

## **Supervisor Highlights January 2019**

The following is a summary report of highlights for the Town of Enfield prepared by Beth McGee, Town Supervisor. These are not meeting minutes, such as those provided by the Town Clerk. Drafts of meeting minutes may be available at [TownOfEnfield.org](http://TownOfEnfield.org) one week prior to the regular monthly meeting and are subject to corrections upon discussion of the Town Board before approval.

Dear Enfield Resident-

What better way to spend a snowy day than with lots of news from your Town? As the end/beginning of the year tends to be a bear, this Supervisor Update will be long and full of info that I hope you will find useful. If you have any questions or concerns, as always, please feel free to reach out to me at 607-288-2384 or [supervisor@townofenfield.org](mailto:supervisor@townofenfield.org) You may also reach the whole Town Board at [townboard@townofenfield.org](mailto:townboard@townofenfield.org)

### **Highway News-**

Highway Superintendent, Buddy Rollins, purchased a 10-Wheeler outfitted with a snow plow at auction in December. This truck is a replacement for a 1999 10-Wheeler for regular use. With this purchase and the purchase of an excavator last Summer, we hope to be catching up with equipment replacement, so we can prepare a more predictable replacement timeline going forward.

Last Spring, I worked with Buddy to prepare a grant application for a salt storage building, which was considered when the Highway building was built, but was not done at that time. That grant has been awarded to Enfield for up to \$340,640 as a 50/50 match. The Town Board will be working this year to develop a strategy for the Town portion of funding for this project. This grant requires us to complete the building within three years. A salt storage building will aid in preventing runoff of salt and sand into Enfield creek (just a few hundred feet from our salt pile) and the watershed downstream, as well as leeching of salt supplies into our aquifer that sits a mere 14 feet below the surface of the ground in that area.

### **Energy News-**

The Renewable Energy Advisory Committee continues to work on a solar law that makes installing residential solar as seamless a process as possible, while providing appropriate oversight to larger solar installations within the town. They hope to have this completed by Spring, as work on the Wind Law update has also been on their agenda for several months.

We are continuing our work on the Clean Energy Communities grant and hope this will allow for an installation of a solar array on town property that will defray the cost of electricity to the municipality...and in turn, taxpayers.

The Town Board approved the installation of a heat pump in the Town Hall, so we can begin reducing our reliance on fossil fuels for heating this space, as well as providing more convenient and lower cost air conditioning as an added benefit.

The lantern street lights along the Town Center are in the process of being converted to LED, which generally cuts the cost of energy use by 2/3 of that of incandescent. This project was as simple as switching out the bulbs. There was no conversion of the fixtures necessary.

Delaware Solar's 2MW facility on Podunk road is well underway. We have received an initial deposit for their decommissioning fund as well as funds for a Host Community Agreement they entered into with the Town.

#### **Fire News-**

The Town of Enfield and the Enfield Volunteer Fire Dept. have entered into a contract that will run through 2020. This is a comprehensive contract that has encouraged members of both the Town Board and the Fire Department to communicate more effectively and more often. Councilperson Mimi Mehaffey and I meet quarterly with Fire personnel and are grateful for the information sharing that we have been able to achieve in our first several meetings. We look forward to a future of community building in this regard that benefits us all.

#### **Town Board notes:**

The Town Board passed a Resolution in support of the Environmental Management Committee's request that Tompkins County ban single-use plastic bags in stores. Tompkins County Administration is preparing a path forward for this initiative. We hope to know more by Spring.

We will be holding the February 13<sup>th</sup> Regular Town Board meeting at the Enfield Highway Department at 6:00 beginning with a tour of the Highway facility and equipment. The remainder of the meeting will be held in the break room of the building.

There is one more vacancy on the Planning Board for an Alternate member. Alternates are encouraged to attend Planning Board meetings (first Wednesday of each month 7:00 PM), so they may be informed of the issues the board is working on in the event they need to step in for a seated member. If you would be interested in this position, please reach out to the Town Clerk. The Planning Board has an interesting line up of work this year as they update the Site Plan Review Law, review the final Comprehensive Plan draft, assist with implementing the new Solar Law and Wind Law updates, along with proposed projects by people building in Enfield. The board is solely made up of residents of Enfield.

The Town of Enfield will be hiring a cleaning person/service for the Community Building in the coming months. If you have interest in this or know someone who would be, please reach out to me for more information.

Town Board Committee appointments have been made for 2019. We are still in need of residents to serve on the following committees:

Finance Committee- meets approx. monthly and works on several aspects of town finance, such as the budget, internal controls, finding resources, and more. Resident perspective on this committee is important. You do not need to be a math wiz to add valuable input.

Beautification Committee- meets mostly in the Spring/Summer/Fall and works on projects to make resident experience on Town properties and the surrounding area more pleasant. In 2018, the committee worked on the new sign and planters in front of Town Hall. We will consider new projects

soon for 2019. Not much time is spent in meetings, just some light projects that are made lighter with many hands.

Cemetery Committee- The Town of Enfield has several cemeteries that it manages and maintains. This committee does not meet often, however, members advise the Town Board on policy and practices for these requirements. There may be a few interesting projects for preservation in the coming year.

If you have interest in participating in any of these appointments, please contact me for more information. I have found these committees to be a great way to learn a lot about my town.

Some important changes are being proposed at the State level by Governor Cuomo. First, he has prepared a budget that eliminates State Aid (referred to as AIM- Aid and Incentive to Municipalities) to any Town or Village that receives this benefit at less than 2% of its budget. For Enfield, this amount is \$16,031 annually. We rely on this funding to help offset the cost of providing services to the residents of Enfield.

The Governor is also proposing to eliminate the Extreme Weather benefit allotted to Highway Departments around the state. For Enfield, this is a possible loss of over \$20,000 each year. While these funds are always at the whim of State Legislators, there is no doubt of the benefit to Enfield citizens when we receive money from the State to defray the cost of providing safe passage for those who live in and travel through our town.

If you are concerned about the impact these proposed losses will have on your town, please reach out and make your voice heard. You can find your State Representatives at the link below. I appreciate any effort you can make to help us retain these funding sources. If we don't receive them, the need doesn't go away, we have to find another source to meet these expenditures, and too often, that ends up being the Enfield resident.

<http://www.elections.ny.gov/district-map/district-map.html>

### **Community News-**

The Enfield Community Council will be holding a FREE family-friendly event at the Town Hall and Community Building on February 23<sup>rd</sup> from 2:00-7:00 PM to help Enfield break up the Winter blues. Please come and spend some time with your fellow residents for indoor/outdoor kids games and friendly competitions, have a tour of the Fire Department, and warm up by the bonfire with a safety demonstration from the Junior Firefighters. A pot-luck tailgate will be in the mix for supper-time. Snacks and drinks will be provided by the Enfield Community Council and Collegetown Bagels/Ithaca Bakery. Bring your lawn chair and a dish-to-share and join in the fun!

To see what I'm up to around town, like and share my facebook feed at:

<https://www.facebook.com/supervisormcgee> Feel free to share your questions and concerns with me there. If you see something interesting going on, please share with other Enfield residents.

And if you haven't signed up for updates from the town website yet, what are you waiting for????? Go to [TownOfEnfield.org](http://TownOfEnfield.org) and enter your name and email address in the form on the right side of your screen, so we can help you stay up to date on all the latest in the Town of Enfield.

As we've jumped over the hump of December, the days are finally getting longer and Spring is on the horizon. Although, it's pretty well covered with snow as I write this, I'm hopeful there are crocuses and iris under there waiting to show their faces very soon.

See you in Enfield!

Beth McGee, Supervisor

### **November 2018 Supervisor Report**

- Cleaned the Community Building upstairs and downstairs 2x
- Continued working on painting projects for the Community Building
- Prepped and held 2 Budget meetings
- Researched Sexual Harassment law changes and policies
- Coordinated maintenance for all heating appliances in town buildings
- Organized direct deposit for CHIPS payments
- Attended TCCOG
- Met with agent, Andy Sprague to discuss the renewal of town property/liability policies
- Researched health insurance policy history
- Held a Comp Plan meeting
- Completed Budget preparations at Board request

### **December 2018 Supervisor Report**

1. Prepared and held Town Board meeting
2. Communicated with Attorney Krogh on all issues directed by the Town Board
3. Prepared for 2 Public Hearings
4. Cleaned Community Building once
5. Prepared Health Insurance communications
6. Facilitated a Health Insurance enrollment meeting for Retirees
7. Comprehensive Plan meeting and Comprehensive Plan data and graphics prep
8. Researched encumbrances and end of year bookkeeping procedures
9. Researched town signage possibilities
10. Attended Workplace Violence/Bloodborne Pathogen /Right to Know trainings in Dryden
11. Presented Workplace Violence/Bloodborne Pathogen /Right to Know trainings to boards and appointees

12. Met with bookkeeper to prepare end of year bookkeeping
13. Met with ECC reps regarding a winter event in Enfield
14. Worked with Norm Smith to coordinate the Community Building bathroom installation
15. Researched furniture possibilities for the Community Building
16. Communicated with law enforcement regarding Highway Dept. break in
17. Negotiated a no-deductible payout for the insurance reimbursement on Highway break in
18. Developed tax bill insert

**Supervisor's Report  
January 2019**

1. Prepped and facilitated 2 Town Board meetings
2. Attended Fire Banquet with Councilperson Mehaffey
3. Quarterly meeting with Enfield Volunteer Fire Dept.
4. Developed letter to NYSERDA regarding grant payment timeline and negotiated contract terms
5. Addressed Community Building maintenance concerns
6. Coordinated more painting in the Community Center space, worked with Norm Smith to purchase supplies and oversaw installation of the accessible bathroom, picked up and put together the 8 picnic tables purchased for the space with Darren McGee.
7. Cleaned the Community Building spaces up and downstairs twice, and the utility room
8. Met with bookkeeper for special meeting concerns
9. Finalized insert for tax bills and coordinated mail prep
10. Met with Andy Sprague regarding insurance renewal
11. Took down lighted wreathes along 327 with Darren McGee
12. Coordinated lantern streetlight LED conversion
13. Coordinated insurance changes for retirees – lengthy communications with Excellus and TC Consortium
14. Resolved CHIPS payment problems with OSC and DOT
15. Held a Finance Committee meeting
16. Researched Salt Storage grant award
17. Facilitated a second Workplace Violence Training
18. Researched fuel prices with other providers for 2019
19. Prepared a Beautification Grant
20. Prepared Comp Plan for Board review

21. Worked with ECC to facilitate their Winter event (Bonfire/Games/Dish to Pass February 23<sup>rd</sup>)
22. Aside from the items above, the Town Supervisor completes the following tasks throughout each month: review all bills and prepare vouchers for board review and payment, correspondence, payroll and abstract review, budget monitoring and modifications, deposits and transfers, documentation for all meetings, resolves legal issues, trainings, attendance at County level meetings, communication with employees and department heads regarding daily town operation and budget concerns, building maintenance and upgrades, purchases, resident complaints and concerns, employment and benefits administration, all actions dictated by the Town Board for the Supervisor, all other tasks that arise daily.