



Town of Torrey

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Dresden, NY 14441

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Website: townoftorrey.org

Newsletter

May 1- August 31, 2022

The Torrey Town Board is sending this newsletter to bring residents up to date on some of the issues the town has considered and/or is working on since the last newsletter (January 1 - April 30).

Town Officials -

Peter Martini	(Supervisor)	martinivms@gmail.com
315.536.9781	Term: January 1,2022 - December 31,2023	
Colby Petersen	(Deputy Supervisor)	colby@ycsoilwater.com
315.536.1014	Term: January 1,2022 - December 31,2025	
Larry Martin	(Councilman)	larmart64@gmail.com
315.759.3374	Term: January 1,2020 - December 31,2023	
Bruce Henderson	(Councilman)	blhenderson83@gmail.com
315.531.7108	Term: January 1,2022 - December 31,2022	
Grant Downs	(Councilman)	gjdowns1946@gmail.com
315.531.8441	Term: January 1,2022 - December 31,2025	
Betty Daggett	(Town Clerk)	townclerk@townoftorrey.com
315.536.6376	Term: January 1,2022 - December 31,2023	
Tim Chambers	(Hwy Supt.)	townclerk@townoftorrey.com
315.729.2706	Term: January 1,2022 - December 31,2023	
George Thompson	(Town Justice)	townclerk@townoftorrey.com
315.536.5655	Term: January 1, 2022 - December 31,2023	
Dwight James	(Code Enforcement Officer)	torreycodes@gmail.com
315.536.6376 (cell 315.730.3291)		
Patricia Brede	(Town Assessor)	assessor@townofbenton.us
315.536.7551		

A Note from Town Supervisor Peter Martini

Greetings Town of Torrey Residents,

I hope everyone had a wonderful summer season here in the Finger Lakes! There are some things to report since the last newsletter in May. I attended a conference in Albany for Town Supervisors in May that was very informative and assured me that our continued membership in The Association of Towns is well worth it.

We compiled and submitted the information requested by the Office of State Comptroller (OCS) regarding the requested cost increase for the Water District 1 (WD1). The review process was protracted and required additional information. I am pleased to say, however, as I am writing this that I learned this morning (September 23rd) via our Town Attorney, Jeff Graff, that our application has been approved. This is fantastic news but we still face a few hurdles. I am hoping that we can work with the bidding contractors to keep the costs within their original bids from last October. But as everyone knows the costs of everything have not gone in a downward direction. I am hopeful, however, that given some recent economic pressures we will be able to get this done within the approved cost.

Also on the water front, thanks to the work of the Board and the Water Committee we were able to secure a contract with the Village of Dresden to provide water for the Perry Point Water District (WD2). Jeremy DeLyser of Clark, Patterson and Lee is working on updating the plans for WD2 and hopefully after WD1 is started we can begin the financing process for WD2.

Also the Town has engaged the accounting firm Mengle, Metzger, and Barr to perform our required annual fiscal audit (AUD) and to perform a more sweeping review of policies and procedures. The latter review has led to the implementation of more sound fiscal policies ensuring that your money is secure and being used as intended.

I would like to thank our Assessor, Pat Brede, for her years of service to the Town. Pat will be retiring from Torrey/Benton at the end of the year. We, along with Benton, interviewed potential replacements and I am pleased to say we were able to hire Stephanie Holtz as our new Assessor. She has been working with Pat to become familiar with the Towns of Torrey and

In closing, I would like to say that being the Supervisor of Torrey has been a challenging, humbling, but altogether a great experience so far. I was honored to be able to be a part of the incredibly moving Memorial Day Observance. Which, by the way, was the 100th! The Town of Torrey is a special place!

Thank You,
Peter Martini

- The Town Board meets the second Tuesday of the month at 7:30 pm in the Town Building on Geneva Street, Dresden, NY.
- The Town Board approved a resolution authorizing the Town Supervisor, Peter Martini, to execute the application for Water Infrastructure Improvement Act grant funds from the NYS Environmental Facilities Corporation (**EFC**). The purpose of the grant would be to possibly supplement funds for **WD1**.
- The Town Board approved sending letters to Governor Hochul, State Senator Tom O'Mara, and Assemblyman Palmesano urging their support in the Office of the State Comptroller's review of **WD1's** application.
- A Town Budget Workshop date was set for September 22 at 7:30 pm and a second one on October 6, 2022 at 7:00 pm.
- A date for a public hearing on the proposed 2023 budget will be set at the October 11th regular Town Board meeting.
- The Town Board approved offering the Town Assessor to Stephanie Holtz. This position is shared with the Town of Benton.
- The Town Board discussed a Perry Point erosion/flooding issue clarifying the location of the diversion ditch is on private property.
- The Town Board authorized the Torrey Town Court to apply for a Justice Court Assistance Program (**JCAP**) grant in the 2022-2023 cycle up to \$30,000.
- Torrey Cleanup Day was held on June 18th
- Kathleen Bennett of the firm Bond, Schoneck, and King is representing the Town in Town Court regarding the owner of Torrey Station failing to comply with the terms of the Special Use Permit issued in January of 2021.
- The Town Board on the suggestion of the Code Enforcement Officer amended its fee schedule as follows
 - Watershed Inspections for Property Sales \$ 100.00
 - Special Use Applications \$ 250.00

- Area/Use Variance Applications \$ 250.00

- The Town Board approved a revision of its procurement policy to read- **“A procurement policy and procedures applies to: Purchase contracts involving expenditures of over \$20,000, Contracts for public work involving expenditures of over \$35,000.** This will conform to New York State guidelines.
- The Town Board received from Dale Irwin, President of Greenidge Generations, an informational packet entitled **“Greenidge Generations Operations in New York to Continue Following NYS DEC Decision”**
- Approved the Trident Insurance contract with the Stork Insurance Agency for \$18,935.81 running from October 1,2022 to September 30,2023. This is a \$1954.24 decrease over the previous year’s policy with Selective Insurance.

From the Desk of Town Clerk (Betty Daggett):

- The Town Office is open Monday through Thursday from 9:00am - 4:00pm. Call 315-536- 6376
- Notary Public - No Fee
- Fee collection such as building permits,fines & fees issued by Code Office, Watershed Inspection for property sales
- Registrar of Birth / Death Certificates Vital copies - \$10.00 fee.
- Handicap Parking Permits
- Hunting / Fishing Licenses are now on sale
- Marriage License Requirements: Bride/Groom/Spouse must be present to obtain a license. The license is good for 60 days. There is a \$30 fee. Evening or Saturday appointments are available.
- Dog Licenses: State Law requires all puppies to be licensed at 4 months. At time of licensing, a rabies certificate and neuter/spay certificate must be presented. Licensing Fees: Unspayed/Unneutered \$18 and Spayed/Neutered \$10.

(It is NYS Ag & Market law- **ALL dogs** harbored in the Town of Torrey must be licensed yearly at the Town Clerk office.)

From the Desk of Town Highway Superintendent (Tim Chambers):

- Off hours emergency callout number: 315-729-2706

- Solicited bids for a new/used mowing tractor as the current one is a 2003 with about 8000 hours of service. Two quotes have been obtained: Massey Ferguson (\$126,076) and John Deere (\$154,420).
- Solicited bids for 8 new tires for the Town Excavator: Michelin (\$10,500), Continental (\$7,900), and Aeolus (\$6,100).
- Quotes have been sought for a 24KW Emergency Generator for the town building.
- The major culvert project on Anthony Beach Road has been completed. The paving will be done next Spring after the roadway has had time to settle. The Highway Department appreciates the understanding and patience of those residents impacted by this work.
- The renovations at the Town Park including a new electrical service to the bath house as well as a new roof on both the bath house and pavilion are complete. This was funded by a Yates County Natural Resource and Recreation 2022 grant.
- Consolidated Local and Highway Improvement Program (**CHIPs**) monies were used to oil and stone Hazard and Norris Road.
- Culvert pipe replacement and drainage work was done on Downey Road, Hazard Road, Hopeton Road, Nutt Road, and Hewitt Road.
- Tree work was done on the town right of way on Perry Point and Serenity Roads.
- The Septic at the Town building may have a problem which will be investigated.
- A **safety** precaution- as we are approaching the time of year when snow plowing is possible, trash cans should **not** be placed on Town Roads, but rather on the right-of-way.
- *Reminder according to NYS law:*
 - + throwing trash, garbage, rubbish, litter or refuse on Highways and adjacent lands is prohibited
 - + the town superintendent of highways shall sue for and recover a penalty not to exceed \$100 from any person depositing ashes, snow, ice, stones, sticks, etc. upon a highway or on grass or loose stones adjoining a town highway

From the Desk of Town Code Enforcement Officer (Dwight James):

- Call the Town Office at 315-536-6376 (cell 315-730-3291) or email at torreycodes@gmail.com to inquire about permits.
When in doubt ask!
- Building permits are required for any electrical, plumbing, insulation, or structural work undertaken.
- Construction or alteration of any accessory structure, addition, or new construction requires a permit.
- Reminder all short term rentals must be registered with the Town
- Year-to-Date there have been 83 permits issued and \$ 7226.20 permit fees collected
- With the Town Board's support a resolution is being pursued with the owner of Torrey Station on the expiration of his special use permit
- Identified the need of Emergency lighting in the Town Building

From the Desk of Town Planning Board (George Dowse):

- Meets the third (3rd) Monday of the month at 7:00 pm in the Town Building
- Approved the Red Tail Ridge Winery project which is now moving forward
- Approved a number of steep slope tram systems on Log Cabin Road
- Considering the impact of the new New York State Cannabis Law as the Town of Torrey did **not** opt out of participating in the sale and dispensing of Cannabis.

From the Desk of Town Judge (Hon. George Thompson)

- Court is held each Tuesday at 2:00pm on the West side of the Town Building. The phone number is 315.536.5655
- Criminal court is held the second Tuesday of the month at 2:00 pm
- Yearly audit of Town of Torrey Court's accounts will be done on September 28th by Town Board members Grant Downs and Larry Martin

From the Desk of Town Assessor (Patricia Brede)

- The last revaluation was done in 2019. New York State requires a revaluation to be done every 4 to 5 years. This last year has seen a significant increase in selling prices. So it is hoped to delay the revaluation until 2024, to give prices a chance to stabilize. The initial work will

start in the Spring of 2023.

- Grievance Day was held May 26th at the Town Building
- Pat will be retiring at the end of 2022, so it will be necessary for the Town of Benton and Town of Torrey to find a replacement. The position has been offered to Stephanie Holtz.

From the Desk of Town Watershed Inspector (*Yates Cty Soil & Water*)

The Town's inspectors can be contacted at the Yates County Soil and Water Conservation Department 315- 536-5188.

The Yates County Soil and Water Conservation District provides the watershed inspection services for the Town of Torrey and Village of Dresden. Educating homeowners on the function of their wastewater treatment systems has proven to be a tremendous benefit.

In November of 2014, the Town of Torrey passed a local Wastewater Law effective January 1, 2015. Under the new law, any onsite wastewater treatment system within 200' of Seneca Lake or a DEC classified stream is required to be inspected every 5 years. The cost of the inspection is borne by the Town of Torrey (unless this is a property transfer- 19 so far this year). However any pumping of the septic or repair is a cost to the homeowner. We are now in year 8 of these inspections.

If any residents have questions regarding the watershed inspection program, they may call the office at 315-536-5188.

Soil & Water also continues to interact with all of our local farmers utilizing NYS's Agricultural Environmental Management program. This program has been utilized in the county since 1997. We have worked with local farmers on a suite of practices including soil erosion and field runoff, manure storage, barnyard runoff, and manure and nutrient management.

From the Desk of the Mayor of Dresden (*Bill Hall*):

- Mayor Bill Hall (Term: June 2021 - May 2023)
- Village Trustees

Brian Flynn (Term: June 2022 - May 2024)

Bret Siegrist (Term: June 2021 - May 2023)

Village Board meets the third Wednesday of the month at 7:00pm

- Colleen Riviello is the Village Clerk. Office hours are Monday - Friday, 8:00 am to 2:00pm, phone number 315-536-2477. Her email address is- villageclerk@villageofdresden.org
- The village is seeking to act as the lead agency under the New York State Environmental Quality Review Act (**SEQRA**) for the Village of Dresden Water System Main Replacement Project.
- The Village of Dresden has had to raise water rates .50/1000 gallons. This rate has not been raised since 2015, despite the fact the Village of Penn Yan has raised their rate over \$1.00/1000 gallons to the Village of Dresden over this same time period. The *new rate* for Village of Dresden customers will be: Inside the Village \$8.25/1000 gallons and Outside the Village \$10.25/1000 gallons.
- The village with significant assistance from Greenidge Corporation and City Hill Construction completed its restoration project of the Bruce Hansen Playground. The original playground was supported by the Penn Yan Lions club.
- Held "MUSIC at the Gazebo" the fourth Tuesday of the month starting in June through September. **The last event is September 27th – Xarika will be performing!** It should be noted the 8 benches at the park were made possible by the generous donations (they cost \$500 each) from members of the community. If there is an individual or organization which wishes to "donate" a bench, there are a few still available!
- Through the efforts of Ken Campbell, the village received a grant from the Yates County Natural Resource and Recreation program to repair and refurbish the tennis/pickleball courts.
- The village contacted Cornell Cooperative Extension to design and obtain a grant for work on Washington Square (diagonal from the playground) on Main Street. They planted saplings and installed flower beds. The village has obtained and planted some more mature trees here as well.
- Unfortunately despite the efforts by everyone to improve the appearance of the village, there have been acts of vandalism. This includes graffiti on the new playground equipment as well as destruction of the concrete benches at the end of Seneca Street. The Yates County Sheriff Department advises residents

that “**if you see something, say something**” and report the incident to their department.

- Dresden Fire Department meets the first Monday of the month. There is a need for volunteer firemen in Dresden. All residents of the Town of Torrey are encouraged to volunteer.

From Yates County Legislators (Terry Button, Richard Harper, Rick Willson)

- Work continues on the ReConnect Grant, a three(3) phase project to bring broadband internet capability throughout the County. Communication Towers are being constructed at this time.
- Ground is being broken on the new County Highway Building in the Town of Benton. Replacing the fuel system is the first priority.
- A Hazard Mitigation Plan grant has been accepted and Brian Winslow is the coordinator.
- The Yates County Sheriff is implementing a New York State funded domestic terrorism program.
- The County has purchased software that identifies properties that are being used as rentals. The data will be shared with the nine(9) towns in the County
- State Senator Tom O'Mara and Assemblyman Phil Palmesano will visit Yates County on October 11th around 10:00 am in the Legislative Chambers.

Community Events

- The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) puts out a weekly bulletin each week detailing proposals and actions throughout the State.

The Environmental Notice Bulletin (ENB) is available at:

<https://www.dec.ny.gov/enb/enb.html>

- **Memorial Day Observance** for the Town of Torrey was held at the Gazebo in Dresden with a ceremony at the Evergreen Cemetery as well. This was the 100th year of this observance!
- **Town of Torrey Beach** was closed to make improvements to the Town Park through monies (\$12,147.00) obtained from Yates County's Natural Resource and Recreation Grant Program
- **Seneca Watershed Intermunicipal Organization** (SWIO) has submitted its Nine Element (9E) documentation to the NYS Department of State for approval. Also, **SWIO** is spearheading the Keuka Outlet Engineering Project which was initially funded by Yates County to address issues with Crooked Canal. The purpose is to see if water can be diverted during storm events using natural systems engineering. A \$314k grant (with no match) was received from the USDA to support a full engineering development. The next SWIO meeting is October 31, 2022 at Geneva Town Hall.
- **Torrey Cleanup Day** was held June 18th. There were 7 dumpsters filled with household items, 1 recyclable "metal only" dumpster, 1 dump truck full of tires, and 1 garage stall of electronics. The Town collected \$290.70 in metal and \$548 in TV, Mattresses, and Tire fees.
- **Auction for the New York State Haiti Benefit** was held on June 17 -18. It was held at the Yates County Fairgrounds in Penn Yan.
- **Seneca Lake Pure Waters Association** (SLPWA) started monitoring Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs) on August 1st by local volunteers and will continue through Columbus Day weekend. Check their website www.SenecaLake.org for additional information or to volunteer!
- **Friends of the Keuka Outlet** (FOTO) held a "Celebration of Cascade Falls on Sunday September 18th from Noon to 4:00 pm. Also **FOTO** is introducing new

this year **Octoberfest Volksmarch**, a German-themed community walk on October 23,2022. Check the **FOTO** website www.KeukaOutletTrail.org for details of these events.

- **Yates Transit Services** provides public bus service throughout the County including a route from/to Dresden and Penn Yan. Call 315.694.7700 or go to their website- **yatestransitservice.com** for additional information.

From the Desk of the Newsletter Editor (*Grant Downs*):

- The response to the town newsletter continues to be very positive. Additional feedback and/or comments are welcome and can be submitted by either calling 315-536-6376 or sending an email to: townclerk@townoftorrey.com
- Newsletters will also be posted on the Town of Torrey website: <https://townoftorrey.org>
- Delivery of the Town Newsletter will be electronically only, although there will be a limited number available at the Town Office.
- Please note the new letterhead incorporating the Town of Torrey logo. Comments would be appreciated!
- A number of you have requested subsequent newsletters to be sent to their Email address. We have attempted to accommodate this request. Those wishing to have future newsletters sent by email should provide the following information and send it to the town clerk:

NAME: _____

EMAIL Address: _____

Mailing Address: _____

