



Village of Barker

Spring Newsletter

APRIL 2023



MAYOR'S MESSAGE

As Summer approaches, the Board of Trustees is working diligently to move forward with the Village Hall and Library building. Building a municipal building is difficult, especially one with two public entities involved. One of the major constraints has been bids for construction coming in far higher than expected or budgeted. The Board is working hard to keep the cost of the building within the budget we set at the outset of the project. We wish to avoid financing a portion, if any of the building. That being said, Phase II should be out to bid by the end of May. We promise to keep the public informed with as many updates as possible.

I am extremely excited for the next few years in the Village. We have many ideas we hope to implement and would love to hear from you with any ideas or suggestions! I will be announcing office hours soon, so that residents can come in and speak with me in person if they wish. My line is always open and I am always available to hear from you.

We are looking for one more trustee to fill a vacancy on the Board. If you are interested, please submit a letter of interest to barkervillage@roadrunner.com. We will accept letters until the end of April.

If you haven't already, please follow our Facebook page for updates, events, etc. It can be found by searching "Village of Barker NY." My phone number is (585) 590-2871 and my email address is villageofbarkermayor@gmail.com. I look forward to hearing from and serving you over these next two years!

In your service,
Mayor Seanna Corwin-Bradley

HONORING PAST MAYOR AARON NELLIST

After 12 years of dedicated service to the Village Mayor Nellist relinquished his role as Mayor to the newly elected Mayor Seanna Corwin-Bradley. Aaron chose not to run for re-election in 2023, but his legacy of fiscal stewardship and the rebuilding of the Village Hall/Library after the January 20, 2019 fire are just a couple of the accomplishments during his tenure in office. Aaron Nellist served as Trustee from 2011-2013 and then Mayor from 2013-2023. If you see him around please thank him for his service and his dedication to our quaint Village.



From Left to Right: Clerk-Treasurer Detschner, Mayor Corwin-Bradley, Trustee Quiett, Former Mayor Aaron Nellist, Deputy Mayor Davis, Trustee Hirschman

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BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

Mayor Seanna Corwin-Bradley

Deputy Mayor Aaron Davis

Trustee Melanie Hirschman

Trustee David Quiett

Trustee- Vacant

Clerk-Treasurer

Amanda M. Detschner, CMC

Deputy Clerk-Treasurer:

Laurel Cantella

DPW Superintendent

Mark Remington

DPW Laborers

Gene Cavanaugh

Mike Diez

Code Enforcement Officer

Mark Remington

VILLAGE ELECTION RESULTS

The Annual Village Election was held on Tuesday, March 21, 2023 from Noon until 9:00pm at the Barker Fire Hall. A total of 20 votes were cast for the Officers of Trustee (2) two year terms and Mayor two year term.. Seanna Corwin-Bradley was elected to her 1st term as Mayor and Aaron Davis was re-elected to his 3rd term as Trustee and Melanie Hirschman was re-elected to her 2nd term as Trustee. Trustee Aaron Davis was appointed Deputy Mayor during the Annual Organizational meeting. Congratulations to our newly elected officials!

A huge thank you goes out to our Election Inspectors Grace Bodine and Karen Demorest. We thank you for your dedicated service to the Village!

Please consider making the time to vote when the Village Elections are held. We tend to have extremely low voter turn



Deputy Mayor Aaron Davis, Mayor Seanna Corwin-Bradley and Trustee Melanie Hirschman taking their oath of office April 3, 2023

“We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give.”

-Winston Churchill

NC RABIES CLINICS

Check out the Niagara County Environmental Health Departments website for FREE Rabies Clinic information. Pre-registration is required to book your appointment. <https://www.niagaracounty.com/health/Services/Environmental-Health/Rabies/Rabies-Clinic>

Remember any dog over 4 months of age must be licensed with the Town of Somerset and be up to date on all required vaccinations. Visit <https://www.somersetny.org/town-clerk/pages/dog-licenses> for more information

ANNUAL DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT



As the Municipality that supplies your drinking water, we feel that it’s important that each resident is kept informed. We purchase our water from the Niagara County Water District, which in turn rigorously processes and tests the water supplied by the Niagara River. The Niagara County water district has to comply with all state and federal requirements in order

to ensure a safe and adequate water supply. Each quarter the Village must provide samples to test for various bacteria, chemicals and other pollutants. These samples are taken to an independent laboratory and analyzed. The results are then mailed to the Village and the Niagara County Health Dept. Also each month a sample is taken by the Niagara County Health Dept. to check for the presence of coliform and ecoli, as well as the levels of chlorine & the turbidity of the water. The County analyzes the water and sends the results to the Village. We’re happy to report that all samples are within the normal limits.

The Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2022 is enclosed. This report provides residents of the Village specific information about their drinking water/water supply. If you have any questions contact Mark Remington, DPW Superintendent, at the Village Hall Office at 716-795-3777. We would be happy to answer any questions you may have.

DEPT. OF PUBLIC WORKS REMINDERS

The chipping service is provided for residents that have fallen limbs or branches. When removing trees from your property it is your responsibility to remove debris, these items will NOT be chipped. If you are having a tree service trim or remove trees from your residence it is the tree services responsibility to remove all limbs and debris created from the work that was performed. Due to the condition of our chipper we are unable to take care of vines of any kind, leaves, grass, shrubs or any branch that is more than 3" in diameter. ALL vines, leaves, grass, shrubs and small twigs need to be bagged and placed in your garbage cart to be placed curbside on garbage day or take them to the public works garbage dumpster. All limbs and branches put to the curb for chipping are to be BUTT ENDS TO THE STREET, which aids in easier feeding of the chipper, and the pile may be NO MORE than 3' HIGH. Please be aware of sidewalks and streets when placing limbs to the curb, the limbs should NOT be blocking the sidewalks or be in the road at any time. Chipping is only done when TIME ALLOWS by the Public Works Department.

Raked leaves should never be placed to the curb loose, they need to be bagged and placed in your trash cart for pickup or taken to the DPW lot and added to the leaf pile.

When utilizing the Village Dumpster please make sure you are using the dumpster located in the Department of Public Works garage area inside the chain link fencing, DO NOT use the dumpster of Ridge Road Express at any time. Thank you for your cooperation!

CODE ENFORCEMENT REMINDERS

Spring means clean up time! Please take the time to get rid of junk and debris to keep your yard looking nice! It doesn't cost anything to be neat and tidy. Code Violations are sent to homeowners who don't abide by the ordinances. If you receive a notice you have time to remedy the violation, if left untouched a court appearance ticket will be issued.

Our trash pick-up allows three large items pickup once a month. Check the Village website for the dates. Reminder that it is illegal to place household electronics to the curb as of January 2013. Electronics may be recycled at the Town of Somerset Water/Sewer Plant on Lower Lake Road on garbage day from 7:00am-3:00pm

As Village residents you are only allowed ONE unregistered vehicle per property. This includes boats, snowmobiles, trailers, etc.

Please keep your lawns mowed. The Village code requires lawns to be kept under 6 inches.

Building permits are required for pools and most home improvements. Please call the Village office at 795-3777 before you begin a project.

Farm animals are prohibited within Village limits. Only 2 dogs, 3 cats or 3 rabbits per household are permitted.

Village Code requires that you must pick up your dogs feces and dispose of it when walking your dog. Please be a considerate neighbor and pick up after your animal! We receive many complaints about this.

NEW VILLAGE WATER RATES IN EFFECT

On April 3, 2023 the Village Board voted to raise the water rates due to NC water district raising the rate they charge the Village beginning January 1, 2023. The NC Water district implemented a staggar increase every two years beginning in 2023 and ending in 2028. Unfortunately, the Village is unable to absorb the increase in cost for the water we purchase from NC Water district, so the following will be reflected in the second quarter 2023 water bills released in July 2023:

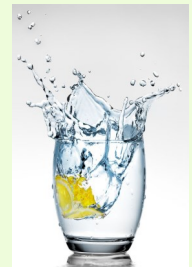
0-5,000 gallons minimum bill will increase from \$85.00 to \$86.50

Next 30,000 gallons will be billed at \$3.25 per 1,000 used, up from \$3.00

Next, 65,000 gallons will be billed at \$2.50 per 1,000 used, up from \$2.25

Over 100,000 gallons will be billed at \$2.05 per 1,000 used, up from \$1.80

The cost of necessary items to maintain and administer a water system are rising just like everything else unfortunately. Thank you for your understanding and we only raise the rates when necessary.



Village of Barker
PO Box 298
Barker, NY 14012

PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE

716-795-3777
FAX-716-795-3478

barkervillage@roadrunner.com
www.villageofbarker.org

**IMPORTANT INFO
ENCLOSED**

Annual Drinking Water
Quality Report 2022

New Water Rates in effect for
2nd Quarter 2023

MEMORIAL DAY CEREMONY

I am pleased to announce our annual Memorial Day celebration will take at the *Veteran's Memorial next to the Town Hall at 10:00am on May 29th*. The Barker Community Band will be playing, pastor Wayne Dent will be giving the invocation. Speakers this year will be State Senator Rob Ortt, Niagara County Sheriff Michael Filicetti, and NC Legislator Shawn Foti. All are welcome to attend and I hope to see you there.

I am pleased to announce that the Hometown Hero banner program has an additional 20 new banners, bringing our total to 115, Thank you to all who purchased a banner.

Also, we have an urgent need for new members. All Veterans are welcome. We meet the second Tuesday of the month at 7:00pm at the Lion's Building on Main Street. Stop and attend a meeting and learn what we do.

Thank You, Jon L. Hotaling
Legion Commander

Town of Somerset Bicentennial Celebration

July 21, 22 & 23rd, 2023

July 21, 2023 4:00-8:00pm @ David Barker Park-
Main Street Village of Barker

July 22, 2023 8:00am-11:00pm @ David Barker Park
-Main Street Village of Barker & Barker Fire Hall

July 23, 2023 9:30am-3:00pm @ Faith United
Methodist Church

Visit the Town of Somerset Website and click on the
Bicentennial tab for a full list of events

**Please remember according to NYS DEC a BURN BAN is
in effect from March 16 through May 14, 2023. No
open burning is permitted during this time, small
contained fires in a receptacle are acceptable.**

Town of Somerset Tire Drop off will be held in the
Fall. Keep an eye out for dates in the Fall Town of
Somerset newsletter