

Enfield Town Boards

Meetings are held in the
Community Building, 1st floor

Town Board: 2nd Wednesday, 6:30pm

Town Supervisor

Roy Barriere 277-3843

Deputy Supervisor

Jean Owens 273-5682

Town Council Members

Chris Hern 256-5033

Vera Howe-Strait 273-1413

Ann Rider 277-3478

Debbie Teeter 277-4547

Planning Board: 1st Wednesday, 7pm

Virginia Bryant, co-chair 387-9376

Mike Carpenter, co-chair 277-4204

Ann Chaffee 272-6460

Steve Givin 273-7434

Calvin Rothermich 272-5930

Marie Van De Mark 277-4383

Dan Walker 387-6394

Town Offices

Town Clerk 273-8256

Alice Linton, Town Clerk

Sue Thompson, Deputy Town Clerk

Town Office/Clerk Hours:

Monday-Thursday, 3 pm - 6 pm

Highway Department 272-6490

Barry Rollins, Highway Superintendent

Town Highway Office Hours:

Monday-Friday: 6 am - 2:30 pm

Town Court 273-0363

Justice Poole: Monday, 5:00 pm

Justice Varricchio: Thursday, 5:00 pm

Code Enforcement Office

Community Building, 2nd floor

Code Enforcement 277-0266

Alan Teeter, Code Enforcement Officer

Code Enforcement Office Hours:

Monday thru Thursday 8:30-11 am

Wednesday 5-7 pm

Town Historian

Sue Thompson 272-6412

Enfield Volunteer Fire Company

Art Howser, Chief 272-8757

Roger Lauper, Deputy Chief

Kirk Vandee, 1st Assistant Chief

Ben Giles, 2nd Assistant Chief

Shawn Lauper, Captain

County Legislators

Jim Dennis

Enfield/Ulysses

387-4058, jpd821@yahoo.com

Dave McKenna

Enfield/Newfield

564-7243, dmckenna@tompkins-co.org

Town of Enfield

168 Enfield Main Road

<http://townofenfield.org>

July - September 2012 Newsletter

Report from the Supervisor

The first Law of 2012 was adopted early this month – the moratorium on gas and petroleum exploration in the Town of Enfield. This moratorium will be in effect for one year. This will allow the Town more time to adopt regulations in order to protect the Town's roadways and aquifer, along with revising our Site Plan Review Law and Comprehensive Plan. Another goal we would like to accomplish during this one-year period of time is to identify the Town's critical environmental areas, which will be a useful tool for protecting our environment when and if unconventional gas drilling comes to Enfield.

There has been some discussion about setting up a new TCAT bus "park and ride" in Enfield. Two locations are under consideration for the new site – one is at the old highway facility and the other at the new highway facility. The folks from TCAT are conducting a survey which may help with the decision on where to place the new "park and ride".

There will also be some discussion on using Enfield as a satellite location for the County's next medication disposal program. The approximate date for the next disposal date is towards the end of this coming September. If this is approved, the exact details will be posted on the Town's website.

The Haefele's franchise agreement with the Town is due for renewal. Representatives from Haefele's will be at the July Town Board meeting (7/11/12), to review possible changes in the agreement, to include some enhancements they are planning for the Town of Enfield. There will also be an opportunity for Q&A, so if you have any specific questions or concerns, try your best to attend the next meeting or pass those questions or concerns on to one of the Board members.

Last, but not least, don't forget to visit our new and improved website - <http://townofenfield.org/content>. Please take time to visit the website for meeting minutes, committee reports, agendas, etc... Our Town Board meetings are normally held on the 2nd Wednesday of every month, starting at 6:30 pm. As always, if you have any questions or concerns about any Town issues, please contact any of the Town Board members.

Respectfully,

Roy Barriere, Town Supervisor

Poll Site Inspectors and Managers Needed

The Tompkins County Board of Elections is currently looking for Poll Site Inspectors and Managers.

This is a great opportunity for folks interested in participating in the political process. Inspectors sign in voters and distribute ballots. Poll Site Managers open and close the voting machines and assist voters as needed.

New workers attend a paid training session and then are teamed with experienced workers for the election.

For Primary Elections, Inspectors are paid \$100 for working 11:30 a.m. - 9:30 p.m., and Poll Site Managers are paid \$130 for 11 a.m. - 9:30 p.m.

For the General Election Inspectors are paid \$160 (5:30 a.m. - 9:30 p.m.) and the Poll Site Managers receive \$190 (5:00 a.m. - 9:30 p.m.)

Training for these positions will begin in September. You may sign up by calling the Board of Elections at 607-274-5521.

News from Code Enforcement

Building seems to again be on the rise in Enfield after a slow year in 2011. The town has issued 32 building permits so far for 2012 while at this time last year we had issued only 21 permits. Looking back over the last five years, the average number of permits issued by mid-June has been about 35, so it would appear that we are near to being back on track. In talking to local contractors, this trend seems to be true throughout the county, as contractors report being much busier this year than in the past. Hopefully this trend will continue as growth and home improvement is always good to have.

Did you know the Town is still providing the green house-number signs at no cost? These are a great way to make your address more visible from the road. With many homes in Enfield being far apart and/or far off the road it's important to make your home easier to find, especially in an emergency, at night or to someone unfamiliar with the roads. Most of the numbers in town are consistent but on a couple of town-line roads the numbers are quite confusing, with other towns using a different numbering system.

In closing I'd like to remind folks that this is the time of year I'm out of the office a lot with inspections. If you miss me at the office, please leave a message, and I'll be in touch promptly.

Alan Teeter
Code Enforcement Office

Broadband Access: Still Time to Comment

On June 11th the Broadband Committee on held a *Community Engagement Forum* regarding community needs and opportunities related to high-speed Internet service at the Community Building.

Anyone who missed that forum, but wants to comment on the need and benefits of broadband service can complete a brief questionnaire available at the Broadband Committee website:

<http://www.tompkins-co.org/legislature/committee/Broadband/index.html>, OR call the Legislature Office at 274-5434 to have the questionnaire be sent to you by mail.

From the County Legislature

One or both of Enfield's Tompkins County Legislators, Dave McKenna (Enfield/Newfield) and Jim Dennis (Enfield/Ulysses), attend our Town Board meetings and provide highlights of the Legislature's work. Of particular interest to the Enfield community is the efforts to provide broadband service throughout the County. As many residents know, internet service options in many parts of the Town are severely limited, and often, if a household is able to get high-speed internet service, the cost is prohibitive.

The following is excerpted from the Executive Summary of the Broadband Committee's (Dave McKenna services as vice chair) recommendations to the Legislature on this important issue:

The importance of high speed (broadband) access to Internet services has catapulted to prominence at all levels of government in recent years, as broadband becomes a more integral part of everyday life for both households and businesses. No longer is broadband service just a "gadget" for the entertainment of those with financial means, or for business operations alone. Quality Internet access is a necessity for the day-to-day transactions and communications of every citizen. The 21st century equivalent to rural electrification or the interstate highway system, the provision of universal access to a broadband connection is now recognized as an appropriate role for government at the local, state and federal level.

In August 2010, the Tompkins County Legislature noted that certain county residents were unable to participate in the rapidly growing number of services available only to those with broadband access, either because they lived in rural areas where broadband was not available, or because they could not afford it.

The Tompkins County Broadband Committee (the Committee) was formed to address issues surrounding broadband access and charged to "...advise the Tompkins County Legislature on how to best promote broadband technology countywide, to address the needs of unserved and underserved residents, foster public-private innovation, enhance existing capabilities, and support good governance."

Based on analysis of all the information on various options available, the Committee recommends that the County, in collaboration with other stakeholders, proceed to implement universal broadband Internet access in Tompkins County via a Fixed Wireless option [described in detail in the full report]. The Committee considers the Fixed Wireless recommendation to be superior to all other technological possibilities in a number of ways:

- **Cost.** *A preliminary estimate, provided as part of the State presentation to our group in April, and confirmed by our investigations, suggests that Fixed Wireless would be the most cost-effective option for meeting current requirements. A good working number for capital cost is from \$300 to \$800 per household.*
- **Deployability.** *We have local experts who know all aspects of the technology. There will be no guesses or unforeseen issues in deploying it.*
- **Support of the local economy.** *Four local companies, employing local residents, offer Internet access using this technology.*
- **Evolutionary upgrades.** *While the Fixed Wireless approach meets current FCC standards, it does not have the high-speed capabilities of a few other alternatives. The Committee, however, proposes to start with a modest, lower cost system, with independent options for incremental and modular upgrades in the future.*

Our recommendation, therefore, allows for future deployment of an enhanced system with future flexibility. Communications technology will almost certainly change dramatically in coming years. Committing to a very high-end solution now may leave the County mired in outdated technology because of new technologies that come on line during development.

Implementation of a Fixed Wireless option now will allow us to accomplish the goal of universal broadband Internet access at a moderate cost, while preserving options for future upgrades. We are confident that this approach will serve the citizens of Tompkins County well, enabling the County to address both current and future needs.

There is still much work to do going forward.

A business plan should be put in place, at least in a draft form, so that, should an opportunity for funding present itself, the County is ready to move forward rapidly with an application. The County should identify a mechanism to keep the expertise represented on this committee, as it moves forward into a business plan phase. Additionally, no matter which technology, governance, and funding mechanisms are finally decided upon, the County must have substantial funding available and the readiness to commit matching funds, should grant opportunities become available—or, failing that, to directly fund the project.

Report from the Town of Enfield Planning Board

“Ah, the Planning Board, are they doing anything, and if so, what is it?” is a statement I have periodically heard in and around Enfield during my years of service on this board. Here is a short and probably incomplete overview of the current Board’s actions and planning focus:

- **Site Plan Review Law:** The Planning Board submitted their final draft of a **new Site Plan Review Law** to the Town Board in January 2012. The Town Board has reviewed it, recommended some modifications, held the required Public Hearing, and has sent the Town Attorney their final draft.
- **Town of Enfield Comprehensive Plan:** The Planning Board has begun working on this project. Members of the Board already have been tasked with critical areas to research for current information that will be become part of the plan. It is imperative that we get input and involvement from concerned Town of Enfield residents about what they wish to see included in this document. At our next meeting, we will discuss and, hopefully establish, at least several ‘citizen/resident’ work group covering areas that are important to gather information about, goals of the Town, e.g. agriculture, farming, small business, industry, Open Space, Environmental Protection, Housing, Transportation...just to name a few. As the ‘mapping’ that Planning Board Member Dan Walker is doing becomes more ‘jelled’, we will be eagerly seeking interested residents to serve Comprehensive Plan Work Groups.
- **Critical Environmental Areas:** In tandem with working on and completing the Town’s Comprehensive Plan, The Planning Board will also be researching critical environmental areas within the Town.
- **Aquifer Study:** With the assistance of Town resident and interested citizen Marcie Finlay and others, we are gathering as much information as we can (including seeking USGS and other funds) to do an appropriate Aquifer Study for the Town. Naturally some of this information will become pertinent to, or part of, the Comprehensive Plan.

The Planning Board meets on the 1st Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. in the Community Building. We encourage and welcome your attendance at our meetings. As we begin to create Comprehensive Plan “work groups” in the next months, we look forward to increased participation and help from the residents of Enfield!

Virginia Bryant & Mike Carpenter, Co-Chairs

Town Community Beautification Committee Update

The Beautification Committee has hit the ground running this spring, planting pansies in April and replanting with summer annuals in May. Don’t the barrels of petunias look great? Thanks so much, Helen and Ed Hetherington.

A couple of our community residents have agreed to adopt the barrels in front of their homes. Many thanks to them for agreeing to help us out.

Two of our young residents, Mark Stillwell (returning from 2011) and Joe Hubbell, have agreed to work for the Beautification Committee. We have gotten pretty much ahead of the weeds and grass this spring. Plans for the summer include replacing the rotting posts in the Memorial Garden in front of the school, planting bulbs and chrysanthemums in the fall and keeping the barrels well watered.

All monies expended for beautification by the Town are reimbursed to the Town through County room tax monies. Our committee consists of Debbie Teeter, Helen Hetherington, Larry and Linda Stillwell and Ann Rider.

Ann Rider, Beautification Committee Chair

News from the Enfield Town Clerk’s Office:

After a mild winter, summer is off to a good start. Maybe you’d like to go fishing this year – be sure to stop in and get a fishing license first! Or maybe your family has a new dog. Please remember to license him/her. If your dog is spayed or neutered, the fee is \$10 per year. For unaltered dogs, the fee is \$20 per year.

Forms for licensing your dog, along with copies of approved minutes and agendas are available in our office and on the town’s website www.townofenfield.org.

Just a reminder that if you have a handicap parking permit, be sure to check the expiration date. Red tags are good for 6 months and blue tags are good for 5 years. Please stop by our office before your tag expires and we will issue a new tag (red tags need a doctor’s order for each renewal).

We continue to be open from 3-6 p.m. Monday through Thursday at the same location, 168 Enfield Main Road. You can call 273-8256 and we will make arrangements to meet you at a different time if needed.

Have a great summer,

Alice Linton, Town Clerk
Sue Thompson, Deputy Town Clerk

Independence Day Closings & Curbside Recycling Pick-up Schedule

The Tompkins County Solid Waste Management Division office and the Tompkins County Recycling and Solid Waste Center will be closed Wednesday, July 4th for the Independence Day holiday and will reopen Thursday, July 5th.

There will be no curbside recycling pick-up July 4th. Pick-up will occur a day late the remainder of the week. For example, if your scheduled pick-up day is Friday, your recycling will be picked up on Saturday.

For more information, Contact:
TCSWMD, 273-6632,
www.RecycleTompkins.org

Need a Space to Meet?

The Enfield Community Center is available for Enfield community events and activities, and has tables and chairs available. To reserve space, or report a problem with the facility, contact Chris Hern at 256-5033.

Home Repair Funding Available

Homeowners:

Experiencing a leaking roof?

Have Septic problems?

Do you have dangerous electric issues?

Accessibility a concern within your home?

Home Repair Funding is now available for income eligible home owners in your community. For an application or information, contact Bishop Sheen Housing at 585-657-4114. <http://www.sheenhousing.org/index.html>

Mission Statement: Bishop Sheen Ecumenical Housing Foundation, Inc. (Sheen Housing), is a not-for-profit corporation that goes beyond what any one organization offers to provide safe, decent, affordable housing to very low- to moderate-income families, seniors, veterans and persons with disabilities. The end goal is to promote the self-worth and dignity of the families, seniors, veterans and persons living with disabilities and communities we serve.

Helpful Tompkins County Web Sites (all begin with <http://www.>):

Government: co.tompkins.ny.us

Legislature: tompkins-co.org/legislature

Assessment: tompkins-co.org/assessment

Board of Elections: tompkins-co.org/boe

Clerk: tompkins-co.org/clerk

Health Department: tompkins-co.org/health

Highway Department: tompkins-co.org/highway

Solid Waste: recycle.tompkins.org

Dates to Remember

July

4 Planning Board Meeting
Community Building, 7 pm

4 *Volunteer of the Month*
nominations due

11 Town Board Meeting
Community Building, 6:45 pm

August

1 Planning Board Meeting
Community Building, 7 pm

1 *Volunteer of the Month*
nominations due

8 Town Board Meeting
Community Building, 6:45 pm

September

5 Planning Board Meeting
Community Building, 7 pm

5 *Volunteer of the Month*
nominations due

12 Town Board Meeting
Community Building, 6:45 pm

Town of Enfield
168 Enfield Main Road
Ithaca NY 14850

