

## *Supervisor's Report*

*October 10, 2018*

### Correspondence of Note

- Letter from Senator Schumer re. Farm to School Grant Program - grants to increase local foods served through child nutrition programs: [www.fns.usda.gov/farmtoschool/fy18-farm-school-grant](http://www.fns.usda.gov/farmtoschool/fy18-farm-school-grant).
- Chrys Gardener of CCE invited the Town to apply for a Rural Beautification Grant, which provides \$2,000, with a 1:1 match. Promoting use of native plants to help pollinators and birds -possible complement to town hall grounds bioretention feature?
- Deborah Teeter of CCE sent notice of rescheduling of local farm coach tour for October 12 for municipal officials and planning board members. Meet 8:45 behind Ramada Inn on Triphammer, returning 2:30 pm.
- Code Officer Greenhouse October Report: Reworking permitting software to enhance efficiency; revised permit application, permit, certificate of compliance, and certificate of occupancy; attended training on zoning/planning/abandoned properties. Provided assistance with IT and phone issues at town hall.

### Supervisor's Notes

- 2019 Tentative Budget completed. Summary of changes: wages increased by 2%, health insurance premiums decreased because of transition to Gold Plan, budgeted new line for Health Reimbursement Account to cover employee's out-of-pocket expenses, created expense and revenue budget lines for our Clean Energy Communities grant from NYSEERDA. Because of a grant provision for town contribution to repurchase of streetlight infrastructure, the Caroline Streetlight Fund levy increases by 2.2x; after the conversion to LED streetlights (expected by the end of 2019), the Streetlight tax levy will decrease from the 2018 levy amount. The Town tax levy shows a decrease. For personnel, in addition to previous budgets for Deputy Clerk and Assistant to the Supervisor, we've allocated funds for Assistant to the Highway Superintendent.
- Engaged with HRConsultants on process for update of our Employee Handbook. They have provided a revised Sexual Harassment Policy that meets new New York State guidelines for immediate adoption and distribution.
- Our town attorney's summary of the additional title research on the NYSEG-owned rail bed property in Caroline is now posted at the Trail Page of the town website (under Current Topics) . NYSEG has communicated that a final draft of the License Agreement between NYSEG and Tompkins County for use of the rail bed as a recreational trail is imminent.
- Watershed Issues/Projects:
  - Buffalo Road Creek Stream Bed Stabilization Project II is complete.
  - **The Ekroos Road culverts at Boyer Creek have failed and the road is closed until further notice.** Superintendent Whittaker is working to make repairs as soon as possible.
- **Watershed Committee:** At the September 25 meeting of Caroline's Watershed Committee, the committee voted unanimously to recommend town adoption of the revised Stormwater Management Program Plan. The committee also voted unanimously to recommend Barry Goodrich for reappointment to a new three-year term on the Water Resources Council, beginning January 1, 2019.
- **NOTE: The Watershed Committee is changing its monthly meeting day to the second Tuesday of the month to avoid conflict with the Review Board meeting day.**
- **Please note that we are seeking additional members for both the Review Board and Planning Board. The Review Board is the town agency that reviews projects subject to the Town's Subdivision and Site Plan Review Laws. The Planning Board advises the Town Board on land use issues and is currently in the process of updating the Town's Comprehensive Plan. To apply, you can find the Volunteer Application Form under the Contact tab at the home page of the town website. This is an opportunity to contribute to your town's governance.**