



## **Town of Torrey**

PO Box 280

56 Geneva St

Dresden, NY 14441

Phone: 315-536-6376

Email: [townclerk@townoftorrey.com](mailto:townclerk@townoftorrey.com)

Website: [townoftorrey.org](http://townoftorrey.org)

### Newsletter

September 1- December 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 (May 1 - August 31).*

#### **Town Officials -**

|                                  |   |  |
|----------------------------------|---|--|
| Peter Martini                    | (Supervisor)                              | <a href="mailto:martinivms@gmail.com">martinivms@gmail.com</a>             |
| 315.536.9781                     | Term: January 1, 2022 - December 31, 2023 |  |
| Colby Petersen                   | (Deputy Supervisor)                       | <a href="mailto:colby@ycsoilwater.com">colby@ycsoilwater.com</a>           |
| 315.536.1014                     | Term: January 1, 2022 - December 31, 2025 |  |
| Larry Martin                     | (Councilman)                              | <a href="mailto:larmart64@gmail.com">larmart64@gmail.com</a>               |
| 315.759.3374                     | Term: January 1, 2020 - December 31, 2023 |  |
| Bruce Henderson                  | (Councilman)                              | <a href="mailto:blhenderson83@gmail.com">blhenderson83@gmail.com</a>       |
| 315.521.7108                     | Term: January 1, 2023 - December 31, 2023 |  |
| Grant Downs                      | (Councilman)                              | <a href="mailto:gjdowns1946@gmail.com">gjdowns1946@gmail.com</a>           |
| 315.531.8441                     | Term: January 1, 2022 - December 31, 2025 |  |
| Betty Daggett                    | (Town Clerk)                              | <a href="mailto:townclerk@townoftorrey.com">townclerk@townoftorrey.com</a> |
| 315.536.6376                     | Term: January 1, 2022 - December 31, 2023 |  |
| Tim Chambers                     | (Hwy Supt.)                               | <a href="mailto:townclerk@townoftorrey.com">townclerk@townoftorrey.com</a> |
| 315.729.2706                     | Term: January 1, 2022 - December 31, 2023 |  |
| George Thompson                  | (Town Justice)                            | <a href="mailto:townclerk@townoftorrey.com">townclerk@townoftorrey.com</a> |
| 315.536.5655                     | Term: January 1, 2022 - December 31, 2023 |  |
| Dwight James                     | (Code Enforcement Officer)                | <a href="mailto:torreycodes@gmail.com">torreycodes@gmail.com</a>           |
| 315.536.6376 (cell 315.730.3291) |   |  |
| Stephanie Holz                   | (Town Assessor)                           | <a href="mailto:assessor@townofbenton.us">assessor@townofbenton.us</a>     |
| 315.536.7551                     |   |  |

## A Note from Town Supervisor Peter Martini

- Announced the New York State Office of the Comptroller approved our application for Water District One (**WD1**)
- Signed a contract with Nardozzi Paving and Construction for **WD1**



Standing: Jeremy DeLyser (CPL Engineer), George Thompson

Seated: Larry Martin, Bruce Henderson, Peter Martini, Colby Peterson, Grant Downs

- A pre-construction meeting for **WD1** between the Town's CPL engineer and Nardozzi Paving and Construction on January 18, 2023.
- The municipal bond to finance **WD1** was placed on the bond market on January 10, 2023.
- The costs associated with the Perry Point Water District (**WD2**) are being reviewed because of significant cost increases. A letter will be sent to the residents of **WD2** with an update as well as a survey card to gauge if the town should continue with this effort.
- Held a public hearing on Local Law #2-22 "Administration and Enforcement of the New York State Uniform Fire Prevention and Building Code and the State Energy Conservation Construction Code" on December 13, 2022 at 7:30 pm. This local law was approved after repealing the town's 2007 version of this law.
- Introduced Local Law 1-23 overriding the New York State Tax Cap for 2023. A public hearing on the law will be held on February 14, 2023 at 7:30 pm.
- Introduced Local Law 2-23 increasing the Alternate Veterans Exemption. A public hearing on the law will be held on February 14, 2023 at 7:30 pm.

**From the Desk of Town Board:**

- The Town Board meets the second Tuesday of the month at 7:30 pm in the Town Building at 56 Geneva Street, Dresden, NY.
- The Town Budget was adopted at the November 1st public meeting as follows:
- Adopted the Town Budget for 2022

**Summary of Torrey Town Budget**

| <b>Fund</b>                           | <b>Appropriations<br/>&amp;<br/>Provisions</b> | <b>Less<br/>Est<br/>Rev</b> | <b>Less<br/>Unexp<br/>Balance</b> | <b>Less<br/>Pilots<br/>Payments</b> | <b>Amount<br/>Raised by<br/>Taxes</b> |
|---------------------------------------|--|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <b>Gen A</b>                          | 453,459  | 172,661                     | 5,000                             | 13,148                              | 262,650                               |
| <b>Gen B</b>                          | 30,043   | 15,000                      | 2,000                             | 548                                 | 12,495                                |
| <b>HWY DA<br/>Townwide</b>            | 316,222  | 135,040                     | 5,000                             | 8,491                               | 167,691                               |
| <b>HWY DB<br/>Outside<br/>Village</b> | 230,317  | 80,040                      | 3,000                             | 5,204                               | 142,073                               |
| <b>Subtotal</b>                       | <b>1,030,041</b>                               | <b>402,741</b>              | <b>15,000</b>                     | <b>27,391</b>                       | <b>584,909</b>                        |
| <b>Fire Cnt</b>                       | 103,666  | 0                           | 0                                 | 0                                   | 103,666                               |
| <b>Totals \$<br/>(2023)</b>           | <b>1,133,707</b>                               | <b>402,741</b>              | <b>15,000</b>                     | <b>27,391</b>                       | <b>688,575</b>                        |
| <b>Totals \$<br/>(2022)</b>           | <b>1,183,209</b>                               | <b>404,916</b>              | <b>75,400</b>                     | <b>27,391</b>                       | <b>675,502</b>                        |
| <b>Totals \$<br/>(2021)</b>           | <b>992,453</b>                                 | <b>259,508</b>              | <b>45,982</b>                     | <b>29,302</b>                       | <b>657,661</b>                        |

**Town of Torrey Tax Rate per 100/Unit**

| <b>Year</b> | <b>Town Tax Rate</b> | <b>Town Tax Rate</b> | <b>Torrey Fire</b> |
|-------------|----------------------|----------------------|--------------------|
|-------------|----------------------|----------------------|--------------------|

|      | Outside Village | Within Village | District |
|------|-----------------|----------------|----------|
| 2023 | 3.0077324       | 2.212658       | .531278  |
| 2022 | 3.009402        | 2.506435       | .535331  |
| 2021 | 3.000419        | 2.239000       | .517019  |

- Approved the appointments and compensation for the Town of Torrey employees and volunteers.
- The Town Board accepted a bid (**\$1,998,585.00**) from Nardozzi Paving and Construction for their part involving Water District One (**WD1**). This expense will be borne by the property owners of **WD1** through a bond.
- The Town Board reviewed a quote from Covert Security, Inc for Fire Protection (**\$8035**) and Security (**\$7,245**) for the Town Building
- Approved an IT Contract with SCT for three (3) years.
- 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 received from Dale Irwin, President of Greenidge Generations, an informational packet entitled “**Greenidge Generations Operations in New York to Continue Following NYS DEC Decision**”
- Received from the Village of Dresden Fire Department a voucher (**\$103,666**) for Fire Protection in 2023

**From the Desk of Town Clerk (Betty Daggett):**

- The Town Office is open Monday through Friday from 9:00am - 4:00pm. The office phone number is 315-536- 6376.
- At the November 1,2022 meeting the Town Clerk presented Local Law #2-22 repealing LL2-07 in its entirety and adopting LL2-22 Entitled “Administration and Enforcement of the New York State Uniform Fire Prevention and Building Code and the State Energy Conservation Construction Code”
- Tax Collection is in full stride, the new collection system introduced by the county in 2018 was plagued with initial glitches. The problems have been resolved, and the 2022 tax collection is running smoothly.

- This year, on the tax bills is the option to pay Town & County Taxes online at <https://www.yatescounty.org/519>, - standard processing fees will be applied, which can be substantial!
- Adopted, with Town Board approval, the Williamson Law Book Company's software program package and support for managing the town accounts and payroll. This ensures compliance with the New York State Office of the Comptroller rules and regulations as well as enhanced transparency and clarity.
- 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.)
- There is an app, **NIXLE**, to be alerted to infrastructure issues specific to Yates County posted by the Sheriff's Department. Those interested should go to **NIXLE.COM** with your zip code to review current alerts and also sign up to have alerts sent directly to you

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

- Off hours emergency callout number: 315-729-2706
- 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 Henderson Road. This leaves only Feagle Road (.3 mile) as gravel road left in the Town of Torrey.
- Culvert crossover pipe replacement and drainage work was done on Downey Road, Hazard Road, Hopeton Road, Nutt Road, and Hewitt Road.
- The Septic at the Town building has a problem and a solution will be investigated.
- The Highway employees attended an Electrical Hazard Training put on by NYSEG at the Yates County building. It was very educational.
- The new Loader approved in the 2022 budget should be received in March of 2023.
- The new Massey- Ferguson mowing tractor and Dimond mowers has been approved in the 2023 budget for \$131,000. Their delivery is expected in May 2023.
- Continues to investigate a fix for a Perry Point drainage problem. There are a few solutions being considered.
- There are four (4) culverts on Serenity Road that need to be replaced in 2023.

- 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](mailto: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
- The Town of Torrey Code Enforcement 2022 Annual Report is as follows:
  - Total Permits issued- 97
    - New Homes - 3
    - Additions - 4
    - Commercial buildings - 2
    - Commercial additions - 3
    - Commercial renovations - 1
    - Short Term Rental - 40
    - Other Permits (e.g. decks, barns) - 44
  - C of O/C of C issued - 11
  - Permit fees collected - \$16,154.00
  - Continuing Education hours - 28
  - New 911 (fire numbers) issued - 3
  - Violations issued - 5
  - Violations resolved - 2

- The Torrey Station issue regarding the failure to comply with the terms of its Special Use Permit has been resolved with the owner agreeing to comply with the Torrey Town Court approved requirements.

**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. Although because of the Federal holidays in January and February, the meetings for those months will be January 30th and February 27th.
- 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. New York State has yet to finalize the rules and procedures.
- Considering changes to the Short Term rental law as there has been a noticeable increase in their number. Several model laws e.g. the Town of Canadice's Short Term Rental (**STR**) are being reviewed
- Members attended a "Local Government Workshop" sponsored by the Genesee/Finger lakes Regional Planning Council on November 3, 2022

**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 was done on September 28th for records from September 1, 2021 - August 31, 2022 by Town Board members Grant Downs and Larry Martin. It was determined the process for Justice Court Records is being followed, all required documentation is in place, and steps are verified with hardcopy receipts.
- The Torrey Town Court has applied for a Justice Court Assistance Program (**JCAP**) grant in the 2022-2023 cycle up to \$30,000 for a security system.

**From the Desk of Town Assessor (Stephanie Holtz)**

- Pat Brede retired at the end of 2022. The shared assessor position between the Towns of Benton and Torrey has been filled by the appointment of Stephanie Holtz.
- An Assessor Workshop was held November 14th for the officials of



Benton, Dresden, and Torrey to meet the new assessor, Stephanie Holz, as well as review the process and timeline for the 2024 revaluation.

- 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. The preliminary values to property owners in February 2024. The Tentative Assessment Roll will be filed May 1st, 2024.

### **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). However any pumping of the septic or repair is a cost to the homeowner. We are now in year 8 of these inspections.

The Watershed Inspection Report as of October 2022 for the Town of Torrey is:

2021- 81 inspections to date

44 Zone 1

13 Real Property Transfer

9 Repairs

3 Tank Replacement

3 Construction

## 9 Misc

2022- 61 total inspection conducted, 15 more Zone 1 is due in 2022

27 Zone 1

17 Real Property Transfer

2 Repairs

7 Replacement System

2 Construction

6 Misc

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](mailto:villageclerk@villageofdresden.org)
- Village Dresden elections for Mayor and Trustee will be held March 15, 2023 at the Village Office.

- 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.
- Public hearings on a “Short Term Rental” law were held on November 16th and December 21st. Final adoption occurred on December 21,2022.
- 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 with the last event on September 27th by Xarika. 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.
- Village of Dresden will be celebrating the 200th anniversary of the founding of Yates County on July 15,2023. A committee to plan activities e.g. parade, tree

planting, cardboard regatta will meet January 26,2023 at 6:00 pm in the Village Office.

- 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.
- Yates County will have an ambulance service providing 24/7 Advance Life Support (ALS).
- 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 visited Yates County on October 11th 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>

- **Seneca Watershed Intermunicipal Organization (SWIO)** has submitted its Nine Element (9E) documentation to the NYS Department of State for approval which has been granted. 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. Additional information regarding **SWIO** activities can be found on their website- <https://senecawatershedio.wordpress.com/>

The next SWIO meeting is *January 31, 2023 at Fayette Town Hall.*

- **YATES COUNTY Board of Elections (BOE)** will hold elections in November of 2023 for the following positions in the Town of Torrey:
  - Town Supervisor
  - Town Councilman (2)
  - Town Clerk
  - Town Highway Superintendent
  - Town Justice

Anyone interested in running for one of these positions should visit the **BOE** before **March** to get the necessary candidate information. The tentative dates are petitions for an office can be passed starting February 28, 2023 and can be filed between April 4th - 6th. The Board of Elections is located in the Yates County Office Building at 417 Liberty Street, Penn Yan, NY 14527 (phone 315-536-5135).



- **Seneca Lake Pure Waters Association (SLPWA)** started monitoring Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs) on August 1st by local volunteers and continued through Columbus Day weekend. Check their website [www.SenecaLake.org](http://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** introduced new this year **Octoberfest Volksmarch**, a German-themed community walk/run on October 23, 2022. Check the **FOTO** website [www.KeukaOutletTrail.org](http://www.KeukaOutletTrail.org) for details of these events and others as well.
- **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](http://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](mailto: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:** \_\_\_\_\_