

After a somewhat mild winter and an unusual spring it looks like summer weather will be here for the unofficial start of summer. I urge everyone to come out to the Memorial Day Parade and show respect to those who lost their lives fighting for our country.

I would like to highlight a few things that your Village Board has accomplished over the last few months. Our police department that was operating with half of the normal staff is now fully staffed. In the next few weeks you will notice two officers in a patrol car. The new officers that have been hired must do mandatory on the job training. Once the training has been completed and approved by the State they will be able to patrol on their own. The department is committed to community policing, which means you will be noticing more interaction with residents. There will be more foot and bicycle patrols in our neighborhoods. If you see them out, our officers would be more than happy to talk with you.

The Village Board authorized me to send notice to the County indicating that as of June 1, 2016 the Village will no longer handle dog complaints. The reason for doing this is we are paying for this service through our Town taxes. The Towns are being charged a Town wide fee from the County for animal control yet we as Village residents are paying that fee through taxes and not receiving the service. The animal control position and budget cost have been removed from this year's budget.

For the past several years the Village has had a contract through Camden Group for operation of our Waste Water Treatment Plant (sewer plant). That contract has cost Village residents close to \$180,000 a year out of our sewer fund. We will be hiring two employees to run our plant at a savings of a minimum of \$50,000 a year.

We have renegotiated our contract for ambulance service with the Medina Hospital for transfer service to other hospitals. Also the Board approved sending out demand letters to users of the ambulance that have not paid their bills. We are seeing several users, who are receiving checks from their insurance companies for ambulance service, but are not paying their bill to the Village and instead keeping the money for themselves. There are others who just ignore their bill and do not pay it at all. The Board has agreed to set up payment plans for those who cannot pay the entire charge at once.

You may have read that the Village in conjunction with Orleans County Job Development hosted a job fair this month. Going into this we had no idea what to expect as far as business participation or attendees. We had over 20 businesses or services participate with over 350 job seekers come through the doors. We have had requests to do this on a yearly basis.

As you can see the Board is working hard and keeping the best interest of our Village in mind. Please take the time when you can to come to a Village Board meeting and participate in your local government because This Village Matters!

Thank you for your time reading this,

Mike Sidari
Mayor