

Town of Charlton Town Board Newsletter

News from Town of Charlton Officials

Fall 2015

From the Supervisor's Desk

Welcome to our first Electronic Newsletter. The Town Board is always looking for ways to better communicate with our residents in a cost effective way, but we are hoping to reestablish our hard copy newsletter next year.

We had another outstanding Founders Day Weekend this past June and I want to thank everyone who helped out and attended these events that make Charlton so special. This summer we were treated to hot weather and a visit from the Triple Crown winner America Pharoah who came up just a little short in the Travers but made history just being here. The Town Board has been working hard on a number of projects including the replacement of the Gazebo in the Veterans Memorial Park and updating the Zoning code to better reflect the times we live in. We are now working on the 2016 Town Budget and there will be many challenges in the future to continue funding all the services we provide and the maintenance and replacement of our 47 miles of Town roads.

Thank you for making Charlton such a great place to live.

Alan Grattidge
Supervisor

From the Town Clerk's Office

IMPORTANT DATES

October 26th -30th - Fall Brush Pick-Up

November 3rd – Election Day

Outdoor Burning—A Reminder from the Charlton Environmental Conservation Commission

The fall season is upon us and with it the burning of leaves and brush becomes more prevalent. However, you should be aware that since October 14, 2009, all outdoor open burning, including the burning of leaves, is prohibited in New York with several exceptions including the following:

Campfires less than 3 feet in height and 4 feet in length, width or diameter are allowed.

Small cooking fires are allowed.

Fires cannot be left unattended and must be fully extinguished.

Only charcoal or clean, untreated or unpainted wood can be burned. The burning of chemically treated wood such as pressure-treated lumber and plywood is prohibited.

Ceremonial or celebratory bonfires are allowed.

In towns with a total population less than 20,000, including Charlton, you may burn tree limbs with attached leaves. The limbs must be less than 6 inches in diameter and 8 feet in length (also referred to as brush). However, this is not allowed from March 16 through May 14 due to the increased risk of wildfires. This outdoor burning ban also applies at any time during the year when there are very dry conditions, at which time the NYS DEC will issue a notice that outdoor burning of any kind is forbidden. Furthermore, burning trash in burn barrels or piles is prohibited statewide at any time. The incinerator rule prohibits burning household trash in wood stoves, fireplaces, and outdoor wood boilers. The burning of pesticides, plastics or other non-organic material is also prohibited. Burning in liquid petroleum fueled smudge pots to prevent frost damage to crops is allowed, however, burning tires and other wastes for smudge is prohibited.

Organic agricultural wastes may be burned on-site where they are grown or generated including brush and wood produced by clearing fields and other activities. The fire must be located on contiguous agricultural land larger than 5 acres, and the materials capable of being fully burned within 24 hours.

There are some hefty fines for ignoring these laws and if a brush fire results, the perpetrator is also liable for any damage. Keep Charlton safe by following the rules!

From the Town Board

In September the Town Board adopted updates to the Town's Zoning Ordinance.

Purposes of the update included the following:

Bring the zoning in better conformance with the Town's Comprehensive Plan and Farmland Protection Plan

Clarify certain sections of the Zoning Ordinance

Improve consistency with State regulations regarding septic systems

Make the Zoning Ordinance more user friendly to applicants and the Town's Planning and Zoning Boards

Adopt regulations regarding the siting of Telecommunications Facilities and Ground Mounted Solar Arrays

Many of the updates came from suggestions by the Town's Zoning Ordinance Review Committee (ZORC), which developed the list of recommended changes over a multi-year period. The last comprehensive update to the Town's Zoning Ordinance was in 2000. The Town Board finalized the proposed revisions over the past year, with significant feedback and recommendations from the Town residents.

A copy of the adopted updates to the Zoning Ordinance is available on the Town's website. Copies of the final published Zoning Code will be available later this Fall. The Town Board wishes to thank the members of the Zoning Ordinance Review Committee for their assistance with the zoning updates.

From the Highway Department

A special thank you to residents for being patient during our paving operations. This year the highway dept. rebuilt a total of 3.33 miles of road and crack sealed a total of 10 miles. Over the past year we have purchased a new plow truck and two new sanders. We also acquired several pieces of used equipment from a federal surplus program. Working with the Town Board on getting these items has saved the town over \$100,000. One of these items was a tub grinder to recycle all the brush we pick up throughout the year. Starting this fall we will now have mulch available for residents to pick up in front of the salt shed. I would also like to urge residences to call my office if they are having their driveways redone. The highway dept. will replace your culvert for you if you purchase the new pipe. Do not have the paving co. remove it and fill it in. I don't want to cut your new driveway. Although the ditch may be somewhat filled in, we are working to restore the drainage ditches around town.

Brush pickup for Fall 2015

This fall the Highway Department will pick up brush on October 26th through October 30th. Please remember to place cut ends to the road to help the highway crew in their operation. If any resident would like a load of wood chips leave me a message and I'll put you on a list. And as always we will be around after storms to pickup downed limbs that are placed curb side. **There will only be one pass by; and, if you do not have your brush out on Sunday night you may miss the pick-up.**

Trash Cans on collection day; please keep all trash cans at least 4 feet from the edge of pavement, to prevent interference with snow removal and damage to your trash cans. The more cans in our way, the longer it takes to plow your road. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated by your highway crew. Any questions or concerns regarding any of these matters or any highway matter in town please call me at 399-3425.

Thank you,
Mike Emerich, Highway Superintendent.

Water Department Billing Information:

Water Reading Cards are mailed by April 30th each year. It is a two-part mailing with return postage. If you do not receive a card in the mail to read your meter by May 15th, please call the Water Department at 384-0152, extension 215 to request a card to be re-mailed.

An \$85.00 penalty is charged for the following two reasons:

1. No reading card is returned with a reading
2. The card was received with a postmark after May 25th.

Water Bills are mailed June 30th each year and payable until July 31st without penalty. Penalty is assessed on any payment received with a postmark date after July 31st at a rate of 5%.

Water Bills can be paid to Charlton Water District #1 until October 15. After this date, delinquent water bills are sent to the county to be added to the tax bill for the following year.

Please contact the Water Department with any questions or concerns.

From the Town Historian, Marv Livingston

The Charlton Town Historian is teaming up with the Charlton Historical Society to write a "History of Charlton" book. If anyone has pictures or articles of old Charlton and would be willing to allow us to make copies, Please contact the Charlton Town Historian.

The Town has several cemeteries that are in desperate need of restoration. I would like to get a cemetery restoration team together in the spring to work on the cemeteries. If Interested, Please contact the Charlton Town Historian

Pictures without labels are near useless. I have hundreds of pictures and slides in the Historians office, none have a label. They are nice pictures and I'm sure that someone at one time knew who, what or where the pictures were about, but I don't. I would urge everyone that has a family photo album to get it out and look at it, would others know what the pictures are about? Please put labels (names, dates and places) on the pictures so that future generations will know what your pictures are about.

Charlton Historic District Commission

The Historic District Commission would like to congratulate the Harkness family on the wonderful repair and restoration of the front porch on their home in the hamlet. Having had their porch damaged in an unfortunate accident, the Harkness family proceeded to research what the porch looked like in 1905 in an effort to put back a more authentic structure. The new square posts provide a much better match to the home's original doorway. The Historic District Commission greatly appreciates the commitment to historic preservation that the Harkness family has shown.

The Historic District Commission would like to remind all residents that an Application for Recommendation of Appropriateness form must be filled out prior to making modifications to structures and/or property within the hamlet that are visible from the right-of-way. The Commission asks that all Historic District residents visit our website and view the sample projects that require the submission of an Application form in keeping with the Town's Historic Zoning Ordinance. It is in all our best interest to work together to protect and preserve the distinctive architectural and historical character of the hamlet.

The Historic District Commission meets on the third Wednesday of each month at the Town Hall at 7:00 PM in the multi-purpose room. All interested town residents, especially property owners in the historic district, are encouraged to attend the meetings.

If you have any questions, please contact Jim Poirier, Chairman of the Historic District Commission, at 399-2750 or HistoricDistrictCommission@townofcharlton.org.

Community News

Charlton Historical Society Fall Programs:

To kick off the Fall Season, join us at Harmony Hall for a joint potluck supper and concert.

Date: October 2, 2015

Time: 5:30 for Potluck Supper; 6:30 for Concert

Place: Harmony Hall

Concert: JAMCRACKERS(*Dan Berggren, Peggy Lynn & Dan Duggan*) is a delightful NY trio. They are much appreciated for their down home/up- lifting songs about the Adirondacks, ballads of strong mountain people and good humor. (Go to chaltontnyhs.org for more info on performers.)

Bring a dish to share for the Potluck supper at 5:30 and then enjoy the concert itself at 6:30. (Feel free to join us for the concert at 6:30.)

Suggested donation; \$10.

Guests are welcomed.

Harmony Hall is located at the corner of Route 67 and Peaceable Street, in the Town of Charlton, NY. (For your GPS use: 1401 Peaceable St., Ballston Spa, NY 12020)

Date: Wednesday, November 4, 2015

Time: 7:00 PM

Place: Maple Ave Schoolhouse, Charlton

Presenters: Julie Muffler from the Museum of Innovation and Science (miSci) will tell us about the museum's mission and programs. A vote on 2015-16 officers and trustees will be held

Holiday Party

Date: Monday, December 7, 2015

Time: 6:00 PM

Place: Charlton Tavern

Your Money at Work!

The proceeds from the Founders' Day 5 K Race have made it possible to paint the Museum and Schoolhouse. The bad news -- While painting, it was discovered that the weathervane support is unsafe and must be removed before it falls.

Volunteers: To carry out the mission of the Charlton Historical Society, we need community involvement. This includes support by attending our programs as well as volunteering to preserve the 1804 and 1859 buildings and the museum

collections. By giving just an hour or more, you will be strengthening the preservation of Charlton history as well as providing activities for Charlton residents. If you can help us, call Sue York at 399-3797 or at yorkmm474@aol.com

Town of Charlton Contact Information

Town of CHARLTON

Town Hall, 758 Chariton Road, Charlton, NY 12019

www.townofcharlton.org

518-384-0152

Town Supervisor: Alan Grattidge, 384-0152 ext. 207, supervisor@townofcharlton.org

Town Board Members:

Joe Grasso, 257-0224, councilmangrasso@townofcharlton.org

Mark Hodgkins, 384-0152, councilmanhodgkins@townofcharlton.org

Bob Lippiello, 384-0152, councilmanlippello@townofcharlton.org

John Gay, 384-0152, councilmangay@townofcharlton.org

Town Clerk: Brenda Mills, 384-0152 ext. 201 townclerk@townofcharlton.org

Hours: Mon.-Fri. 9am-1pm, Tues. Eve 6-8pm, Sat. 9am-12 (except July & Aug.)

Deputy Town Clerks: Margo Jones, Laurie Kruppenbacher, Teresa Hart, 384-0152 ext. 201

Highway Superintendent: Mike Emerich, 399-3425, highway@townofcharlton.org

Assessors: Kim Caron, Rachael Holbrook, Victoria Hayner assessors@townofcharlton.org

Hours: Tues. & Thurs. 9am -12, Tues. Eve 6-8pm, Sat. 9am-12 (except June-October)

Clerk: Mary Beth Frewin, 384-0152 ext. 206

Zoning Administrator & Building Inspector: Bob Gizzi zoning@townofcharlton.org

Hours: Tues. Eve 6-8pm, Thurs. 9am-12 and by appointment

384-0152 ext. 204, 857-4109 (cell) **Zoning Clerk:** Laurie Kruppenbacher

Justices:

Hours: Court Thursday 6:00pm

Vern Ketchum, 384-0152 ext. 219

Phil Rodriguez 384-0152 ext. 218

Court Clerk:

Hours: Mon., Wed. & Thurs. 8:30-11:30am

Bev Pashley, 384-0152 ext. 220, courtclerk@townofcharlton.org

Constables:

Tom Parks, Gary Parks, Tom Schmidt, Randy Angerosa

384-0152 ext. 203, 470-0788 (cell), charltonpolice@townofcharlton.org

Tax Collector: Linda LaRue, 384-0152 ext. 205, Deputy: Sue McBurnie, taxcollector@townofcharlton.org

Hours: (January only) Tues., Thurs. & Sat. 9-12

Historian: Marv Livingston, 384-0152 ext. 212, historian@townofcharlton.org

Dog Control: Gary Parks 365-8271 (cell)

Water Department: Superintendent: John Morgan, 399-5880

Assistant Superintendent: Dennis Russell, 857-4665 (cell)

Water Clerk: Kim Caron, 384-0152 x215, water@townofcharlton.org