

DEERPARK SUPERVISOR'S UPDATE—CONTINUED...

STORM RECOVERY EFFORTS (Continued) -

We are currently having preliminary meetings with FEMA, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, to apply for grant funding to repair the damage. Some roads and bridges will take longer than others to repair due to the extent of the damage, so I ask that everyone be patient as we are working as fast as possible to fix these problems. FEMA will give us a scope of each project and we will have to then repair it to those specifications. If we do any additional work not authorized by FEMA, the taxpayers could be liable for the bill, so we are all being VERY CAREFUL on this whole process. I want to commend our Highway Department, Police, and Emergency Management officials for their hard work during and after the storms. We will also be having meetings in the future to discuss our Hazard Mitigation Plan and FEMA assistance in general. You as an individual homeowner may qualify for a FEMA Individual Assistance Grant if you sustained damage during the storm.

All residents and small businesses who have suffered losses should call FEMA's registration number at [1-800-621-3362](tel:1-800-621-3362), or register online at <http://www.DisasterAssistance.gov>.

CUDDEBACKVILLE 209 BRIDGE REPLACEMENT:

We have been informed by the NYS Department of Transportation that they will be starting work on the new Cuddebackville 209 Bridge sometime next year, we an anticipated completion date in 2013. The old bridge is in bad shape and needed further weight restrictions to avoid any more problems. This is the reason why it has been reduced to a one lane bridge with a traffic light on both sides. It is anticipated this modification will remain until the new bridge is operational. Please plan accordingly and adjust for time when having to cross the bridge.

That is all for this month and until next time, I send you health and happiness and wish you a great Halloween!

Town Hall is open Monday through Friday 8 am to 4pm

- Assessor office is open Monday through Thursday 9 am to 2pm
- Supervisor Office is open Monday and Friday 9 am to 4pm Tuesday through Thursday.

The Deerpark Digest

Volume 1, Issue 7 — October 2011



October Supervisor's Update

By: Karl A. Brabenec, Town Supervisor



2012 PRELIMINARY BUDGET:

The Deerpark Town Board unanimously passed a 2012 preliminary budget which falls below the state's mandated 2% tax levy cap.

The combined general and highway fund levy increase from 2011 to 2012 amounts to 1.69%. New York State has imposed a 2% tax levy cap for all municipalities and school districts throughout the state. The town board has pledged that they will not override the tax levy cap and will work to keep taxes stable.

Many challenges were faced with putting together this year's budget. Mortgage tax revenue and state aid continue to decline and other revenue streams like sales and real property tax remain steady. The value of the town's taxable property has decreased almost \$2 million dollars from 2010 putting a further strain on town revenues compounded with the effects of the bad economy. Health care costs and retirement contributions continue to rise at record rates and adding to an already difficult situation, the town was hit by two major tropical storms which have wreaked havoc to the town's infrastructure.

The proposed budget calls for an additional \$100,000 from 2011 to pave and repair town roads. It also calls for an additional \$95,000 from the 2011 budget to buy new and fix and repair various highway department equipment. In addition, the town board has started to move employees from NYSHIP to the MVP Health Plan and the AARP Medicare Plan which will save taxpayers close to \$100,000 annually. Last year, the board did a restructure of operations, moving some positions from full time to part time and contracting out the Assessor's Office to Orange County, which combined achieved over \$200,000 in annual cost savings for the town. We have put in money for another bulk clean up in the spring months. The board has also continually searched for creative ways to make additional revenue for the town, such as renting town property for a cell phone tower, which will bring in an extra \$12,000 annually over the next 20 years. It also provides for small

salary adjustments for our employees, who have not received any increase in salary in three years.

Also as a point of clarification and to stop any rumors, salaries for the positions of Supervisor, Town Clerk, and Highway Superintendent are being adjusted by \$2,000 for each position. These salaries have also stayed the same for the past three years. These three individuals work tirelessly for the town residents each and everyday to make sure operations run smoothly and efficiently. The Supervisor's salary is going from an annual salary of \$31,381 to \$33,381, Town Clerk from \$37,403 to \$39,403, and Highway Superintendent from \$48,867 to \$50,867.

The preliminary budget is currently being reviewed by the New York State Comptroller's Office and they will be forwarding a report to the board to recommend any further changes. The town board will be scheduling a public hearing on the budget in the beginning of November and expect to adopt a final budget at that time as well. It is critical that we keep taxes stable during these hard economic times. Over the past two years, we have restructured town operations to achieve cost savings and optimal efficiency in operations and have put additional money into our reserve accounts for future planning. The Town Board members and I will be fiscally conservative and will continue to look for and implement cost saving opportunities. A copy of the preliminary budget can be requested at the town clerk's office or is available online at www.townofdeerpark.org.

STORM RECOVERY UPDATE:

Town officials and I are working very hard to restore our town to pre-storm conditions. Tropical Storm Irene and Lee were consider major 500 year storms that reeked havoc not only to our town but to the entire Hudson Valley. After an assessment of the damage, the town sustained about \$6,000,000 worth of infrastructure damage between the two storms.

Elected Town Officials:

- Karl A. Brabenec, Supervisor
- David M. Hoovler, Councilman
- Gary Spears, Councilman
- Arthur T. Trovei, Councilman
- David M. Dean, Councilman

Florence T. Santini, Town Clerk
Edward A. Hughson, Highway Supt.
Jane A. Garvey, Tax Collector
Laurie Osowick, Town Justice
John Wulff, Sr., Town Justice



October 2011

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

**Regular Meeting Dates
(unless otherwise noted):**

- Town Board meets the First and Third Mondays at 7:30 PM, Town Hall
- Planning Board meets Second and Fourth Wednesdays at 7:00 PM, Town Hall
- Zoning Board of Appeals meets Third Thursday at 7:30 PM, Town Hall
- Police Commission meets Third Wednesday at 7:00 PM, Building #2
- Recreation Committee meets First Tuesday at 7:00 PM, Town Hall
- Museum Committee meets First Thursday at 7:00 PM, Old School House
- Community Development Task Force meets Fourth Tuesday at 7:30 PM, Town Hall
- Veterans Committee meets Second Tuesday at 7:30 PM, Town Hall.

Town Hall and Highway Dept. —
420 US Route 209, Huguenot
Monday-Friday: 8 am – 4 pm
845-856-2210

Police and Senior Center—
Building #2, 231 US Route 209, Huguenot
Police—845-858-4529
Seniors—845-856-0888

Museum—
Old School House, 25 Grange Rd, Huguenot
845-856-2702

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2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Town Board—7:30 pm Leisure Seniors—9am-3pm	Golden Seniors—1pm-4pm @ Sparrowbush Fire Dept.	Arts and Crafts Club 10 am-3 pm Emergency Management—7:00pm	Board Of Ethics—7:30pm		
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Sparrowbush FD Monthly Break-fast—7 am-Noon	Deerpark Seniors—9am-3pm Town Hall Closed	Friendly Seniors—1pm-4pm @ Sparrowbush Fire Dept.	Arts and Crafts Club 10 am-3 pm Planning Board—7:00 pm	Zoning Board of Appeals—7:30 pm		
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
	Town Board—7:30 pm	Veterans Committee—7:30 PM	Arts and Crafts Club 10 am-3 pm Police Commission—7:00 PM			
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
			Planning Board—7:00 pm			
30	31					

Happy Halloween!

Canine Corner:

BY: Thomas Yonskie,
Deerpark Dog Control Officer



Well Fall is upon us. Cooler temps., changing leaves, and the white stuff is just around the corner. Now's a good time to clean up, and if necessary, improve your dog's area. Both inside and out. Your dog needs adequate shelter all year long. It's also a great time to have some fun with your dog and work on training. Get out ,enjoy the weather with "Rover". Bring a 20' training leash and work on command training. Remember: be patient and work on one task at a time.

Fall can be a stressful time for our canine companions. It's hunting season and some dogs don't react well. Just like with thunder. Just keep reassuring your dog. Keep them close and pet them while you talk to them. Eventually they'll relax. Also Halloween can be hard on some dogs. Strangers, dressed like scary things? "Oh My". If your dog is easily scared or is overprotective, consider keeping them in a room away from the halloweeners. If they are part of the festivities make sure you have full control of them. Be sure your canine does not get into any *chocolate*. Watch the little one's. Make sure they don't give it to the dog, or get it snatched away from them. Have a safe FALL.

Woof til next time.

Deerpark DCO- TOM, Phone: (845) 321-7172

e-mail: dco@townofdeerpark.org

1 more thing, I want to thank Dean & Joan for their generous donation towards the purchase of a *chip reader*. We're a little more than 1/2 way to our goal of \$300. If you want to donate anything, please send it to town hall. Attention me. You can stipulate the donation be used for DCO equipment only. Thanks !!