

Hello Town of Corning Residents,

May 24, 2024

I wanted to take a moment to briefly update everyone on the Town's progress and projects we have been working on. First and foremost, I want to thank everyone for the amazing amount of support and grace I have received since entering the Supervisor office January 1<sup>st</sup>. I cannot thank everyone enough for the kind words and generous support I have received daily.

When I started the Town was facing delinquencies with Steuben County Civil Service/Personnel. Documentation had not been completed since 2019 and we had a lot of catching up to do. After some long hours and a lot of support from the County Personnel office, we are officially caught up and now in compliance.

The Town is working to move our employees' medical insurance to the Greater Tompkins County Municipal Health Insurance Consortium. With this change, employees will maintain a demonstrated equal coverage with cost savings to the town of approximately \$80,000 annually. We have been blessed to have the consortium work with us to make this possible. Union negotiations will be starting soon and hopefully... the union will agree to these changes so we can proceed.

Playgrounds are being updated using the COVID-19 (ARPA) funds. Shaun Lane Park will receive a pavilion and new, much needed, equipment for the children and adults all to enjoy. Bench swings, a basketball hoop, and tire swing are just a few items that will be placed. The town has also used the ARPA funds to purchase a portable outside movie screen so we can begin "Movies in the Town." The Southeast Steuben County Library will be playing "Wonka" using our equipment on August 23<sup>rd</sup> at the greenspace on Clark Street (next to the Village Hall and Highway Dept). It is beyond exciting to have an opportunity for residents to enjoy a nice summer evening watching a fun movie and to collaborate with the amazing people at the Library. This event will be posted on the website and through the Town as the date nears.

The Town has also moved forward with remodeling our Town Hall. The cost of a new building was estimated to be between \$2-9 million, which the board did not want to pursue in order to remain fiscally responsible. Instead... we have moved forward with renovations utilizing the ARPA funds to cover the cost without burdening taxpayers with higher taxes. The total cost should not exceed \$300,000 which will include a new roof. The board is hoping for the remodel to be completed in the next couple of months and we will be proud to have an updated building that was covered utilizing ARPA funds. When the remodeling is complete, I will be reaching out to the local schools to determine students' interest in possibly painting murals on the town building to engage local student artists and spruce up the outside of our town offices.

Finally, is the process of applying for grants. I just applied for a local government efficiency grant that, if awarded, will provide the town with approximately \$10,000 to cover an intermunicipal project that was started last year. Brian Toy from Southern Tier Central (STC) Planning and I will be working on a grant to aide low to moderate income residents to improve their homes with items that may need repair or replacement. This is an exciting opportunity to allow residents the opportunity to fix things that may otherwise be left unattended due to extenuating cost.

Town meetings are the third Tuesday of every month starting at 7pm. The June meeting will be held on the 11<sup>th</sup> due to some scheduling conflicts. Please see the [Town calendar](#) and/or the [Town website](#) for the [TEAMS](#) link to meetings or feel free to attend in person. Notices are posted on the Town's [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [Twitter \(X\)](#) to keep residents updated of current happenings. We have been blessed with all the town boards (planning, zoning, and ethics) being full with residents excited to serve. If you have interest in serving, please contact me as if an opening arises, I have your name on file.

Please feel free to reach out to me or just drop into the Town Hall and say hi. It is a pleasure to have the opportunity to serve the town.

Onwards...

Jennifer