

## June Notes from the Supervisor

I am very happy to report that the Town Board adopted updated Subdivision Review and Site Plan Review Laws at our June 13 business meeting. Remember that these laws guide larger development projects. Our goal was to clarify and reinforce requirements and guidelines for reducing energy use and greenhouse gas emissions, water use, and encourage renewable energy use. The new laws are the product of three public meetings last fall, subsequent review and revision by the Town Board, Review Board, Planning Board, Planner Matt Johnston, and our Town Attorney Guy Krogh, and further public feedback from an Information Session and a Public Hearing this spring. Thanks to everyone who contributed. Language of the laws was improved and made consistent between laws, references to other laws was updated, and the review process was clarified. Especially relevant were references and additional Review Criteria and Design Guidelines related to addressing energy and greenhouse gas emissions for projects requiring an Environmental Impact Statement under the New York State Environmental Quality Review Act and Tompkins County's new 239 Review Addendum, *Energy Recommendations for New Construction*. These improvements should clarify the process for applicants and ensure that larger development projects realize the long-term benefits of lower energy use and operating costs for heating and cooling. Making sure that future developments minimize greenhouse gas emissions will benefit us all.

As I mentioned last month, as part of our Clean Energy Communities Brighten Up Caroline grant we will be changing our 77 sodium vapor streetlights to LEDs. To do this, we first need to purchase existing streetlight lamps and arms from NYSEG. We have received NYSEG's purchase proposal and are working with a consultant to negotiate that. In order to develop a project design for the LED streetlight conversion, we need to verify and characterize each of our existing streetlights. This assessment is now being done by interns with Cornell Cooperative Extension. This inventory will allow us to develop a design that minimizes stray light and considers the most desirable light quality at each location. And after we develop the project design, we will provide an opportunity for public review and feedback.

The Buffalo Road Creek project is about halfway done and should be completed by the end of the month. Please watch for construction machinery and personnel.

This month the Town Board recognized June as LGBT Pride Month, a national designation first declared in 2000 by Presidential Proclamation. The importance of this designation is to recognize the contributions of LGBT persons to society and their continued struggle for equality, safety, and acceptance. It is a reminder to consider the lives and perspectives of others and of the value of inclusiveness to our community.

As I write this, our new phones are being installed at the town offices. Thanks for your patience while we've worked to make this transition. And thanks to Councilperson Weiser for her research and vetting for our new phone system. I've already used mine, and it works just fine! Whew.