

March Notes from the Town Supervisor

Thanks to Hwy Super Whittaker and the highway crew for keeping the roads open during the two-day blizzard. School kids and Cornell got two snow days. These were the first snow days at Cornell since the blizzard of 1993, almost exactly 24 years ago.

We are moving forward to qualify as a NYSERDA Clean Energy Community by completing four “high-impact actions.” Accomplishing this will enable us to apply for significant funding for projects related to energy improvements. We’ve already completed one high-impact action with our successful Solarize programs. Another action we’ve identified is benchmarking of municipal buildings, which is simply keeping track annually of the energy use of each of our town buildings. This will enable us to more easily identify opportunities to reduce energy consumption. We’ve taken the first step simply by adopting a Town Resolution committing us to compiling this information on an annual basis. And we’re now undertaking the second step of compiling a couple years of our energy-use data. We expect to complete this within the next month, and then we’ll be set to continue going forward. We’ve tentatively identified two other actions (among eight others) that I hope to update you on very soon.

Clm. Fracchia is working with Town Clerks Harrington-Lawson and Wilbur, Historian Barbara Kone, and Chrys Gardener of Cornell Cooperative Extension to develop a grant proposal for a Town Hall beautification project.

We’re developing a plan to add parking at the Town Hall to provide additional space for Park-N-Riders, as well as Town Hall patrons, especially during tax season. Clm. Fracchia and Clerk Harrington-Lawson will be submitting a proposal for a design plan to Cornell Connect.

Clm. Weiser is working to identify gaps remaining in planned broadband coverage for Caroline in the wake of the successful Round II grant to Haefele TV from the Broadband Program Office so that those deficiencies will be visible for the impending final funding round.