

## Notes from the Town of Hamilton October Meeting

The meeting opened with a public hearing on proposed Local Law 2 of 2019 "Tax Cap Override." As the expenses of keeping the Town running efficiently while maintaining safe roads, fairly compensating our workers, and supporting vital community services continue to rise the Town cannot stay within the State's 2% tax cap, and so approved the override.

Highway Superintendent reported that new employee Mike Helly has started. Randy Isbell has been offered a position as part-time seasonal plow operator. Randy is retired from the Town of Fenner with 26 years of plowing experience. In addition to road repair and maintenance the crew is getting the plow trucks ready for winter. The crew has also created a sliding door to close off half the garage and save heat, and therefore heating costs.

Deputy Clerk Elisa Robertson is filling in while clerk Reymers is out of the office through mid-November. Roberts reports that the office has been busy with hunting licenses.

The Codes Enforcement Officer (CEO) report included 4 new building permits and 12 construction inspections. CEO Miller is also monitoring the construction and progress of two recently approved projects.

SOMAC experienced a misunderstanding with County Emergency services with SOMAC being incorrectly deemed out of service for an extended amount of time. In reality, SOMAC was taking calls and ready to respond. This breakdown in communication with the 911 center is being discussed so that it does not happen again.

The Partnership for Community Development (PCD), working with Thought into Action, created a business incubator which is available to Colgate students and community entrepreneurs needing a shared fully equipped office space. The PCD is also providing free business technology training as part of the program. Hamilton housing and infrastructure development is being explored as a follow-up to the housing study.

As part of the Hamilton Climate Preparedness Working Group (HCPWG) the Town expects to reach bronze Climate Smart Community certification in January. Thanks to students from Prof. Pattison's ENST 241 class who are updating our green website pages and working on updating our fleet and building assessments. On November 7 at 4:30 in Golden Auditorium the Town will participate in *Solve Climate by 2030: A Call for Change in a Changing Climate*. This panel discussion is open to the public.

The walls are up on the new Town Office and sheathing will be happening soon. The Town is in consultation with local contractors about doing the electric and working with our highway crew on the installation. Design work on the heating system is underway.

The Town Council resolved to move the budget from "tentative" to "preliminary." A public hearing on the budget will be held on Wednesday, November 6 at 7pm at the Poolville Community Center. Town of Hamilton residents are encouraged to attend.

The following roads in the Town of Hamilton will be closed December 1, 2019 - April 1, 2020 in accordance with section 205-A of the Highway Law: Alderman Road, Barnard Road, Brown Road, Collins Road, Humphrey Road, Lake Road, Morse Road (portion of), Thayer Road, and Wilkinson Road.

Supervisor Shwartz reported that a broadband survey will be made available in print and online from the County. Residents are urged to participate in the survey, which will help assess broadband needs which need to be addressed in the County.

The Hamilton Town Council meets on the second Thursday of the month at the Village Courthouse in the Village of Hamilton at 6:30 pm. Our next regular meeting is November 14. We invite and encourage you to join us. For more info visit [www.townofhamiltonny.org](http://www.townofhamiltonny.org)

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Submitted by Chris Rossi, Hamilton Town Council