VILLAGE OF Hamilton New York

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August 2023 Newsletter

From the Municipal Utilities Commission

UTILITY EMERGENCIES means downed power lines, electric fire, gas pipeline breaks, gas odor (rotten Eggs), a burst water main or a major sewage spill or other mishaps occurring in connection with the activities of public utilities or their suppliers which necessitates a response by the Village's police, fire fighting and/or emergency medical/rescue services, or cause damage to public property**.** This may be caused by natural or manmade events such as storms, contractor digging or motor vehicle accidents. If you are a witness to any of these issues, please call **911** to report it immediately.

Non-Emergencies - for other questions or concerns please refer to the contact information provided below:

- **Billing** – 315-824-1111, info@hamilton-ny.gov
- **Electric**, Bart King Supervisor, call 315-824-2120, or email*:* BartK@hamilton-ny.gov
- **Natural Gas**, Chris Carhart Supervisor, call 315-824-2120, or email ChrisC@hamilton-ny.gov
- **Water**, Matt Saltern, Chief Operator, call 315-824-1760, or email MattS@hamilton-ny.gov
- **Sewer**, Matt Saltern, Chief Operator, call 315-824-1760, or email MattS@hamilton-ny.gov

August is National Water Quality Month! To view our recent water quality report please visit: https://hamilton-ny.gov/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/2022-Annual-Water-Quality-Report.pdf

Health Department Water Meter Inspection: please continue to send your meter and connection photos or make your inspection appointments with our Village Crew. To send your photo, make an appointment or ask a question contact: MattS@hamilton-ny.gov

Water Main Flushing: In the next several weeks you may see an open water hydrant and water in the streets. This is a necessary process to keep your water fresh and the system operating optimally. Cloudy tap water is a normal result of the flushing process, please run your tap until it clears.

Protect the Villages Utilities, your safety and the utility services provided to you and your neighbors by the Village is a shared responsibility. Underground infrastructure must be located and marked prior to any digging. Call 811 a minimum of 72 hours prior to digging. This is a free service. If you are found to be out of compliance your job will be shut down costing you both time and money until the area is properly marked.

The Independent Energy Efficiency Program (IEEP), supported by Hamilton's Municipal Electric customers, will be represented at the Farmers Market, by the Climate Preparedness Group on August 12th from 9 am - noon. Rebate forms, an insulation sign-up sheet, and a free LED light bulb will be provided along with other NYS programs available for Village customers.

From the Mayor's Desk

Hello Neighbors,

There are two VERY important community meetings planned for the near future and I urge your participation.

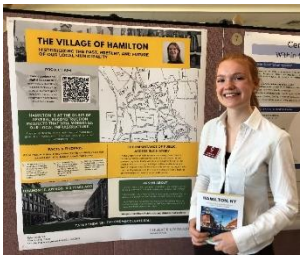
1. The **Department of Transportation** is planning a second public meeting on September 6, 2023. There will be 2 sessions; 3 PM and 6 PM located at the HUB on Utica Street. The Press Release can be found on the Village Website and on NDH. At that time, they will provide suggestions about possible changes/renovations to Rte. 12B, and your feedback is extremely important.
2. Our next **New York Forward** public meeting will be held on Thursday, September 14, 2023, at the HUB on Utica Street at 5:00 pm. This will be your chance to learn about the projects submitted for our $2.25M grant and let us know which ones you think would be the most transformative for our

downtown. https://tinyurl.com/NYFhamilton In the meantime, please take our online survey to share your thoughts about downtown – How you use it today and what you'd like to see in the future. It is available online: https:/tinyurl.com/NYFhamilton-survey. Your feedback will help our planning committee as it evaluates potential projects. The survey closes August 25th so please don't delay.

It is hard to believe that it is August and fall is around the corner. Once again, we hosted another very successful Symphoria concert, a well-attended (over 180 area children) Summer Recreation Program under the direction of Sara Zogby, and an exciting Thursdays on the Village Green series (join us on the 10th for the final concert).

These wonderful events happen only because of the many dedicated volunteers who work hard to provide opportunities that enrich our community. I am very grateful.

Enjoy these last summer days. All the best, RuthAnn



Upstate Institute - The Upstate Institute fosters connections between Colgate University and the regional community to engage students, faculty, staff, and residents through scholarly collaborations that support our Upstate region. Tate Fonda, Colgate class of 2025, spent two months with the Village through this program. Tate spent time learning about Village functions, attended meetings, and completed historical Village research which included the digitization of "Progressive Hamilton" submitted to Colgate's Special Collections archive. She presented her project on the importance of accessible public historical documents last month at the Upstate Institute internship exhibit. She was an asset to the Village during her internship. We thank her for her time with the Village and wish her well in her Junior year.

Colgate Students are returning to the campus. Please be aware of the additional vehicle and foot traffic and provide a safe environment for them. Many are new to the area and learning their way around the Village.

Recycling – The Villages disposes of its waste and recyclables through Madison County and must abide by the County's rules and protocols. Madison County uses a two-bin recycling system where paper products are placed in one bin and plastic/metal/glass containers are placed in another. **Do NOT put recyclables in a plastic bag**. Keep recyclables loose in the recycling bins. All recyclables must be empty, clean & dry. For more information visit: https://www.madisoncounty.ny.gov/2376/Recycling

Do You Scoop the Poop? Pet waste is a nuisance and constant concern for our Village DPW and residents. Please clean up after your pet each and every time and dispose of the waste properly.

Downtown Development Proposal Public Hearing – The Village Planning Board will hold a public hearing on August 24th at 7:00 p.m. at the Village Courthouse on Montgomery Street to consider the application of Hamilton Initiative, LLC for the **18-22 Utica Street** property for final special permit and site plan approval for the proposed mixed-use retail, office and multifamily housing building. This application reflects revisions to the building design made since the proposal was originally presented.

Village Tax Bills – Please note that all unpaid Village tax bills are now past due, and penalties apply. Taxes can be paid in person Monday through Friday 7:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. at the Village Office (3 Broad Street) through October 2, 2023, or by mail to P. O. Box 119, Hamilton, NY 13346. Penalties for late payment of taxes will be applied as follows: • 6% penalty if paid by 8/31/23; •7% penalty if paid thereafter.

Village Trees – The Village DPW, the Electric Dept along with the Tree Commission works hard to maintain a healthy tree population that is safe and beneficial to the community and the environment. Trees are regularly trimmed to minimize power outages and others identified as diseased or dying and are removed. There are several large trees and multiple smaller ones that will be taken down this summer. As a designated "Tree City," the Village takes tree maintenance seriously and replacements and additions are planned each year.

Paving – completion of the 2023 paving program has been delayed due to contractor scheduling and weather events. The Village crew is aware of the delays and assures residents that it will be completed as soon as possible.

Village Employment Opportunities - Please Visit: https://hamilton-ny.gov/government/jobs/.