the New York State Tax limit
- Proposed and had the Town Board pass Local Law Alternative Veteran exemption to align with the Yates County exemption.
- Construction on Torrey Water District 1 (**WD1**) is underway. Target date for completion is June 2023.



Groundbreaking Ceremony held on March 21,2023

Pictured (L to R) Jeremy DeLyser (CPL Engineer), Jim Smith (Serenity Road Resident), Peter Martini (Torrey Town Supervisor), George Thompson (WD1 Advocate), Pat Flynn (former Torrey Town Supervisor), Brian Murray (USDA State Representative), James Nardozzi (Nardozzi Construction).



- An informal survey was sent to the 42 residents on Perry Point Road asking whether the Town Board should continue moving forward on Water District 2 (**WD2**). The town received 38 responses with **21** indicating **YES** the town should continue and **17** saying **NO**.

- The Town Board did approve an expenditure for an updated MAP Plan (\$2000) and Environmental Report (\$4000) for WD2.

From the Desk of Town Board:

- The Town Board meets the second Tuesday of the month at 7:30 pm in the Town Building at 56 Geneva Street, Dresden, NY.
- The total Town of Torrey tax levy for 2023 is 688,575.00.
- The Town Board is reviewing the Town's Personnel Policy on such items as vacation, sick, personal, bereavement, etc.
- The Town Board on the suggestion of the Code Enforcement Officer has amended its fee schedule as follows
 - Watershed Inspections for Property Sales \$ 100.00
 - Special Use Applications \$ 250.00
 - Area/Use Variance Applications \$ 250.00
- The Town Board approved a change to its application fee schedule for Solar Projects to \$1000 per megawatt. Consideration is being given to implementing a Community Host agreement as well.
- **Grievance Day** is Thursday, May 25, 2023 from 4:00 pm - 8:00 pm. See the Town Assessor section for more details.

From the Desk of Town Clerk (Betty Daggett):

- The Town Office is open Monday through Thursday from 9:00am - 4:00pm. Call 315-536- 6376
- The Summer Recreation program is planned to run at the Torrey Town Park. Signups will take place on July 5th with the program running through August 11th.
- Betty applied for and obtained a Justice Court Assistance Program (**JCAP**) grant that has been used to purchase an emergency generator for the Torrey Town Building as well as a security alarm system.
- Notary Public - No Fee
- 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 on sale during normal business hours. Fishing licenses are available any business day while hunting licenses are available starting August 1st.
- 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.)
- There is an app, **NXLE**, alerting to residents to infrastructure issues (power outages, potential flooding, etc.) specific to Yates County posted by the Sheriff's Department. Those interested should go to **NIXLE.COM** with your zip code to review current alerts and also signup to have alerts sent directly to you.
- Appropriate Public Notices for the Town Board, Planning board, and Zoning Board are placed in the newspaper.

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

- Off hours emergency callout number: 315-729-2706
- Took delivery of the new Loader in March
- Installation of the new emergency generator for the town building was done in April.
- An estimate of \$7000 to blacktop Anthony Beach Road was obtained. This will complete the Summer 2022 culvert work.
- Expected to take delivery of new tractor mower in May
- Four(4) culverts on Serenity Road need to be replaced. Nardoizzi, the construction company doing the work on WD#1, has asked one to be done as soon as possible to complement their work. Tim will coordinate the culvert projects with Nardoizzi.
- The Personnel Policy for the Town of Torrey Highway Department employees will be reviewed after examining the policies of the other towns in Yates County.

- New York State will redeck Route 14 bridge over the Keuka Outlet. This work is expected to continue through October and may cause intermittent traffic delays.
- The Septic at the Town building may have a problem which will be investigated.
- A **safety** precaution- 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.
When in doubt ask!
- Building permits are required for any electrical, plumbing, insulation, or structural work undertaken.
- Construction or alteration of any accessory structure, addition, or new construction requires a permit.
- Reminder all short term rentals must be registered with the Town. There are currently 36 short term rentals in the Town of Torrey.
- Year-to-Date there have been 43 permits issued and \$ 3253.00 permit fees collected.
- The Torrey Station issue is moving toward resolution. The gas tanks have been removed at the direction of NYS DEC. A summary report is to be sent to the DEC indicating what remediation is needed. This will be forwarded to the NYS Attorney General which will then issue a lien against the property owner for the cleanup costs.
- Dwight has attended and completed all continuing education requirements for the year.

From the Desk of Town Planning Board (George Dowse):

- Meets the third (3rd) Monday of the month at 7:00 pm in the Town Building
- Reviewing the Town of Torrey “short term rental” regulations to determine if they should be updated.
- Considering the impact of the new New York State Cannabis Law as the Town of Torrey did not opt out of participating in the sale and dispensing of Cannabis.
- The **Back Achers Campsite** project is moving forward with DEC Region 8 having held a P/C/I SPEDES Groundwater Discharge meeting March 9,2023.

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
- In addition to holding court on Tuesdays in Torrey, each judge is scheduled for a share of arraignments at the County Jail where defendants are arraigned every day at 8:00AM and 6:00PM. It is called CAP Court, an abbreviation standing for Central Arraignment Cases. These may involve issuance of orders of protection, contempt of court charges for violation of orders of protection, harassment, DWI chemical test refusals, aggravated unlicensed operators, arrests for failure to appear for past citations causing bench warrants to be issued, initial arraignments for felony charges, to name a few. A representative of the District Attorney and a member of the Public Defender’s office also appear at CAP arraignments to make recommendations on holding or releasing defendants or requiring bail.

From the Desk of Town Assessor (Stephanie Holz)

- The last revaluation was done in 2019. New York State requires a revaluation to be done every 4 to 5 years. The initial work will start in the Spring of 2023. Property owners will receive preliminary valuations February of 2024. The Tentative Tax Role will be filed May 1, 2024.

- For the 2023 assessment roll, the NYS Tax and Finance has tentatively approved an equalization rate of 75. So far there has been over a \$2,000,000 increase in taxable assessed value from agriculture land updates and building permits.
- **Grievance Day is Thursday, May 25,2023** from 4:00 - 8:00pm. Contact the Town Assessor for the details of how, when, and where to make a written application. It should be pointed out this is an off-year in the state mandated reevaluation process. Here is the legal notice that will appear in the newspaper and posted in the Torrey Town Office:

NOTICE CONCERNING THE EXAMINATION
OF ASSESSMENT INVENTORY
AND VALUATION DATA

(Pursuant to Section 501 of the Real Property Tax Law) TOWN
OF TORREY, YATES COUNTY, N.Y.

Notice is hereby given that assessment inventory and valuation data is available for examination and review. This data is the information which will be used to establish the assessment of each parcel which will appear on the Tentative Town Assessment Roll which will be filed on or about May 1, 2023. The information may be reviewed by arranging an appointment with the Assessor(s) during his/her regular office hours. An appointment to review the above described assessment information may be made by telephoning the Assessor at 315-536-7551.

Dated: 8th day of March 2023

Stephanie Holz
ASSESSOR, Town of Torrey
Yates County, NY

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.

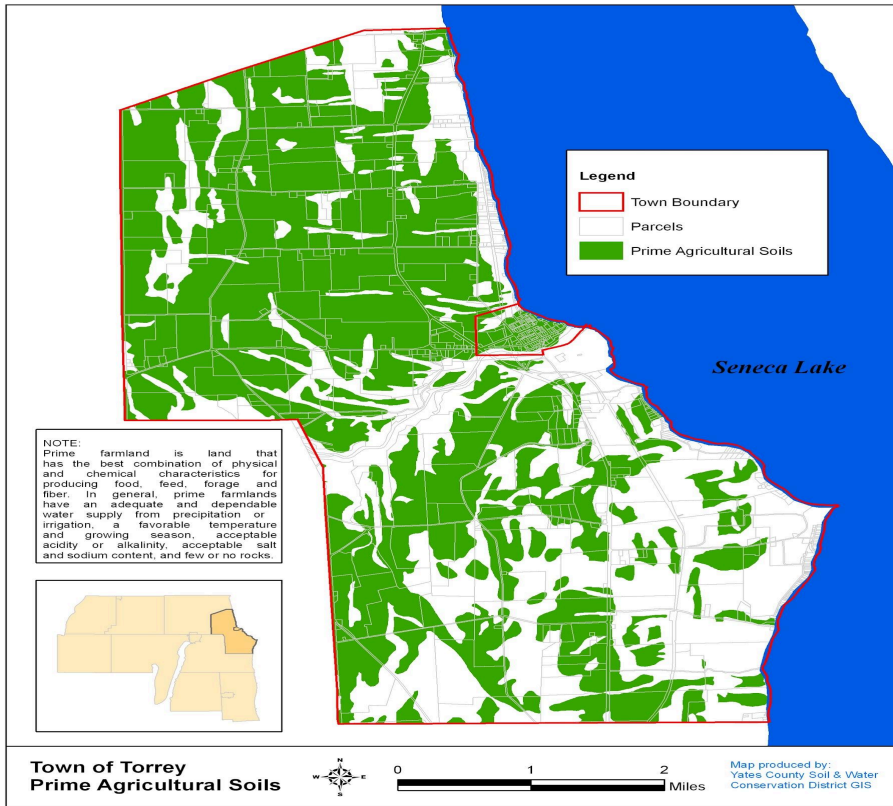
The Yates County Soil and Water Conservation District provides the watershed inspection services for the Town of Torrey and Village of Dresden. Educating homeowners on the function of their wastewater treatment systems has proven to be a tremendous benefit.

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 9 of these inspections.

If any residents have questions regarding the watershed inspection program, they may call the office at 315-536-5188.

Soil & Water also continues to interact with all of our local farmers utilizing NYS's Agricultural Environmental Management program. This program has been utilized in the county since 1997. We have worked with local farmers on a suite of practices including soil erosion and field runoff, manure storage, barnyard runoff, and manure and nutrient management.

Below is the current prime agricultural land in the Town of Torrey. Prime agricultural land constitutes over 60% of the land area in the Town of Torrey.



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

- Mayor Bill Hall (Term: April 1, 2023 - March 31, 2025)
- Village Trustees
 - Brian Flynn (Term: April 1, 2022 - March 31, 2024)
 - Bret Siegrist (Term: April 1, 2023 - March 31, 2025)
- Village Board meets the third Wednesday of the month at 7:00 pm
- Colleen Riviello is the Village Clerk. Office hours are Monday - Friday, 8:00 am to 2:00pm, phone number 315-536-2477. Her email address is- villageclerk@villageofdresden.org
- Village of Dresden elections for Mayor and Village Trustee were held on March 21, 2023 with the reorganization meeting being held at the April board meeting.
- A public hearing on the 2023 - 2024 Village Budget was held at 6:45 on April 19th. The amount to be raised by property tax is \$180,790.00 with a tax rate of \$ 11.86 per \$1000 of assessed value.

- The village is the lead agency under the New York State Environmental Quality Review Act (**SEQRA**) for the Village of Dresden Water System Main Replacement Project. The project is currently on hold pending the availability of grant funding.
- Village Spring Cleanup runs from April 3rd - 28th to pick up leaves and small brush.
- The village will host the kickoff of Yates County's 200th Celebration on July 15th from 10:00 am - 4:00 pm. The day will start with a parade at 10:00 am. Music at the Gazebo will start at 11: 00 am with Ken Campbell performing until 1:00 pm, sponsored by the Village of Dresden. The Yates Concert Series is sponsoring the Paul Strowe Band from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm. Other events will include games, a chicken barbecue, and an adult beverage garden serving local craft beers and wines. Yates County will provide hot dogs and ice cream for \$1.00 each. Come join the festivities for this very special occasion! The next committee meeting for this festival is May 4th at 6: 00 pm at the Village office- volunteers are needed!
- The date for the "Dresden Days" celebration is Friday July 21st and Saturday July 22rd from 8:00 am - 3: 00pm. (Dresden Days are held the third Friday & Saturday of July every year).
- The Village is again sponsoring Live Music at the Gazebo this Summer. Artists and dates are being scheduled with the first featuring Roy Litterer on June 13th starting at 6:00 pm. It should be noted the 8 benches at the park were made possible by the generous donations (they cost \$500 each) from members of the community. If there is an individual or organization which wishes to "donate" a bench, there are a few still available!
- The Dresden Fire Department is purchasing the Branchport Fire Department's Rescue Vehicle. The village's fire department saving fund will provide half of the money and the Dresden Fire Department will provide the other half from their fundraising events.
- The Dresden Fire Department meets the first Tuesday of the month at 7:00 pm. There is a need for volunteer firemen in Dresden. All residents of the Town of Torrey are encouraged to volunteer.
- The Dresden Fire Department will hold a breakfast fundraiser on Mother's Day, May 14th. Mother's will receive \$2.00 off their breakfast!

From Yates County Legislators (Terry Button, Richard Harper, Rick Willson)

- Work continues on the ReConnect Grant, a three(3) phase project to bring broadband internet capability throughout the County. Communication Towers are being constructed at this time.
- Ground is being broken on the new County Highway Building in the Town of Benton. Replacing the fuel system is the first priority. There is a discussion whether to continue to use propane gas or natural gas for heating
- A Hazard Mitigation Plan grant has been applied for and received. Brian Winslow is the coordinator for this updating project.
- The Yates County Sheriff is implementing a New York State funded domestic terrorism program.
- The Yates County Sheriff Department is sponsoring a prescription drug dropoff with no questions asked on April 22, 2023 at the County CourtHouse parking lot.
- The County has purchased software that identifies properties that are being used as rentals. The data will be shared with the nine(9) towns in the County
- State Senator Tom O'Mara and Assemblyman Phil Palmesano is tentatively scheduled to visit the Yates County Legislature on Thursday, May 4th at 2:30 pm. The public is invited but any questions must be submitted prior to the visit in writing. Questions should be sent by April 26th to the Clerk of the Legislature, Emilee Miller, at the email address- emiller@yatescounty.org .
- The county will have "Household Hazardous Waste" (including electronic waste) drop off at the Yates County FairGrounds on Saturday September 23, 2023. This will be a shared event with Schuyler County. You **must** pre-register. Look for more information from Yates County in the July/August timeframe.
- Bicentennial celebrations of the founding of Yates County in 1823 are being planned throughout the Summer with special events in the Village of Dresden, Village of Dundee, Village of Rushville, and Village of Penn Yan.

Community Events

- **YATES COUNTY Board of Elections (BOE)** will hold elections November 7, 2023 for the following positions in the Town of Torrey:
 - Town Supervisor
 - Town Councilman (2)
 - Town Clerk

Town Highway Superintendent

Town Justice

Robert Brechko and Sheila Burt of the **BOE** reported at the April 11th Town Board meeting there are several changes to election law that may have to be incorporated by the November 7,2023 General Election.

- **The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC)** puts out a weekly bulletin each week detailing proposals and actions 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

Since 2009 the **DEC** has had in place a **No Burn Ban** from **March 16th** to **May 14th** throughout **Yates County**.

- **Memorial Day Observance** for the Town of Torrey will be held at the Gazebo in Dresden (across from the United Methodist Church) at 10:30 am on May 29th, weather permitting. The featured speaker is Ron Spike, Yates County Sheriff. In the case of inclement weather, the observance will be held in the United Method Church. The Roll Call of Honor of those veterans who recently deceased will be read as part of the service. Following the ceremony, there will be a parade to the Evergreen Cemetery. At the cemetery there will be salute by the American Legion, which will be followed by Taps courtesy of Phil Bracht and Jeff Stempien.

This is the 101th consecutive year for this event and marks the 78th year since the end of World War II. If you are unable to join us, please take a moment on May 29th at 10:30 am to acknowledge and give thanks to those who made the ultimate sacrifice so we can enjoy our freedom!

- The **Seneca 7** relay race around Seneca Lake will be held April 23,2023 and pass through the Village of Dresden Sunday morning.

- **Town of Torrey Park** on Charles Street is looking to hire a lifeguard for the Summer
- **Seneca Watershed Intermunicipal Organization (SWIO)** has submitted and received approval of its Nine Element (9E) documentation to the NYS Department of State.

The next quarterly meeting of SWIO is scheduled for Thursday April 27th, 2023 at 7:00 pm at the Torrey Town Office, 56 Geneva Street, Dresden, NY 14441.

Additional information is available at the SWIO website-
<https://senecawatershedio.wordpress.com/>

- The **Torrey Cleanup Day** will be held on June 17, 2023 from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. behind the Torrey Town Buildings at 56 Geneva St. Dresden.

The following items are ***accepted***:

rubbish
wood
metal
furniture
dried paint cans
empty propane tanks
appliances
computers
electronics

The following items are ***not accepted***:

concrete
stones
bricks
brush
bagged garbage

burn barrels
Freon appliances
wet paint
liquids
oils
pesticides

There are *charges* for the following items:

Mattress or Box Springs \$10 each

Couches \$20.

Recliners \$10.

Tires up to 17" \$ 2.00 ea. (Not accepting tires larger than 17")

There is a limit of 2 loads per household!

Warning anyone dumping before 8:00 am and after 2:00 pm is subject to violations!

Any Questions?? Contact Town Clerk at 315-536-6376

- **Auction for the New York State Haiti Benefit** will be held on June 9 -10 at the Yates County Fairgrounds in Penn Yan. Friday night will feature dinner 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm, a miscellaneous auction at 6:00 pm, and cattle auction at 6:30 pm. Saturday will see breakfast at 6:00 am to 9:00 am, Auction at 8:00 am, and then lunch at 10:30 am - 2:00 pm.

The address is:

2370 Old Rte. 14A
Penn Yan, NY 14527

- **Seneca Lake Pure Waters Association (SLPWA)** will start monitoring Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs) on August 1st by local volunteers and will continue through Columbus Day weekend. Check their website www.SenecaLake.org for additional information or to volunteer!

- **Friends of the Keuka Outlet (FOTO)** Donna Sutherland reported the State Route 14 bridge over the outlet is to be redecked this Summer so as a precaution the outlet trail under the bridge will be closed at times. Also, the Primitive Campsite in Hopeton is expected to be available this Summer. It will include on a first come basis 3 tent platforms and 1 lean-to for handicap accessibility. **FOTO** will host a membership breakfast on Sunday, May 7th, 8-10 am at the Penn Yan Moose Lodge for old, new, and/or renewed members. Then on May 21st, Ian Smith of **SWIO** will make a presentation on a Keuka Outlet project. Finally, on September 17th the third annual Celebrate Cascade will be held. Check the **FOTO** website www.KeukaOutletTrail.org for details for all these events as well as other upcoming events.
- **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.

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

- The response to the town newsletter 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: <https://townoftorrey.org>
- Delivery of the Town Newsletter will be electronically only, although there will be a limited number available at the Torrey Town Office and Dresden Village Office
- A number of you have requested subsequent newsletters to be sent to their Email address. We have attempted to accommodate this request. Those who have not received a copy but wish to have future newsletters sent by email should provide the following information and send it to the town clerk:

NAME: _____

EMAIL Address: _____

Mailing Address: _____