

Adirondack Underground

Town of Long Lake
Clark J. Seaman, Supervisor
Aug 1, 2011

I hope you all are enjoying this summer. It seems like just yesterday we were preparing for summer and now it is already the first of August. Now as summer is progressing I realize my newsletter is past due. As one concerned citizen pointed out to me recently, inquiring minds want to know. So with that said, here is the latest news that is fit to print.

This spring, as in the past, volunteers from the Beautification Committee and others worked to clean up the community in preparation for summer. I want to personally thank everyone for their time and effort. Of particular note, Sam Bateman donated many hours of her time raising donations for plants, and landscaping the Medical Building. Thanks Sam for all you've done; your efforts produced fabulous results.

This summer work is progressing on our water system. First, the new waterline on Newcomb Road is installed and all services have been switched over to the new main. The old main has been disconnected and is no longer in use. As planned by our water project engineers, certain residences who had experienced poor water pressure for years now are thrilled with great water pressure. Second, the new water main to the tank has also been completed; in addition, the tank has been filled and passed the leak test. We could put the tank online once we have Department of Health approval but to do so prior to having an additional water source, such as the Bissell Pit wells, would provide very little benefit to the Town. However, we hope to have the Bissell Pit wells online as soon as possible.

For some time now Water Superintendent Joe Tokarz has suspected we have some leaks in our system. He started by having the water department crew go out recently at about 1:00 AM and start shutting off the water mains to various areas of the community. He elected to do so at that hour of the day to minimize water disruption to our water customers. While each area was shut down Joe monitored the water output at the treatment plant and noted any significant variations. These preliminary tests revealed that certain areas of the community were using/losing significant quantities of water at that time of the morning. We then contacted the Rural Water Association and asked for assistance from their leak detection specialist (this is a free service for members of the association). Subsequently, the leak detector has been here three times in order to help our water department locate leaks. Last week they located a leak, which actually turned out to be two leaks on the same service line, off Deerland Road which was leaking approximately 70 gallons a minute. That calculates to be over 100,000 gallons of water a day!! We believe that we have one or two locations somewhere on Kickerville Road that are leaking nearly the same amount. We are still trying to locate these leaks.

During this entire process we have been in contact with the DOH keeping our representative apprised of our progress. Following a discussion with her and further deliberation with the leak detection specialist, the water department is going to focus on getting the Bissell Pit wells online. The additional water volume and pressure may work to assist us in finding these elusive leaks. As we continue to work on the system, you may experience some fluctuation in your water pressure. This is to be expected, however, don't hesitate to call the water department or the Town office if you have any questions or concerns about your water pressure.

It has come to my attention recently there are a few rumors going around and subsequently some concerns about the quality of our water. For example, our water has a yellowish/darkish tinge, funny smell, can't smell the chlorine, etc. etc.. Some of these I'm told have been attributed to the new wells which as I pointed out above aren't online yet. Due to the fact that our town's water source is "surface" water, our water can become discolored following a significant rain storm. Our filtration system can't remove the color. However, our water is filtered and treated to New York State Department of Health standards and is tested at various locations throughout the community once per month as required by DOH regulations. Our water quality tests continue to exceed standards. Both annual water quality reports for Long Lake and Raquette can be found on our web site at <http://mylonglake.com/long-lake/ll-local-government/>. Should you have any questions regarding our water system, please call the water department at 518-624-2199 or my office at 518-624-3001. We will be happy to answer any of your questions, and chances are fairly good that we'll be more accurate than the local rumor mill ☺.

As many of you know by now, Hamilton County met the criteria to receive FEMA assistance for municipalities as a result of our spring flooding. Unfortunately, we did not meet the criteria to receive individual assistance for businesses and residences. The Highway Superintendent, my staff and I have been working with

FEMA personnel to ensure the Town gets reimbursed the maximum amount available for expenses we incurred. I must say the personnel from FEMA have been a pleasure to work with and have made our jobs much easier as we work through this process.

Finally, I'm sorry to report there is still no news regarding Verizon cell service here in Long Lake. As I pointed out previously, if you are a Verizon customer call their customer service department and file a complaint. Tell them you are a dissatisfied customer. Alternatively, you can do what I did and switch to AT&T 😊.

Until my next newsletter, feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns about our community.

And remember "Most of the things worth doing in the world had been declared impossible before they were done."

Louis D. Brandeis

Sincerely,



Clark J. Seaman,
Town Supervisor

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