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Town Clerk's Corner

Town water line improvement project to begin

Lewiston Town Hall is not open to the public, but the staff is here to assist you. Most town business can be conducted via mail, the drop-box located in front of Town Hall, or by special appointment. Please call 754-8213 to discuss what is needed and we will do our best to accommodate you in a safe manner for both you and the staff.

In town news:

•The Town of Lewiston will soon be starting the water line improvement project. Residents will begin to see different colored flags placed in their yards. These flags are used to mark the water, gas and electrical lines for the construction. Please do not remove them.

•Town residents now have the option to receive their water bill via email. If this is an option you are interested in, please contact the Water Department at 754-8213, ext. 235 or 236, to set up this "e-

bill" offering.

•Residents are reminded that any outstanding balances on their water bills need to be paid in full by Sept. 1. Unpaid bills will be levied to your 2021 town and county tax bill, with a \$100 administration fee.

•The 2020 final assessment roll for the Town of Lewiston has been completed and a certified copy is now available for viewing by appointment only until Oct. 1. To schedule an appointment, call the assessor's office at 754-8213, ext. 232. The final roll may also be viewed online at <https://www.niagaracounty.com/realproperty/>.

•The Niagara County Department of Public Works announced the launch of a household hazardous waste residential voucher program. Niagara County residents are able to dispose of up to 50 pounds of acceptable waste at no cost.

To utilize this service, residents need to visit rethinkyourwaste.com/EVENTS, select events and follow the link "Apply for Voucher." Once you enter the required information, you can choose a date to drop the waste off at Hazman,

177 Wales Ave., Tonawanda.

Acceptable materials include oil-based paints, fluorescent bulbs, spray paint, aerosols, paint thinners and stains, cleaners, pesticides gasoline, acids/bases, glues/resins/adhesives, and mercury devices. All items over 50 pounds and all latex paint will be subject to a fee of 75 cents per pound. Alkaline batteries, fire extinguishers, propane tanks, electronics, tires, smoke detectors and waste oil will be accepted, but with additional fees charged. Any questions can be directed to Hazman at 998-8073 or recycling@niagaracounty.com.

•Over past months, veterinarian offices in the community have only been open for emergencies. Many have since opened for rabies vaccinations by appointment. Dog owners are reminded to vaccinate their pets and to update their dog license with the town. Licensing can be done by contacting the town clerk's office at Town Hall.

•Residents are reminded a building permit is required for the construction of a shed, fence, installation of a pool and many other projects. Permits are available through the Building and Zoning

Department by appointment only. Call the office at 754-8213, ext. 227 or 245.

•Those with wedding plans are advised to make an appointment with the town clerk's office to file for your marriage license as the big day approaches. This service is by appointment only – call the office at 754-8213, ext. 222 or 256.

•The clerk's office issues disabled parking permits to Town of Lewiston residents only. Village of Lewiston residents will need to apply at the village office located at the Red Brick Municipal Building at 145 N. Fourth St. For town residents, an application must be completed by a licensed physician, submitted to the clerk's office with the proper identification (a driver's license), and a permit will be issued.

•Make summer travel "E-Z'ier" with the purchase of an "E-ZPass on the Go." The town clerk's office is an authorized "E-ZPass on the Go" retailer. The cost is \$25. Once the tag is registered, those monies go directly on the tag to use for tolls. Any questions, contact the clerk's office.

Where's the water?

Village of Lewiston reviewing water system, infrastructure

Submitted by the working group

After a devastating fire at the BBC/Brickyard in the Village of Lewiston, village officials are looking into the existing water infrastructure to determine how to improve water supply and pressure in the village. During a conference call the day after the fire, Mayor Anne Welch determined there needed to be an investigation of the entire water system and asked Department of Public Works Superintendent Larry Wills, Deputy Superintendent Anthony Mang, Deputy Mayor Vic Eydt, Trustee Nick Conde, Engineer Mike Marino and Fire Chief Les Myers to meet to discuss the village's aging infrastructure. The meeting was held at the DPW garage so the group could review the village's water maps to determine a plan of action.

To no one's surprise, the water lines in the village are mostly old 4-inch and 6-inch cast-iron pipes originally installed in the 1930s. These lines, over time, are becoming more of an issue to the DPW in way of numerous water breaks. The cast iron is deteriorating and very susceptible to breakage. The 6-inch lines have buildup on the



The group is shown working at the Department of Public Works garage. Clockwise from left: DPW Superintendent Larry Wills, Niagara County Water District Transmission Superintendent David Branch, DPW Deputy Superintendent Anthony Mang, Town of Lewiston Water Department Crew Chief Jeff Dell, Town of Lewiston Water Department Foreman Dan Zahno and Lewiston No. 1 Fire Chief Les Myers.

insides turning them into 4-inch pipes, and the 4-inch pipes are now 2-inch pipes.

After a series of devastating fires in the early 1970s, a new 12-inch line was installed down Center Street to help solve the problem in the business district.

Myers, in his opening comments, said there are two issues facing the water system in the village. The first issue, due to the age of the lines, has forced to village to keep the water pressure in the village low to avoid the rupture of the pipes from the inside out. Lower

pressure means a lower volume of water available for firefighters.

The second issue is water supply into the village. The primary source is through a meter at Seneca Street at the village line near Walker Drive. There is also a pressure regulator there that lowers the pressure going into the village water mains. This line was originally installed in the 1930s and runs under the parkway and 104 (Lewiston Hill).

There is also a secondary connection on North Fifth Street at the village line. This is normally a feed from the village to the town, but will back-feed if the primary source needs to be closed for maintenance issues. Water pressure will be dangerously low on Center Street and the south side of the village.

The group talked about possible locations for a second source into the village to provide an additional volume of water.

A second meeting of the group included the Town of Lewiston Water Department and the Niagara County Water District to discuss the problems and possible alternatives. After a review of the water lines surrounding the village, there is interest in a

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