

Winter Issue 2010

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Minoa News

Serving the People of Minoa

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Ronald L. Cronk

Clerk-Treasurer

Suzanne M. Snider

Minoa News

Editor

William F. Brazill

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on a continuing basis.

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Minoa, NY 13116
Attn: Bill Brazill

Or they may be
E-Mailed to:

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The Village of Minoa
Board meets regularly
on the 1st and 3rd
Monday of each month
at the Minoa Municipal
Building @ 7:30 pm..

Village Office

240 N. Main St..

Mon.-Fri.

8:30- 4:30

656-3100

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News from the Mayor

Wow, it's 2010 which means a new year, a new decade, and a fresh start. A new year always brings new or revived resolutions, a hope for a great year, and a chance to regroup after the holidays.

We are now past the halfway point of our fiscal year and the beginning of the formal budget planning process for the 2010-2011 Fiscal Year, which begins on June 1, 2010. This year is going to be a year full of challenges, not the least of which will be providing the same level of services with fewer dollars to complete the work. Local government depends on monies from other levels of government to help us keep the tax rate down and still provide consistent services. We receive Sales Tax revenue from Onondaga County, and Aid and Incentives to Municipalities (AIM) and CHIPS Capital from New York State. The funding for these programs are made by you, the taxpayer, to the respective governing bodies and you rightfully have the expectation of receiving a benefit back in your community for your hard earned money.



The Sales Tax formula contract with Onondaga County is currently up for negotiation for the contract beginning in 2011. The last contract covered a ten year period and the County Executive wants to drastically change or eliminate giving local government their share. New York State does not mandate that the County has to share tax revenue with municipalities. Each and every one of us contributes to the Sales Tax pot every time you make a purchase and you have a right to expect to receive a benefit from the Sales Tax directly back to your community. The Governor is also looking to cut funding for AIM and CHIPS programs. As I've discussed in the past, we still have unfunded mandates to deal with and I expect more in the upcoming budget year.

My intention is to present a budget to you later this spring that will hold the line on taxes. Given the above scenarios, it is going to be a daunting task indeed. Last month I restricted spending from the current budget in preparation for the upcoming year. The Board had considered purchasing a ladder truck for our Fire Department, but due to the hostile financial climate, a decision was made by the Board to reject all of the bids presented. There is no magic here, if you can't afford it, you can't buy it. Infrastructure and equipment need to be maintained, replaced and/or scheduled for a later date and it's the Board's responsibility to choose the option that makes the most sense. If not maintained properly, the end result will be more monies spent unnecessarily. As we do every year, services will be thoroughly scrutinized. I have a great Board and staff members that are always looking for different ways to do things that will make us run more efficiently.

I will continue to be involved in discussions relating to shared services and potential consolidation with all levels of local government. The one thing that can't happen is for us to lose our grass roots government. Bigger government proves every day that it is not better. Our Federal and State governments are the single largest employer in each of their jurisdictions, yet they are unwilling to restructure and modernize the way they do business. Saving the taxpayers any substantial amount of money will only come from making real changes at the top. My attempt to try to make a difference at the State and Federal level is by being involved and assuming leadership positions to help create a united front with my local and statewide colleagues through the Onondaga County Mayors Association and the New York State Conference of Mayors (NYCOM).

Continued on next page.

Continued Mayor's Message.

We need your help and support to continue the fight against unfunded mandates and to resist cuts in aid, especially when they are unwilling to look inward and make changes that make a real difference to all of us at this level. Below is a list of elected County, State and Federal officials that represent Minoa. Have you ever contacted any of them? Please think about it, because change will only happen if we all work together. We didn't get to where we are overnight, to change for the better won't happen overnight either and we have to start somewhere.

The New Year will also bring a change in our Village Board. As you know, Trustee Ed Theobald was elected as the Town of Manlius Supervisor. I will miss Ed's dedication to our Village and his participation as a part of a terrific Board; however, I'm excited that he will now represent us at the Town level. He, too, will have major challenges; I wish him well and look forward to working with him. His leaving creates an open position on the Board, which by law will be filled in the March Election to finish the remainder of his four-year term. In the interim, I will not be appointing anyone to his position due to the short amount of time the position will be open. I have had a few people show interest in the position and they have asked what the expectations are in terms of time and responsibility. To do the job correctly a Village Trustee works approximately 15 hours per week. The hours vary depending on the assigned responsibilities and the time of year. If anyone is interested in running for election and needs information, please feel free to contact Clerk/Treasurer Suzanne Snider for details.

While 2009 was a productive year for our Village, we will continue to concentrate on new and innovative technology for all of our departments, as well as continually searching for new funding sources to offset expenses. Included in this newsletter are statements from my Trustees detailing what we've accomplished this year.

On behalf of my Staff and the Village Board, I wish all of you a safe, healthy and prosperous New Year.

New York State Senator David Valesky	(315) 478-8745
New York State Senator Al Stirpe	(315) 452-1115
Onondaga County Legislator Kevin Holmquist	(315) 435-2070
Onondaga County Legislator Bill Meyer	(315) 435-2070
Congressman Dan Maffei	(315) 423-5657



A Word from the Department of Public Works

Winter Time!!!! Please do not park on or block sidewalks in the Village. The Village plow cannot get through. When plowing out driveways and sidewalks, **make sure the snow is not placed in the roadway or on the sidewalks.**

Failure to comply with this request will be subject to violation notices and/or tickets.

If you need assistance, please call Tom Petterelli, Superintendent of D.P.W. at (315)656-7574 or by email at minoapdw@twcny.rr.com



Ice Skating Rink is Now Open

The ice skating rink at Rees Field is now open! The DPW employees created the ice rink on the new basketball court and the Minoa Fire Department provided the water. The ice rink is open from dawn to dusk weather permitting. We encourage everyone to stop by and enjoy the skating opportunity while it's still cold. Please remember to be safe and have a great winter!

A Word from your Trustees



John H. Champagne
Trustee

What an interesting year 2009 has turned out to be! There have been a lot of challenges for the whole country and for the state of New York. As a Village Board, we have taken every step possible to run the village in more efficient ways and still provide the same services to the residents of the village.

I worked diligently with Thomas Petterelli, Steve Giarrusso, Trustee Cronk, National Grid and NYSEDA to receive funding through the Energy Audit Conservation Program in the amount of \$12,459 to upgrade the lighting systems at Fire Station II, DPW, Waste Water Treatment Facility and the Municipal Building. The program provided more energy efficient lighting and I estimate that the Village of Minoa will save approximately \$5,000 annually on energy costs. I have also been working with Steve Giarrusso, Waste Water Treatment Facility Supervisor, on different ways of saving operational costs at the plant.

We are still working on an alternative fuel vehicle for the DPW and we were able to secure a \$60,000.00 grant toward the conversion of a diesel trash truck to a compressed natural gas (CNG) trash truck. The truck will be quieter, will have fewer fumes and be more environmentally friendly. The CNG garbage truck will use just about the same amount of fuel a diesel truck will use, but at one half the cost of diesel fuel. We will continue to look for ways to become more efficient at the least amount of cost for the village residents.

It's hard to believe that my four-year term as a Village of Minoa Trustee is almost up and the last four years have been an interesting learning curve for me. I have learned that it takes a lot of time and dedication to fulfill this role. I have come to the conclusion that all the time and dedication I have given to the Village of Minoa has been a rewarding and fulfilling experience for me. I look forward to the upcoming election and hope to continue making the Village of Minoa a better place to live and work. Please have a safe and healthy New Year!

Email at jchampagne@villageofminoa.com



Ronald L. Cronk
Trustee

I am looking forward to working with and for all of the people in the Village of Minoa this New Year. As liaison for the Department of Public Works, I am pleased to report that National Grid was able to provide Efficiency Rebates towards the purchase of a boiler and two heating units at the DPW with the goal of reducing utility bills from the energy efficient changes that were made.

The DPW has been busy throughout the year by providing snow removal for over eleven miles of road, repairing sewers, trash removal, and maintaining our parks. The Village of Minoa owns and maintains approximately 250 trees throughout the village, which includes trimming, taking down and planting new trees. I am pleased to report that we have benefited from participating in National Grid's 10,000 Trees Program, which provided the Village with \$500 this year towards planting utility friendly trees.

This next year will be financially challenging due to the expected reduced aid from New York State based on the shortfalls in the current economic climate. It will also be difficult to maintain consistent services that we are used to and still maintain the same tax rate. I look forward to working diligently with the Village Board during the upcoming budget process and encourage you to contact me with any questions and/or concerns by email at rcronk@villageofminoa.com My best wishes for everyone in 2010!



Edmond J. Theobald
Former Trustee

After a successful run for Town of Manlius Supervisor, thanks to strong support from Minoa, my role as your Trustee came to an end on December 31st, 2009. But, I could not leave this position without stating what a great honor and privilege it has been to serve you, the residents of this great Village of Minoa. In addition, I especially enjoyed working with Mayor Donovan, my fellow trustees and all of the department heads and their staff since 2004.

As I take on this new endeavor as your Town Supervisor, my concerns for the Village of Minoa will not diminish and in fact I believe that we will build a stronger and more positive working relationship as we move forward together.

A Message from the Deputy Mayor



**William F. Brazill
Deputy Mayor**

It is an honor to serve as your Deputy Mayor and 2009 has been a great year for the Village of Minoa. We've seen interest throughout the past year for growth in our Village by investors. The Planning Board recently approved a Site Plan Application for the properties located at 101 and 107 N. Main Street for Trapper's II, which is a restaurant and pub that will have a volleyball court and horseshoe pits. The new Trapper's II is scheduled to open in early Spring 2010 and you can follow the progress via Facebook. The property owner has great plans to revitalize that area and we look forward to their new business.

The Village of Minoa also annexed the properties located at 6439 & 6441 Schepps Corners Road (N. Main Street, north of Minoa Elem. School) owned by New Plan East, LLC this past spring and we hope to see further development of those properties in the future.

Minoa Farms continues to build new homes and they are in the process of developing a passive park with nature trails for walking. The park is currently located on private property and when ownership is turned over to the Village of Minoa we will post the announcement on the sign at Lewis Park and on the village website.

Rees Field has been revamped with a new fenced in basketball court, pavilion and picnic tables through funding from Onondaga County Community Development. Over the years through their funding and Village contribution, we have torn down the old municipal building, upgraded the backstop in the baseball diamond and installed a parking lot for the field. Currently the basketball court has been converted into an ice skating rink for winter fun, so please stop by and visit Rees Field which is located on Osborne Street.

As a member of the Town of Manlius Critical Response Committee, I'm always working hard to find better ways to prepare our Village Board, staff and community in the event of an emergency. Throughout the past year I've been busy working on organizing emergency drills and working through different scenarios with other local municipalities, EMS, police, fire and emergency management organizations, so that we are always prepared should a disaster occur in our community.

2010 promises to be another year full of challenges and also full of opportunities to make our Village a great place to live and raise a family. I welcome your input, comments and encourage attendance at our Board meetings. I can be reached by email at wbrazill@villageofminoa.com

As always, I will continue to be fiscally responsible and always look for more efficient ways to run our government. As your Deputy Mayor, I will continue to work hard and resolve the issues that face our Village. Have a safe winter season!!!!

Carbon Monoxide Detectors Required Under New Law

Amanda's Law, passed in the 2009 Session of the New York State Legislature, will establish a new requirement for installation of carbon monoxide detectors in homes. Under the law, one-family homes, two-family homes, dwellings located in condominiums or cooperatives, and multiple dwellings must have a carbon monoxide detector installed regardless of the date of construction or sale.

The law was named after Amanda Hansen, a teenager whose life was tragically ended by a carbon monoxide leak from a defective boiler while she was sleeping at a friend's house in January 2009. The new law requires that the carbon monoxide detector be a device meeting New York State standards, and that it be installed in an operable condition in dwellings where there are appliances or systems that may emit carbon monoxide or have an attached garage.

Prior to Amanda's Law, carbon monoxide detectors were required in one-family dwellings, two-family dwellings, and dwellings located in condominiums or cooperatives only if they were constructed or offered for sale after July 30, 2002. For multiple dwellings (such as a tenement, hotel, and dormitories) carbon monoxide detectors were required if they were constructed or offered for sale after August 9, 2005.

As a result of Amanda's Law, a carbon monoxide detector will be found in nearly all residential structures in the state. This creates a safer living environment for New York residents and creates a greater awareness of home safety issues that are intensified by seasonal heating issues prevalent in the Northeast.

Amanda's Law takes effect on February 22, 2010.



A Word from the Minoa Fire Department

The Minoa Fire Department is always looking for Volunteers!!

Volunteers can assist in Emergency Medical Services, Fire Services, Incident Scene Support, or in a Support Group. Please call (315) 656-9204 for more information.

Adopt a Fire Hydrant

Please help the Minoa Fire Department by *adopting* a *Fire Hydrant* close to your home. Keeping it accessible and free of snow will save them time in case of an emergency.

Minoa Fire Department Officers Installed

The Minoa Fire Department installed new officers in January. They are as follows:

Chief – Patrick Flannery

Deputy Chief – Dave Matthes, Jr.

1st Asst. Chief – Matthew McGarrity

2nd Asst. Chief – Richard Sabin

Capt. Station 1 – Erich Schepp

Capt. Station 2 – Jim Taft

Lieutenant Stat. 1 – Dave Hess and Nick Carulli

Lieutenant Stat. 2 – Chuck Spratt and (One open Lieutenant position)

President – Dennis Erard

Vice President – John Jarmacz

Treasurer – Pete Cipriano

Secretary – Wendy Czajak



The Senior Adult Transportation Bus Service to Start

The M-B-K Ecumenical Council is proud to announce the start of its Senior Adult Transportation Bus Service, an affordable, curb to curb, specialized transportation service for seniors and disabled residents of the Minoa-Bridgeport-Kirkville area. Beginning January 4 the new 14 passenger handicap accessible bus will operate Monday through Friday, 9-4 pm on an on-call basis in Minoa, Bridgeport and Kirkville. Reservations must be made one week in advance to 315-454-2740. Trips will be provided for medical appointments (doctors, hospitals and physical therapy), grocery shopping, and the SAM program. Transportation is limited to seniors and residents with a mobility handicap. A donation of \$5 per roundtrip is suggested. The bus is wheel chair accessible and easy to enter. Riders in manual wheelchairs must be accompanied by their own aide.

During January the bus service will be introduced to each of the seven churches in the M-B-K Ecumenical Council. A Dedication Ceremony will be held on Saturday, January 23, 1-3PM at the Minoa First United Methodist Church. Volunteers, the public, and all those who through their donations and efforts helped to make the bus possible are invited to attend. Sister Francis James Paris of the Ecumenical Council commented; "Our Senior Adult Ministry is rooted deeply in our commitment to building community and serving our seniors; enabling them to continue to build balanced social, spiritual, emotional and physically safe lives by providing for their necessary transportation needs."

SAM offers seniors a wonderful opportunity to have fun, enjoy good food, exercise and socialize with peers and form new friendships. Best of all, it's located in your community and is free of charge. Call 315-454-2740 for further information on "SAT" our new transportation service starting January 4. Sponsored in part by the Minoa-Bridgeport-Kirkville Ecumenical Council and the Onondaga County Office for the Aging.



Heaven's Pantry



Heaven's Pantry appreciates all that people and organizations of the Minoa, Kirkville area do to feed those who are in need through donations of food. We have been blessed over the years by this generosity; we would like to say a big Thank You!!!! **We would also like to make everyone aware that as a Food Pantry we can purchase food through the Food Bank of CNY at drastically reduced rate.**

If you would like to donate for those in need, you may do so by sending monetary donations to:

Heaven's Pantry, 240 N.Main Street, Minoa, NY 13116

Food distribution for income eligible recipients is the 3rd Tuesday of every month from 10:00 am to 11:00 am and 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm at the pantry.

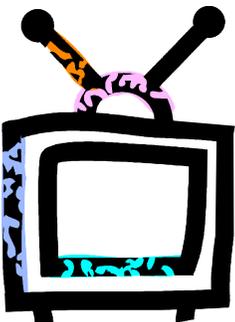
OLD TVS ARE NOT TRASH

Trash haulers no longer collect old TVs. Dumping is not an option....Recycle them instead.

Recycle TVs at:

- 1) Best Buy locations: \$10.00 fee and get a \$10.00 gift card. (size restrictions apply)
- 2) Newtech Recycling: Call 463-1112 for fees (Sony,Zenith,LG and Goldstar items accepted for FREE).

Visit OCRRA web site for more info at www.ocrra.org.



A Word from the Minoa Ambulance

The H1N1 strain of flu is affecting primarily the very young and also pregnant women, but it is having very little effect on the elderly at this time. There are 5 priority target groups at this particular time to receive the vaccinations (these are in no particular order):

- Young and Healthy (ages 6 months - 24 years old)
- Health Care Workers (pre-hospital and hospital workers)
- Pregnant women
- People ages 25-64 with chronic health conditions
- People who are around small children under 6 years of age

There are two versions of the vaccine; aerosol version, which can not be taken by pregnant females or people with chronic respiratory diseases, such as asthma because this is a live version of the vaccine. The other version is the standard injection which is a benign version of the drug. It is recommended to receive both the seasonal flu vaccine and the H1N1 vaccine.

Symptoms are similar to the seasonal flu, but can include difficulty breathing, skin discoloration, dehydration, persistent or severe vomiting, pain in the chest or abdomen, and dizziness. It is recommended to have no contact with anyone while you have a fever and should stay out of work/school until at least 24 hours after the fever has subsided. The best prevention is good hand washing and covering your mouth and nose when coughing and/or sneezing.

You can check the following web site for up to date flu information: www.flu.gov



Message from the Village Clerk/Treasurer

I'd like to take this opportunity to let you know the time table for the Village Budget process.



Suzanne M. Snider
Clerk / Treasurer

The village budgeting process begins on February 8th and continues until adoption of the budget no later than May 1st. This is a very lengthy and involved process involving submission of budget estimates by departments, preparation and filing of the tentative budget, presentation of the tentative budget to the Village Board, public hearing on the tentative budget and then finally, adoption of the budget.

Special budget meetings will be held in the Municipal Building on the following dates:
Wednesday, March 3, 2010 at 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday, March 10, 2010 at 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday, March 24, 2010 at 6:00 p.m.

Village Election

The Village election this year is on March 16, 2010 from Noon to 9:00 p.m. at the Municipal Building on 240 N. Main Street. The last day for an individual to file an independent nominating petition is February 9, 2010. The following offices will be filled and the terms of each are as follows:

- Village Justice (one) – Four year term
- Trustees (two) – Four year terms each
- Trustee (one) – Two year term to fill the remaining term of Edmond Theobald that was vacated on December 31, 2009.

If you should have any questions regarding the above or any other topic, please feel free to call me at the Village Office at (315) 656-3100.

USED CLOTHING DROP OFF

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH PARKING LOT 246-248 East Ave. Minoa NY 13116

The Church now has a Used Clothing Drop Off Shed in their parking lot. Used clothing, shoes, sneakers, belts, purses, linens, blankets and curtains may be dropped off. Please put your donations in plastic bags and tie them so they will not scatter throughout the shed. No rags, fabric scraps or small appliances are accepted. Donations are picked up weekly and distributed locally, throughout the United States, and in Third World Countries by St. Pauly Textile. Thank you for your help.



There have been numerous complaints about pets being allowed to deposit on private and public properties in the Village of Minoa. Please remember to be a good neighbor and follow the rules listed below:



- All dogs must be on a leash when walking in the village.
- All owners must clean up after their pets.
- Do not extend the leash onto private property.
- All pet owners are responsible for damages caused by their pets.

CARRY THAT PLASTIC BAG AND USE IT!

FALIURE TO COMPLY WILL RESULT IN A COURT TICKET BEING ISSUED

Calendar of Events

January 2010

- 1/18/10** **Martin Luther King Holiday for Village Employees – Village Office Closed**
1/19/10 Village Board Meeting – 7:30 pm – Municipal Building
1/19/10 Food Pantry – 10:00 – 11:00 am, 6:00 – 7:00 pm – Municipal Building
1/20/10 Justice Court – 5:00 pm/Doors Open 4:30 pm – Municipal Building

February 2010

- 2/1/10 Sewer Penalty Billing
2/1/10 Sewer Billing
2/1/10 Village Board Meeting – 7:30 pm – Municipal Building
2/3/10 Justice Court – 5:00 pm Doors Open 4:30 pm – Municipal Building
2/11/10 Planning Board Meeting – 7:00 pm – Municipal Building (as needed)
2/14/10 ESM Youth Sports Board Meeting – 5:00 – 10:00 pm – Municipal Building
2/15/10 **Presidents' Day Holiday for Village Employees – Village Office Closed**
2/16/10 Village Board Meeting - 7:30 pm – Municipal Building
2/16/10 Food Pantry – 10:00 – 11:00 am, 6:00 – 7:00 pm – Municipal Building

March 2010

- 3/1/10 Sewer Penalty Billing
3/1/10 Village Board Meeting – 7:30 pm – Municipal Building
3/3/10 Justice Court – 5:00 pm/Doors Open 4:30 pm – Municipal Building
3/3/10 Budget Workshop Meeting -6:00 pm – Municipal Building
3/7/10 ESM Youth Sports Board Meeting – 5:00 – 10:00 pm -Municipal Building
3/10/10 Budget Workshop Meeting -6:00 pm – Municipal Building
3/11/10 Planning Board Meeting – 7:00 pm – Municipal Building (as needed)
3/15/10 Village Board Meeting – 7:30 pm – Municipal Building
3/16/10 **Village Elections – 12:00 Pm – 9:00 pm – Municipal Building**
3/16/10 Food Pantry – 10:00 – 11:00 am, 6:00 – 7:00 pm – Municipal Building
3/17/10 Justice Court – 5:00 pm/Doors Open 4:30 pm – Municipal Building
3/24/10 Budget Workshop Meeting -6:00 pm – Municipal Building

Golden Age meets every Thursday

