



THE VILLAGE OF EAST NASSAU

Newsletter

Fall/Winter 2016

New Code Enforcement Officers in the Building Department

Our village was formed in an effort to have closer control over the use of the land in the village. Development and enforcement of our Land Use Regulations (aka Local Building Codes) has always been a high priority for the village. Our Land Use Regulations reflect our Comprehensive Plan which emphasizes the preservation of the rural character of our community. Our Comprehensive Plan and Land Use Regulations are on our village web site (villageofeastnassau.org). While these documents embody our communal desire to preserve and enhance our environment, effective enforcement of our local regulations is how we can ensure our desires are met. To that end, we have invested significantly in our Building Department in an effort to efficiently and effectively help landowners and residents understand and comply with our regulations. We now have two new staffers to fulfill the Building Department function. Fred Jacob is our Code Enforcement Officer and Kent Pratt is our Deputy Code Enforcement Officer. Fred and Kent are both state certified Code Enforcement Officials and are available as needed for consultations and inspections and to help with requirements for applications and interpretation of our local codes. They are reachable at:

518.836.5010 or
ceo@villageofeastnassau.org

Please visit the official Village of East Nassau website:
villageofeastnassau.org

Third Annual East Nassau Cookie Contest

Mmm!



The Third Annual Village of East Nassau Cookie contest and auction will take place on Sunday, November 13th, at the Hoags Corners Fire House, 7237 State Road 66, East Nassau, starting at 2 pm. The celebration will include samples of entered cookies, plus beverages and Stewart's "Make Your Own" sundaes. Bakers wishing to enter the contest must provide at least 24 homemade cookies and a copy of their recipe with a \$10 fee which includes entrance to the event, tickets to the auction that happens during the contest, and a copy of the cookie

cookbook produced after the event. The winning cookie will be honored as our 2017 Official Village Cookie. The auction includes gift certificates from local merchants and many other items which will make excellent holiday gifts. A \$5 event fee will be charged to the public and includes auction tickets and all the ice cream and cookies you can eat. All proceeds from this year's effort will support our village's historic programs. Come join us for a pleasant afternoon of cookie munching with your friends in a relaxing atmosphere with entertainment. For information call Tom Kernan, village trustee and historian, at 766-5131 or write to cookies@villageofeastnassau.org.

Village Board Meetings

At least once per month, our village Board of Trustees meets. Monthly board meetings (and all village meetings) are open to the public and every meeting has opportunities for public input and participation. Because the needs of our community were not being met at other levels of government in the 1990's, many of our neighbors came together to organize a more efficient, more responsive governmental entity that could address the important issues of the day.

The Village of East Nassau, incorporated in 1998, continues that tradition of efficiency and responsiveness and everyone is encouraged to witness and celebrate our hard-won right of self-governance as exercised at our monthly meetings. Board meetings are held on the second Wednesday each month (except April, which happens on the first Monday) at 7PM at the Hoags Corners Ambulance building meeting hall (adjacent to the village office) on Town Garage Road.

Newsletter Available Online!

If you'd rather see this newsletter online than on paper, you can request a subscription to the electronic version on our website. Go to the www.villageofeastnassau.org/Newsletters to see older newsletters and to sign up to receive a notification of future editions.

Village Website

Don't forget that the village website (www.villageofeastnassau.org) has lots of information about our village including contact information for all village officials, all our local laws, minutes from all village board meetings (and audio recordings of those meetings), and much more. Feel free to contact our village webmaster (webmaster@villageofeastnassau.org) if you have comments or suggestions about content for the site.

Important Contacts

Village Hall.....794 0289

Leave Message – Checked Frequently

Village Mayor.....712 9635

mayor@villageofeastnassau.org

Village DPW.....478 6075

dpw@villageofeastnassau.org

Code Enforcement and

Building Permits.....836 5010

ceo@villageofeastnassau.org

Village Clerk.....285 0713

clerk@villageofeastnassau.org

Senior Advocacy

Committee.....712 9836

sac@villageofeastnassau.org

Nassau Transfer Station...766 2844

Nassau Town Clerk.....766 2343

clerk@townofnassau.org

Nassau Assessor.....766 3559

assessor@townofnassau.org

East Nassau Post Office..794 9741

Brainard Post Office.....794 7282

Nassau Library.....766 2715

New York State Police.....732 4777

Non-Emergency

Sales Tax Revenues

Our village budget revenues come from three main sources: property tax (40%), sales tax (35%), and state revenue sharing (about 20%). The remaining 5% or so comes from various other sources. We've done very well keeping the property tax burden pretty constant over the past several years (this year's village tax rate is the same as it was five years ago at \$1.82/\$1,000). And the state revenue sharing has been pretty level for the past several years as well. Sales tax revenue, however, seems to be sliding lower. This year, sales tax revenues are running about 4% lower than last year at this time. And last year ended about 5% lower than the

previous year. Some of that is a reflection of the lower fuel prices (which means we pay less in sales tax on the fuel we purchase), but there is one easy thing we can do to help ourselves and keep our village budget balanced. That is, remember to make your purchases in Rensselaer County! If the price is the same (or lower) for an item locally as it is out of the county, then try to buy it closer to home. Keeping the sales tax revenue in Rensselaer County helps us keep our budget balanced without raising other taxes. You are going to pay the sales tax anyway – so why not make it work for you?

Village Elections



With the national elections fast approaching in November, it is a little difficult to ponder our village elections which

don't happen until March 21st, 2017. But if you have any interest in running for the village board, this is the right time to start thinking about it. We have two trustee positions to be elected next March. The two most significant dates for running are: January 3rd – first day

the nominating petitions can be signed; February 14th – last day to file a nominating petition. If you have questions about the responsibilities of holding elected office, feel free to contact the mayor (mayor@villageofeastnassau.org) or any current board member. If you have questions about running or about the March election, contact our village clerk, Diane Maguire, at clerk@villageofeastnassau.org.

Village Roads Update

As planned, we did another surface improvement on a village road this year. This time, it was Town Garage Road that was treated to a double chip-seal process to give it a hard surface over the gravel base. Two years ago, we did a similar project on Gardner Hill Road and it seems to be holding up very well. The reduced maintenance (no more re-grading or dust control needed)

means lower budget costs and improved drivability results in more pleasant neighborhoods. We have funded these improvements by pooling our state aid for highways (CHIPS) funds over multiple years. We look forward to expanding this program to other gravel roads in the village in future years