



March 2025 Newsletter

VILLAGE OF LANSING *Incorporated 1974*

2405 North Triphammer Road * Ithaca, NY 14850 *607- 257-0424 * (FAX) 607-257-3230

Office Hours: Monday - Thursday, 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Web Page Address: www.vlansing.org.

Board of Trustees' Meetings: 1st and 3rd Monday, 7:30 PM

Planning Board Meetings: 2nd Monday and last Tuesday, 7:00 PM

Board of Zoning Appeal Meeting: 3rd Tuesday as needed; 7:00 PM

Currently all meetings are being conducted in person and via Zoom. Meetings are posted on YouTube.

COMMENTS FROM THE MAYOR

Welcome to Spring 2025 and the Village of Lansing newsletter. This winter seemed too long, windy, snowy and icy and it will be nice to have some sunnier, warmer days ahead. Our Department of Public Works (DPW) staff, John Courtney, Chris Zavaski, and Nick Dean, spent many hours plowing snow and removing ice from our streets and sidewalks. They also completed local projects including replacing the wooden bridge with a sturdier culvert on the trail between Leifs Way and Janivar Drive, resurfacing several Village asphalt walkways, and assisted with Dutch bulb-plantings in several Village parks. The Dart Drive/Graham Road streets and sidewalks projects are complete except for streetlight wiring and activation,

Mike Scott, Code Enforcement/Zoning Officer/Stormwater Management Officer/Fire Inspector, is working with several development projects within the Village including several High Density Residential (HDR) projects in various stages of planning, review, and approval by Village boards. He helped two new restaurants, Taco Bell and Ole Ole, build or renovate spaces to open and serve Village residents. To keep our residents and businesses safe, Mike continuously conducts and reports results of building-safety, stormwater system, and fire safety inspections. Also, he is guiding the Village Planning Board, Trustees, and staff through a much-needed review and update of our Village Codification.

Along with her regular responsibilities as Village Clerk/Treasurer, Jodi Dake, guided our Trustees and staff to arrive at a 2025-26 Village Preliminary Budget to present at a public hearing scheduled for the April 7th Trustees meeting. The Preliminary Budget tax rate will remain at \$1.50/1,000 of assessed value for the 7th year in a row and retains our status as one of the lowest taxing municipalities in New York State. The proposed Village funds' totals are: General: \$3,422,273, Water: \$1,584,717, and Sewer: \$1,822,700.

The Trustees, Planning Board, and Board of Zoning Appeals worked on initiatives to improve our Village Codification including: an amendment to add a section on solar energy systems, passing a local law to rezone a Bomax Drive parcel from Business & Technology to HDR (to allow for an East

Pointe Phase 2 development), an amendment to allow simple lot-line adjustments to be approved by our Code Enforcement Officer, and negotiating an amendment to the Intermunicipal Wastewater Transportation and Treatment Agreement between the Village, the Town of Lansing and the Village of Cayuga Heights that requires a Village sewer permit and associated permit fee for each Town of Lansing sewer connection that will flow through Village sewer mains.

Wolfgang Bullmer has decided to step down as a Trustee, and we want to thank him for his service to the Village. Patrick Gillespie agreed to run for Trustee Bullmer's seat in this year's Village election. Along with Patrick, Carolyn Greenwald will seek reelection as a Trustee, and I will seek another term as Mayor. Please plan to vote on April 22, 2025.

We also want to welcome Devin Walker who recently joined the Village Board of Zoning Appeals.

I wish everyone a safe, and happy Spring and Summer of 2025!

Ronny Hardaway, Mayor

In Memoriam: Mayor Anne M. Furry

We were saddened to learn that ex-Mayor Anne Furry passed away in September of last year. In 1974, Anne worked to help form the Village of Lansing and served as a Village Trustee and Deputy Mayor. In 1981, she was elected Mayor and served in that office for 8 years. After retiring from Village service, Anne remained informed and active in the community to help the Village's continued growth and stability. She will be greatly missed by our Village. More insights into Anne's life can be found here: ithacajournal.com/obituaries/pnys0957048

Thank You to All Responders to the Village Brush Fire of 11/1/2024

On behalf of the Village of Lansing, we want to thank all the fire department, ambulance, and emergency services personnel for their excellent work responding to the brush fire along East Shore Drive on November 1, 2024. The courage, dedication, and quick response displayed by the responders and coordinators were a testament to the finest qualities of public service that are too often take for granted. Please accept our deepest gratitude for the dangerously hard work you all performed that evening while protecting Village of Lansing lives and property.

VILLAGE ELECTIONS

The Village elections will be held Tuesday, April 22, 2025, from 12 noon – 9pm in the Village of Lansing Community Room located behind the Village of Lansing Offices. For up-to-date voting and election information, important deadlines, sample ballots, poll site location and hours, questions on how to register to vote, and how to vote if you are not able to go to a polling site one may contact the Tompkin County Board of Elections at 607-274-5522.

Website: <https://www.tompkinscountyny.gov/All-Departments/Board-of-Elections>.

Village of Lansing Election Calendar:

<https://www.tompkinscountyny.gov/files/assets/county/v/1/board-of-elections/documents/calendars/2025-lansing-village-election.pdf>.

VILLAGE CLERK'S OFFICE

Safety & Incident Real-Time Emergency Notifications (SIREN)

Tompkins County SIREN is the official mass notification system used by Tompkins County, the City of Ithaca, and local towns and villages to communicate with community residents during emergencies. Sign up now to receive alerts from SIREN via text message, email, and/or voice message. There are notification lists covering the Village of Lansing, in addition to any other lists from which you might like to receive notifications. Sign up at tompkinscountyny.gov/siren:

- Add your address to receive geo-targeted alerts
- Indicate what types of alerts you want to receive.
- Indicate how you want to be notified by text, email, and/or voice message.

PLEASE NOTE: You may have previously signed up for Swift911. Your information was migrated to this new system so you would not miss alerts and notifications during the transition period. However, if you had not created a SIREN account/profile by December 31, 2022 you are no longer in the system and must sign up at the link above or you can text SIREN to 67283 on your mobile device.

In addition to emergency alerts, you can also choose to receive additional community notifications based on your interests or location. These include notifications about severe weather, safety, health, utility disruptions, major traffic incidents, construction, and more. This service is provided by the Tompkins County Department of Emergency Response at no direct cost to the public.

If you do not have a computer, you can:

- Text SIREN to 67283 from a mobile phone
- Visit your local library to sign up online for SIREN on an accessible computer.
- Call 2-1-1 (1-877-211-8667) and someone in our local help line will assist you.

For more information go to tompkinscountyny.gov/siren.

2025-26 Village of Lansing Budget

The Village budget year runs from June 1st to May 31st. The Trustees will hold a public hearing on the proposed budget at the Monday, April 7th meeting at 7:36pm. Please feel free to attend the budget meetings and give your input. The 2025-26 Preliminary Budget is available on the Village website. The current proposal is to keep the tax rate the same as last year at \$1.50 per \$1,000 of assessed value. Planned DPW Projects will include improvements to Cayuga Hills Road, Hampton Hills Road, Pembroke Lane, Esty Drive, Cinema Drive and Sheraton Drive. There is also a plan to add sidewalks on Uptown Road from Global Park to Nissan Dealership and on Craft Road from N. Triphammer to Ned Hickey Park.

Water & Sewer Rate Increased as of April 2025 Billing for Village Residents

For January 2025 SCLIWC raised their water rate from \$6.33 to \$6.73 per 1,000 gallons of water consumption. The Village water surcharge is currently 70% of Bolton Point's rate. Starting with your April 2025 bill the cost for 1,000 gallons of water will increase from \$10.76 to \$11.44 or a minimum charge of \$57.20 for 5,000 gallons. The Village surcharge is basically the only source of income for the Water Fund. It pays for maintenance of our water system.

The Village of Cayuga Heights will also be increasing their sewer rate from \$6.96 to \$7.59 per 1,000 gallons of water consumption. The Village of Lansing surcharge is 25% of the Bolton Point water

rate or \$1.68. This results in a minimum sewer charge of \$46.35 or \$9.27 per thousand gallons of water consumption. This new rate will also begin with your April 2025 billing.

Water/Sewer Bills

Bolton Point implemented eBilling of Village of Lansing water and sewer bills. If you are interested in receiving your bill via email, please sign up at boltonpoint.org/ebilling. You may want to sign up for both email and mailed bills to start to make sure there are no issues with you receiving a bill electronically. At this time, **you cannot pay your bill electronically**. *PLEASE NOTE: You must provide your account number to complete this registration. It is a two-step process and if you do not complete both you will not receive an email bill. If you have signed up and do not get an ebill please contact the office and I will help get the issue resolved.*

Village of Lansing Residents receive a bill quarterly at the beginning of January, April, July, and October. All water/sewer bills are due by the 20th of that month and can be either mailed in or you may bring your payment to the Village Office at 2405 N. Triphammer Road. There is a secure drop box inside the entry way to our administration building for you to drop off your payment anytime. The Village does not accept credit card payments.

Taxes on your Village Property

It seems that many people are confused about the taxes they pay and where to pay them. Village of Lansing residents receive three different tax bills. **The Village Tax Bills go out June 1st and are due by July 1st. Those are the only taxes paid at the Village of Lansing Office.** School Tax Bills come out in September if you are in the Lansing School District or in October if you are in the Ithaca School District. On January 1st each year you will receive your Town & County Tax Bill. The Tompkins County Assessment Department prepares all the tax bills and assigns assessment values to properties.

Village Meetings

Currently, all our meetings are being conducted in person and online via Zoom. If you are interested in attending a Board of Trustee meeting via Zoom, please contact Jodi at clerk@vlansing.org. If you would like to attend a Planning Board or BZA meeting, please contact Mike Scott at codeofficer2@vlansing.org. Our Trustee, Planning Board and Board of Zoning Appeals meetings are also available on our YouTube channel.

Board and Committee Openings

We are currently looking for residents that would like to serve on the Board of Zoning Appeals, as an alternate on the Planning Board or represent the Village on the Environmental Management Council. If you are interested in getting involved, please contact the Village office.

Village Sponsored Street Tree Planting Program

Village of Lansing residents can get reimbursed for two street trees per year for up to \$100 each as part of the Street Tree Planting Program. The Tree Planting Application can be found under Applications and Forms on the Village website or in the brochure rack in the Village Office foyer.

Jodi Dake, Clerk/Treasurer

VILLAGE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Spring Brush Pick-Up

Spring brush and limb pick-up will be provided by the Town of Lansing Highway Departments on **Monday, April 28, 2025**. Residents are asked to leave up to one pick-up truck size load near the roadside by 6:00 am. To assist the work crews, all limbs and brush (up to 5 inches in diameter) should be piled with the cut ends facing the same direction. The limbs should be no longer than 8 feet in length. Also, the piles should not be tied but should be left loose. Please do not put out bags of yard waste. This pick up is only for limbs and brush. If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to me at 607-257-0424 or by email dpw@vlansing.org.

John Courtney, Superintendent of Public Works

CODE & ZONING DEPARTMENT

I would remind everyone that there are numerous scenarios in which a building permit would be needed, I would encourage individuals who are interested in, additions, new construction, remodeling, installation of new heating equipment, decks, pools, etc. to contact me at codeofficer2@vlansing.org for any questions you might have.

Homeowners and business owners, when a building permit is issued to you (or via your contractor), it is ultimately your responsibility to make sure project inspections are requested and completed. A list of required inspections are printed on the official building permit. Please make sure that your contractor has contacted me, especially at the conclusion of your project for a Certificate of Compliance.

Now that the snow has melted, I would like to remind our local businesses and homeowners to please help keep this Village beautiful by checking your property for garbage and debris that has collected through the winter.

Stormwater runoff is a main source of water pollution. Since stormwater runoff in this area will eventually end up in Cayuga Lake, we ask the Village residents and business owners for help in decreasing the potential for pollutants. This is an important task since the Village and four other municipalities are provided drinking water from Cayuga Lake. When stormwater flows to the drainage ways and drainage infrastructure, it picks up and mixes with what's there. That may include:

- Oil, grease, and automotive fluids
- Fertilizer and pesticides from gardens and homes
- Bacteria from pet waste and improperly maintained septic systems
- Soap from car washing
- Debris and litter

Many people assume that stormwater flows down storm drains and then to a treatment facility. That is almost never the case. It either flows directly into local waters or down storm drains, which channel it into local water bodies. By reducing or eliminating the above items the pollutants will not have the opportunity to enter into Cayuga Lake, which will provide for many more years of enjoying and using the lake. If each of us helps a little, we all help a lot.

Also, please be aware that the New York State burn ban is now in effect through May 14th.

Michael Scott, Code & Zoning Officer

Please remember to check/replace the batteries in all Carbon Monoxide and Smoke Detectors.

PLANNING BOARD NEWS

In January, the Board of Trustees and the Planning Board met to discuss goals for the upcoming year. Many topics were discussed including code updates/ cleanup, zoning changes, chart of use updates, tree law updates, short-term rentals, a proposed local law addressing lot line changes, and battery energy storage systems. It was decided that these planning meetings will happen twice a year moving forward. Once in July during a regular Board of Trustees meeting and once in January during a regular Planning Board meeting. The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for July 21, 2025.

Major Projects

Todd Metcalfe from General Code attended a Planning Board meeting to discuss their eCode service. After discussion across multiple meetings, it was the recommendation of the Planning Board that while the service seemed to provide value, now was not the appropriate time to invest in the service. A special permit was granted for the construction of a new building with upgraded electrical equipment at Bolton Point. A minor subdivision was granted to Borg Warner for their reconfiguration of lot lines in the Bomax Drive and Warren Road area.

Ongoing Projects

Much of the last few months was spent working on proposed changes to the Tree Conservation and Planting Law (Section 145-27). To assist with some of the changes, Dave Fernandez and Athena Conzone from Cayuga Landscape attended a Planning Board meeting to discuss their feedback on the law. They also provided a wealth of information which the Planning Board plans to include in an appendix when the proposed changes are recommended to the Board of Trustees.

Mike Baker, Planning Board Chair

VILLAGE TRUSTEE REPORTS

Comprehensive Plan Survey. Your Input Matters!

It is not too late to respond to our Village resident and business surveys. These surveys will be available until the end of the year.

The Village of Lansing is updating its ten year Comprehensive Plan to reflect the priorities of our Village residents and Village businesses. I am serving as the chair of the Comprehensive Plan Committee. The Comprehensive Plan is a document that guides the Board of Trustees and other Village boards and committees to inform policies for the next decade of planning, including zoning and funding decisions. An important part of the updating process is to collect information from Village residents and Village businesses on their priorities which will help guide future planning. Please use the following links to fill out the survey(s):

Village Resident: <https://forms.gle/36oye2etFggBGvjb8>.

Village Business: <https://forms.gle/hStuZ258C37mj8c97>.

Alternatively, you are welcome to come to the Village Office on Triphammer Road to fill out a paper copy of the survey or request a copy by mail.

Spring Bulbs Are Coming Soon

It's almost time to see the results of our 1,500 bulbs plantings! With any luck, there will be a beautiful display of daffodils this May on display at Marion Hartill Park, Ned Hickey Park, Philip Dankert Park and Shannon Park. If you haven't visited any of these parks, use this as an excuse and enjoy the spring.

Carolyn Greenwald, Deputy Mayor

CWIO

Cayuga Lake Watershed Intermunicipal Organization (CWIO) was asked in 2024 to assist in providing applications to the Town of Caroline and the Town of Lansing for the Climate Smart Communities program, guidance, and possible funding avenues for the Town of Lansing for the reconstruction of Ludlowville Road and provided input on the Interlaken Water Tower Park.

Youth Services

The Tompkins County Youth Services Board continues to work on filling positions in the organization as staff are retiring and current positions remain unfilled. The aftereffects of COVID have added to a need for community support for youth. Financial resources significantly impact all aspects of programming as does transportation.

Susan Ainslie, Trustee

Joint Safety Action Plan Status

The Tompkins County Joint Safety Action Plan project is on track with the plan anticipated to be completed in May. The draft plan will be available in mid-April for review. Following that review, the draft plan will be migrated into a document-design system. A virtual public meeting will be held on April 30, 2025, at 6:30 PM. The meeting details will be forthcoming to the Village website. The meeting will focus on summarizing the draft/final plan and will include a review of the different sections of the plan. Additionally, the draft plan will be posted on the Joint Safety Action Plan project website (safestreetstompkins.com) with a comment form so that the public can share their thoughts.

Ronny Hardaway, Mayor

Climate Smart Communities (CSC)/Clean Energy Communities (CEC)

In 2019, Village of Lansing Board of Trustees voted to join the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) *Climate Smart Communities (CSC) Program*, and in 2021 voted to join the state's *Clean Energy Communities (CEC) Program*, a voluntary State program designed to help municipalities mitigate and adapt to a changing climate, reduce greenhouse gas emission, and initiated the process to become registered and certified by authorizing the creation of the Village CSC Task Force.

Ronny Hardaway was appointed as the Village's Taskforce Chair. Publications, recordings, and information can be found on the Village of Lansing website at vlansing.org.

In collaboration with Cornell Cooperative Extension Tompkins County Climate Smart Communities and Clean Energy Communities Coordinators, and in partnership with area municipalities, organizations, committees, and staff, taskforce recommended actions, aligned with Village Plans and Policies and CSC goals, were recommended to the Village of Lansing Board of Trustees for approval.

Village Actions: prepared the Greenhouse Gas Inventory (GHG) and Village of Lansing Government Operations Climate Action Plan; joined the Energy Star Portfolio Manager Program to annually collect and track the Village's energy use data to measure progress toward energy and greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reduction goals; completed the Village of Lansing Natural Resources Inventory for 2023; provided a Village section in the Tompkins County Hazard Mitigation Plan: 2021 Update to identify risks and include actions to prevent or mitigate damage associated with extreme weather events; hosted public education presentations related to Communities Campaigns such as the Community Solar and HeatSmart Tompkins; adopted the Promotion of Shaded Areas in Public Places resolution to identify and, to the extent feasible, integrate new shade structures and/or new tree plantings when planning development or construction projects on Village property; and adopted the "Solid Waste Management: Setting a Solid Waste Reduce, Reuse, Recycle and Rethink Policy for the Village of Lansing NY Government Buildings."

Kathleen Yen, Trustee

TOMPKINS COUNTY RECYCLING

Tompkins County offers a single stream curbside recycling program. The recycling calendar is available at the Tompkins County Solid Waste Management Division office, Recycling and Solid Waste Center at the Drop-off Area, and online at www.recycletompkins.org. There are also copies available in our brochure rack in the Village Office vestibule, which is always open.

The Village of Lansing is a Food Scrap Recycling Drop Spot. On Saturdays from 10:00am-1:00pm Lansing residents can bring their food scraps to the parking lot behind the Village Office at 2405 N. Triphammer Road. Food scraps can include meat, bones and dairy and paper towels and napkins. Bags are also available in the office during business hours.

LANSING RECREATION DEPARTMENT

In addition to the Village of Lansing Parks, the Town of Lansing has two beautiful parks, Myers Park on Lake Cayuga, and Ludlowville Park, which overlooks the historic and picturesque Ludlowville Falls. Next to Myers Park is a nature preserve known as Salt Point. The Town also boasts a quiet and well-kept scenic trail known as The Lansing Center Trail. Myers Park offers canoe/kayak rack storage, dry dock storage, camping and pavilion reservations, swimming, summer camps, recreation programs and Music in the Park on Thursdays in July and August.

As a Village/Town resident you can go to the Town of Lansing Recreation Office and get a sticker for your car to get into Myers Park for free. For more information, or to register for a program or camp, visit www.lansingrec.com or call their office at 607-533-7388.

VILLAGE OFFICIALS

Mayor Ronny Hardaway ronny.hardaway@gmail.com	607-351-8042
Deputy Mayor Carolynn Greenwald cbgreenwald@gmail.com	607-227-6122
Trustee Susan Ainslie sainslie47@gmail.com	607-592-2592
Trustee Kathleen Yen kyen@vlansing.org	607-257-8199
Trustee Wolfgang Bullmer Wolfgang.bullmer@gmail.com	607-229-3000
Planning Bd. Chairman-Mike Baker bakerm82@gmail.com	607-592-4083
BZA Chair-Lynn Leopold	607-273-3457

VILLAGE EMPLOYEES

***All employees can be reached at their extension
when calling the Village at 607-257-0424**

Clerk/Treasurer	Jodi Dake	ext. #2
Code /Zoning Officer	Michael Scott	ext. #3
Supt. of Public Works	John Courtney	ext. #4
MEO	Nick Dean & Chris Zavaski	
Fire Inspector	Mike Scott	ext. #3
Electrical Inspector	Floyd Ferris	607-592-5829
Village Accountant		
Insero & Company		607- 272-4444
Village Attorney	Natalie French	607-277-6611
Village Engineers	TG Miller	607-272-6477
Engineering Consultant	Brent Cross	

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

John Courtney, Superintendent of Public Works
607- 257-0424 ext. #4 or cell 607-280-4893

VILLAGE REPRESENTATIVES

Southern Cayuga Lake Intermunicipal Water Commission.....	Ronny Hardaway & Don Hartill
Tompkins County Board of Representatives, District 6.....	Michael J Sigler
Tompkins County Board of Representatives, District 10.....	Deborah Dawson
Tompkins County Environmental Management Council.....	open
Tompkins County Joint Youth Commission	Wolfgang Bullmer
Tompkins County Recreation Partnership.....	Susan Ainslie
Tompkins County Youth Services Board.....	Susan Ainslie
Tompkins County Council of Government-TCCOG.....	Ronny Hardaway & Carolynn Greenwald
Tompkins County Water Resource Council.....	Lynn Leopold

STATE AND FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVES

N.Y. State Senator Lea Webb
52nd State Senate District
848 Legislative Office Bldg.
Albany, NY 12247
(518)455-2170

N.Y. State Assembly Dr. Anna Kelles
125th State Assembly District
106 E. Court St.
Ithaca, NY 14850
(607)277-8030

U.S. Senator Charles Schumer
313 Hart Senate Office Bldg.
Washington, D.C. 20510
(202)224-6542
100 S Clinton St. Rm 841
Syracuse, NY 13261
(315)423-5471

U.S. Senator Kirsten E. Gillibrand
531 Dirksen Senate Office Bldg.
Washington, D.C. 20510
(202)224-4451
100 S Clinton St. Rm 1470
Syracuse, NY 13261
(315)448-0470

U.S. Rep. of 19th Congressional District
Josh Riley
128 Cannon House Office Building
Washington DC, 20515
(202)225-5441

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