



Town of Clifton Park

One Town Hall Plaza | Clifton Park, New York 12065 | (518) 371-6651 | Fax: (518) 371-1136

Supervisor Phil Barrett's 2020 June Recap

Our continued progress as we entered Phase II and III of the NYS Re-Opening process, culminated with the return to 100% staff levels on the job at one time and opening Town Hall to full public access on June 2nd. NYS workforce reduction mandates limited the number of employees who could work at any one time, which led to our restricting public access to Town Hall to appointment only. Every department was present every day throughout the crisis. Residents could call or email any department and have their questions answered and/or make a personal appointment. The Town Board held Town Board Meetings in person throughout the NY shutdown, but public attendance was restricted per NYS mandates. A public hearing was held on the 15th and residents were invited to attend. The hearing topic was the abandonment of the Crescent Waste Services privately held sewer system to the Town and the establishment of a special district for the new publicly owned system. After months of cancellations and closings, reopening Town Hall was an important step as we continued to focus on preparing for Summer programs and activities.

Protecting the health and safety of Town employees and visitors upon re-opening Town Hall was paramount. Comprehensive safeguards that included limiting the number of people gathering in offices that provide services to residents, plexiglass shields at workstations and mask requirements were implemented. Hand sanitizer, cleaning supplies and masks have been provided to all Town Hall departments and employees, throughout the pandemic.

The Town of Clifton Park recognized the challenges facing our local restaurants and bars as they attempted to re-open during Phase II. In order to support these businesses, the Town Board approved a streamlined process for restaurants and bars to utilize tents and other temporary modifications to allow for outdoor seating in accordance with the Phase II guidance. Site plan approvals for the temporary modifications and permit fees associated with the tents have been waived. The only requirement is an inspection of the tent by code enforcement to ensure all NYS fire safety and installation regulations are met. Several businesses implemented new outdoor dining arrangements and Town personnel completed the inspections very quickly. We have taken aggressive actions to assist businesses in every phase of the NY shutdown.

The \$1.7 million Sitterly Road Project continues to move forward with the National Grid and NYSEG service installations complete. We are well into the next sequence of construction which includes Verizon, First Light, and Charter Communications relocating their service feeds and soon the project will have all the private utilities relocated. Looking forward to the next stage, the project will continue to take shape in the form of roadway alterations and physical improvements.

The Town Board has finalized the change in ownership of the formerly private Crescent Waste Services sewer system, which services 2000 homeowners and businesses. In April of 2020, The Town was notified by Crescent Waste of their intention to abandon the system to the Town. The Town's Sewer Department has reacted quickly and efficiently to navigate the transition in service and install upgrades to the system consistent with improvements we have made when accepting the abandonment of other private systems. Along with a public hearing to answer questions from residents, two letters from Supervisor Barrett explaining the process and how we are working through the issues and planning for the future have been mailed directly to homeowners.

As announced in the May Recap, our 8 week Full Day Camp opened on June 29th with a daily average of over 100 campers at the Commons. Our Camp Counselors were as excited as the children to be able to officially kick off the Summer together at camp. Our talented and dedicated camp directors, specialists, and counselors will fill the days with creative arts and crafts, laser tag, magician shows, water games, and a variety of sports. New Health and Safety protocols have been initiated this year including temperature checks for staff and campers, social distancing and masks, and limited contact drop off and pickup procedures just to name a few. As July nears, we are preparing two of our municipal pools to open on July 4th, offering another great option for our Clifton Park residents to enjoy their summer with their families.

Be sure to visit our Town webpage at CliftonPark.org regularly for more information or “like us” on Facebook to keep up to date on the great happenings in the Town of Clifton Park.

###