

TOWN BOARD MINUTES
TOWN OF POESTENKILL
TOWN BOARD MEETING

July 15, 2021

(Not approved at time of distribution)

II.1

ROLL CALL AS FOLLOWS

| | |
|----------------------|---------|
| Councilwoman Butler | Present |
| Councilman Hass | Present |
| Councilman Van Slyke | Absent |
| Councilman Wohlleber | Present |
| Supervisor Hammond | Present |

NON-VOTING MEMBERS

Susan Horton, Town Clerk
Jack Casey, Town Attorney

Motion by Hass, seconded by Butler and carried that the monthly bills had been audited for payment.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Supervisor Hammond led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance and opened the floor at 7 p.m. for Public Comments. Supervisor Hammond informed the audience of the reason for Councilman Van Slyke's absence. He asked all in attendance to keep his family in their prayers as his daughter Nicole is very ill. D. Niebuhr, Town Resident and past Planning Board Chairman asked if there she would be able to speak on the proposed Kronau PDD. Supervisor Hammond stated that the Public Hearing on this topic will be scheduled at a later date, however, M. Bond, P.E., Barber Engineering, representing Kevin and Dale Kronau will be updating the Board on this project later in tonight's meeting. Rick and Deb Lewis reported to the Board their concerns regarding their neighbor's chickens. Mr. Lewis had a recording of the "crowing hen" which he shared with Town Board members. This topic will also be discussed during the discussion items portion of tonight's meeting. E. Eisenhandler, Town Resident commented about the need to address abandoned homes. He stated that Councilman Wohlleber made some very good comments, and he feels it is very important that all town residents be heard. D. Basle, Asst. Chief, thanked the Highway Department for doing a great job keeping the roads clear so the Fire Company could do their job. D. Jacangelo, Town Resident and former Town Supervisor explained the process of a PDD to the Board members. There being no further comments, the public comment period was closed.

Town Clerk's Minutes - Councilman Wohlleber stated he would like the following word corrected in the June 17, 2021, minutes.

On page 2 under Discussion Items – Abandoned Building Legislation, Councilman Wohlleber would like the word "some" omitted and replaced with the word "one". It should now read:

He then discussed one of the successes which Poestenkill had, including the burned-out home on Plank Road which the Town had torn down and which has since been sold and will shortly be built upon.

Motion by Hass, seconded by Butler and an oral vote of 4 ayes to accept the Town Clerk's minutes of the June 17, 2021, as amended.

Liaison Reports:

Planning Board – Town Board members had copies of the Planning Board’s meeting of June 1, 2021, and S. Valente, Planning Board Member elaborated on the meeting.

Zoning Board – Town Board members had copies of the ZBA’s updated May 11, 2021, meeting and copies of the June 8, 2021, meeting. T. Buker, Clerk, informed the Board that the July ZBA meeting was cancelled due to lack of agenda items.

Fire Company – Town Board members had copies of the Fire Company’s June 2021 report. D. Basle, Asst. Fire Chief reminded Supervisor Hammond that the “Initial Damage Assessment” form is due back to Rensselaer County by Monday, July 19th.

Library – M. Wait reported on the library’s current activities. She informed the Board that the library now has a new Director, Amanda Kirby. Market Day will be held on September 20th, and there will be a 20-year Anniversary for the library held on September 18th from 1 – 3 p.m.

Youth Advisory Board - T. Buker, Camp Director reported on the Summer Camp activities. She reported that the Poestenkill/Sand Lake Summer Camp is the largest Day Camp in Rensselaer County. Supervisor Hammond thanked Tiffany for doing a Great Job!

CAC- There was no meeting.

Correspondence:

Memos dated June 30, 2021, and July 7, 2021, from Charter Communications regarding the upcoming changes to their service.

Discussion Items:

Jake brakes update – L. King, Town Resident, briefed the Town Board on his activities since the last meeting. He discussed a proposal which Sergeant Marc St. Germain presented to him in their recent meeting. A number of the audience residents discussed his comments, with one resident stating that he does not feel that large trucks are the problem, but rather motorcycles and pickup trucks. The public discussion centered around the “violators” intentionally owning loud vehicles because they like the sound of them, not realizing the impact on the neighborhoods they pass through. The discussions then focused on the legal options open to the Town; the general feeling is that the Town is very limited. Mr. King gave some legal positions which other Towns have taken. J. Casey, Town Attorney, was provided with the names of some of these Towns and he said that he would research them and provide his findings to the Town at the next Town Board meeting.

Cannabis – This subject was a continuation of discussions from last month’s Town Board meeting. The New York State law that legalized cannabis allows local municipalities to restrict commercial sales but has certain time sensitive requirements if a municipality decides to do so. After comments from the public and the Town Board members, it was decided that, although significant sales are not expected, the Town would take no action at this time.

Amend local law (crowing rooster) – Town Residents Deb and Rick Lewis, residing on Vosburgh Road discussed the problem of a “crowing hen”. The “crowing hen” is disturbing every morning and all day long. It can clearly be heard throughout the house, even with the doors and windows closed. Deb and Rick complemented Bob Guyer, Animal Control Officer, for his work on this issue, stating that he had gotten the neighbor’s commitment to solve the problem.

The neighbor gave specific details of what would be done; unfortunately, after a month nothing has been done. The discussion then explored what legal options the Animal Control Officer and the Town had available. Deb and Rick requested that the Town amend the local laws to address the issue. Supervisor Hammond stated that he would like Bob Guyer and Jack Casey, Town Attorney to get together to discuss this issue.

Establishing Public Meeting Guidelines and rules of Decorum – Councilman Wohlleber gave a very professional presentation on the reasons for his proposed legislation. He cited numerous specific incidents over recent times where discussions got out of hand, with no particular person responsible. Councilman Wohlleber commented that proper mutual respect, allowing parties to discuss differing opinions, without being cut off by another who had a different opinion was essential. Councilman Wohlleber briefly reviewed his “Establishing Public Meeting Guidelines and rules of Decorum” legislation. He also stated that a structure was needed to guide the decorum of the meetings and that he believed that the Robert Rules of Order provides the basics for running successful meetings. Councilman Hass mentioned that, in the past, copies of Roberts Rules were purchased and provided to the Planning Board and the Zoning Board members. Councilman Hass stated that he would be happy to provide copies of Robert’s Rules to the Town Board at our next meeting. The entire Town Board was supportive of taking steps to improve our meetings and ensuring that everyone was treated with respect and provided with an opportunity to voice viewpoints. A workshop will be established to study the proposals and make recommendations.

American Recovery Act update – M. Asquith, Admin. Asst./Bookkeeper discussed the ARPA, stating that Poestenkill is eligible to receive a total ARPA payment of \$459,558 and our status of collecting information and requests for funds. She reminded everyone that funds not used will have to be repaid. She also stated that it is very important to document all requests for funding.

PDD – White Church Road questions answered – M. Bond, P.E., Barber Engineering, representing Kevin and Dale Kronau, addressed the Town Board members, as a follow up to last months meeting, and provided a brief overview of the project. A discussion ensued about the viability of this PDD proposal, in concept. D. Niebuhr, past Planning Board Chairman, commented on her support for the project, stating that she, herself, would like to move into this style Community in the future. She stated that this style development is the “future” of Poestenkill. Supervisor Hammond discussed the Zoning issues regarding whether a building presently requires one or two acres. He stated that this issue must be resolved, but confirmed that, conceptually, the PDD was acceptable and that a public hearing would be scheduled at some point in the future but that more details still needed to be discussed. Mr. Kronau and Mr. Bond both indicated that the details would be forthcoming as the plan progresses but that they wanted to be sure of the Town Board’s acceptance before spending money and time, only to find that the Town Board were negative on the concept. The Board signaled their support for the project, but no formal vote will be taken at this time. The proposal will continue to be explored.

Computer updates – Town Board members had copies of the Network review conducted by National, a managed IT Service Firm in the area. M. Noble, Town Resident and Town’s IT Officer updated the Board on the Computer Systems and steps needed to ensure the towns security.

Town’s Budget Report – Board members had copies of the Profit and loss report. M. Asquith, Admin. Asst./Bookkeeper reported on the Town’s finances. Michelle went through the Water

Department, General Fund and Highway Fund informing the Board on each of them. She reported that the Town is doing well.

On a personal note, Michelle thanked the Town Board and her co-workers for their support during the recent passing of her mother.

Action Items:

Approval of Standard Workday and Reporting - Motion by Hass, seconded by Wohlleber to approve the submittal of the Standard Workday and Reporting to New York State and Local Retirement System for K. Hammond, Town Supervisor.

VOTED UPON AS FOLLOWS:

| | |
|----------------------|---------|
| Councilwoman Butler | Yes |
| Councilman Hass | Yes |
| Councilman Van Slyke | Absent |
| Councilman Wohlleber | Yes |
| Supervisor Hammond | Abstain |

Budget Transfers:

RESOLUTION #12-2021 – IN THE MATTER OF THE TRANSFER OF CERTAIN GENERAL BUDGET FUNDS - Resolved, that it is hereby authorized and directed as follows:

That the sum of \$200.20 from General Fund Budget line item 11990.4 (Contingent 4) be transferred to General Fund budget line item 119104 (Insurance 4) in the sum of \$200.20.

MOVED BY: Councilman Hass

SECONDED BY: Councilwoman Butler

VOTED UPON AS FOLLOWS:

| | |
|----------------------|--------|
| Councilwoman Butler | YES |
| Councilman Hass | YES |
| Councilman Van Slyke | Absent |
| Councilman Wohlleber | YES |
| Supervisor Hammond | YES |

Reports:

Supervisor's Report- Supervisor Hammond stated that the Highway Superintendent, DJ Goyer, and his crew have been doing an excellent job clearing the roads during the recent rainstorms.

Town Attorney's Report – Mr. Casey reported on the matters that he worked on since the last Town Board meeting which included working with T. Church, Code Enforcement Officer on an ongoing legal issue and reviewing Councilman Wohlleber's emails regarding Roberts Rules of Order.

Town Clerk's Report – Motion by Hass, seconded by Butler and an oral vote of 4 ayes to accept the Town Clerk's report of June 2021. The total amount received in the Clerk's office was \$5,367.61 and of that amount \$5,135.33 was remitted to the Supervisor. Town Board members had copies of the Building Inspector/Code Enforcement Officer's written report. There were also reports from the Assessor, DCO, 811 report, Water report and the Highway Dept. report. Robert Brunet, Water Manager updated the Board on the status of homes near the Algonquin Middle School testing for PFOS/PFOA, on the status of upcoming legal changes by the EPA and reviewed significant savings as a result of leak location successes.

II.5

Payment of Bills:

Motion by Hass, seconded by Wohlleber and an oral vote of 4 ayes to pay Warrant #16-2021 in the amount of \$128,648.54. Motion by Hass, seconded by Wohlleber and an oral vote of 4 ayes to pay Warrant #17-2021 in the amount of \$9,187.33.

Motion by Hass, seconded by Wohlleber and carried to enter into Executive Session at 9:10 p.m. to discuss a legal issue with no votes taken. Motion by Hass, seconded by Wohlleber to exit the Executive Session at 9:35 p.m. and immediately adjourn this meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Horton, Town Clerk

IV.1

July 19, 2021

Dear Municipal Official:

Re: Charter Communications – Upcoming Changes

Dear Municipal Official:

At Spectrum Northeast, LLC, (“Spectrum”) we continue to enhance our services in order to offer more entertainment and communication choices, and to deliver the best value to our customers. We are committed to offering our customers products and services we are sure they will enjoy.

Programming fees charged by TV networks we carry are the greatest single factor in higher cable prices, and continue to rise. Despite our best efforts to control these costs, this has resulted in a change in the rates we charge our customers.

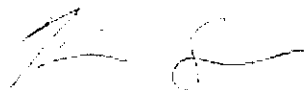
Spectrum previously noticed you that customer pricing changes would take effect on or after June 2, 2021, however, there was a delay for a subset of customers in your area. Accordingly, effective on or after July 19, 2021, those customers are being noticed via bill message of the following monthly pricing changes, which will take effect on or after August 19, 2021. Customer promotional rates will not change until the end of the promotion period.

| Services/Products/Equipment | Pricing Adjustment |
|------------------------------------|---|
| Broadcast TV Surcharge | Will increase by \$1.54. This reflects the costs incurred from local Broadcast TV Stations. |
| Spectrum Receiver/Digital Adapter | Will increase by \$1.00 per receiver/adapter. |

IV.2

If you have any questions about this matter, please feel free to contact me at 518-640-8575 or via email at kevin.egan@charter.com.

Sincerely,



Kevin Egan
Director, Government Affairs
Charter Communications

IV.3

July 23, 2021

Re: Charter Communications – Upcoming Change

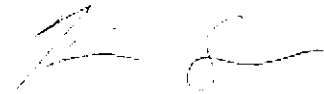
Dear Municipal Official:

This letter will serve as notice that on or around August 23, 2021, Spectrum Northeast, LLC, ("Spectrum"), will launch ESNE on SPP Latino View HD on channel 947 on the channel lineup serving your community.

For a complete channel lineup, visit www.spectrum.com/channels.

If you have any questions about this matter, please feel free to contact me at 518-640-8575 or via email at kevin.egan@charter.com.

Sincerely,



Kevin Egan
Director, Government Affairs
Charter Communications

From: Main-Care Energy <CustomerCare@MainCareEnergy.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 20, 2021 9:26 AM
To: secpoest@nycap.rr.com
Subject: Storm Damage

IV.4

[View this email in your browser](#)

MAIN-Care

ENERGY

We are here for you in Rensselaer County.

We understand this is a difficult time for many people in the community which is why Main-Care Energy is donating \$1,000 toward disaster relief efforts.

Flooded Basement? Get a Free Systems Inspection.

Customers who have experienced basement flooding in the recent storms should have their HVAC system inspected prior to next heating season. It's possible your heating system was damaged while under water and it is important that your home is ready for when the weather turns cold.

As a courtesy, Main-Care is offering a complementary system inspection for existing customers who have experienced basement flooding. The system inspection will be performed free of charge and any necessary flood-related

repairs can be completed with a 20% discount.

IV.5

For the safety of our Employee-Owners, basements must be completely pumped out and electricity restored prior to performing the inspection..

If your basement was flooded, please contact our customer care department at 1-800-542-5552 to schedule your HVAC system inspection.

Thank you,
Main-Care Energy

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You have received this email because you requested to be notified of future events and promotions from Main-Care Energy.

Our mailing address is:

Main-Care Energy
1 Booth Lane
Albany, NY 12205

[Add us to your address book](#)

Want to change how you receive these emails?
You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).



Planning Board

TOWN OF POESTENKILL

38 Davis Drive / P.O. Box 210

Poestenkill, NY 12140

(518) 283-5100 Phone

(518) 283-7550 Fax

IV. A

PLANNING BOARD AGENDA

August 3, 2021, 7:00 pm

**MEETING WILL BE HELD AT THE FIRE HOUSE
OPEN MEETING**

7:00 Meeting Opens – Pledge of Allegiance

Applicant:

Mr. Costa Cooper Hill Rd- 8 Lot Major Subdivision

Thomas Cooley 2 Lot Minor Subdivision
125.-1-3.113

Members of the public may attend and comment on the proposed action. Comments may also be submitted to the Planning Board in writing prior to August 2, 2021.

Minutes of the July 6, 2021 Meeting:

Public Comments:

Old Business:

New Business:

**Organization:
Comprehensive Plan**

Other:

**Don Heckelman
Harvey Teal
Tom Russell**

**to attend August Meetings
to attend September Meetings
to attend October Meetings**



Zoning Board of Appeals

TOWN OF POESTENKILL

38 Davis Drive / P.O. Box 210

Poestenkill, NY 12140

(518) 283-5100 Phone

(518) 283-7550 Fax

IV. B

Zoning Board of Appeals

August 10, 2021 @ 7 pm

MEETING CANCELLED

NO AGENDA ITEMS

Organizational:

Other:

11:42 AM
08/02/21
Accrual Basis

Poestenkill Fire Company
Custom Summary Report
July 2021

IV.C

| | Jul 21 |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Expense | |
| Building Maintance | |
| Refuse | 71.55 |
| Total Building Maintance | 71.55 |
| Code 100 | 81.28 |
| Electric | |
| East Poestenkill | 22.70 |
| Main Station | 21.02 |
| Total Electric | 43.72 |
| Equipment | |
| New Equipment | 12,083.80 |
| Repair & Maintance | 481.20 |
| Total Equipment | 12,565.00 |
| Fire Trucks | |
| Fuel | 266.04 |
| Total Fire Trucks | 266.04 |
| Internet & Phone | 113.75 |
| Medical Supplies | 26.10 |
| Security Alarm | 65.00 |
| Solar | 620.42 |
| Telephone | |
| East Poestenkill | 44.97 |
| Main Station | 55.37 |
| Total Telephone | 100.34 |
| Town Water | 33.95 |
| Total Expense | 13,987.15 |
| Net Income | <u><u>-13,987.15</u></u> |

VII . C

TOWN CLERK'S MONTHLY REPORT

Town of Poestenkill, New York

July 2021

To THE SUPERVISOR: Pursuant to Section 27, Subd. 1, of the Town Law, I hereby make the following statement of all fees and moneys received by me in connection with my office during the payment of

| | | |
|---|---|-------------|
| Conservation Fees to the Town: | | \$ 8.54 |
| Marriage License | 3 @ \$ 7.50 | \$ 22.50 |
| Marriage Certificate | 3 @ \$10.00 | \$ 30.00 |
| A1255 | Total Town Clerk Fees | \$ 61.04 |
| | | \$ |
| A1289 | Registrar | \$ 50.00 |
| A2655 | Minor Sales – Copies (certified copy) – | \$ |
| A2544 | Local Fee for Dogs – | \$ 150.00 |
| A2115 | Planning Board Fees - \$ ZBA Fees - \$ | \$ |
| A2555 | Building Permits | \$ 550.00 |
| A2501 | Junkyard License | \$ 100.00 |
| 2110 | Water Benefit Charge | \$ 389.46 |
| A2720 | Water Meter Fee - 2 @ \$275 | \$ 550.00 |
| A2240 | Misc. Water Charges - | |
| A2710 | Water Permit Fee - 2 @\$40 | \$ 80.00 |
| 1001 | Water Billing - | \$23,068.45 |
| TOTAL WATER CHARGES | | \$24,087.91 |
| REVENUE TO SUPERVISOR | | \$24,998.95 |
| Amount paid to State Comptroller for Games of Chance License | | \$ |
| Amount paid to DEC for Conservation Licenses | | \$ 146.46 |
| Amount paid to AG & Markets for fee for unsprayed/unneutered Dog program | | \$ 34.00 |
| Amount paid to State Health Dept. for Marriage Licenses | | \$ 67.50 |
| TOTAL DISBURSED | | \$ 247.96 |
| | | \$ |
| Keith Hammond, Town Supervisor | | |
| TOTAL AMOUNT RECEIVED BY CLERK | | \$25,246.91 |
| State of New York, County of Rensselaer, Town of Poestenkill, Susan Horton being duly sworn says that she is the Clerk of the Town of Poestenkill the foregoing is a full and true statement of all Fees and Moneys received by her during July. Fees the application and payment of which are otherwise provided by law subscribed and sworn to before me this 2nd day of August 2021. | | |

Susan Horton



Town of Poestenkill

Assessor's Office
P.O. Box 210 38 Davis Drive
Poestenkill, NY 12140
518-283-5100 Ext. 101

VII . D

TO: POESTENKILL TOWN BOARD

FROM:  Betsy Pinho, Assessor

RE: Assessor's Report July 2021

A hardcopy of the 2021 final assessment roll is now available in the Assessor's Office and in the Town Clerk's Office. An electronic version of the final roll is also available on the Town and County websites.

The Assessor's Office continues to receive new deeds from the County as well as split/merge documents for processing. We are responding to resident inquiries, and processing both exemption applications and closed building permits. We continue to update the Real Property System as needed.

We recently started adding pictures to the Real Property System. The Building Inspector provides pictures of building permit improvements. We also obtain publicly available pictures on real estate websites when properties are for sale or have sold.

cc: Susan Horton, Town Clerk

VII E.1

**Town of Poestenkill
Office of the Water Department
P.O. Box 210
Poestenkill, NY 12140**

Memorandum

To: Town Supervisor- Keith Hammond

**Town Board Members – June Butler, David Hass, Harold Van Slyke,
Eric Wohlleber (Deputy Town Supervisor)
Town Attorney – Jack Casey**

From: Robert L. Brunet, P.E.–Water Manager / 811 /Public Health Coordinator *RLB*

Date: August 11, 2021

RE: Monthly Activities (July)

OVERVIEW:

In the Municipal Water District, 811 operations, and the Public Health Coordination areas, all our requirements were either met or exceeded during this period, with only one concern. Our problem is lost water, the result of leakage. We are continuing our work to locate leaks.

On the very positive side, all our water test laboratory results continue to be exceptionally good, guaranteeing safe water for our residents.

OUTSTANDING ISSUES UPDATES:

ISSUE #1- UPDATE ON PFOAs, PFASs & PFOSs:

I believe that the notices regarding PFOAs on our Town webpage have fully accomplished their purpose of calming the resident fears regarding the severity of this issue. During this period, I have had numerous questions regarding PFOAs discussed in the two recent newspaper articles relating to the Algonquin Middle School. These came from residents surrounding the school and particularly from Algonquin Beach Estate residents. They were essentially questioning the current testing and when the Municipal Water would be available in their area. We are presently in the process of evaluating up to 12 of our residents' locations near the Algonquin Middle School to ensure that our residents' wells are safe. The author of two recent newspaper articles also wrote another article in Sunday's Albany Times Union highlighting the Capital Region Environmental Laboratory, the same laboratory which we use and the same laboratory taking the Algonquin Beach

samples. This will take a couple of months to complete; we will inform you of the test results when available, as well as updating the town website. (Attachment 4)

It is noteworthy that three of the companies blamed for the pollution of public and private water supplies in Hoosick Falls have agreed to pay \$65.25 million to settle the long term lawsuit that will secure cash payments and long-term medical monitoring for thousands of property owners and residents, including those with elevated levels of toxic manufacturing substances in their bloodstream.

ISSUE #2- UPDATE ON THE FEDERAL AND NEW YORK STATE MAXIMUM CONTAMINANT LEVELS (MCLs) FOR LEAD/COPPER (LCRR) AND THE TOWN'S RESPONSIBILITY AT THE RESIDENT'S HOME.

I have been very involved in this issue and the Town is meeting all of our obligations. The following overview is repeated from last months report because I want to emphasize the important points detailed therein. Otherwise, we are continuing to work diligently on this, but little is new and I do not expect additional significant changes or updates for the next 5 to 6 months. The only noteworthy development has been the Senate approval of Radhika Fox (former US Water Alliance CEO) as the EPA minority principal deputy assistant administrator for water and also the establishment by the EPA of 10 communities selected for roundtable discussions on the EPA's Lead and Copper Rule (LCR) Revisions.

OVERVIEW: The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) recently finalized the most significant Lead and Copper Rule Revision (LCRR) in two decades. While the rule is currently under final review (expected final publication by Sept. 15TH), core components – such as a lead service line (LSL) inventory, replacement plan, public communications, and engagement with the public health community have consistently been part of any conversation about revisions to the LCR. It is noteworthy that President Biden recently included **\$45 BILLION** in his Infrastructure Plan specifically for **“LEAD PIPE REPLACEMENT”**. Furthermore, according to the April issue of WWD (Water & Wastewater Digest) Congress passed the American Rescue Plan, the COVID-19 relief package that included \$500 million for low-income water assistance and additional money for water and sewer infrastructure. This reinforces the points of concern which we have highlighted over the last several months regarding the **Town's future responsibility in paying for the cost to replace the residents' lead pipes (also galvanized pipes) in their homes, which heretofore have been totally the homeowner's responsibility.** President Biden also included an additional **\$23 BILLION** in his Infrastructure Plan for **“Clean Drinking Water”**. The WWD publication further details some of the new requirements placed upon our Poestenkill Municipal Water System. The publication states **“LCRR places significant new “burdens” on water utilities, which the Association of State Drinking Water Administrators expects will require seven times the resources to stay compliant”**. In our case, the additional “burden”,

as mentioned previously, will be mostly research work and complex record keeping and reporting, (not economic), as required by the EPA. Although the workload will increase, I expect to be able to handle it without any additional help. According to the recent Water World LCRR Webinar, significant requirements of the LCRR include the development of an inventory, the required testing of all schools, required communications with the community, the establishment of new "Trigger Levels" for testing, and required additional testing techniques for residential homes. Again, I expect that the initial "financial impact" on Poestenkill will be minimal but the record keeping and reporting requirements will be substantial. I have already begun our work involvement.

As a result of my continuing study of the 409 page new EPA Lead / Copper Rule, I have absolutely no doubt that lead at a resident's home will become an increasingly important issue over time and one which will directly involve the town. It is also apparent that we will be required to establish a "Corrosion Mitigation Program".

In past discussions I have voiced my opinion that the towns will be required to pay for customer owned lines to be replaced, pending the results of testing required by the new LCRR Law. This notion is clearly reinforced on page 65 of the 409 page EPA publication.

The following is the quote from page 65:

"EPA notes that while customer-owned lines are not under the direct control of the water systems, there are many actions the water system can take to influence the customers' behavior including educating the customer and providing financial assistance, such as loans or grants, to the customer (water systems are not required to bear the cost to replace the customer-owned portion). Moreover, the "ownership" status of LSLs is not necessarily static (e.g., it may change as a result of state law or regulations governing public utilities). (Attachment 3)

ISSUE #3- UPDATE ON THE ALGONQUIN MIDDLE SCHOOL SITUATION:

I have recently had discussions with Jim Franchini, Superintendent Of Schools, and informal discussions are ongoing, but no firm decisions have yet been officially announced regarding which option will be pursued to rectify the PFOA/PFOS problem at the Algonquin Middle School. My "opinion" is that they will select the Granular Activated Carbon (GAC) option due to lower initial cost and the shorter installation interval. I have discussed this with the RCDOH and the NYSDOH and they share my opinion.

SPECIAL NOTICE:

NOTICE #1: We have frequent on-going verbal discussions with RCDOH and NYSDOH personnel and continue to have a very cordial and "good working" relationship with them. This quality teamwork significantly helps us, particularly during this period of major EPA activity and increased EPA and NYSDOH requirements. **For example, based upon our recent discussions and our requests, we were able to get a commitment from the NYSDOH to test 12 residents' wells (at the State's expense – approximately \$8,400 savings to Poestenkill) near the Algonquin Middle School to insure that our residents' wells are safe. We are continuing to work with Rich Elder (RCDOH) and Justin Deming (NYSDOH) on this project. In my most recent discussion with Justin, he said that Poestenkill's appointing me as the Public Health Coordinator was a good move in clarifying responsibilities and providing a contact for the RCDOH and the NYSDOH, particularly involving the PFAS and upcoming Lead/Copper issues.**

NOTICE #2: Recently the NYSDOH notified a NYS Small Water System of their Backflow Compliance issues. The system thought that they were exempt. **No one is exempt! From Backflow Prevention**, basically using "check valves", is a very important requirement and it protects the Municipal Water System and therefore other water users from serious diseases. *The NYRWA provided an article in the Summer edition of AQUAFACTS, their quarterly publication. From Poestenkill's perspective, we are in excellent shape. For the last ten years, since initially designing our installation and inspection requirements we have required Backflow Preventors on every residence installation. Where appropriate we require a Double Backflow Preventor. We perform the necessary inspections and documentation is in their files. Additionally, we regularly interface with the RCDOH to demonstrate our "full compliance". The "Bottom Line" is---we have been and continue to be OK. FYI, this is another area of our responsibility in which I, as a NYS Licensed P.E., save the Town the cost of outside P.E involvement. (Attachment 1)*

NOTICE #3: GOOD NEWS - POESTENKILL SAVINGS - BUT MORE TO DO:

To help find leaks causing wasted Poestenkill expenditures for lost water, we have contracted with the New York Leak Detection organization to perform a four day survey of our entire system (from 7/6 thru 7/9). On Tuesday, July 6, 2021. I met with Jeff Lail (845-337-5440), NYLD Leak Detection Expert, and reviewed our system operation and provided Jeff with all the required documents for his use. During his work over this four day period we were at his disposal in operating the street valves, the resident curbstops, the hydrant valves, and also turning on and off our main pumps at the pump station, since he is not permitted to operate these facilities, only the system owner. Jeff's testing resulted in finding two leaking situations, one at 64 Hinkle Road (Est 20,000 gpd loss) and the other at 110 Plank Road (Est 10,000 gpd loss), each of these in Contract #2, built by the same contractor. These were both repaired, with an estimated daily water savings to Poestenkill of 30,000 gallons per day, equating to \$ 54,750 annual savings.

Hinkle Road: It is noteworthy that, when the Hinkle Road leak was found on 7/8 there was no ground water observed, but when we went out on 7/14 to dig and repair the leak, water was “spurting” from the ground---demonstrating the progression of the failure. The cause was an improperly installed gasket on a coupling installed by the original contractor to repair a problem on the new installation, rather than replacing the entire 18’ section of pipe, as should have been done on a new water main installation. This is another example of poor inspections and poor installations. This was initially done because the “mating” of the two 18’ ductile iron pipe (DIP) sections was not done properly and the “repair coupling” which they used was actually not installed properly either (the gasket was improperly installed). Our fix on 7/14/2021, by Chip Kronau, was what should have been done initially (other than replacing the 18’ sections which was the preferred option for a “new” system). Our fix was to cut out a 3’ section of the 12” DIP and replace it with a new 3’ piece with 2 couplings.

110 Plank Road: The leak at 110 Plank Road was caused by stones and dirt damaging and blocking open the hydrant seal and bronze lower hydrant main seating valve so that the leakage was discharged through the “weep hole” at the bottom of the hydrant pipe. Again, the original hydrant installation was not properly done. The proper installation would have included a gravel “bedding” and a “mesh matting” cover under the hydrant. This allows normal operation of the hydrant, keeping out dirt and stones which can harm the hydrant valves over time and usage. In this instance, the “bedding” preparation was never originally done properly when installed, with no gravel or mesh installed, only some rocks. We rebuilt the hydrant lower valves, cleaned, flushed and properly “bedded” in gravel. Subsequent tests are OK – problem fixed.

There is no question in my mind that we still have other leaks, similar to the one which I showed you the video of at our recent Town Board meeting. Unfortunately, since these leaks are the result of the original contractor drilling through our large, galvanized culvert pipes and placing copper service entrance pipes, these types of leaks are not “locatable” using the standard techniques. They are in fact only “locatable” by physically getting into the culvert pipes and drainage covers, and “listening” for the leak as well as testing for chlorine residuals. We have found two such leaks and are continuing to work on finding others. Unfortunately, these types of leaks are a “time bomb waiting to happen” --- as time goes on they become worse and worse due to dissimilar metals (steel and copper) causing corrosion and leakage.

Based upon the NYLD estimated 30,000 gallon per day (GPD) loss for the two leaks, this results in an annual savings for Poestenkill of \$54,750 (30,000 gallons loss per day X 365 days/year X \$5 cost to us per 1,000 gallons). This equates to \$4,563 savings per month and \$152 savings per day. Our cost for the NYLD services is \$6,600; therefore our “break even” of cost vs. savings is slightly over one month. The “good news” of this recent leak locating effort is that, in my estimation, the

only "main leaks" left to find in our system should be those associated with culverts, requiring a significantly different locating technique. I anticipate that we still have at least 5 or more such leaks out there which we will have to find. This will take considerable time and effort, but Rob and I are seriously committed to sticking with it. We have established our own program and will be using the New York Rural Water Association (NYRWA) team, at no cost, to help us. As stated in the past--other than keeping our water safe for our residents, our top priority is finding and repairing our system leaks. I will keep you informed of our progress. The following information details the "Real Savings" since our repairs were made:

PROOF OF THE PUDDING IS IN THE TASTING! -REAL VS. ESTIMATED: The above detailed savings were based upon estimated water losses. Since the repair we have been able to calculate actual water losses by looking at our daily usage per day in our system both before and after the repairs were made. This data is from our Tigerflow computer system at the Pump Station which measures the pumped water per day from our two large pumps. Prior to the repairs we averaged 131,000 gallons per day-gpd (entire month of June); after the leaks were fixed (July 14th) we have averaged 94 gpd usage. This actual data provides our actual gallon per day savings of 37,000 gpd equating to \$ 67,525 annual savings to Poestenkill (37,000 gpd X 365 X \$5 per 1,000 gallons).

Also, in the Summer edition of AQUAFACTS, the NYRWA quarterly publication, there was an interesting article regarding leak locating. From Poestenkill's perspective, I can assure you that our normal ongoing operations utilize all of the suggestions in Jonathon's article, as well as other techniques. The important "take away" from this article is an awareness of the need for budgeting for leak detection and the investment in adequate equipment. (Attachment 2)

THIS MONTH'S CORNY HUMOR:

Our dentist was voted "Dentist Of The Year" and was given an award----
---- just a little "PLAQUE"

MONTHLY WATER DISTRICT'S OPERATIONAL REPORT:

From an overall operational viewpoint everything is going quite well. Looking ahead I continue to stress that, in my opinion, and other than maintaining the safe quality of our water, the single most financial difficulty and necessary operational challenge we have in 2021 and beyond is continuing to find and repair the water leaks in our system; this is our major and continuing focus.

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I completed the monthly total testing system re-calibration process on all our coliform testing apparatus to verify accuracy. Everything is good.

During this period our main pumps at the Pump Station went out of service three times, the longest outage on 7/14 when the power to the Pump Station went out due to the storm. In each instance I was alerted to the pumps being off by the ACU (automatic calling unit) on my cellphone and we addressed each instance (computer resets, verification of proper suction and discharge pressures, proper VSD pump initiation, etc.) to protect our service with no adverse impact on our customers. Because of the relatively short durations of the power outages it was not necessary to engage our emergency generators; however, they were ready and operational if needed.

On the July 4th weekend we cleaned out each of the two 30-gallon chemical storage tanks in the pump station chemical room. These tanks continually contain our chlorine-water liquid reservoir and the solidified chlorine residual "clings" to the bottom and sides of the tanks; it actually builds up to "sludge" and needs to be dissolved by LCR and manually scraped off. Since they are such large tanks, what we have to do is to remove, one at a time (the system needs to keep operating while we perform this operation), the tank to our repair shed and lay the tanks on their side and soak the sides, scrape the tank side, then rotate again and again, etc., until it is completely clean. This process takes a lot of time and must be done once or twice a year, but it is very significant in keeping these tanks clean and thereby keeping our water safe and uncontaminated.

During this period, we had to modify our daily chlorine consumption twice to be in sync with the Troy and Brunswick chemical changes and the increased chlorine requirements due to the warmer temperatures.

One of our two LMI Chemical Injection Pumps became inoperable. We cleared an intake blockage and rebuilt the pump, replacing the diaphragm and the associated seals. Two weeks later, the other LMI pump began operating intermittently, not properly reacting to the 20 milliamps signal it receives from the Tigerflow computer. We also serviced this pump, unblocked a calcium buildup in the 4" high pressure line, and replaced the "foot valve" in the 30-gallon chemical tank. They are now both working properly. By performing these maintenance operations, ourselves, rather than sending the pumps out for "rebuilding" we save the Town considerable expenses. This happens twice or three times a year.

Our meter inventory is getting low. We last purchased meters in 2019 when we received a "special deal" from our EJP representative, Chris Goodrich, which reduced our cost per meter to approximately \$200 (we charge \$275 per meter). Based upon my expectation that the meter costs to us will significantly increase this year, I have asked Chris what he could do for us on another "discounted volume deal". Based upon what Chris can come up with, I will be presenting the proposal to you in the next few months.

On 7/8/21 we received the monthly test results from the Capital Region Environmental Laboratory for Total Coliform levels and E-Coli presence. All results were excellent; our water is "satisfactory".

On 7/15/21 I received a call from a resident stating that there was a broken pipe near Cathlie Drive on Snyders Corner Road. We investigated and found that the valve cover and box for the 12" water main shut off valve had been hit by a plow. Over the weekend we dug up the defective valve piping and found that in addition to the damaged valve box the vertical 6" by 4 foot long pipe was sheared off 1 foot below ground level. On Sunday, 7/25 we repaired the situation without having to incur outside contractor costs. (Attachment #5)

Now, with the warmer weather, **new contractor and resident water installations have significantly increased.** During this period 14 new service line hookups have either been completed or are in progress. Also, noteworthy, is the fact that many homeowners are performing their own installations, thereby saving themselves significant dollars, at least \$2,000 each.

TRAINING:

During this period of COVID-19 various quality organizations have continued offering **free webinars** which we have been taking full advantage of. Some of these programs are sponsored by the **EPA**, some by the **DEC**, some by the **NYSDOH**, and others by **industry experts**. Additionally, participating in these seminars keeps us "up to date" technically and provides knowledgeable contacts for future reference in varied disciplines.

In July, I attended "**free webinars**" appropriate to our ongoing operations. For these training sessions I received CEU hours for my **Grade C Water Operators License renewal, and for my NYS Professional License renewal**, and for other licenses which I hold. The free training webinars, normally 1 hour each, which I attended during this period are:

- July 8 –AbTech- Innovative Solutions for Bacteria Contamination**
- July 13 –Water Technology- Improve Energy Infrastructure Resilience**
- July 14 – INNOVYZE– Streamline Water Distribution System Analytics**
- July 14 – H2S MONITORING-Odor Corrosion & Corrosion BMPs**
- July 20 – AWWA- Digital Transformation in the Water Sector**
- July 21 –AQUAFIX- Harmful Algae Blooms: What Drives Them**
- July 21 – NoonPi- Polymer Injection Ground Improvement**
- July 21 – EPA - SBIR "Success Stories", PFAS Detection / Treatment**
- July 27 –GEOSYSTEMS- Innovative Solutions for Slope Erosion Challenges**
- July 27 – EPA-Community-Based Water Resiliency (CBWR) Case Study**
- July 28 – NoonPi-Proactively Address Moisture in Roof Assemblies**

July 28 – Hach- Understanding Corrosion & Extending Asset Life

July 29 – EPA-Sampling Guidance for Unknown Contaminants in Drinking Water

July 29 – Stormwater-Underground Stormwater Infrastructure Solutions

POESTENKILL MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT TESTING:

Each month, FYI, I review the details of our testing results which rely largely on our strict dedication to following procedures, thereby insuring safe water for our residents. This requires our seven day per week testing and maintaining the proper chemical balance in our system, regardless of the varying chemical input levels which we receive from Troy and Brunswick. A recent unusual example of the importance of this daily testing follows: In two successive days I measured the chlorine residual at Town Hall and observed that it was dropping somewhat, even though it was still safe. We verified that the two 30-gallon chemical tanks at the Pump Station were each dropping the proper amount daily (generally 6 to 8 inches daily) and the indications were that everything was ok. But, based upon the decreased readings at Town Hall, we investigated further and found that one of the chemical tubes from the tank to the 6" main injection point at the Pump Station had developed a small hole in it (as it passed through the separation wall between the chemical room and the main pump room) and was losing some of the chlorine being pumped. This is what caused the chlorine residual to drop. We replaced this line, and all is now ok. If we did not immediately approach the initial problem indicator this way, it could have resulted in an unacceptable chlorine residual in our system.

RESIDENT ISSUES AND REQUESTS THIS PERIOD AND STATUS OF SPECIFIC ROUTINE WATER OPERATIONAL FUNCTIONS:

SCHOOL STREET SUBDIVISION: We are continuing to work with the developer and his Water Installer on the new **subdivision on School Road**. There are 4 homes which are being constructed, each with its own water line. These lots were never provided with curbstops and are not hooked up to the 12" main. They therefore require "**Wet-Taps**", a critical work process involving drilling and taping into our 12" water main without turning off the water. I have met with the developer (for 4 School Street) and his water contractor to discuss what our standards are and what my inspection process requires; they understand, and I will be very carefully performing inspections for all 4 lots to insure quality installations, with no negative impact on our existing system. **The "wet-tap" and the remainder of the installation for the 1st home (4 School Street) was successfully completed. FYI, we received \$290 for this inspection work, \$250 for the unique wet-tap permit and \$40 for the normal permit for the remainder of our installation inspections. On 7/14/2021 the 4 School Street home was sold and the contractor took out permits to begin work on the second home at 2 ½ School Street. As with**

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4 he will require another wet tap. We received \$ 565 payment for the wet tap fee (\$250), \$40 normal water hookup fee, and \$275 meter charge. As always I will carefully monitor the installation, particularly the wet tap into our 12" main, since it is the most critical portion of the entire installation job.

We are working with other contractors and homeowners regarding new water service line installation requirements. These work functions include permit issuance, discussing our technical equipment requirements with the contractor, providing the necessary equipment to the owner, and performing the required inspections at each location to insure proper excavation depth, proper "rough" underground plumbing, the required 15 minute 100 psi static water pressure test, line flushing, and the Final Inspection required to insure that all Town and NYS installation requirements have been met. We then finalize the installations by formalizing the account information into our data bases for record and billing operations.

Successfully responded to three weekend and nighttime emergency ACU calls to my cell regarding Pump Station problems needing immediate attention; these alarms are generally "no power" alarms.

On Saturday, 7/31, a resident came in to obtain the necessary permit, equipment, and meter to connect to our water system at 120 Weatherwax Road. During the discussion she asked where she could purchase a new curbstop cap to replace the one which was knocked off while lawn mowing. We went out that day and replaced the cap with a spare from our inventory, at no cost to her. She was very appreciative of our help and rapid response and they will shortly be installing the water installation themselves with considerable savings due to the long service line, likely \$4,000 savings.

Each month we have provided final billing information to owners, realtors and their lawyers when the residents have sold their homes. Our "**Procedure**" is helpful to them in that it saves both the old owner and the new owner about \$120 each, while at the same time allowing us to meet their urgent timeframes; it also insures that we get the new owner's name and contact information for our records, as well as getting paid.. The realtors and owners have told us how much they appreciate our rapid response to their needs with no charge. We handled many of these closings in a short timeframe this period. **A recent comment on 7/13 was illustrative —For a closing at 7 Grandview, the real estate person, Cathy, called on my cell at 11:30 and said "I hate to do this to you Bob but I need a final reading for a closing". When asked when the closing was, Cathy responded "Today at 2 pm". She was ecstatic when I called her back within 30 minutes with the required information and faxed it to her.** This is an example of the service which we try to provide our residents, and they appreciate it. Additionally, the same day I received a second "emergency" request by Peter for 339 Snyders Corner Road; we also satisfied his request and he was also appreciative of our fast response at no cost. He was moving into another home in Poestenkill and will continue to be a "satisfied" resident. As a matter of fact, Peter made an appointment with me because he wanted to discuss another issue regarding his new home on Abbey Road.

We had a third “emergency” request on the morning of 7/14 for final billing at #4 School Street, which we satisfied.

We performed the periodic inspections of our Water Tank on Hinkle Road, both the tank itself and the exterior ground area; all is well. We also mowed the grass and cut the weeds as part of our exterior ground maintenance work at both the Tank and at our Pump Station.

We picked up required items from Tremont for the Water District operations.

Performed daily (24/7 - both physically and remotely) overall inspections of the Pump Station status to ensure operational performance. I periodically remotely (via phone) call the ACU at the pump station to monitor the station’s performance, on a 24/7 basis. Paying attention to our **“PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE”** programs is much more desirable than having to repair a problem after it has caused a severe and costly service interruption.

Documented the periodic high and low water meter readings at the underground metering vault pits (at Creek Road and Spring Avenue Extension) to be used in evaluating our water supply, usage, and leakage. These readings represent the volume of water supplied from Troy and Brunswick and are used in conjunction with other readings taken throughout the water system to identify problem areas and also to substantiate the billing which we receive from Troy and Brunswick every six months.

Our main operational focus, as mentioned earlier, is the **quality and safety** of the water supplied to our residents. I am happy to report that all our test results during these last two months were returned from the labs (with a copy automatically sent to the RCDOH) and all were “satisfactory”. As a matter of fact, we did not miss any of our MCLs during all of 2020 and 2021. **I recently received a call from a new resident at 9 Lochvue Drive who wanted to familiarize himself with our water cost, etc. He commented that he had reviewed our Annual Water Quality Report and was very pleased with our results.**

Performed required NYSDOH functions for our system; for example, take daily (7 days per week) water pumping volume data at the Pump Station, add chlorine as required, and test water samples at Town Hall. This daily chemical test measures “Free Chlorine Residual At Entry Point.” and measures the Chlorine level as a deterrent to E-coli. This 7 days per week information is then entered onto the NYSDOH 360 Report daily, which is submitted to the RCDOH and the NYSDOH each month, along with the monthly Laboratory test results report.

Prepared and submitted required NYSDOH Monthly 360 Report and Lab reports to the RCDOH for July 2021. All our Town tests and the Laboratory test results for this period were satisfactory.

Cleaned various Valve Piping components at the Pump Station; this is an area requiring continuous routine maintenance and is critical to the proper chlorination process. The chlorination process, by its very nature, causes solidified calcium blockages

in the lines and at discontinuity points in the system which must be periodically cleared, usually with CLR, and occasionally by component replacement. There are many potential trouble spots in the system which, when partially clogged, will reduce the LMI pump output efficiency and will affect the daily Chlorine Residual test results taken by us and submitted monthly to the RCDOH and NYSDOH.

We picked up 30 gallons of 12.5% sodium hypochlorite from Agway for daily use at the pump station in the chlorination process.

We performed the monthly maintenance functions on the large emergency generator located at the pump station; some of these functions involve running the generator for a period, exercising the batteries, and checking the output voltages for accuracy. We also performed the monthly operational tests on the portable 5 KW generator used for field emergency issues. Both generators are presently functioning well and are ready for emergency use, should we need them.

PUBLIC HEALTH COORDINATION:

During this period, we handled many calls and emails regarding the two newspaper articles on the Algonquin Middle School situation. Most inquiries were from residents in Algonquin Beach Estates questioning the testing status of the 12 locations and inquiring when Municipal Water would be available to them.

We were also able to help three residents with concerns about their wells and septic systems, one on Lynn Road and the other two on Victorian Drive. We provided technical information, provided each with free test kits for well testing. We coordinated their testing so that I could take their test samples to the lab at the beginning of the month with my samples, thereby saving them a trip to the lab. When the test results are received, I discuss the results with them. Additionally, I provide treatment procedures to either fix a problem or to maintain a healthy well. We perform this type of service regularly.

As previously mentioned, we have used to use the Capital Region Environmental Laboratory for the past 10 years. In the Sunday (7/25/2021) issue of the Albany Times Union there was a 2 page featured article, highlighting this laboratory, entitled "Well Intentions"; this article stresses the importance of Well Testing. This is the same testing lab which the Algonquin Middle School used and the same lab that we take our residents' water samples to. (Attachment 4).

In Max Ferris' (NYSDOH) and Rich Elder's (RCDOH) recent e-mail to all Public Health Coordinators they urged that we attend the LSL replacement webinar, presented by the Lead Service Line Replacement Collaborative. I attended the webinar and was pleased to learn that it reinforced what I have been presenting to you in my monthly reports. Much more to come; I will keep you informed.

811 REPORT:

From an overall viewpoint everything continues to go quite well in the 811 operation. During this period we were very busy, receiving a total of (34) 811 tickets, including many largely pole replacements. All 811 Dig Safe daily requests (tickets) were received and responded to appropriately and in a timely fashion. Additionally, we receive daily audits and each has been excellent, with no late responses on our part.

The 811 tickets are initially generated by homeowners, utility companies, and by individual contractors. On each of these tickets I receive, mostly "ROUTINE" and some "EMERGENCY", I pull the respective Plats for the section of our water system. I next check our water records to determine if the location is connected to our system, and if so, what the routing of the service line is. I then call or meet with the Field Contact, discuss what they are planning to do. I visit the location and then I provide the details of our water system (and culvert pipe info) to the contractor, mark out the pipe locations when appropriate, and we exchange telephone numbers and I ask to be kept informed if the schedule is changed. This process must be completed within 48 clock hours or the Town would be fined and held accountable by the 811 organization in Syracuse. I then follow up (visit the work location) when the job is progressing to ensure that no problems occur.

We receive and must respond to the daily "Dig Safely Audits" (seven days/week) and we have continually met all our obligations. We also receive daily NYS DIG SAFELY notifications and other reports, verify accuracy, and respond as required. **I am continually involved with the 811 personnel to ensure adequate updates for the Poestenkill Exactix and the Corsetta 811 computer systems**

The power and communication companies have for the most part completed replacing old poles and guy wires for this summer, so we will be handling pole replacements generally on an "emergency basis" only. The following 811 Mark-out Requests exemplify the types of requests which we received this period: Sign (NYSDOT), In Ground Pool, Water Line Repair, Replacing U.G Pipes, Septic Tank, Concrete Pad, Planting Trees, Pole Replacement, Culvert Work, Flaggpole, Stump Grinder, Utility Repair, Invisible Fence, Installing Electric Service, Burying Cables, Foundations, Additions, Retaining Wall, New Driveway, Fence, Walkway, New Water Service installations, etc.



BACKFLOW

Frederick R. Holley | Training Specialist

Recently I was contacted by a small water system in the southern tier that had received Department of Health (DOH) notification about Backflow compliance. The system was under the impression that they were exempt. No one is exempt!

What does Backflow mean? The real name is Cross Connection Control. According to 5-1.31 of the State Sanitary Code, effective 1/17/2018.

(a) The supplier of water shall implement a service protection program (also known as containment) which includes the following: (1) requiring a protective device commensurate with the degree of hazard posed by any service connection. (2) requiring the user of such connections to submit plans for the installation of protective devices to the supplier of water and/or the State for approval; and (3) assuring all protective devices are inspected and tested by a certified backflow prevention device tester, as prescribed in subdivision (b) of this section, at the time of initial installation, after each repair, and annually thereafter. Records of such tests shall be made available to, reviewed by, and maintained by the supplier of water. All protective device tests and inspections shall be conducted by a certified backflow prevention device tester. (Photo1)

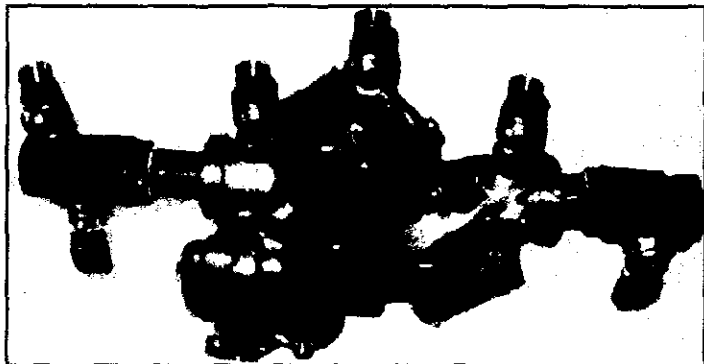


Photo 1

Many water purveyors will require all "Commercial" businesses have cross connection protection. It is becoming common practice for purveyors to require a non-testable dual check valve, where the service enters a residence, when this is the case, the customer needs to be made aware of the need of an expansion tank.

What does "Degree of Hazard mean?"

HAZARDOUS (PHOTO2)



Photo 2

During the course of business, the facility may use, process or store significant amounts of contaminants that would be considered Toxic to Human Health if they were introduced into the public water supply.

AESTHETICALLY OBJECTIONABLE

During the course of business, the facility does not use contaminants that are considered Toxic, but may use, process or store significant amounts of contaminants that if introduced into the public water supply may affect the taste, temperature, odor, color, and/or the aesthetic features of the public water supply.

NON-HAZARDOUS

The facility does not use, process or store significant amounts of contaminants that would be considered toxic, or of aesthetic concern by the above Hazardous/Aesthetically Objectionable definitions.

Engineered drawings need to be submitted to the DOH and water purveyor prior to installation. After installation, an inspection needs to be completed to assure that the device was installed according to plan. Annual testing is required by a certified tester for all devices. NYSDOH provides a database listing certified testers by county, https://www.health.ny.gov/environmental/water/drinking/cross/backflow_testers/. >>>



THE PATH OF LEAST RESISTANCE

Jonathon Barnes | Circuit Rider

It is no surprise that every system has leaks that range anywhere from minor to major. Depending on your system size and your production ability, some of the minor to moderate leaks are not high priority as compared to either major leaks or other priorities. The ability to keep your storage tanks at peak volume during these leak losses is key, and the investigation to locating these leaks starts with looking and listening.

The path the water takes as we all know is the path of least resistance. Looking for water leaks is not an exact science. Some operators may find leaks just from looking around at snow melt and some may find them coming right out of the road or ground. However, depending on your leak severity, system pressure, the ground material, the pipe material, pipe size, pipe depth, and compactness of the material around the pipe, they may never show themselves. It is just as important to know the details of the surrounding areas. If there are sewer pipes or storm drains near, there is always the chance of the leak finding its easiest path through the gravel or sand surrounding these collectors or their pipes if infiltration is a possibility. These can serve as great places to take samples and test for chlorine residual, or if you have fluoride in your system. The fluoride is a telltale that the leak has made its way into the collector, and you are at least in the right area since fluoride does not lose residual throughout your system. Do not exclude the water lines themselves either as they also may be the culprit of the leak not surfacing and traveling down the surrounding pipe material to a whole other area. Like driving down the highway looking for the next off ramp that is not cluttered with forty vehicles. It is looking for that next ramp with no wait to continue its journey, which could be quite a distance further.

Listening to the hydrants in the system can tell you a lot, although it also depends on the same material characteristics. After listening to the hydrants and you have pinpointed the loudest ones you start locating the lines. It is easy to get in the habit of "knowing" where the line is located... "It's right here. I remember", but it's important to look at the most up-to-date map and then locate the line, valves, and shutoffs accurately. Accuracy matters, because in order to listen and pinpoint a leak you need to be over top of the pipe or very close. If you are off more than a few feet, it is very possible the leak will never be heard or pinpointed. Listening to valves and shutoffs in the surrounding area of the noisy hydrant is also a great plan. This can narrow your search area down, as

louder valves or shutoffs can place you closer to the leak itself or be the culprit.

There are several different sounds to listen for. Three main sounds are 1: pipe resonance and vibration from orifice pressure reduction. 2: Water impaction on the surrounding soil. 3: Water circulation and flow in the surrounding soil cavity. Resonance or pipe vibration is often the loudest or most intense leak noise, sounding like a "whoosh" or a "hiss." Water impaction and circulation are often weaker, and often they may only be heard when you are right over the leak itself. Impacting directly on the soil will sound like "beating" or rapid "thumping" sounds. While circulation into the soil and around the pipe may sound like a "babbling" brook or stream. If the cavity is larger, then you may not hear these second and third sounds at all. Pressures over 50 psi will aide in the detection of most leaks as the intensity and loudness increases with greater psi.

With that being said, I have come across many "ghost" noises that sound like the "whoosh" or the "hiss" sounds that make it difficult to say, "right here". These "ghost" sounds can lead to costly dry holes and continued water loss, but at the same time eliminate that hole as the culprit. Being able to differentiate between these noises will come with time spent listening. Making sure you have accurate information available and locating the line itself is key to finding leaks even if they do surface. The path of least resistance is always directly under where the water is surfacing but that DOES NOT mean that is where the leak is located. Thorough investigation into all the affecting factors plays a role in pinpointing a leak. If your system has not budgeted for some updated leak detection equipment, I would highly recommend doing so. Technology is great and there are many types of listening equipment available. Many of which have come into a reasonable price range. Do your system a favor and invest in a tool that will save you time, money, and water loss. And remember, it takes time spent listening to learn what you are hearing, to ensure... **Quality on Tap!** ☺☺☺





EPA Announces Lead & Copper Rule Roundtables

The U.S. EPA announced 10 communities that have been selected for virtual roundtable discussions on EPA's Lead and Copper Rule (LCR) Revisions. The roundtables will foster dialogue on the experience of communities that are affected by lead in drinking water as the agency reviews the LCR to ensure that it supports EPA's priorities.

The LCR revision was originally published at the end of 2020 with an effective date in March. Those dates were delayed following a memo from President Joe Biden's office on the day of his inauguration, which pushed the effective date to June 17, 2021, to allow for further public comment on the rule.

"Under the Biden-Harris Administration, EPA is committed to ensuring that the revised Lead and Copper Rule protects communities from lead, especially lower income people, communities of color, and other vulnerable populations," said Radhika Fox, EPA principal deputy assistant administrator for water. "These roundtable discussions will highlight the challenge of lead in drinking water facing hundreds of communities, from big cities to small towns."

Additional information on the virtual roundtables, including how to watch, is available at: <https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/lead-and-copper-rule-revisions-virtual-engagements>.

EPA's community roundtables kicked-off June 3, 2021, with Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. The agency will also host roundtables with Newark, New Jersey; Washington, D.C.; Milwaukee, Wisconsin; Chicago, Illinois; Benton Harbor and Highland Park, Michigan (combined); Flint and Detroit, Michigan (combined); Malden, Massachusetts; Memphis, Tennessee; and Newburgh, New York. The community roundtables will include local public water utilities, community organizations, environmental groups and public officials. The

roundtables will be live-streamed.

In addition to these geographically focused roundtables, EPA will also host national stakeholder roundtables with drinking water utilities, intergovernmental associations, environmental organizations, environmental justice organizations, public health organizations and consumer associations.

Tribal LCR Roundtable Information

In July, EPA intends to host a virtual roundtable specifically for tribes and tribal communities during which participants can discuss topics relating to the LCRR.

EPA encourages participants who represent tribes and tribal communities — including, but not limited to, tribal governments, public water utilities serving Indian country, tribal consortia, and tribally authorized organizations — to consider submitting a nomination letter.

EPA requests interested parties submit their nomination



letter to EPA to LCRR@epa.gov by no later than June 16, 2021.

Nomination letters should include the following information:

- Name and location of the tribe or tribal entity;
- Primary point of contact and contact information;
- Names of one or two speakers to represent your organization during the facilitated discussion, and;
- A description of how your tribe and/or tribal community has been underserved or experienced disproportionate impacts from lead in drinking water.

EPA intends to make this roundtable available for viewing to those who are not participating, but are interested in listening. For more information on this engagement visit <https://www.epa.gov/tribaldrinkingwater>.

Members of the public may also submit comments via the docket at: <http://www.regulations.gov>, Docket ID: EPA-HQ-OW-2021-0255 until June 30, 2021. **WWD**



Well waters worries

Is your water supply harboring
dangerous bacteria or pollutants? / 1

(ATTACHMENT #4)

Well intentions

Checking water quality is key for rural homebuyers

By Rick Karlin

If you are buying a home that is hooked up to a city or municipal water system, you generally have little to worry about when it comes to the quality of water. That's because it's the municipality's responsibility to provide clean water, either through filtration, chlorination or other methods, and they are subject to periodic review and reporting requirements.

But if the home you are buying has its own well, then things are more complicated.

Private wells aren't subject to the same regulations as municipal systems, and water quality can become a key issue in the inspection process. Your bank or lender may require water testing as part of the mortgage agreement.

"The lender may set criteria for a mortgage," said Jeff Smith, of Smith Well Drilling. A member of the Empire State Water Well Drillers Association, and a home inspector who also

conducts inspection training courses, Smith drillers and testers have been busy these days due to a COVID-19 related influx of people moving to rural areas in and around the Capital Region.

"We've never seen it so busy," he said.

Outside of cities, towns or villages, many houses have their own wells, which means there is a lot to look for during the inspection process.

One of the first things homebuyers should check is whether their wells contain coliform

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Brian Collins, who operates the East Greenbush lab, said homebuyers in rural areas may also want to check for nitrates or herbicides and pesticides that may be present in agricultural areas.

"We get a lot of calls for herbicide and pesticide (tests) if they are near a farm," Collins said.

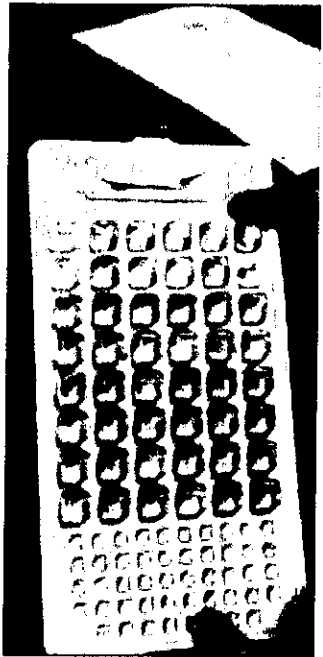
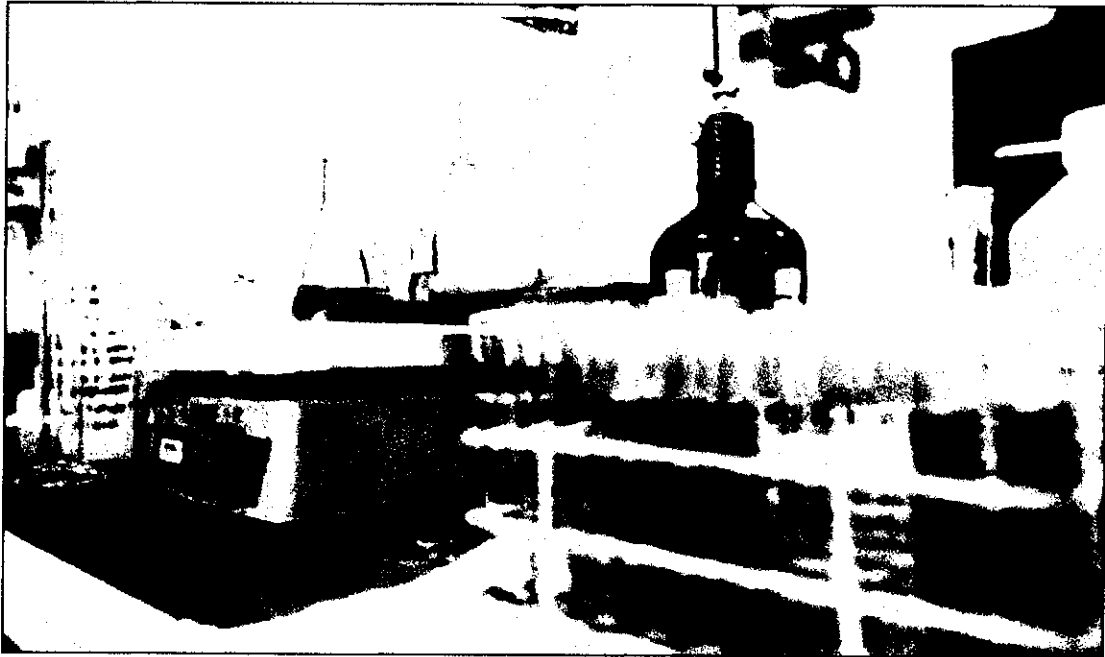
People worried about agricultural runoff in their water should check for substances like arsenic, which is used in pesticides, or nitrates, which are a primary component of crop fertilizers, he said.

Still, not all the elements one finds in water are harmful. With lots of mineral-rich hard water in this region, for instance, a home may have brown iron stains in the sink — but these are more of an aesthetic concern than a health issue.



Photos by Will W

Brian Collins, co-owner of Capital Region Environmental Lab in East Greenbush, works at a water testing station.



ON THE COVER

Getty Images

Because private wells aren't subject to the same regulations as municipal systems,

Homebuyers can get their water tested for a number of conditions at Capital Region Environmental Lab. Above, wa

VII E19

bacteria. The broad category includes countless harmless varieties naturally found in soil but also includes harmful organisms such as E. coli, which is found in fecal matter and can cause illnesses such as diarrhea or stomach upsets. The presence of coliform bacteria is an indicator that human or animal waste could also be present.

Fixing that problem is a multistep process, Smith said.

The source of the bacteria — or other pollutants — must first be pinpointed. This can be a defective or missing well cap, seepage through a well casing, or flooding. Once that is addressed, a water expert may “shock” the water with chlorine, then wait several days for it to work before taking a new water sample.

“Once the well shaft is totally disinfected, then the water must be coliform-free,” Smith said.

If the problem can't be corrected by repairing the well, the buyer may have to consider a treatment system, such as ultraviolet or chlorine filters.

Smith advises homebuyers to use a driller or tester who is certified with the National Ground Water Association and who has at least two years of experience. Additionally, the water samples should be examined by a facility, such as East Greenbush's Capital Region Environmental Lab, that uses EPA-certified tests.

Brian Collins, who operates the East Greenbush lab, said homebuyers in rural areas may also want to check for nitrates or herbicides and pesticides that may be present in agricul-



Photos by Will Wak

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Will Waldron

Erika LaPorta, co-owner of Capital Region Environmental Lab in East Greenbush, prepares to test a water sample for hardness.

VII E21

VII E22



(ATTACHMENT #5)

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VII E24



VII E25



VII E26





TOWN OF POESTENKILL

38 Davis Drive, P.O. 210
Poestenkill, NY 12140

VII F I

Office of the
Building Inspector
Code Enforcement Officer

MEMORANDEM

To: Town Supervisor – Keith Hammond

Town Board Members- June Butler, David Hass, Harold VanSlyke

Eric Wohlleber (Deputy Town Supervisor)

Town attorney – Jack Casey

From: Tracy Church Code Enforcement/ Building Inspector

Date: August 10, 2021

RE: July/August

OVERVIEW:

The Building Department/ Code Enforcement office continues to assist residents and builders with permit inquiries, issuance of permits and follow-up inspections with prompt and convenient response times. We continue to inspect, gather required documentation, and enter all pertaining information into the Town of Poestenkill Building/ Code Enforcement Data Base. We have been actively cooperating with requests from attorneys from both sides of the case pertaining to the 160 Lynn Road situation and have provided requested documentation and affidavits as to provide accurate, sound, decisive information. The aftermath of the July storm continues to require constant monitoring regarding MS-4 responsibilities for the MS-4 community as well as third party construction site development obligations. With the generous assistance from two business owners, county resources and volunteers we are now able to assist a local family, who's access bridge across a small creek on Snyder's Corner Road was washed out as a result of heavy flooding in the area. An emergency article 15 DEC application was submitted with accompanying documentation, photos, measurements and sizing of existing culverts, site visits with engineers and Army Corps of Engineers representatives, as a result of our efforts an emergency permit has been issued to allow for access to the stream to remove the existing concrete access bridge and replace with a sized culvert pipe, stone and Riprap. Thank You to the parties involved with providing the necessary materials required for this very involved endeavor, and the materialization of a second piece of very large culvert pipe that had arrived anonymously in the dark of night at the precise area in need.

We continue to address the situation located at 14 Dennis Road, the court system is assisting with attempting to remedy the deplorable condition of the property which has resulted in several

VII F2

neighbor complaints, regarding unsafe conditions, rubbish, trash, and very large amounts of junk in general, this endeavor has been ongoing since the spring of 2020. This situation and others similar have gone unchecked in the past and have created a fair amount of frustration and dismay from several concerned residents, we are resolving many of these complaints and issues, however it takes time and patients to resolve long embedded activities and bad habits.

The Town of Poestenkill will continue to be represented in a polite, efficient and professional manner.

Respectfully submitted

Tracy Church

Building Inspector/ Code Enforcement Official

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tracy Church". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "T".

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Michelle Asquith

From: Bob Guyer <straydawg302@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, August 12, 2021 3:23 PM
To: Michelle Asquith
Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: monthly report

Dog control report

Dogs running at large - 5

Cat Doa - 1

Chickens 1

1 summons issued for running large

Bob Guyer
Dog control officer

Sent via the Samsung Galaxy S20 Ultra 5G, an AT&T 5G smartphone

----- Original message -----

From: Michelle Asquith <masquith@poestenkillny.com>
Date: 8/12/21 2:33 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: 'Bob Guyer' <straydawg302@gmail.com>
Subject: monthly report

Can I get your monthly report

Thank you

VII H1

Town of Poestenkill
Office of the Highway Superintendent
P.O. Box 210
Poestenkill, NY 12140
(518)283-4144

To: Town Supervisor- Keith Hammond
Town Board Members- Butler, Wohlleber, Hass, Van Slyke

From: Highway Superintendent- David (DJ) Goyer

Date: August 12th, 2021

RE: Highway Activities
July 9th – August 12th, 2021

1. The highway crew started back to work on Monday July 12th after the holiday shutdown. We had numerous projects starting or continuing work on throughout the town. The first couple days back we had the catch vac truck sucking and cleaning drains in Algonquin estates and the lower end of Weatherwax rd. development.
2. Dave started mowing for the second pass around this season. The second time around we mow back a few passes to keep a wider section of shoulder mowed and cleared back to prevent the roads getting overgrown and gives vehicles more visibility for deer crossing the roadway. I had a new belt weldment cover made for the flail mower while we were on vacation. The old one was in rough condition and constantly rubbing on the belts creating issues. The new cover fit great and is heavier duty then the old one, which will be better for the long term of the mower.
3. The auction for the dodge pickup and our oldest chipper closed and we received \$6,600 for the chipper plus \$10,800 for the dodge pickup. The tandem truck 110 that was set to be auctioned had to be delayed due to an

issue with the title on the truck. We got that lean release squared away and auctioned that separately a couple weeks later. That auction has closed, and we will be receiving \$15,200 for that tandem. Its is a lower amount then I would have liked to get for it, however the truck has turned into a money pit mechanically and costing us more and more. The most recent motor work was over \$4000 dollars. If we were to keep it and have another mechanical issue with it, it could be the end of that truck and we wouldn't get anything for it at that point. This truck hasn't been a plow truck for three years now, it was just a haul truck for ditching and dirt work.

4. The gradall was up on north rd. fixing shoulders and correcting washouts that arose during shut down week.
5. Crew installed a binder course and then a top course of blacktop at the intersection of Henderson and James Street. The turn is sharp and narrow which leads to the garbage trucks taking the turn and rolling the edges of the road into disregard. The job came out well and created an easier turn for the traveling public. It is my opinion and among others as well that these big garbage trucks are causing many issues on our small-town roads. Other towns are seeing the same problems as well. The companies bring big tandem axle heavy heavy compactors onto our roads to pick up the resident's trash and they are simply too big and overweight for many of the roads. Some of which they can't even turn around on which forces them to back all the way in, and that isn't safe for pedestrians or children playing. Just simply stating a concern I see for our roads.
6. We finished up replacing culverts in part of Algonquin estates ahead of the paving project for Tracy, Cherokee, and Mohawk Dr. This paving project got delayed because of the July storm that hit.
7. Wednesday July 14th this part of the county got hit hard with an evening thunderstorm that caused major damage to not only our town but the towns of sand lake, Averill Park, and Nassau. I called our crew in that evening and we worked quite late that evening assessing the damages as well as closing roads or attempting to keep roads partially open. The town suffered **major** damage to Jones Road, Devan Road, Heather Ridge Road, Holloway Lane, Hinkle Road, Snake Hill Road, Holser Road and High Meadow Road. The town suffered **minor** damage to Vosburgh Road, Powers Road, Catlin Road, 56 Road, Legenbauer Road, Hicks Pond Road,

Colehamer Road, North Road, Tymeson Road, and Lynn Road. Poestenkill's highway department worked long hard days for the remainder of that week and the following few weeks after. I am very pleased with how well our crew worked to get the highway system back open for the residents. We had to purchase various sizes of stone from the local quarries and road gravel from Polaro sand and gravel in town due to the timing we still did not have a new mining permit for the towns gravel pit. We increased culvert size where we had problems to hopefully eliminate future issues and stabilized banks or ditches that had erosion issues to prevent future erosion problems.

8. I would like to thank Sue, Tiffany, and Michelle for buying the crew lunch and breakfast numerous times after the storm. We appreciate those kind gestures every time they are offered and thank you for thinking of us.
9. The county attempted to put in for disaster relief from FEMA for financial help due to the storms but unfortunately, we did not reach the \$30 million criteria to qualify for assistance. Our numbers were quite a bit lower than neighboring towns that got hit worse, but we still were looking to get over \$52,000 in relief from FEMA.
10. Our crew worked together with NYS DOT on route 355 to clean up numerous trees that came down during the storms that hit as well. We cleaned up the two big trees that fell near Poestenkill's fire house and on Sicho Road. Shared services once again became useful.
11. I received a call from a resident for a sight distance complaint at the intersection Seneca Drive and Algonquin Beach Road a few days before the storm hit town. I was scheduled to correct this problem Friday July 16th. However, the storm changed my schedule to say the least and it got put on hold. It was not my intentions to delay it or push it off, but we had roads, ditches, and driveway culverts that were in terrible shape or non-existent. These problems needed to be corrected before anymore storms came through town to prevent more damage and to also get residents out or into their homes as some were trapped due to water problems. We were able to get this sight distance corrected Thursday August 5th. All the trees were cut back except for one big white pine. We will be back to cut that tree down with Sand Lakes bigger bucket truck when they have time in their schedule to help us.

12. We paved Mohawk Drive, Cherokee Drive, and Tracy Road Thursday August 5th and Friday August 6th with the asphalt company Valley Paving. We normally work with the town of Sand Lake to pave our roads; however, they have parked their paver for a couple months due to the damage they have in their town. Valley Paving is on the Rensselaer County contract, so it allowed me to get the best price for the road work. The development came out excellent and met my expectations. They will be back in town in September to pave a few other roads for us so that way we can move forward with the chip's paperwork. We missed the August deadline for reimbursement so we will be putting our paperwork in to meet the November deadline and get reimbursement in December.
13. We borrowed the culvert jet flusher from Rensselaer County highway to open and clean numerous culverts that needed flushing, so water better flows throughout the drainage ditches.
14. Had a crew out this past week getting some patching done and culverts blacktopped that had been replaced during or after the storms.
15. Had a crew getting back to ditching roads that got put on hold this past month due to clean up work.
16. We finally received a mining permit renewal for the town's gravel pit in recent weeks. It is a temporary permit with stipulations that come with it. Tom Fields was able to change our bank grades on AutoCAD from 3:1 slope to 2:1 slope grade after DEC allowed those corrections. It gave us more usable material and allowed us to make gravel and sand for this winter. However, the next step will be to survey the next part of the gravel pit to allow us to continue mining over there. I did not have the funds to have that survey done as it will cost around \$12,000. Hopefully we can budget for this and perform this in the spring. We will have to move into this next section in the following year or start buying material from a local pit for road gravel and winter sand.