



# October 2023 Newsletter

## **VILLAGE OF LANSING** *Incorporated 1974*

2405 North Triphammer Road \* Ithaca, NY 14850 \* 257-0424 \* (FAX) 257-3230

Office Hours: Monday - Thursday, 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

**Web Page Address:** [www.vlansing.org](http://www.vlansing.org).

Board of Trustees' Meetings: 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday, 7:30 PM

Planning Board Meetings: 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday and last Tuesday, 7:00 PM

Board of Zoning Appeal Meeting: 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday as needed; 7:00 PM

Currently all meetings are being conducted in person and via Zoom. Meetings are posted on YouTube.

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## **COMMENTS FROM THE MAYOR**

Welcome to the Fall 2023 Village of Lansing Newsletter. Our Village staff, board members, and elected officials offer several pages of useful information, status updates, and helpful resources to inform our residents how the Village government sustains our community and its quality of life.

The 2023 construction season saw several projects within the Village. The most significant project is the Sanitary Sewer Expansion Project along East Shore Drive, Cayuga Heights Road, and Twin Glens Road. At this newsletter's publication, this project is in the final stages of installing the new sewer line between the Town of Lansing's southern border, through the Village, and into sewer main that connects to the Village of Cayuga Heights Wastewater Treatment Plant. Our DPW department along with the project's contractor plan for the final cleanup and road resurfacing in the Spring of 2024. We greatly appreciate the patience of all Village residents and drivers during all the phases of this major project.

Other Village projects included installing a new stormwater line along, and resurfacing, Oakcrest Road, and making significant improvements to Ned Hickey Park (see related article in this newsletter.)

The Village will release a Request for Proposal for the installation of the sidewalk for Dart Drive. The Dart Drive project will also include installation of streetlights, road reconfiguration, and some water line replacement. With the 2023 construction window closing soon, the Dart Drive project will probably start next Spring.

The Village continues to grow as our Code Enforcement Officer, Planning Board Members and Trustees consider three multi-residential development projects. One project will comprise single- and multi-unit residences in the property north of Craft Road, Leif's Way and Ned Hickey Park. Another multi-unit residential development is proposed on Uptown Road. The third proposed multi-unit development is under consideration for repurposing the Transact property at 20 Bomax Drive.

We are pleased to welcome a new business to our Village, also. In July, Menlo Microsystems, Inc. (Menlo Micro) announced that it would house the company's first U.S. domestic production facility in the old Kionix facility in the Cornell Business & Technology Park. Menlo Micro will invest \$50 million in the

facility, named Ideal Fab™, over the next three years, creating over 100 high tech jobs at the site within several phases across the next five years.

The Village is undertaking, or taking part in, several programs for the benefit of our residents and businesses. We are a municipal partner in the county's Safe Streets for All Safety Action Plan that will support reducing or eliminating roadway fatalities and serious injuries for pedestrians, bicyclists, public transportation users, personal conveyance and micro-mobility users, motorists, and commercial operators. The Village is supporting the Tompkins County Shared Services initiative to provide several emergency-response "fly cars" that will provide rapid response to emergency calls and supplement the county and municipal ambulance and EMS response teams.

Our clean-energy task force continues to work on climate-related resilience and clean-energy options for the Village, our residents, and our businesses. The Village Greenway Committee continues to monitor our greenspaces, walkways, and parks for maintenance and future greenway plans. The Village Trustees have recommended a future review and potential update to our 2015-2025 Comprehensive Plan. Please contact us if you would like to participate as a community representative for any of the Village committees.

We are proud to announce that Kyle Dake the son of our Village Clerk/Treasurer, Jodi Dake, earned a silver medal at the 2023 Wrestling World Championships in Belgrade, Serbia. Congratulations Kyle and Jodi!

Please note that there are additional articles in the newsletter on our Fall brush and limb pick-up on **Monday, October 2, 2023** and on the November elections. Refer to the related newsletter articles for more details.

Finally, I wish everyone a colorful Fall and a safe and warm Winter.

*Ronny Hardaway, Mayor*

## **VILLAGE CLERK'S OFFICE**

### **Trustee Dobbin Obituary**

Former Trustee Jeffrey Dobbin passed away September 17, 2023. He served as a Trustee in 2022 before resigning to fight his battle with cancer. Our thoughts and prayers go out to his family and friends. <https://ithacavoices.org/2023/09/obituary-jeffrey-dobbin/>

### **Notary Services**

Notary public services are available free of charge to Village residents at the Village Office. Residents are asked to telephone the Village Office at 257-0424 ext. #2 or email Jodi at [clerk@vlansing.org](mailto:clerk@vlansing.org) to arrange a time for this service.

### **Village Meetings**

Currently, all our meetings are being conducted in person and online via Zoom. If you are interested in attending a Board of Trustee meeting via Zoom, please contact Jodi at [clerk@vlansing.org](mailto:clerk@vlansing.org). If you would like to attend a Planning Board or BZA meeting, please contact Mike Scott at [codeofficer2@vlansing.org](mailto:codeofficer2@vlansing.org).

### **Water/Sewer Bills**

Bolton Point implemented eBilling of Village of Lansing water and sewer bills. If you are interested in receiving your bill via email, please sign up at [boltonpoint.org/ebilling](https://boltonpoint.org/ebilling). You may want to sign up for both

email and mailed bills to start to make sure there are no issues with you receiving a bill electronically. At this time, you cannot pay your bill electronically but we are looking into it. ***PLEASE NOTE: You must provide your account number to complete this registration. It is a two-step process and if you do not complete both you will not receive an email bill. If you have signed up and do not get an ebill please contact the office and I will help get the issue resolved.***

Village of Lansing Residents receive a bill quarterly at the beginning of January, April, July, and October. You will receive a postcard bill if you have not signed up for eBilling only. All water/sewer bills are due by the 20<sup>th</sup> of that month and can be either mailed in or you may bring your payment to the Village Office at 2405 N. Triphammer Road. There is a secure drop box inside the entry way to our administration building for you to drop off your payment anytime. The Village does not accept credit card payments. The Village of Lansing is part of the Southern Cayuga Lake Intermunicipal Water Commission (SCLIWC).

### **Village Sponsored Street Tree Planting Program**

Village of Lansing residents can get reimbursed for up to two street trees per year, up to \$100 each as part of the Street Tree Planting Program. The Tree Planting Application can be found under Applications and Forms on the Village website. The applications can also be found in the brochure rack in the Village Office foyer. Now is a good time to plant trees!

*Jodi Dake, Clerk/Treasurer*

## **CODE & ZONING DEPARTMENT**

### **VILLAGE CODE & ZONING DEPARTMENT**

With Fall upon us, I would remind everyone that there are numerous scenarios in which a building permit would be needed. I would encourage individuals who are interested in additions, new construction, remodeling, installation of a solid fuel burning heating appliance, chimney or flue, installation of new heating equipment, decks, solar arrays, pools, roofs, etc. to visit the Village of Lansing Office at 2405 North Triphammer Road or email me at [codeofficer2@vlansing.org](mailto:codeofficer2@vlansing.org) for any questions you might have. I will also be sending out letters to those that have open permits that may need renewal or a scheduled appointment to finalize. Please remember, an open permit may affect your insurance or ability to sell your home.

### **Stormwater**

As beautiful as the fall leaves are, it means lots of yard work for local homeowners. One option for reducing your workload is to use a mulching lawn mower to mulch leaves into your yard. It is less time intensive than raking and the shredded leaves act as a natural fertilizer during the fall. While you are tending to your yard, take a moment to sweep or rake leaves and branches out of the street in front of your house. Left in the street, they can clog storm drains and contribute to localized flooding. When washed into nearby lakes and streams via storm drains or ditches, the leaves become a major source of phosphorus, the nutrient that allows algae to bloom in the summer. Dispose of leaves by composting them in your yard. Keep leaves and yard waste out of the regular garbage, and never dump them in wetlands or buffer areas. Roofs, driveways, snow melt, and lawns all provide stormwater runoff that could potentially end up in Cayuga Lake. All should be mindful of what is spilled or placed on these surfaces. Please clean up any spills that occur, attempt to minimize the fertilizers for lawn care, and properly dispose of pet waste. This is an important task since the Village and four other municipalities are provided drinking water from Cayuga Lake.

*Michael Scott; Code, Zoning & Stormwater Management Officer*

## **VILLAGE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT**

### **Fall Brush Pick-Up**

Fall brush and limb pick-up will be provided by the Village and Town of Lansing Highway Departments on Monday, October 2, 2023. Residents are asked to leave up to one pick-up truck size load near the roadside by 7:00 am. To assist the work crews, all limbs and brush (up to 5 inches in diameter) should be piled with the cut ends facing the same direction. The limbs should be no longer than 6 feet in length. Also, the piles should not be tied, but should be left loose. Please do not put out bags of yard waste. This pick up is only for limbs and brush.

*John Courtney, Superintendent of Public Works*

## **PLANNING BOARD NEWS**

Much of the Spring and Summer was devoted to the continued development of a Solar Law for the Village of Lansing. The draft law was the primary topic of discussion at many meetings and those discussions are coming to a close. Once the Planning Board has completed its discussions, the draft law will be turned over to the Board of Trustees for consideration and possible adoption as Village law.

### **Projects, Permits, and Approvals**

Two subdivisions of property, one on Esty Drive and one of Dart Drive, were approved over the Summer. In addition, a public hearing was opened for the construction of a house on Esty Drive, which requires a special permit due to the site's location within the Unique Natural Area. Also, the installation of two beehives was permitted on Cedar Lane.

### **Ongoing Projects**

The Lansing Meadows project returned requesting an amendment to the conditions to their special permit. The Planning Board found the request to be a major change and opened a new public hearing to discuss the project.

Beer Properties LLC is preparing to move forward with their plans to develop 40 acres of vacant land between Craft Road and Bush Lane (the former Millcroft Phase 2 development). The Planning Board hopes to review their final plat for approval shortly.

Finally, a developer has expressed interest in establishing a Planned Development Area (PDA) at 20 Bomax Drive, where they would like to develop workforce housing. The Board of Trustees has referred this project to the Planning Board for further consideration.

Planning Board meetings are held the second Monday and last Tuesday of each month, from 7pm to 9pm. In addition to attending in-person or virtually, you can also watch the recordings of our meetings on YouTube.

*Mike Baker, Planning Board Chair*

## **VILLAGE TRUSTEE REPORTS**

It was both an honor and a privilege to have been elected in 2022 to serve the Village of Lansing as a Trustee. It has been another busy year serving as the Village of Lansing liaison to the Cayuga Lake Watershed Intermunicipal Organization, Tompkins County Joint Youth Commission, and the Tompkins County Youth Services Advisory Board. These organizations are working on our behalf to serve our youth

and to ensure our water resources are protected. Budgeting and staffing have continued to be a challenge for these organizations. Links to these organizations can be found on the Village of Lansing website <https://vlansing.org.time>

I attended the New York State Conference of Mayors and Municipal Officials (NYCOM) Conference in 2022 and in 2023. NYCOM is an advocate for cities and villages. It is a readily accessible resource for us at the local level.

*Susan Ainslie, Trustee*

Over the last six months, the Board has been active on a number of issues. I invite any thoughts and comments you may have.

### **Homelessness**

Cornell University's Dr. Charley Willison spoke at the Village of Lansing Trustees' April 17<sup>th</sup> meeting. Dr. Willison has studied the issue of chronic homelessness and local governance. The takeaways included the need for a multi-jurisdictional approach that includes key actors (i.e., local governments, the County's Continuum of Care system, hospitals, etc.). Moreover, the lack of affordable housing often pushes folks into temporary homelessness, which can eventually lead to chronic homelessness. Evidence generally confirms "supportive housing"-type strategies as effective. Unfortunately, overall homelessness has increased in large part due to the lack of affordable housing.

Since Dr. Willison's presentation, I met with other local leaders, including a local pastor, and separately, with an Executive Director of a charity organization focused on transitional housing and reintegration into the community.

In short, this is a complex issue. We need to both gather additional information and explore how best to work with various local government and non-government organizations to productively move forward. One clear takeaway is that increasing affordable middle income housing stock within the village beneficially reduces cost pressures at all income levels within the larger local area.

### **Lower Cost Trash Pickup Possibilities**

Many village residents use a private firm to pick up trash. However, the rates for this service have substantially increased over the last two years, rising 68%, or about 30% annualized. The annual costs for a household are now roughly \$400 per year. The increases are not fully explained by diesel fuel costs, which have only increased 12% on an annualized basis over the same period.

To explore alternatives, we spoke to a number of local municipalities, many of which negotiate a contract on behalf of residents. This aggregated purchasing power enhances negotiating leverage. Among interesting potential options, the Village of Dryden uses a private vendor and a village tag system. Importantly, this structure doesn't impact the tax system, and residents can "opt-out" if they choose. While this program's costs have also risen, aggregation keeps overall charges at 30-40% of what a typical Village of Lansing resident currently pays. We will speak to other local municipalities to further explore additional alternatives.

We also explored a "community bulk trash" pickup. However, private vendors would not pickup curbside bulk trash, but only at a community dumpster. The logistical difficulties of where to locate a community dumpster, and ensuring non-residents did not use it, currently make bulk trash service unattractive.

### **T-GEN = Community Choice Aggregation (CCA)**

A Community Choice Aggregation (“CCA”) program allows local governments to procure power on behalf of their residents from an alternative supplier while still receiving transmission and distribution service from their existing utility provider (NYSEG). CCAs are an attractive option for communities that want: more local control over their electricity sources; more green power than is offered by the default utility; and/or lower electricity prices.

The City of Ithaca is taking the lead on CCA (“T-GEN”) for the Tompkins County-area. The City of Ithaca is expected to decide this fall on its CCA proposal. If approved, other local municipalities can join. The plan has two pieces:

- 1) The basic core structure will enable the T-GEN consortium to purchase electricity on behalf of residents. This customer aggregation and bulk buying provides negotiating power to lower supply prices and/or increase the renewable energy mix. Individuals can “opt out” of the plan if they choose.
- 2) An additional piece of the plan enables T-GEN to aggregate renewable energy projects into a bigger pool to help with financing. (T-GEN would serve as a coordinator helping smaller local projects achieve “Economies of Scale” for better financing.) Notably, this second piece doesn’t impact the basic CCA structure above, and requires no government financing of projects.

As the CCA plan progresses, we will provide further communication, updates, and resources.

*Drew Riedl, Trustee*

### **Village Installs Ned Hickey Park Amenities**

This summer, the Village’s Department of Public Works installed amenities in Ned Hickey Park located at the corner of Craft Road and Leif’s Way. The installations were the culmination of plans by Greenway Committee members and the DPW staff that began in the Fall of 2022. The park grounds were cleared, and a stormwater line was installed at the northwest corner of the park. After the ground and stormwater work, new amenities were installed including: a picnic pavilion, a basketball half-court, a park bench, a paved walkway, and off-street parking spaces. Future plans include planting trees and landscaping within the park.

Please take time to visit and enjoy the new Ned Hickey Park amenities and all our community parks. To view a map of our parks and trails, please visit our Village Maps webpage, [vllansing.org/maps/](https://vllansing.org/maps/), and click on “Village of Lansing Greenway Google Map.”

### **Invitation to Meet with the Mayor**

Members of the public are invited to register to meet with Mayor Hardaway via a Zoom conference every Wednesday afternoon between 2 and 4pm. This meeting is an informal, open-door meeting in which each registrant may speak or ask questions about any Village-related topic. If a registrant raises a topic or question that the mayor cannot discuss or answer, they will be informed before or during the meeting. There are up to four, 30-minute time slots available during the Zoom conference. All visitors will be placed in a Zoom waiting room and will be admitted to the meeting in the order of their registration. Please open the Meet with the Mayor link, located in the “Select a topic area” buttons/list, and click on the blue registration button or use this URL: [vllansing.org/meet-with-the-mayor/](https://vllansing.org/meet-with-the-mayor/).

### **REMINDER: Village Voters Can Vote for Town Candidates**

On Tuesday, November 7<sup>th</sup> (or by early voting – see separate article), Village of Lansing residents will vote in the General Election for local, state, and federal offices. As part of the Town of Lansing, registered Village voters can vote for candidates in these Town of Lansing races: Town Supervisor (1), Town Clerk (1), Town Councilperson (2), Town Highway Superintendent (1), and Town Justice (1).

The Village of Lansing contributes approximately one-third of the Town of Lansing's total taxes; therefore, Village residents should let their voices be heard by helping to elect the Town officers and staff who decide how to spend Village money contributed to the Town budget.

### **Early Voting Available for November 7<sup>th</sup> General Election**

Registered voters in Tompkins County have the option of early voting between October 28 and November 5, 2023. To vote early, voters **should not** go to their regular voting locations. The Tompkins County Board of Elections will establish two early voting poll sites that will be open each day during the early voting period:

- Ithaca Town Hall, 215 N. Tioga Street (downtown Ithaca), and
- Tompkins County Crash, Fire, Rescue (CFR) Building, 72 Brown Road, Ithaca (by the Tompkins County airport)

Both early-voting sites will be open on the following days and hours:

Saturday, October 28	9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Sunday, October 29	9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Monday, October 30	9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Tuesday, October 31	9:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Wednesday, November 1	9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Thursday, November 2	9:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Friday, November 3	9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Saturday, November 4	9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Sunday, November 5	9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

**Please Note:** The early voting sites **will not** be open on Monday, November 6<sup>th</sup> (the day before the General Election), nor on Election Day, Tuesday, November 7<sup>th</sup>, when voters must vote at their assigned polling locations. For more information on early voting, visit the Tompkins County Board of Elections website at **votetompkins.com** If you have questions, call the Board of Elections at **607-274-5522**.

### **Village to Receive NYSERDA Clean-Heating Action Grant**

In 2022, the Village of Lansing Climate Smart Communities-Clean Energy Communities (CSC-CEC) Task Force completed a community campaign for clean heating. With help from Chris Skawski, the CEC Coordinator at Cornell Cooperative Extension, the task force applied for a NYSERDA CEC Action grant based upon the results from the clean heating campaign. The Village was recently informed that it is eligible for a \$5,000 Clean-Heating Action Grant under NYSERDA's Clean Energy Communities program.

The Village must submit a completed grant application and a letter of commitment by December 21, 2023 to claim the Action Grant, and NYSERDA will award the grant monies within a few weeks of receiving the submitted application and a letter of commitment that identifies how the grant monies will be used for clean-energy-related project(s).

The CSC-CEC Task Force is planning future clean-energy campaigns that might make the Village eligible



for additional CEC Action Grants. Stay tuned for future announcements of clean-energy campaigns for residents and businesses.

### **Village Natural Resources Inventory Document**

The Village CSC Task Force will submit the Natural Resources Inventory (NRI) document to the Village Trustees this Fall. This document describes the natural resources of our Village area, highlights relevant data, and interprets the results, according to the New York DEC and Hudson River Estuary Program. Once the Trustees adopt the NRI, it will be used to inform Village municipal planning and may be used to update or develop local regulations. The inventory will be a resource for land-use planning, the review of proposed development plans, and completing environmental assessments within the Village. After its adoption, the NRI will be submitted to NYSERDA's CSC program for review. Once it is approved and accepted by NYSERDA, the document will be credited toward the Village of Lansing's certification as a Climate Smart Community.

*Ronny Hardaway, Mayor*

## **TOMPKINS COUNTY LEGISLATURE**

At our September 19<sup>th</sup> Legislature meeting, County Administrator Lisa Holmes kicked off our annual budget deliberations by presenting her Recommended Tompkins County Budget for 2024. As always, the Recommended Budget will be the basis for at least seven Expanded Budget Committee meetings, a public forum, and a public hearing, culminating in the adoption of a final 2024 budget in November.

The County's budget process actually begins in April, when the County Administrator and her staff meet with the Legislature to present a budget outlook, and the legislators set a "fiscal target," *i.e.*, a target percentage increase to the property tax levy, for the next year's budget. (The fiscal target set by the legislators in April is generally well below the tax cap imposed by Albany, which gives the Legislature room to amend the County Administrator's Recommended Budget without exceeding the tax cap.) County Administration then spends the summer months working with County departments and supported agencies to develop a recommended budget that does not entail a property tax levy increase that exceeds the fiscal target. At a bare minimum, the recommended budget should be a "maintenance of effort" (MOE) budget, which factors in the costs of continuing to provide existing staffing and services given anticipated inflation and cost-of-living adjustments.

It is usually the case that the Legislature will incorporate its own additional staffing and/or program initiatives to the County Administrator's Recommended Budget in the final Adopted Budget. Sometimes, these additional costs require adjustments to estimated sales tax revenues or the use of fund balance in order to balance the Adopted Budget without substantially increasing the property tax levy. In recent years, the property tax base has increased – due to lots of new construction and a robust housing market that has driven up our assessments – so we have been able to stabilize or even reduce the property tax rate even as the overall levy has increased.

So that's how things usually work. This year, the impact of New York State's FY2024 budget and, to a lesser extent, macroeconomic factors make it unlikely that we will be able to achieve a balanced MOE budget for 2024 without increasing our property tax levy at least to the permitted 3.54% tax cap – or even beyond. New York State's budget imposed substantial additional unfunded mandates on counties as of April 1, 2023, which was the beginning of the State's 2024 fiscal year. Those mandates will continue, and place increasing fiscal burdens on counties in the years to come. Mandate increases for Tompkins County's calendar year 2024 budget include: \$1.61M for our Medicaid local share; \$1.31M for Safety Net



and emergency shelter assistance; and over \$367,000 for the local share of the increase in assigned counsel rates. (Bear in mind that every \$530,000 in county expenditures equals a 1% increase in the property tax levy.)

Increased mandate costs must be factored into our budget before we can even begin to consider our MOE costs. Meanwhile, our sales tax revenue (the other major source of funds to pay our local cost share) is beginning to flatten out after experiencing robust growth throughout 2022, and the New York State Comptroller has begun warning us that sales tax revenues may well decrease statewide in 2024. To meet the Legislature's 2% fiscal target under these circumstances, the County Administrator's Recommended Budget accounts for the local costs of mandated services, and little else. The total budget would increase by 9.7%, to \$245M, while the "local dollar budget" (the portion of the budget that is not reimbursed by the state or federal governments, nor offset by earned program income) would increase by \$3.9M, or 4% over 2023. "Due to fiscal constraints," the Recommended Budget does not include certain basic costs that the County must pay, *e.g.*, the cost of paying poll workers for the state and federal elections in 2024. Obviously, the Legislature will have to add such costs back into its final Adopted Budget, and the money will have to come from somewhere. Also "due to fiscal constraints," the Recommended Budget is not an MOE budget. The Legislature's 2% fiscal target can only be met by cutting services and limiting or cutting staff, even as we face increased needs for mental health services, substance abuse treatment, safety net services and emergency sheltering, emergency response capability, and public safety.

The County Administrator's Recommended Budget would use approximately \$8 million of fund balance to pay for non-recurring expenditures and includes a 2% property tax levy increase to \$53,443,568. Given the 8% increase in the property tax base, the levy increase would be based on a tax rate decrease, from \$5.65 per thousand in 2023 to \$5.32 per thousand in 2024. This would result in a \$53 annual property tax increase on a median priced home. (Note that the median price of a home in Tompkins County has increased over the past year, from \$225,000 to \$249,000.

A bare bones MOE budget that also accounts for the unfunded mandates imposed on Tompkins County by the latest NYS budget would require a 5% property tax levy increase. A 5% increase would result in an \$88 annual property tax increase on a median priced home – a difference of \$2.91 per month as compared to a 2% levy increase.

You will hear several of my legislative colleagues argue that, rather than increase the property tax levy any more than 2%, the County could and should use fund balance to pay the local costs of a maintenance of effort budget. I believe that using fund balance – essentially one-time money, some of which is already reserved for or allocated to specific purposes – to fund ongoing operating costs is fiscally irresponsible in the long term. Fund balance is not a never-ending, renewable resource. Meanwhile, Tompkins County must value and preserve its Aa1 bond rating, the highest in New York State, especially as FOMC keeps raising interest rates. (The Fed has most recently promised to keep interest rates higher for longer, through 2024 and into 2025.) The county had to fight to keep its bond rating this last year, as Moody's has increased the fund balance ratio for the Aa1 rating to around 38-40%. We have tried to stay close to that level, even though our official fund balance policy only requires us to maintain a ratio of 18%. As Chair of the Legislature's Budget, Capital, and Personnel Committee, it is my goal to amend our fund balance policy to be more consistent with Moody's requirements by the end of this year. (The Committee has already debated and passed new county policies on reserves, contingent reserves, and cash management and investment, and twice amended our fiscal policy, during 2023.)

Please feel free to contact me at [ddawson@tompkins-co.org](mailto:ddawson@tompkins-co.org) if you have any questions or concerns.

*Deborah Dawson, Tompkins County Legislator, District 10*

## LANSING RECREATION DEPARTMENT

Scan to see what the Town has to offer Village Residents.



Camping/Pavilion Reservations:



Recreation Program Registrations:



## YMCA IN ACTION AROUND TOMPKINS COUNTY

The YMCA of Ithaca and Tompkins County continues to serve the needs of families and individuals in our area, working to adapt our efforts to the diverse needs of everyone who calls Tompkins County home.

This year alone, the YMCA has rescued and distributed food with over 2,500 visits to their Neighborhood Food Hub. Working alongside a dedicated corp. of volunteers from Challenge Workforce Solutions, YMCA staff have been able to provide fresh produce, bread, and more to those in need. Donations for the Food Hub come from the Food Bank of the Southern Tier, Wegmans, Tops, and community members.

The YMCA has also been creating a “Y-without-walls” by taking programs to areas in need. This initiative includes working alongside Kendal at Ithaca to provide wellness classes to their residents like “Walk With Ease”; an evidence-based health initiative focused on restoring mobility and easing arthritis symptoms. In addition, the Y has been focused on providing enriching opportunities for local children through the “Pop-Up and Play with the YMCA” program, which took place during July and August. This program offered activities and distributed free activity bags to children in Newfield, Dryden, and Downtown Ithaca.

Serving families with special needs has been a long-time focus at the YMCA. This fall has marked the return of “supportive swim” lessons at the YMCA, lessons specifically tailored to teach children with special needs to swim in group and private settings. Parents and children have loved swimming in the pool with instructors Joanie Groome and Katie Prasek. Adaptive programming at the Y will continue to expand to serve more families in the future.

As the year draws to a close, the Ithaca YMCA still has more to offer to Lansing. October 21<sup>st</sup> sees the return of the free Trunk or Treat and Pumpkin Palooza, an event offering daytime trick-or-treating activities for the whole family, including a Floating Pumpkin Patch in the Y pool. Finishing out the year is the 5K Santa Run. Learn more about any of these programs at [ithacaymca.com](http://ithacaymca.com) or follow them on Facebook, Instagram, or Twitter

## VILLAGE OFFICIALS

Mayor Ronny Hardaway <a href="mailto:ronny.hardaway@gmail.com">ronny.hardaway@gmail.com</a>	351-8042
Deputy Mayor Carolynn Greenwald <a href="mailto:cbgreenwald@gmail.com">cbgreenwald@gmail.com</a>	227-6122
Trustee Susan Ainslie <a href="mailto:sainslie47@gmail.com">sainslie47@gmail.com</a>	592-2592
Trustee Drew Riedl <a href="mailto:drewriedl@gmail.com">drewriedl@gmail.com</a>	847-641-0876
Trustee Wolfgang Bullmer <a href="mailto:cbgreenwald@gmail.com">cbgreenwald@gmail.com</a>	229-3000
Planning Bd. Chairman-Mike Baker <a href="mailto:bakerm82@gmail.com">bakerm82@gmail.com</a>	592-4083
BZA Chair-Lynn Leopold	273-3457

## VILLAGE EMPLOYEES

**\*All employees can be reached at their extension when calling the Village at 257-0424**

Clerk/Treasurer	Jodi Dake	ext. #221
Code /Zoning Officer	Michael Scott	ext. #223
Supt. of Public Works	John Courtney	ext. #224
MEO	Nick Dean & Chris Zavaski	ext. #225
Fire Inspector	Brian Quadrozzi	ext. #222
Electrical Inspector	Floyd Ferris	592-5829
Village Accountant		
Insero & Company		272-4444
Village Attorney Natalie French		277-6611
Village Engineers	TG Millers	272-6477
Engineering Consultant	Brent Cross	

## EMERGENCY NUMBERS

John Courtney, Superintendent of Public Works  
257-0424, Ext. 224 or cell 280-4893

## VILLAGE REPRESENTATIVES

Southern Cayuga Lake Intermunicipal Water Commission.....	Ronny Hardaway & Don Hartill
Tompkins County Board of Representatives, District 6.....	Michael J Sigler
Tompkins County Board of Representatives, District 10.....	Deborah Dawson
Tompkins County Environmental Management Council.....	John Dennis
Tompkins County Joint Youth Commission .....	Wolfgang Bullmer
Tompkins County Recreation Partnership.....	Drew Riedl
Tompkins County Youth Services Board.....	Susan Ainslie
Tompkins County Council of Government-TCCOG.....	Ronny Hardaway & Carolynn Greenwald
Tompkins County Water Resource Council.....	Lynn Leopold

## STATE AND FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVES

N.Y. State Senator Lea Webb 52 <sup>nd</sup> State Senate District 848 Legislative Office Bldg. Albany, NY 12247 (518)455-2170	N.Y. State Assembly Dr. Anna Kelles 125th State Assembly District 106 E. Court St. Ithaca, NY 14850 (607)277-8030	
U.S. Senator Charles Schumer (D) 313 Hart Senate Office Bldg. Washington, D.C. 20510 (202)224-6542 100 S Clinton St. Rm 841 Syracuse, NY 13261 (315)423-5471	U.S. Senator Kirsten E. Gillibrand (D) 531 Dirksen Senate Office Bldg. Washington, D.C. 20510 (202)224-4451 100 S Clinton St. Rm 1470 Syracuse, NY 13261 (315)448-0470	U.S. Rep. of 19 <sup>th</sup> Congressional District Marcus Molinaro 1207 Longworth HOB Washington DC, 20515 (202)225-5441

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