

# Town of Sennett Newsletter

Summer 2024

## SUMMER 2024 UPDATES

**Hello Neighbor/Friend** - We hope you are having a great Summer!

There are big changes in Town Hall in 2024 as longtime officers, board members and employees have departed and some new faces are working hard to serve Town residents.

At the end of 2023 we said goodbye to long-time Highway Superintendent Kris LaPointe, who retired after faithfully serving Sennett for nearly 29 years. He will be very difficult to replace. Kris may be retired from the Highway Department, but he did not go far as he now serves as a councilman on the Town Board!

We also said goodbye to Town councilman Rick Gagliardi who rotated off the Town Board after having served two terms, which followed his many years of service on the Sennett Planning Board.

We offer a sincere thank you to these gentlemen for their many years of heartfelt dedication to Sennett!

Sadly, we also lost our beloved Planning Board Chairman, Patrick Leamy. Pat passed away in December after battling a short-term severe illness. Pat was a beloved neighbor, friend, and public servant who will be sorely missed. His wife Jeana and their family are continuously in our hearts and minds and could certainly use the love and support of our townspeople during these difficult days.

Newly appointed as Planning Board Chairman for 2024 is Bob Edmunds who just finished a term as councilman on the Town Board. Bob is returning to a role which he fulfilled previously and has organized a very professional and knowledgeable board. New members include Jeremy Bacon and Gideon Driscoll. Jeana Leamy will also join as an alternate.

We wish to also salute Mr. Richard Phillips for his years of service on the Planning Board. Thank you sir.

We also congratulate ZBA board member Dennis Sherry on taking the reins of ZBA Chairmanship from former chairman David Sikora, who will remain on the ZBA. Good luck sir.

We are also approaching the end of an era in our Justice Court offices as Debbie French is retiring on August 1st, after faithfully and professionally serving as Court Clerk for the Town of Sennett for 20 years! Big shoes to fill there – as that young lady stabilized and professionalized everything she touched. She will be missed!

Finally, after having seen a resignation in our Highway Department, the Town Board appointed William “Bill” Perkins as Acting Highway Superintendent until the next election cycle. Bill has been serving as Deputy Highway Superintendent prior to this appointment and is eager to continue the tradition of providing great service to the Town and its residents. In order to fill an open need within the Highway Department, the Town also hired Aaron Powers, who started work during the busy plow season. In Q1 of 2024 the Town also hired Sennett resident Hayden Hares who has fit right in, as expected.

I am happy to report the Town’s Q3 2023 Sales Tax collections were \$445,641.03. This is \$145,641.03 higher than the Q3 budget estimate. The Q4 Sales Tax collections were \$346,826.32, which is \$46,826.32 higher than the Q4 budget estimate. Additionally, the Q1 2024 receipts were \$383,738.54, which is \$83,738.54 higher than budgeted. The Town continues to see a healthy surplus in its General Fund.

*(continued on page 2)*

**Town of Sennett**  
6931 Cherry Street Road  
Auburn, New York 13021  
(315) 253-3712

**Office Hours:**  
Monday-Friday 9 am – 4 pm

**Town Board:**  
The Town Board meets on the  
3rd Thursday of each month at  
6:30 pm.

**Planning Board:**  
The Planning Board meets,  
when needed, on the 1st  
Thursday of each month at  
7:00 pm.

**Town Court:**  
Town Court is held every  
Wednesday at 5:00 pm.

**Zoning Board of Appeals:**  
The Zoning Board of Appeals  
meets, when needed, on the  
4th Thursday of each month at  
7:00 pm.

### Inside this Issue:

Town and Board News • New Business Spotlight • Water District Project • Water & Sewer Dept. • Parks & Recreation • Town Clerk  
• Highway Department • Planning Board • ZBA • Veteran Affairs Committee • Seniors • Public Safety • Fire Dept. • Historian

---

# SUMMER 2024 UPDATES

*continued from page 1*

Your Town Board has recently accomplished the following:

- Completed the oversight and contract administration of WDs 1&3 water improvement projects and is nearing final project financial close-out;
- Completed Town Hall meeting room improvements to include a wall mural, new furniture, and a public access computer station with printer;
- Began working with the Town's part-time Veteran Service Officer;
- Attended Sennett Seniors lunch meetings;
- Worked with Cayuga County Planning and the Town Ad Hoc committee to update the Town's HL Overlay District;
- Adopted local laws enacting moratoria on commercial solar projects and subdivision of 3 lots or more so the Town's laws can be updated;
- Revised and Introduced a Solar Energy Law;
- Began a Town records digitization project;
- Began an E-Code 360 codification project for Town laws;
- Continued planning work on the rehabilitation of Town Hall Memorial Park;
- Adopted a First responder exemption local law;
- Began applying for a Municipal Certificate of Need for Ambulance services;
- Calibrated and located 4 solar powered mobile and fixed speed control devices;
- Continued investigating water supplier options;
- Ordered replacement AEDs to replace expired models at Town Hall;
- Updated the Town's civil service positions;
- Continued planning for the expansion of the Sennett Town Park;
- Met with County Agencies and officials about sewer and water issues, development planning and concerns, and Town-County operational issues;
- Planned and organized a Town Hall ribbon cutting ceremony and open house for March 19th at 10:00 a.m.
- And of course handled many day-to-day issues in the Town as they arose.

Reminder! The Town of Sennett provides easily accessible updates on its Facebook page in order to modernize communication. Just follow Town of Sennett NY on Facebook. Also, the Town's website address is [www.sennettny.org](http://www.sennettny.org). We encourage you to sign up for the Town's electronic newsletter on our website to save printing costs.

If you are looking to examine the Town's water, sewer or zoning maps – stop by the Town Hall anytime during business hours as these maps are mounted in the main hallway and are on the Town's website.

Sennett's Town Board meets at 6:30 p.m. on the 3rd Thursday of each month. If you can't make it into Town Hall for the meeting but would like to attend remotely, you can do so by accessing our website ([www.sennettny.org](http://www.sennettny.org)) and clicking on the meeting link. We look forward to your interest and participation in Town business and at Town meetings.

We thank you for your support and hope to see you around Town.

Respectfully,

Tom Blair, *Supervisor*  
([supervisor@sennettny.org](mailto:supervisor@sennettny.org))

## ***NEW BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT***

Please visit our newest business in the Town when you can!

### ***AT LONG LAST***

***3193 East Genesee Street***

***OPENED FEBRUARY 15, 2024***



# Water District(s) 1 & 3 Improvement Project

This \$3,747,000 project has been closed out and came in under budget, allowing the Town to purchase replacement materials and supplies for these districts at today's pricing and also to allow the Town to commence GIS mapping of infrastructure in these districts. This GIS mapping project is designed to make the location and servicing of Town infrastructure safer and more efficient. Once the mapping of Districts 1 & 3 is complete, the Town's Water & Sewer is expected to be able to conduct GIS mapping in the other Town's special districts with only minimal outside assistance.

## Water & Sewer Dept.

We have received our new water meters and have begun installing in all Districts. I am sure you have all received your letter to schedule an appointment. If you have not contacted me, please do so.

We have completed our Copper & Lead survey, and we are in compliance with Department of Health standards.

We had the 380,000 gallon water storage tank for Districts 2 & 6 inspected.

We have updated our phone lines for the Emergency Response call out system for our Sewage Pump stations.

This Spring/Summer we will continue to replace the meters.

As always, if you have any questions, please call. Hope all is well.

Thank you.

Kris A. LaPointe  
*Water & Sewer Superintendent*



## Parks & Recreation Committee

The Sennett Parks & Recreation Committee have been busy working on park upgrades.

New playground equipment was ordered and installed in the park on Friday, June 14 & Saturday, June 15. The Town Highway Department and Volunteers from the Town assisted greatly. The following volunteers are to be thanked: Ed & Mary Lynn Rizzo, Kris & Carla LaPointe, Tom Gray, Darlene & John Morabito, Sabra & Phil Rusher, Aileen McNabb-Coleman, Dave Morris, Jim Vivenzio, Tom Blair, Kristopher LaPointe, Hayden Hares and Bill Perkins.

The Town Park's playground has now doubled in size – with more upgrades to come in fairly short order! The Committee continues to look for donors/sponsors. If you or your business are interested in helping with a sponsorship of the soon to arrive fencing for the Town's dog park, please e-mail Robert Edmunds at [pbchair@sennettny.org](mailto:pbchair@sennettny.org). Donors' names or business names will be placed on signage on the fencing.



## Town Clerk

Welcome all new residents to the Town!

The 2024 Fishing Regulations Guides have arrived. Those 70 and older receive a reduced rate on hunting/fishing licenses. The DEC has announced that beginning in August 2024, they are moving away from the currently issued Valeron paper to plain white paper for hunting/fishing licenses. That means you can print your license from your home computer. Please visit [www.dec.ny.gov](http://www.dec.ny.gov) for the latest hunting and fishing information and regulations.

NYS requires all dogs over the age of 4 months to be licensed. New licenses must be obtained in person, whereas annual renewals may be submitted by mail. To obtain a new license, the owner must provide to the Town Clerk's office veterinary documentation of a current rabies vaccination and, if spayed or neutered, the certificate issued by the surgeon who performed the procedure.

Cost for spayed or neutered dog is \$8.50/year; unspayed or unneutered dog is \$18.50/year, with a valid rabies shot. Be proactive. Dog enumerations are expensive and fines are charged to unlicensed dog owners.

If you have problems with dogs in your area, please reach out to our dog control officers, Fingerlakes Dog Protection Agency (315) 253-4367 or [fldpainc@outlook.com](mailto:fldpainc@outlook.com).

Flags in need of retirement can be dropped off at the Town Hall.

Thanks and have a great day!

Kate Salisbury  
*Town Clerk*



---

## Highway Department

SPRING DUMSTER DAYS were held May 4th and May 5th.

**FALL DUMSTER DAYS:** September 28th and 29th.

Bill Perkins is the current Acting Highway Superintendent.

Brush pick up began Monday, April 1st and will continue on the first Monday of each month through October. Please remember it takes us 2-3 full days to get around the whole Town, so it might be Tuesday or Wednesday before we get to your house. **NO PLASTIC BAGS! WE WILL NOT PICK THEM UP!**

Please keep brush and grass off the roadways.

The Highway Department has done road repairs this summer. Milling and paving has been done on Highland, Depew, Walnut, and Ross. Also, paving has been done on County Line Road and Town Hall Road. The large brush pile has been ground, so mulch is available by pickup or delivery.

Plowing and sanding roads, cleaning up after storms (wind and rain events), grinding brush, were some tasks earlier this year.

Highway Superintendent Kris LaPointe retired December 31, 2023, with 28.5 years of service. He did a great job for the Town and is missed already. Thank you, Kris!

Have a great summer!

Thank you.

Bill Perkins, *Acting Highway Superintendent*

---

## Planning Board

Since our last newsletter, the Town of Sennett Planning Board has finished their site plan approval for the relocation of Auburn Auto Group's Honda dealership. The Board approved the relocation and construction of the dealership at 346 Grant Avenue Road at their May meeting.

In April, the Board approved the site plan for a brand-new dog kennel and boarding facility to be located at 7510 County House Road. The property owners will be constructing a 30' x 40' building on their property to open their new business. We would like to welcome Good Dog Co. to the Town of Sennett!

The Planning Board also approved the site plan for a new business, Crane Storage. The project will include five buildings of varying sizes to make up the storage facility. Crane Storage will be located in the area between Pizza Hut and the Grant Avenue Plaza.

Speaking of Pizza Hut, the Planning Board has been reviewing the proposal for the relocation of Pizza Hut. We hope to have another update for the community in our next newsletter.

Board Members: For 2024, the Planning Board welcomes back Bob Edmunds as Chairman and the return of former member, Jeremy Bacon. We also welcomed a new member, Gideon Driscoll. Welcome Gideon!

Sincerely,

Bob Edmunds  
*Planning Board Chairman*

---

## Zoning Board of Appeals

As a reminder, your ZBA works impartially as a zoning and land use appellate board. It hears appeals from decisions of the Codes/ Zoning Office and reviews area and use variance requests. The ZBA may also evaluate special permit applications. It functions as a safety "valve" to relieve the pressure of inflexible zoning provisions and has the power, on appeal, to interpret zoning codes or local laws and to grant variances. In essence, the ZBA is called upon to issue final decisions on many of the Town's most difficult zoning law interpretations. The board strives to adhere to Town precedent. The Town is currently seeking one ZBA alternate to serve on an as needed basis! If you are interested in serving on this important board, please provide an email to [townclerk@sennettny.org](mailto:townclerk@sennettny.org).

Thank you.  
Dennis Sherry  
ZBA Chairman

---

## Veteran Affairs Committee

The Sennett Veteran Affairs Committee is comprised of ten proud resident-patriots. The Committee mission statement is:

*To promote public awareness and enhance the well-being of past and present Town of Sennett service members and their families. To create and foster an awareness of our American heritage by honoring and perpetuating the memory of those patriots who have distinguished themselves by their service and sacrifice while members of the armed forces of the United States, and to promote a greater sense of patriotism and Americanism within the Town of Sennett.*

This committee is extremely proud to welcome U.S. Army and Iraq War Veteran Adam Jenks as Town Veteran Service Officer. Adam will be assisting veterans with claims, questions, and all military related matters during his office hours on Thursdays, 2pm-7pm.

Other projects in progress include upgrades to the Town's memorial park and displays at Town Hall.



Mural on meeting room wall hand painted by Tony Clubine.

# Sennett Seniors

Welcome to the Sennett Seniors in 2024. Here are some things about our organization you might like to know:

- When:** We meet the 3rd Wednesday, except January, February, and March.
- Where:** Various restaurants in the area.
- Time:** 11:30 business meeting, lunch (served or buffet) at 12:00 PM and then a program.
- Cost:** \$20 for lunch each month. If you are 90 and over or a veteran, it is \$10.00 each month.
- Dues:** No annual dues are charged to Sennett residents and \$20.00 yearly dues for non-Sennett residents.
- Activities:** Day trips-cost based on activity, bus, and food.



Speakers on various topics, musicians, or entertainers.

*New to you table:* members may bring any small item they no longer need (new or gently used) for others to take. If the item(s) you brought are not "adopted" by another member, PLEASE take your item home.

Book and puzzle exchanges take place.

Senior News and Views newsletter is available from the Office for the Aging-Free by calling 315-253-1226.

We would love to have you join us! For more information please contact:

**Kathy Gray** @ 315-253-7731 or **MaryEllen Perry** @ 315-252-0427.

## UPCOMING EVENTS:

### JULY

**July 17** - The next meeting and luncheon will be at The Lodge in Skaneateles at 11:30 a.m. Please RSVP by July 8th. Cost is \$20.00 and is due to Kathy or MaryEllen by July 8th.

**July 26** - The Sennett Seniors Flea Market at Sennett Fire House on Franklin Street Road - 9am - 1pm.

## IMMEDIATE EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES AT THE TOWN:

- Court Clerk
- Assistant Court Clerk (part-time)
- Building Maintenance
- Highway Department - Equipment Operator
- Administrative Assistant (part-time)
- Deputy Town Clerk (part-time)

Please e-mail letter of interest and resume to [townclerk@sennettny.org](mailto:townclerk@sennettny.org) with position applying for in the subject line.

### Town Supervisor

**Tom Blair**

[supervisor@sennettny.org](mailto:supervisor@sennettny.org)

### Town Board Members

**Michael Wellauer**

[mwellauer@sennettny.org](mailto:mwellauer@sennettny.org)

**Ed Rizzo**

[erizzo@sennettny.org](mailto:erizzo@sennettny.org)

**Kris LaPointe**

[klapointe@sennettny.org](mailto:klapointe@sennettny.org)

**Jim Vivenzio**

[jvivenzio@sennettny.org](mailto:jvivenzio@sennettny.org)

### Town Clerk

**Kate Salisbury**

[townclerk@sennettny.org](mailto:townclerk@sennettny.org)

### Highway Superintendent

**Bill Perkins**

[highway@sennettny.org](mailto:highway@sennettny.org)

### Water & Wastewater Superintendent

**Kristopher LaPointe**

[waterdept@sennettny.org](mailto:waterdept@sennettny.org)

---

## Public Safety Update

### Reverse 911

The Cayuga County Sheriff's Department and E-911 Emergency Communication Department encourage residents to sign up for Community Mass Notification Messages. This sends out alert notifications of emergency situations such as boil water advisories, inmate breaches, missing persons, or any situation that would require a mass notification in a short period of time. Verizon provides landline numbers to the service but cell phones need to be registered.

To sign up text "Cayuga Alerts" to 828-201-3877  
or use the following link  
[secure.hyper-reach.com/comsignup.jsp?id=12642](https://secure.hyper-reach.com/comsignup.jsp?id=12642)

**The Cayuga County Sheriff's Office** is pleased to partner with Offender Watch, a nationwide sex offender registry network that enables seamless collaboration on investigations and tracking of offenders living in our area. Those living in, and visiting, our community can download the free Offender Watch App to search for sex offenders residing in their neighborhood, including the Town of Sennett, and subscribe to receive e-mail alerts from the Sheriff's Office. The app also provides safety tips, links to additional information, and a contact page to communicate with members of the Sheriff's Office. To download the free app, go to the Sheriff's website at <https://www.cayugacounty.us/155/Sheriffs-Office> - and click on the "Sex Offenders" tab. You can also download the app from Google Play or the Apple app store.



Through a Partnership with Cayuga County Office for the Aging and Cayuga County Sheriff's Department, Project Lifesaver is a rapid-response rescue program for individuals who are **at risk** of **wandering** and becoming **lost**. Each participant is fitted with a personalized Project Lifesaver wristband. This unique wristband is a one-ounce battery-operated transmitter that emits an automatic tracking signal.

When needed, this signal can be **tracked** by specially trained personnel in the Cayuga County Sheriff's Department on the ground or in the air. Search time has typically been reduced from hours and days down to minutes.

Project Lifesaver can provide comfort and peace of mind to caregivers without compromising the **safety** or **dignity** of their loved one.



Contact Cayuga County Office for the Aging at (315) 253-1226 for more information and eligibility requirements.

---

## TOWN MOTTO

The Town is looking for ideas for a new Town Motto. Please e-mail your suggestions no later than August 15, 2024 at 5pm. Please e-mail to [townclerk@sennettny.org](mailto:townclerk@sennettny.org) with "motto" in the subject line.

## Address Signs

If we can't find you, we can't help you!

As part of the Fire Department's public safety commitment, reflective address signs are available. The signs come in a variety of colors and configurations, feature high visibility reflective material on both sides, fade resistant and pre-drilled holes.



Order forms are available on our website, at either fire station, at the Town Offices or by contacting Dave Morris at 315-729-6248.

Mounting/Color preferences:  
Horizontal or Vertical  
Red, Blue, or Green

## Sennett Fire Department

The Sennett Fire Department has experienced its busiest year ever responding to 496 calls for service through December 2023 compared to 407 in 2022. This sets the record for most alarms in a year. So far in 2024, the Department has responded to 322 alarms.

Come become a member of a team with an excellent sense of community service and camaraderie. Enjoy the satisfaction that comes with the excitement of helping in diverse situations.

Opportunities vary as do time commitments. Stop by one of the fire stations or contact a department representative to find out more.

Station 1: 3155 Turnpike Road  
Station 2: 3526 Franklin Street Road

Or feel free to contact us by email  
[chiefs@sennettfire.com](mailto:chiefs@sennettfire.com).

Sean Holmes  
*Sennett Assistant Fire Chief*

## Town Historian

The History Room is open on Tuesday and Wednesdays from 10:00 am until 12:00 noon for Sennett Town residents.

Historian Jim Vivenzio will be there on Tuesdays and Historian Scott Longtin will be there on Wednesdays. The historians can assist residents on their genealogy searches or just browse through our holdings on the history of the Town of Sennett. Additionally, we have a computer and a printer available for town residents. Historians will assist residents with the use and programs on this computer during office hours.

The History Room is taking on a project to clean and repaint the nine historical markers located around the town. If you would like to volunteer to assist in this project, please contact Jim Vivenzio at [jimvivenzio@gmail.com](mailto:jimvivenzio@gmail.com). The project involves cleaning, removing surface rust, and finally repainting the markers in the State colors or Blue and Yellow. Materials and instruction will be provided.

Also, the Historians are looking for photos of the town that you and your family may have in your possession to add to our holdings and to post around our town hall. These may include historic photos of your residence, your family or events. If you have some photos that you would to include in our history, please contact us or stop in while the history office is open. All photos would be professionally copied and then originals would be returned to you.

Jim Vivenzio, Scott Longtin  
*Town Historians*

*Records on File: Please note, certain records are for family members only.*

<i>Death:</i>	<i>1881- Present (most complete collection)</i>
<i>Birth:</i>	<i>1881-Present</i>
<i>Marriage:</i>	<i>1881-Present</i>

For genealogy purpose, records are open to all if they are 75 or more years old.