



Town of Spafford

Newsletter #16
October 2009

Town Supervisor Webb A. Stevens
Town Clerk Lisa Valletta
Highway Superintendent Carl Wiers

Town Councilors: Richard Fesko - - Ken Lieberman - - Merrill Clark - - Jeffrey Ireland

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Election Day Preparation

This year, all voters in the Town of Spafford will be using the new ImageCast Voting Machine. Voters will complete a paper ballot and feed it into the voting machine. Sample ballots are available for viewing in the Town Clerk's office if you'd like to stop by.

Special needs voters will have the option of using the voting screen with specialized controls to meet their needs. The Election Inspectors will be able to answer any questions or concerns any voters may have.

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Town of Spafford Budget Hearing

The public hearing for review of the proposed 2009 Town budget will be held November 5, 2009 at 7 p.m. at the Spafford Town Hall.

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Building Department – Kim Fairchild, Code Enforcement Officer

A building permit is required for all new structures. The building permit holder is responsible for contacting the building department for inspections in a timely manner.

Over the summer the Town rewrote the local Zoning Ordinance. There will be public hearings in the near future. Look for the date to be posted on the Town's website; in the Skaneateles Press; and the Pennysaver. All comments are welcome.

As always the Building Department is here to assist you with any of your construction needs or guidance with a project. We can be contacted at 673-9557 or stop by the office at the Town Hall.

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Highway Notes

❄ SEASONAL ROADS

The following roads are considered "Seasonal Roads" within the Town of Spafford. They are not plowed, sanded, or maintained from November 15 to April 15:

- Bacon Hill Road - from the end of the pavement near Route 41 to the intersection of Holzworth Road
- Bromley Road – from Town line to the dead end
- Covey Road - entire length of road
- Morris Run road - entire length
- Ten Mile Point - entire length
- Ripley Hill Road - from Cold Brook Road to the first house on the south end

❄ NO PARKING

The Town of Spafford has a ban on parking on the town roads during the winter months. We are concerned with keeping these roads clear and passable. The most common problem is that of cars being left on the road. We ask you to help us by not parking on the roads. If you choose to ignore this request, the Sheriff's Department will be notified and you will be issued a parking ticket. If you continue to park on the road, we will contact the Sheriff's Department again and have your vehicle towed and impounded. There will be an accompanying fine. With your cooperation, we can avoid these measures. If you have an unusual circumstance, and feel you cannot comply with this request, please call the Highway Department at 673-3906 and we can discuss your situation.

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Supervisor's Desk – Webb A. Stevens

It has been nearly four years since I took office as Spafford's Town Supervisor. I've worked hard during my time in office, and I've enjoyed serving our community. I'd like to thank my fellow board members for their dedication to the town and for their cooperation as we work to make Spafford a better place to live. Looking back, I'm pleased that so much has been achieved in such a short time. I'd like to take this opportunity to share some of our accomplishments:

- The Southern Onondaga Area Water District is completed. This important project supplies over 100 families in the Town of Spafford with clean drinking water. This project was completed under budget, saving homeowners in the District \$500,000.
- To better communicate with Spafford residents, access to public information is available through the Town of Spafford webpage. For official Town documents, the latest Town Board minutes, Town news and community events, visit www.townofspafford.com.
- Renovations to the town hall are nearly completed. New offices are in place, and soon a Town Justice's bench, a fresh coat of paint and new carpeting will be added to the community room. These improvements were made possible with a \$30,000 grant from the justice system.
- Land adjacent to the Town Hall property was purchased for future expansion of Town services.
- Restorations were made at the Borodino and South Spafford Cemeteries; and additional land was purchased for the Borodino Cemetery.
- New machinery was purchased for the Town Highway Department, for better road maintenance and repair.
- Major road construction projects, including culvert repair on Spafford Landing, Howe, Craig, and Moon Hill Roads are completed.
- Onondaga County Community Development funds were used to construct the septic system and town parking lot adjacent to Borodino Hall Community Center. The parking lot provides safe and handicap-accessible parking to Spafford residents who use that building.
- Improvements were made to Spafford's Transfer Station, including a new gate and repairs to the fence and concrete retaining wall.
- Town Zoning regulations have been updated, and are in the final draft phase.
- The town-wide revaluation is completed, bringing our equalization rate from 63% to 100%. A 100% equalization rate means that properties are assessed at 100% of their market value, ensuring equal distribution of the tax burden.

In a small town like ours, progress sometimes seems to come slowly. However, Spafford has a long tradition of people working together to make our community better for everyone. I offer my appreciation to you for allowing me to serve as your Town Supervisor.

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Dog Control Reminder

NYS Department of Environmental Conservation requires all dogs must be restrained from January 1 through April 30 of each year. Dogs are not allowed to run loose during this period.

The reason for this law is to prevent dogs from chasing, and possibly bringing down the deer. The dogs can run on top of the snow, but the deer cannot.

Locally, we have a Nuisance Dog Law that addresses some issues; please check our website for the specifics.



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Councilor Comment – Merrill Clark

The Town Board is seeking input from you on upcoming issues:

- The local Zoning Ordinance has been revised, a final draft is available on the Town’s website or at the Town Clerk’s office. There will be a public hearing for you to offer your comments.
- The Highway Garage is old, small, and has some safety issues; should we continue repairing or build a new garage?

The Town Board is seeking input from residents on these topics, and sometimes volunteers are needed to serve on temporary committees. This is your town, get involved, and stay informed.



High Speed Internet - Ken Lieberman



Since our last major high speed expansion in 2005, we continuously try for more. Well, our latest endeavor involves a Verizon FIOS expansion. We have been in contact with the folks at Verizon. Our official request was generated in August.

While we will know more by year’s end, our goal is to have Verizon extend FIOS in 2011. Prior to that, several steps must first happen; namely, approval from Verizon which of course includes their financial commitment. At this time, Time Warner is not anticipating any expansion to their network in our Town; although we keep pleading our case.



Assessor’s Points – Kim Stone-Gridley

If you have plans to travel during the winter months, please be sure to submit exemption forms before you leave in case there are any questions. The filing deadline is March 1st for all exemption forms.



Transfer Station – The complete guide for using the Spafford Transfer Station is available at the Town Hall and at www.townofspafford.com.

- **Televisions, Computer Monitors and Laptop Computers** are no longer accepted at the Transfer Station. These items may be taken to OCRRA at the Community Collection Center (C3), 6085 Court Street Road, Syracuse, (near Carrier Circle); or Rock Cut Road, or Ley Creek. You will be charged a fee of \$10 per unit for disposal at C3. Rock Cut Road and Ley Creek have a \$30 fee. Check their website for a list of other organizations that may accept these items.
- **Don’t miss the last Metal Day!** October 17th is the last Metal Day for 2009. Any item at least 50% metal that cannot be recycled may be brought to the Spafford Transfer Station for disposal. If you are looking to dispose of a unit that contains Freon, there is an additional fee of \$10 to allow for proper disposal. A valid Transfer Station permit is required.
- **Large Item/Household Days** Our next Household Day is November 7. Mark your calendars!
- **Tire Day** is October 24th. You are allowed to drop off 8 tires per permit (up to 16”) - - Anything over 8 tires will be charged an additional fee: car tires up to and including 16” \$2.00 each; truck tires over 16” \$5.00 each; tractor tires \$10.00 each.

Reminder: No hazardous materials are accepted at the Transfer Station.



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TOWN OF SPAFFORD OFFICE HOURS

Town Clerk Lisa Valletta

Tuesday & Wednesday 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.
Thursday & Saturday 9 a.m. - 12 Noon
(315) 673-4144
spaffordtown@windstream.net

Assessor Mrs. Kim Stone- Gridley
Tuesday & Thursday 9 a.m. – 12 Noon
(315) 673-9559
spaffordassessor@windstream.net

Code Enforcement Officer Mr. Kim Fairchild
Tuesday, Thursday, & Saturday 9 a.m. – 11 a.m.
Clerk – Mrs. Kim Read
(315) 673-9557
spaffordbuilding@windstream.net

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Town Website

Remember to check the Town of Spafford website for information including scheduled meetings, building permit information, office hours and contact information.

www.townofspafford.com

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Spafford Food Pantry

The Spafford Food Pantry has relocated! It is now at the Scott United Methodist Church on Route 41. The Food Pantry is open every third Friday of each month for families in the Spafford, Borodino, and Scott area. Hours are from 2:00-6:00 pm. Contacts for the Spafford Food Pantry: Debbie Brown @ 607-749-7780; Rose Clark @ 607-749-2753; Lisa Valletta @ 315-636-9542.