

# Town of Gaines

**Summer  
Is Here!!**

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## From the Desk of the Supervisor.....

Here we are again "budget time". The process starts with the building of a snapshot of the next year's town needs and always concerned about the tax rate.

Since I have been in office January 2012, the tax rate has dropped from \$5.69 to our current rate of \$5.18. In learning the process, I discovered the over-levy of our water districts. Was able to pay off one and substantially lower the debt in those effected.

In working to reconcile our water, the only revenue

source a town has, the water loss was discovered, an audit completed and we are now not losing water and are gaining revenue.

Consolidating our ZBA/Planning board has been a great success with a cost saving of approximately \$7,500 annually. We have a great board that functions within the confines of our Zoning Ordinances and are ag, residential and business friendly.

In management and over site, I feel I have been able to effectively fulfill my duties as financial officer.

I work closely with the board to be sure they have all the information and we can work as a team to continue making our town financially viable and represent our taxpayers in every way. The town of Gaines is in excellent fiscal shape.

I am proud of the work I have done, the board, Department Heads and employees. We are a great team working for you.

## New Faces in the Clerk's Office:

The Town of Gaines would like to welcome Sharon Harding as our newly appointed Town Clerk. Sharon has been our Senior Deputy Clerk since 2009. Per Election Law Sharon was appointed as temporary Town Clerk when our previous Town Clerk retired from her position before her term expired. A special Election will be held in November for Voters to decide who will replace the retired Town Clerk until the next official election. We would also like to welcome Jessica Pescara our new Deputy Clerk.

## From The Desk of the Town Clerk...Sharon Harding

Hello, my name is Sharon Harding and I am very happy to be the new Town Clerk. Some of you may know me but for those who do not, I am looking forward to meeting you! I am here for your needs, so please feel free to stop in if you need assistance or to simply say hello.

The Town of Gaines understands that some people cannot get to the Gaines Town Hall. But please know that I am always available for appointments! Simply call (585) 589-4592 ext. 10 and leave a message any time with your contact information, and I will get back to you.

Sharon Harding, Town Clerk

### New Town Clerk Hours Starting July 1, 2016

Monday 9 a.m. to 3  
Tuesday 9 a.m. to 7pm  
Wednesday 9 a.m. to  
3  
Thursday 9 a.m. to 3  
Friday 9 a.m. to noon

## **From Town of Gaines Codes Officer.....Dan Strong**

Welcome to summer.

Warmer temperatures mean researching or purchasing what is referred to as "storable season pool, spa or hot tub." Please be aware that NY State Residential Code contains specific safety requirements for all pools, hot tubs and spas. Appendix and Chapter 41 of Residential Code section 303 of NY State Property Maintenance Code list several specific requirements for all pools. There are many items required such as barriers, pool alarms and specific electrical requirements all listed in these sections.

The Town of Gaines Requires a Building Permit and approval prior to installation and use of any pool containing a water depth of greater than 18 inches whether a pool is above or in-ground. Most manufactures of storable pools do print guidelines and notice that a local building official should be consulted for these products. If you are a landlord please be aware that codes specify the owner of a property is responsible for compliance of these and other codes. We want your summer to be a cool, safe one! Please feel free to contact me anytime with any questions regarding pool or other codes in compliance. In closing I would like to thank all of the current property owners that are continuing to complete the tasks of maintaining their structures and properties.

Dan Strong, Code Enforcement Officer 585-589-4592

## **From the Historian's Desk.....Al Capurso**

200 years ago this July 1<sup>st</sup> a pioneer settler on the Ridge Road in Gaines became the first postmaster in Orleans County. William Jenks Babbitt ran that post office out of his log cabin home beginning in 1816. After the dangers for the War of 1812 subsided, he moved his wife and children to what was to become Gaines. He established the first brick yard and was the justice of the peace for 23 years. His 200 years old marriage day book "with its' first entry of June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1815 is in the display case at the town hall. In 1816, he was successful in the getting the Ridge Road declared "the post road "by NY State. He also helped get the town organized. It was his suggestion the town be named after General E. P. Gaines. In the 1831 he became town supervisor and shortly after our New York State Assemblyman. He oversaw the construction of District 5 cobblestone school house,. Mr. Babbitt paid for the bell which cost \$20 in 1849. Contact me anytime for more info.

## **From the Highway Superintendent. ...Ron Mannella**

**Kenyonville Rd.** from ridge rd to Howlett Rd. has been paved. The second road side mowing has been completed.

## **From the Water Superintendent.....Ron Mannella**

Water several new services have been installed. Annual hydrant flushing has been started.

## **Your Vision for the Future of Gaines:**

The Town has begun the process of re-doing the zoning codes and ordinances to reflect the new Comprehensive Plan (your vision for the future of Gaines). An Ad-hoc committee known as an advisory committee appointed by the board, has been formed to do this. Ad-hoc had its first meeting on June 30, at the town hall. All meetings will continue to be advertised and the public is welcome to attend.

## **UPDATE ON FIRE CONTRACT:**

The Village of Albion and Town of Gaines have agreed to a three year contract. The formal contract has yet to be signed but we are optimistic it will be completed in the very near future. The two parties have agreed to incorporate the fire tax as a step up program. In 2016 the town will pay \$75,000, 2017 \$90,000 and 2018 \$100,000.

## **Contact info:**

Town Hall  
Water Billing Dept.  
Justice Court  
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585-589-4592  
585-589-4525 fax

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