

# Adirondack Underground

Town of Long Lake  
Clark J. Seaman, Supervisor  
July 2014

For those of you who have patiently been waiting for the latest version of the Underground, here is the latest news that is fit to print.

After 4 years of hard work and dedication by our water and maintenance departments, the Stanton Hill well field went online this past winter with its output going directly to the water storage tank up on the hill. This phase of our water system upgrade is complete. Startup for this pump station was much better as this portion of the project was contracted out in its entirety, however, it wasn't without some challenges.

The day before the scheduled start up, engineers and representatives from the contractor and subcontractors were onsite for initial testing. When we started pumping from the wells we had very limited output from both of the wells. After much testing and head scratching we determined there must be leaks in the lines somewhere between the wells and the pump station. Bear in mind, these lines had just been installed late last fall. To make a long story short, the 6 inch PVC lines from both wells had sheared off right at the well head. Why this happened remains unknown. Several factors could have caused this including the ground settling around the wells, deep frost which we had last winter, etc. Nevertheless, our guys committed to having it repaired in time for the startup to take place on schedule the following morning even though there was over two feet of frost in the ground. Consequently, they worked late into the night and again early the next morning to repair these broken lines and indeed the startup took place on schedule. Once again our Town employees did an outstanding job!!

Again this summer the highway department is busy in both Raquette and Long Lake doing reconstruction work on town roads in both communities. Roads included are South Hill and Clement in Long Lake and Antlers and Uncas in Raquette. The crews are doing a great job and these roads will be vastly improved once they are done.

Previously I shared with you the Board's rejection of the highest bid when we first attempted to auction the Schiffman property, along with the subsequent offers to, and rejections from, the Board. The Board remained committed to offering the property again at auction last spring which we did. I am very pleased to tell you, if you haven't already heard, this time we had two serious bidders. The bidding stopped at \$567,000, almost \$100,000 more than the highest previous offer. After deliberation with the Town attorney and assessor, the Board accepted this high bid. This was good news on several levels.

Now you may be asking why this is good news on several levels so I'll tell you. For those of you that may not be aware, our Town garage in Long Lake is literally falling down. While the Town has been aware of this for many years, earlier this month the floor in the back room dropped several inches shearing off the plumbing under the floor going into the bathroom on the other side of the wall. This has rendered the bathroom out of service. Consequently, we can no longer wait to replace the garage and this is where the proceeds from the Schiffman sale come in.

Our engineers are currently working on plans for a four bay garage that should be ready to go out to bid within a few weeks. We are optimistic the total cost for this project will be in the \$600,000 range. Of course we won't know that until the bidding process is complete. However, with the proceeds from the Schiffman sale, in addition to money that the Board has been earmarking for the highway garage over the past several years, we should have **more than sufficient** funds to build a new garage without bonding or incurring any debt!!

On a related note, last year the Town, School, County and Fire District applied for a shared services grant to construct a shared services garage. Unfortunately, we were unsuccessful in that first bid. Undaunted, we requested and received feedback from the Department of State as to how to improve our application and have subsequently submitted another application this year. In the past, the DOS awards these grants effective April 1<sup>st</sup> so if we are successful this year this grant funding could be applied to our new garage, and would allow us to add two additional bays for the School District, solar panels to increase efficiency and a heavy equipment lift to be used by all entities for maintenance and vehicle inspections. I want to personally thank Chip Farr, Mary Dickerson, Tracy Eldridge, Harry Buxton, Tom Donnelly, Mason Smith, Nick Rose and Kara Page for all of their help with this application along with Chuck Taylor who crunched the numbers and worked the spreadsheets. Finally last but not least I want to thank Frank Pine for putting it all together and really handling all the leg work related to this project. He made this happen. For a few of us this was job related but for others it was all volunteer time and greatly appreciated. Thank you one and all for your dedication to our community!!

And on a final note, this year we were finally able to put new decking on the boat dock, put the donated plastic docks in place and get the street light installed at the end of the concrete Town boat dock. Due to high water this spring we had to wait until just recently to get this all done, but were finally successful. Additionally, this year we have again submitted a waterfront revitalization grant application. However, this year we submitted our application through the Raquette River Blueway Corridor group as part of their application. The RRBC has been successful in receiving past funding and I'm optimistic that our application will rank higher as part of a regional proposal. A special thanks is due to our Parks & Recreation Director Alex Roalsvig and Nick Rose from CAP 21 who put this grant application together.

We anticipate both of the above referenced grants, along with all other funding opportunities, will be awarded this fall, likely a week or two before election day (imagine that ☺). I'll keep you posted.

Until my next newsletter, feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns about our community. I value your input and welcome your comments. Also, enjoy the summer, winter is only a few months away.

And remember " We will be known forever by the tracks we leave."

Dakota Proverb

Sincerely,



Clark J. Seaman,  
Town Supervisor

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