

2016 Annual Report of the Village of Corinth

To the Village of Corinth I submit the following report.

I, along with your Board of Trustees: Deputy Mayor Timothy Halliday, Melanie Denno, Mitchell Saunders, Julius Enekes, and Maureen Kelly; Clerk-Treasurer Nicole Colson, DPW Superintendent Arthur Lozier III, Fire Dept. Chief Andrew Kelley and Building Inspector/ Code Enforcement Officer Gregory Berg, have all worked diligently to provide you, the residents of the Village of Corinth, with the best quality of services as economically as possible this past fiscal year.

Due to the growth in Trustee Saunders business, he decided he would not run for re-election in 2016. Trustee Saunders was instrumental in organizing the reservoir committee and many of the improvements within our Village. I thank Mitch for his dedication and commitment to our community and wish him well. I am pleased that we have newly elected Trustee Maureen Granger Kelly on the Board. She has already jumped in with both feet attending budget workshops and Board meetings. Trustee Kelly is also working with Youth Director Annaliese Stautner on the summer beach and playground program.

Clerk –Treasurer Colson acting as Budget Officer, the members of the Board, and the Department Heads worked long and hard on the 2016-2017 budget. Notwithstanding the difficult financial times all municipalities find themselves in, we are pleased to be able to adopt a budget with no increase in the tax rate. The Village continues to be in good financial shape. The New York State Comptroller rated the Village in the top group of all NYS Communities for fiscal stability and the Village is in compliance of the Governor’s Tax Cap and Tax Freeze Legislation. I commend Clerk-Treasurer Colson, Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Diane Williams and Account Clerk Renee Hala for their excellent service to the residents and for their unwavering dedication in keeping the Village running smoothly on a day to day basis

Thanks to funding from the Environmental Facilities Corporation (“EFC”), as well as grants from the Dormitory Authority of NYS and the Community Development Block Grant, residents on Oak and Pine Street are enjoying their new water and sewer lines, curbing, sidewalks and paving. The work on the rehabilitation of Ash Street has begun and we are getting ready to bid out the replacing of the River Street Pump Station. I would like to thank Senator Farley for an additional \$150,000 grant to cover the cost of storm sewers on Ash Street.

As are so many municipalities, our Village is faced with aging infrastructure. For example, the Waste Water Treatment Plant is 40 years old and is long past its life expectancy. Fortunately we have very knowledgeable operators who have been able to keep it running, but at growing expense. The Plant is many years past due for replacement and is costing a substantial amount to keep running. Laberge Group is in the process of designing a new waste water treatment plant. The Village Board had an income study performed this past year and was able to receive a hardship determination under EFC. This allowed us to apply for 0% interest funding for this project and we are also applying for substantial grants from the Community Development Block Grant to help reduce the costs of these projects. Also overdue for replacement is the River Street sewer pump station. The hard work of Donald Rhodes of Laberge Engineering in obtaining a \$600,000 Community Block Development Grant for the Village to help cover the costs of replacing the River Street sewer pump station has helped make these improvements possible.

As I am sure you noticed the water and sewer rates have increased this year. This is due the building of the water filtration plant as mandated by NY State and the replacement of failing water and sewer lines on which the Village has seen increased costs in maintaining due to their age. So far we have received over 1.7 million dollars in grants and we will continue to apply for grants to help us cover the costs of this necessary work.

I would like to thank Trustees Denno and Enekes, Jim Martin of the LA Group and the entire Comprehensive Plan Committee for their extensive work over the past years in completing and starting to implement the 2015 Village of Corinth Comprehensive Plan. This Plan will help the Village focus on moving our community ahead in the coming years in the areas of economic and business development, recreational uses, and the future of the former mill site, all with keeping an eye on the historic and cultural heritage which holds this community together and makes it unique. The Board is already beginning to work towards implementation of the recommendations in the Plan.

Trustees Saunders and Halliday and Matthew Rogers of Rogers Planning & Research, LLC have been working with the Reservoir Property Committee in developing a wonderful plan for recreational uses of this beautiful property. Much work has already been accomplished marking different trails and clearing a great overlook of the village and Hudson River. If you are looking for a great place to take a walk, picnic, or fish, head up to the reservoir property. In conjunction with the recently adopted Comprehensive Plan, the Committee is busy working towards its goals, and is always looking for volunteers to work on the walking and mountain biking trails.

Building Inspector/Code Enforcement Officer Greg Berg has had a busy year issuing building permits, conducting inspections and following up on Code violation complaints. Inspector Berg has done an excellent job dealing with all the issues for which his department is responsible.

The following list highlights work accomplished by DPW Superintendent Lozier, Assistant DPW Superintendent Cliff Jensen, 8 DPW employees, Water and WWTP Head Operator Gary Holmes and 2 assistant operators. They have worked day and night in all kinds of weather. Please join me in commending them for the remarkable job they do for our community.

Department of Public Works Accomplishments 2015 – 2016 Fiscal Year

Highway

- River St. – New sub base and blacktop installed from Palmer Ave. to Sherman Ave.
- New Pole barn constructed at the DPW facility.
- Normal patching when needed
- Shared serviced with Town of Corinth, Greenfield, Day and Hadley
- Leaf & Brush removal – Twice a year (Fall & Spring)
- Year round maintenance & repairs to all Village equipment
- Annual X-mas tree pick-up

Sidewalks & Curbing:

- Approx. 10,500sqft. of curbing and sidewalks replaced throughout the Village

Buildings & Grounds/Parks

- Continued clear cut behind DPW for Solar Panel Project
- Downtown Streetscape completed (Planters & trees)
- Upper Reservoir – 1. 3 new foot bridges built and installed 2. Hiking trails marked, cut and cleared 3. Parking area improved by installing, grading and compacting road millings
- Crosswalk striping twice a year
- Daily maintenance at the Beach & 3 Parks
- Mowing & Trimming all Village owned properties on a weekly schedule
- Normal maintenance at all Village owned buildings

Water

- Filtration Plant – Normal year round maintenance
- 11 new water service laterals replaced
- 1200ft. of old 4inch cast iron water main taken out of service on W. Maple St.
- Flush hydrants - twice a year
- Daily, weekly, monthly and yearly water samples – mandated by NYSDOH
- Normal maintenance at Hamilton Ave. Well House
- Storage Tank – Normal year round maintenance

WWTP/Sewer

- Sewer line maintenance – Normal flushing where needed throughout the Village
- Normal yearly maintenance at all 4 buildings

Storm Drainage

- Main St. – 500ft. of 12inch storm drain pipe with 5 new catch basins installed from Ash St. to Eggleston St.
- Normal year round maintenance and cleaning of all Village storm drains and piping

Town Supervisor Dick Lucia and I have been meeting regularly to find more ways we can work together to provide both Town and Village residents with services while saving money. One of the things we are working on is a unified water district for the town residents using village water. The Town and Village DPW departments have been very effective in working together to get more done without having to bring in expensive outside contractors and work force. This saves us money and keeps the money we do spend local. I thank Supervisor Lucia, the Town Board and Town Employees for their willingness to work together and their dedication to making all of Corinth a better place to live.

Finally, I would like to thank our Volunteer Firefighters, members of Jessup's Landing EMS and our Emergency Management Committee for being there 24-7. I thank our Image Committee, Planning Board and Zoning Board of Appeals members and all the other Committees for volunteering their time to serve our community. I also thank the many organizations, such as the American Legion, the Corinth

Central Schools, the Community of Churches, the Rotary, the Merchants Association, Little League, The Grange, the Cub Scouts, Boy and Girl Scouts, and many other groups that serve the needs of our community and make Corinth a better place to live.

We wish you all a safe and healthy summer.

Dennis Morreale, Mayor.