

Monthly Supervisor's Report: August 2014

The latest updates from the desk of Richmond Town Supervisor Ralph Angelo:

Road and Waterway Repairs

The Richmond Highway Department continues to work on road shoulder restoration and culvert replacements following the flood event that impacted our community on July 28th. We have expressed our thanks to the seven municipalities that came to our aid to clear roadways and assist with emergency repairs.

Mill Gull was also cleared of wooden debris and several large gravel bars, beginning at the intersection of East Lake Road and heading east, to reduce the likelihood of flooding with future heavy rains. Currently the Town is only permitted to clear waterways south of the bridge on State Route 20A over the Honeoye Lake Outlet.

We are in contact with the Federal Emergency Management Agency and state and federal representatives to try to obtain funding to cover the cost of these repairs, as well as earlier restorations following a heavy rain event in May 2014. Statewide, the July flooding did not cause sufficient financial damages to qualify for a federal disaster declaration. However, federal disaster aid has been made available for flooding that took place across New York State from May 13th-22nd; local roadways that were damaged in both flood events could be eligible for this aid.

Status of Water Projects

Chatfield Engineers has reported the following progress on municipal water projects that are underway, or being evaluated:

- **East Lake Road:** Most homeowners have now signed the necessary easements to allow the project to move forward. The Town Attorney will work with Chatfield to begin the legal process for obtaining the remaining 17 easements. All project plans and specifications are due to be submitted to reviewing agencies by September 5, 2014.
- **Ashley/White Road:** The Town has obtained approval from the Office of the State Comptroller to move forward with the project.
- **Big Tree Road:** After surveying residents, approximately 55% of respondents have indicated they are in favor of the Town continuing the process of completing a public water project. The response rate for the survey was about 50%. A public information meeting to discuss the survey results and preliminary cost estimates has tentatively been scheduled for September 24th, 2014 at 7 pm at the Richmond Town Hall.

Honeoye Lake Water Quality

Honeoye Lake Watershed Task Force Chairman Terry Gronwall reported that algae has been minimal in the summer of 2014 compared with previous years, although conditions can change quickly due to wind, weather and heavy rains. The Task Force submits daily water samples to the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation for testing to ensure that any toxic algae blooms are reported to the public. The Task Force also continues to work with state and local agencies to seek funding for an inlet restoration project at the south end of Honeoye Lake, with the goal of reducing the amount phosphorus that enters the lake to limit the growth of weeds and algae.

2015 Budget Process

The 2015 budget cycle is now underway. Department heads have submitted their anticipated expenses for the coming year, and a draft budget is under construction.