

ORCHARD PARK, NEW YORK

STATE OF THE VILLAGE

February 20, 2019 6:30 p.m.



Mayor

Jo Ann Litwin Clinton

Deputy Mayor

Matthew J. Hartung

Trustee

Francis T. Hogenkamp

Trustee

Jonathan McNatty

Trustee

Shannon Fuhrman

2019 STATE OF THE VILLAGE ADDRESS

In 2018, the village focused on water improvements. I am happy to report we have completed our two main water-related projects on time and on budget.

The first was the replacement of all water meters in residential homes and businesses in the village. This required coordinating residents, business owners, the hired contractor and, at times, the Village Department of Public Works schedules so the new meters could be installed. This was a very necessary project as the old meters had outlived their life expectancy by ten years. Accurate readings were necessary to ensure that the cost for the water that has to be paid to the Erie County Water Authority was covered.

The second water project was the replacement of the water line running down route 20A. This line was old, out of date and suffering many breaks causing inconvenience to our residents and costly overtime for employees. The project was scheduled over two summers. However, the contractor worked diligently and delivered the entire water line in one construction season.

So yes, that means that the 4th of July parade will be back to the normal route starting at the High School and ending at the Middle School going via East and West Quaker Streets.

The summer events for Quaker Days are already in the planning. The Street Dance this year will have a new band. The band is Nik Lite which is a subsidiary of Nick and the Nice Guys. The Ice Cream Social is also being planned with some new twists and ice cream flavors.

Also, some preliminary planning is starting for the 100th anniversary of the Village in 2021.

The village is experiencing an increase in its deer population. We have had NYS Department of Environmental Conservation staff here to consult and are investigating ideas of how to humanely control the population.

The Road work scheduled for this season is for Stonehenge, Princeton, Bank and West Highland.

The major project this year for the village will be "Let there be Light". We are replacing all the street lamps in the village with LED bulbs. We have chosen the softer light spectrum to keep the character of the village. We are looking to replace the decorative lamps on Buffalo Street. They have deteriorated and are not functioning as they should. Repair is near impossible due to the condition of the wiring inside. The poles themselves have become unstable due to the wear and tear of the bolts holding them into the ground.

We are considering replacement posts with single bulb heads. These will better offer the ability to hang flower baskets, flags and speakers for music. As possible designs come in, we will share them with the public for feedback.

There is a lighting district in the village that has gas lights. This is located in the Sunset- Jolls area. The lights have become worn and are breaking down. Parts are not available and the gas company is no longer servicing the broken lamps. We are exploring what we can do with the district. As the homeowner pays for the gas and maintenance of the lamp, we will need the agreement of the majority of residents in the gas light district to make any changes. We are looking at the cost to eliminate them, or change them to LED. We will be holding a meeting in the future to present the possibilities to the residents so an educated decision can be made.

As always, the village looks to serve the community. The board and village employees look forward to another successful year.