

June 2024

I am pleased to announce a significant investment in the infrastructure of the Town of Canandaigua. As your Town Supervisor, it is my duty to ensure that our community continues to thrive, and that every dollar spent is spent wisely. Over the past several years, due to cost avoidance, frugal budgeting and consistent sales tax revenue from Ontario County, we have been able to build reserves to help fund projects that, if done as part of our operating budget, would require a significant increase to our town tax rate. Over the past few months, the Town Board, in conjunction with the Finance and Public Works committees have met to review key projects and allocate funding to expedite their completion. Here is a list of the improvements we will be making, all with no impact on the town's tax rate.

Road Paving and Seneca Point Road Culvert

You might have noticed that both Cooley Road and Middle Cheshire Road have been resurfaced providing for safer travel on two of the more used roadways in the town. These projects were funded out of the regular highway budget. We are allocating additional funding so that more roads can be repaved in the town. Another key project is the reconstruction of the Seneca Point Road culvert. This crucial infrastructure will enhance drainage and road stability, preventing future erosion, protecting our lake, and ensuring safer travel for our residents. The town applied for, and received a \$1.5MM grant to help offset the approximate \$2.25MM to \$2.5MM cost of this replacement. The Town Board has agreed to allocate funds to cover the difference between the grant money and the actual cost of the project. While this project will not begin for a couple more years, it is important to have the funding in place.

Route 332 Streetlight Replacements

Anyone traveling through the 332 corridor in the town knows that most of the streetlights do not work. In our efforts to improve safety and energy efficiency, we will be replacing our streetlights along Route 332. The new streetlights will utilize modern, energy-efficient technology, providing better illumination while reducing our long-term energy costs. They will also have features that will help to beautify the area and celebrate our community. We are currently accepting bids for this project and will start as soon as contractors are able. These lights will both improve public safety and make the area more inviting for everyone.

Renovations to Town Hall

Our Town Hall is a cornerstone of community activities and governance. From marriage licenses to building permits, it is the center of our operations. To better serve our residents and improve accessibility, we are undertaking a series of significant renovations. The building was constructed in 1996 when my father, Bob Simpson was Town Supervisor. It has served us well for almost 30 years. As the town has grown, departments have expanded and needs have changed. This will be the first major renovation for our Town Hall. These updates will enhance the functionality and safety of the

building, ensuring it remains a welcoming and efficient space for all town activities and services for the next several decades.

Improvements at Fire Station 2

The safety of our residents is paramount. We recently had to do an emergency replacement of the roof at Fire Station 2. This building is located at the corner of Fire Hall Rd and Parkside Dr. Because this replacement was woefully overdue, there was additional damage in the building that needed to be repaired. As part of our infrastructure investment, we are dedicating resources to make other improvements to the building. One of these will be new utilities to improve the air quality and comfort in the building. It is vital that we provide our dedicated firefighters with safe facilities and modern equipment, enabling them to respond more effectively to emergencies and continue their outstanding service to the community.

Salt Storage Facility Upgrades

We are making crucial improvements to our salt storage facility. While this might not be the most glamorous undertaking, it is still very important. We spend a significant amount of money on road salt and need to keep it dry and accessible. Our 2024 budget includes \$429K just for salt. This upgrade will ensure we continue to have a safe way to store and manage road salt which is essential for maintaining safe roads during the winter months.

Onanda Park

Lastly, we have committed significant resources to improve the uplands at Onanda Park. More information will be coming on this, but you can expect a safer roadway, improved and more accessible parking, along with better facilities to enhance the experience of all who visit the park.

These projects reflect our unwavering commitment to investing in the future of Canandaigua. By addressing these key areas, we are ensuring that our town remains a safe, efficient, and enjoyable place to live, work, and play. Significant thanks go out to Highway Superintendent Jim Fletcher; Parks Director, Lindsay Frarey; Finance Clerk, Jess Mull; Chairman Fennelly and the Public Works Committee; Chairwoman Adeline Rudolph and the Finance Committee; and the rest of the Town Board and staff who provided input. We appreciate your continued support and patience as we undertake these improvements. Together, we are building a brighter future for Canandaigua.