

TOWN OF CLIFTON PARK BUILDING & GROUNDS DEPARTMENT BUILDING CONSTRUCTION

The Clifton Park Town Board has considered options for meeting the needs of two of our busiest departments, the Building and Grounds Department, and the Town Sewer Department, both of which perform important service functions each day.

The Buildings and Grounds Department is responsible for tasks such as the maintenance of Town buildings, parks and public areas. The headquarters for the department has been located on Clifton Park Center Road since the 90s. As the years have passed, this location no longer fulfills the needs of the department.

The Town Sewer Department was formed in 2005, following the abandonment of the private sewer system CK Sanitary to the Town. In 2000, the Town was responsible for a couple hundred customers, who were part of a small system in Rexford that was abandoned to the Town. Dutch Meadows and Woodland Hills followed in the early 2000s as the owner of these systems also chose the abandonment option. Per NYS Law, the owner of a private sewer system in this case, is allowed to abandon the system to the nearest municipality. The Clifton Park Water Authority assisted with the operation of the systems, until CK Sanitary and its ten thousand plus customers became the responsibility of the Town.

CK Sanitary was founded by Robert Van Patten. Mr. Van Patten constructed thousands of homes in Clifton Park and operated private water and sewer systems to serve the homes. Neighborhoods such as Clifton Knolls, Country Knolls and Country Knolls South amongst others, were served by CK Sanitary. The Town did not purchase any of the systems that were abandoned. The abandonment process involved a transfer in ownership.

Following the CK Sanitary abandonment in 2004, the Town created a Sewer Department. The Sewer Department has provided oversight of the operations and maintenance of the collections systems, while Saratoga County provides treatment at the centralized plant operations located on the Halfmoon/Mechanicville border.

The Buildings and Grounds Department as well as the Sewer Department are in need of larger facilities. The Town Board authorized funding for a new building adjacent to Town Hall for the Building and Grounds Department. The 8 bay, \$1.3mm building will provide adequate facilities for the department decades into the future. It is a simple building with a great deal of storage area for vehicles and equipment. Moving the department's base of operations to the Town Hall Complex will improve efficiency and provide a more centralized location for deployment of assets. The Sewer Department which is also in need of expansion does not require nearly as much space as the Buildings and Grounds Department. Sewer's base of operations will be the property that will become vacant, when Buildings and Grounds moves to the new facility. The new headquarters will similarly provide adequate facilities for the Sewer Department ~~for~~ decades into the future.

As he began his tenure as Town Supervisor, Supervisor Barrett was very concerned about the fact the Town Complex was landlocked. Since that time, the Town has purchased properties along Vischer Ferry Road to the North of Town Hall. The purchases have allowed for the planning for future Town operations that are now being executed, while maintaining a buffer with neighboring homes. Plans also provide for an expansion of Town Hall in the future if needed.

Currently, Town Hall is paid for, functional and has some space not being utilized. Therefore, the Town Board is not moving forward with an expansion of Town Hall nor is the Board considering spending millions on a new Town Hall. However, the provision for a larger Town Hall was contemplated in the planning process and is possible.

The new Building and Grounds building will be substantially completed by the end of the year and we are eager to be able to solve the needs of two departments with this one initiative. This initiative was completely paid for by money saved by the Town eliminating the need to borrow.