



Town of Cambria 2019 Spring Newsletter

www.townofcambria.com



From the Desk of Wright H. Ellis, Supervisor

Cambria Town Board

Wright H. Ellis

Supervisor
433-8523

Matthew P. Foe

Councilman
433-3370

Jeffrey S. Hurtgam

Councilman
791-4146

Joseph Ohol

Councilman
830-5506

Randy M. Roberts

Councilman
433-0183

**The Town Hall is open
Monday-Friday from
8:00 am-4:00 pm**

**Hours vary for
each office.**

Department Heads

Debra A. Littere

Assessor/Tax Collector
433-8161 x122

James P. McCann

Building Inspector
433-8161 x126

Jon T. MacSwan

Highway Supt.
433-8829 x127

Tamara J. Cooper

Town Clerk
433-7664

Monthly Meetings

Begin at 7:00 pm

Planning Bd ~
3rd Monday

Town Bd ~ 2nd Thursday

Zoning Bd ~ 4th Monday

Greetings from the pages of our semi-annual newsletter. Spring is approaching and for many, it cannot come soon enough. I recall a green Christmas and then typical winter weather concentrated in January and February. Perhaps that is why so many are so tired of winter and ready for warmer days and no wind!

I would like to update you on the status of the proposed industrial sized solar energy project known as Bear Ridge Solar, which is being advanced by developer, Cypress Creek Renewables, LLC. ("Cypress Creek"). I, along with most Members of the Town Board, (Councilman Ohol is required to recuse himself from any discussions and/or decisions about this project) am very concerned with the potential impacts of the 900 acre Bear Ridge Solar project proposed in the towns of Cambria and Pendleton. Cypress Creek over a period of several months, contacted landowners throughout both towns, soliciting interest in leases for development of a commercial solar energy project. We understand that most landowners approached by Cypress Creek were not interested in long term leases of their property dedicated to this project. Initial information provided to the Town was a proposal for three (3) twenty acre parcels, two of which were in the Industrial Zone (zoned for commercial solar projects) or contiguous to it. Four months later we were presented with a 600-acre proposal, which later grew to a 900-acre proposal (750 in the southeast corner of the Town of Cambria). The latest proposal is now spread among 10 parcels, scattered from Junction Road to Subbera Road and from Upper Mountain Road to Lockport Road. The number of properties and residential homes which could be affected have multiplied. We are concerned about the loss of viable farmland and the adverse impact on property values in the area near the proposed project. In addition, we are concerned about the potential impact on the tax base and the absence of any direct benefit to the Town and its residents. We are exercising our due diligence with the information available to us. We are considering how the proposed project relates to the Town's Comprehensive Plan and Zoning law. Until the developer is forthcoming with more detail and a formal proposal, it is difficult for the Board and residents of the Town to arrive at a consensus. Trying to shoehorn a utility-scale energy facility into a mixed use, residential and agricultural town, that has many parcels, many land owners and a wide range of resident expectations, is causing much angst among our citizens and much concern for the Town Board. The Town of Cambria is a nice place to live and raise a family. We would like to keep it that way.

Complicating our analysis is a State law, Article 10, passed in 2011 designed to minimize local input and control over land use issues. Historically, the State constitution has reserved land use decisions for local municipalities to determine. Article 10, while providing a mechanism for local land use laws to be considered, vests the final determination regarding the applicability of local zoning laws and Comprehensive Plans with a seven member siting board in Albany. The five permanent members of the siting board are appointees of the Governor. The other two are local representatives.

As we analyze the Cypress Creek project, we are focused on what long term impacts the project will have on our Town and its citizens, as well as any possible benefits which all the residents of the Town could benefit from. We will keep you posted on the progress of our analysis.

Enjoy the articles herein and remember that our purpose is to serve the citizens of our Town. However, we cannot address your concerns unless they are brought to our attention. Thank you.

WATER DEPARTMENT

Conservation of our natural resources is important and you can play an important role by checking for small water leaks in your home. A faucet with a small drip or a toilet that leaks can waste several gallons of water as well as increase your water bill. We will continue to review quarterly meter readings that reflect a leak; however, a periodic check of your home's plumbing issues, by the homeowner, is also a good idea. We sometimes find it necessary to contact our customers regarding water service issues. This can only be accomplished if we have your current contact information in our files. Please contact our office to update phone numbers if necessary.

SELLING YOUR HOME: Our water department continues to practice procedures that ensure the public safety of our customers. The Town of Cambria Water District Rules & Regulations state that all water services must be equipped with a double check valve. **If you are planning to sell your home, call the water department office to schedule a compliance inspection. This inspection must be completed before the home is sold. Failure to schedule this appointment can affect your closing date.** Final readings are scheduled close to your closing date. We will need the name and address of the individual responsible for payment of the final bill and, if possible, provide us with the name of the new owner. As we look forward to spring, we will begin scheduling clean-up and grading restoration work from previous water/sewer related projects. If you have an area that needs restoration work due to water or sewer construction, please contact our office at 433-2468 x114. If you have any questions or concerns, we will be happy to help you.

***PLEASE NOTE: THE WATER RATE HAS INCREASED SLIGHTLY, YOU WILL SEE THIS IN THE FIRST QUARTER BILL THAT IS DUE IN MAY ~ ANY QUESTIONS PLEASE CALL THE WATER CLERK**



2018 ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT

Copies will be available at the following locations:

~ Town of Cambria Town Hall ~ Sanborn – Pekin Library, 5890 West St., Sanborn, NY

~ Ransomville Free Library, 3733 Ransomville Rd., Ransomville, NY

~ Posted on our website: <http://www.townofcambria.com/>

BUILDING INSPECTOR ~ James P. McCann



Recently John Gailie, Fire Safety Officer from the Cambria Fire Department, asked if he could use this space to request additional information from Town residents concerning the use of "Truss Roofing" or "Engineer Structural Lumber". Seeing this request would be very beneficial to the three Fire Departments. Therefore, the following letter is from Mr. Gailie, asking the residents for some help in obtaining this information.



More & more residential structures are being built utilizing "Truss (lightweight) roofing construction" & "Engineered" or laminated structural lumber. While homes built using these strategies are not generally an issue w/ Town Building codes and can be efficient and lasting solutions to rising building cost, they present a unique challenge to our Fire Department. **Currently, the Town Building Inspector's office has been forwarding information on lightweight structure types from current building permits to the Cambria Fire Company so they may more effectively develop a structure fire "Pre-Plan."**

The integrity/stability of a TRUSS BUILDING system is based upon all the components remaining intact & connected, to transfer a roof load properly. Large, open spaces in the overhead in these buildings allow for smoke & heat from a fire to travel to that space, leaving things at floor level cool and relatively smoke-free. This can give firefighters entering the fire a false impression that nothing major is going on when in reality, a serious problem is brewing in the roof truss space. **Conventional Construction** structural members on size for strength and have less surface area exposed to fire. The larger the size of a structural member, the longer it will take to fail when exposed to fire. Potentially, longer burn time results in a greater window of safety for fire operations. **Lightweight/truss construction** does not derive its strength from size. Strength is obtained from multiple members in compression & tension & often involves the use of flammable adhesives & less fire resistive materials. **TRUSS/ENGINEERED** construction provides significantly less time to be on the roof to ventilate the structure before the roof becomes unstable & subject to collapse. There are numerous buildings in our Town that have been built prior to our current communication process with the Fire Dept. If you believe your home was constructed of light weight truss roofing construction or engineered/laminated lumber, please contact Jim McCann, the Town's Building Inspector with this information by phone or email (contact info listed below). This will allow your Fire Dept. to safely and more efficiently respond to a fire emergency at your residence.

Office Hours: Mon./Wed./Thur.- 8:00 A.M. – 3:00 P.M. bldginsp@townofcambria.com Ph: (716) 433-8161 Ext. 126

2019 REFUSE/RECYCLING HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

Memorial Day Monday, May 27
Delayed until Friday, May 31
Independence Day Thursday, July 4
Delayed until Friday, July 5
Labor Day Monday, September 2
Delayed until Friday, September 6

Recycle Totes are the property of the Town and were distributed to all residential property owners and have a serial number that is on record in our office. If you sell your home, the Recycle Tote is to remain with the property. The Town's policy is one (1) recycle tote per household. If necessary, recyclable items can be placed in clear plastic bags and placed next to your recycle tote. Modern's Recycle crew will pick them up. Please see the website or call 433-2468 x114 for the pick-up schedule.

Please note that refuse & recycling must be curbside by 7:00 am. Please note Recycling is every other week.

ELECTRONIC RECYCLING ~ The Town of Cambria offers electronic recycling for TOWN RESIDENTS ONLY. **Drop off of equipment is MONDAY'S ONLY FROM 9:00 AM-1:00 PM.** Please call 433-8829 x127 with any questions and please be ready to provide proof of residency when bringing electronics in to be dropped off.

NEWS FROM MODERN CORPORATION

In July, China's government announced it was planning to ban imports of 24 types of recyclables. Mixed paper and mixed plastics were among the banned items. A contamination limit of 0.3 percent would be applied to imported recyclables. This was a far more serious move. The Chinese government has raised the contamination limit to 0.5 percent. This limit presented challenges to processors and exports of post-consumer plastics to China have all but disappeared. As a processor, Modern and Buffalo Recycling Enterprise are not immune to these changes. These changes have increased processing costs that will ultimately be felt by all consumers. Some community partners now pay to have their recycling processed and in some cases processing fees exceed the cost of waste disposal.

Re-education became a priority and messaging in our recycling menu now features the "Best Items to Place in Your Recycling Cart". This message is intended to promote awareness and provide education to our recycling community of the impact changes in the world markets has here in Niagara County, Western New York and all across our Country.

*To read the entire article, please go to <http://www.townofcambria.com/Refuse>

17th ANNUAL TOWN WIDE YARD SALE

Friday, July 19—Sunday, July 21, 2019

9:00 AM TO 3:00 PM

This is how it works....

All you need to do is sign up using the form below or log on to our website, www.townofcambria.com.

The Town of Cambria provides the brochure (which includes the sale sites, as well as a map), a sign for your location and advertising using various types of media (all at no cost to you)!

Pick up signs at Town Hall commencing Wednesday, July 17, 2019, in the Town Clerk's Office.

There is no penalty for signing up and then not participating. It's better to sign up than to miss out!

Register by filling out the information below.

Signup deadline: Friday, June 14, 2019

Return to:

Yard Sale, Town of Cambria
4160 Upper Mountain Rd.
Sanborn, NY 14132

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

ZIP _____ PHONE _____

EMAIL _____

MULTI FAMILY CHILDREN'S ITEMS HOUSEHOLD ITEMS VARIETY

*** Please choose **ONE** ***

DAY RECREATION PROGRAM



The Town of Cambria will host its annual Summer Day Program beginning **Tuesday, June 25th** and ending **Friday, August 2nd**. My staff and I will once again provide a fun, safe and enriching experience for children ages 5-15. Children will have the opportunity to participate in age appropriate games, physical activities, arts & crafts and explore nature. We have many fun field trips planned. Our counselors are trained in CPR, First Aid, and AED use. We also have counselors with additional lifeguard training for our ever-popular Fort Niagara swim trips. **PLEASE NOTE:** In order to participate in our program, all children must be five years old NO LATER THAN JUNE 1, 2019. **REGISTRATION PROCESS: Applications will be available in the Town Clerk's Office only. Last day to register is Thursday, June 20, 2019.** You must register in person at the Town Clerk's Office, first come first served. Space is limited for non-residents, first come first serve, no exceptions.

FIELD TRIPS: You now have the opportunity to pay for field trips with a credit card AND you may also pay for them when you register your child!

If there are any questions about the program, volunteering or donating, please email Sally Marotta Reed.

BASEBALL/SOFTBALL



IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO SIGN UP!! The deadline to sign up for baseball/softball has been extended to April 15th. You may register at the Town Clerk's Office, Monday-Friday from 8:00 am until 4:00 pm. Forms are also available online from our website, www.townofcambria.com. For those already signed up, you will hear from the coaches sometime in April or early May to set up practice dates and times. Games are scheduled to begin in late May. If interested in coaching, please contact Sally Marotta Reed.

TOWN PARK SHELTER RENTAL

There are five (5) pavilions available at the Town Park for reservation from May through October. To reserve a shelter go to our website, click on the Town Park/Recreation page, fill out the Park Shelter Use Application & return it to the Town Clerk's Office. **There is a non-refundable rental fee.** Residents and non-residents of the Town may reserve a shelter; fees for non-residents is slightly more. Please contact the Town Clerk's Office, 433-7664, for more information.

*Please note the Town Park is open seasonally from April 15 through November 1.
The walking path is not plowed during the winter months.*

SUMMER GAZEBO CONCERTS



All concerts will begin at 6:00 pm and are held rain or shine.
A covered tent for spectators is provided.
Be sure to bring a lawn chair, relax and enjoy!!

~Refreshments will be available for a small fee~

Sunday, July 7th - 90 West
(High Energy Country Music)

Sunday, July 14th - Gimme Buffett
(80's music)

Sunday, July 21st- Screaming Pineapples
(Party, Elvis, Dance, Rock)

Sunday, July 28th - East of Eden
(Classic/Southern Rock/Alternative Country)

Sunday, August 4th - The New Direction Band
(Polka, Polka, Polka!)

CAMBRIA TOWN PARK MEMORIAL TREE GROVE



The Memorial Tree Grove is a designated area within the Town of Cambria Town Park. It originally began as an Eagle Scout Project; the Town now handles the tree planting, staking and placement of the memorial plaque at the base of the tree. The plaque will read "IN MEMORY OF" and includes the name, year of birth and year of death. Anyone interested in purchasing a memorial tree honoring a loved one should fill out the application form and submit payment in the amount of \$300 to the Town Clerk's Office.

If you have any questions please contact Sally Marotta Reed. Forms are available at the Town Clerk's Office or on our website www.townofcambria.com, click on the Town Park/Recreation page.

SOCCER NEWS

The Town of Cambria will be offering a 10 week "Soccer Shots" program. The program will run on Saturdays from April - June at the Cambria Town Park. Children from ages 2-6 will be introduced to the world of soccer in a fun, safe, educational environment. Soccer Shots also uses the sessions to teach children important concepts such as teamwork and respect. To register, visit www.soccershots.org/buffalonorth.

Please watch our website over the next couple months for more information on group text communication options for recreation, town hall closings, & important dates.



ASSESSOR'S OFFICE ~ Debra A. Littere

The Assessor's office is in the continuous process of gathering data to reflect correct inventory on all parcels. As the weather breaks, we will again be out photographing the real property, including improvements from recent building permits. As the March 1st deadline for exemptions has passed, we thank everyone for getting their paperwork to us in a timely manner. This includes the many new enhanced STAR exemptions that were processed this year.

High School Seniors interested in applying for a scholarship from the Niagara County Assessor's Association should inquire at their high school guidance office.

HISTORIAN ~ Brooke Morse

The Cambria Historical Hall (Old Town Hall) located at 4153 Lower Mountain Road will now be open on the 2nd Saturday of the month from 11:00 am- 2:00 pm or by appointment.

Research inquiries and appointments to visit the Cambria Historical Hall may be arranged by contacting the Town Historian at historian@townofcambria.com.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT ~ Jon T. MacSwan

As the snow begins to melt and the ground thaws, flooding can become an issue. It is very common for yards to have some temporary standing water and drainage ditches to be at their maximum capacity during the spring thaw. It is good practice to get outside as soon as the weather permits and be sure that the drainage system on your property is flowing, as it should. It may be that the only reason for additional water is that there is an obstruction in a ditch or culvert somewhere. If there appears to be a bigger problem, please contact our office and we will look into rectifying it as soon as possible. April 15, 2019, we will begin chipping brush again. We can accommodate limbs up to 8" in diameter. Please be sure that they are stacked neatly, butt ends toward the road, and a pile spread out low is preferable to piled high. We will **NOT** take piles that have wire, rope, stakes, roots, root balls, vines, dirt, thorns or poison ivy in them. We have the ability to pick up stumps and root balls with a machine at our convenience. Please make sure to notify us in advance. **We DO NOT chip brush in July and August.** We utilize the warm summer months to repair our roads. On September 16th, 2019, we will resume chipping brush, and will continue until November 1st, 2019. Should you have any questions or concerns, you may call the office at 433-8829, Ext. 127/124, or Jon's cell phone at 531-2089. Enjoy the summer!

CAMBRIA VOL. FIRE COMPANY EVENTS

4631 Cambria-Wilson Road, Lockport, NY 14094 ~ 434-8948

Lenten Fish Fry ~ Thru April 19th (4:00 pm-7:00 pm)

Sportsman Raffle ~ April 15th (2 pm)

Tractor Pull ~ August 23-24

Vendor Show/Raffle ~ October 19th (Noon-5:00 pm)

For more information on these events and hall rentals, please visit our web site at: www.cambriavolunteerfire.com

TAX COLLECTOR ~ Debra A. Littere

As the 2019 tax collection season comes to a close, we would like to express our appreciation to the taxpayers for utilizing the tax office located in the Town Hall. The last day for tax collection is Monday, April 1, 2019.

For your convenience, receipts for tax payments may be obtained online at www.townofcambria.com, under the department tab, click on Tax Collector and the link <http://egov.basny.com/cambria>.

*** ATTENTION DOG OWNERS ***

NYS Law- If you are harboring a dog within the Town of Cambria 4 mo. or older it must be licensed. Please visit the Town Clerk's office with the current rabies vaccination certificate and a spay/neuter certificate if the dog has been altered.

2019 FREE RABIES CLINICS

For directions call the specific clinic site. For any other clinic related questions call (716) 439-7511.

Saturday, June 1 ~ 9:00 am-11:00 am Hyde Park-Oasis/ Centennial Pavilion 911 Robbins Drive 286-4940	Saturday, Sept. 14 ~ 2:00 pm-4:00 pm Town of Lockport Highway Depart- ment 6560 Dysinger Road 439-9524	Saturday, July 13 ~ 9:00 am-11:00 am Town of Royalton Highway Garage 5316 Royalton Ctr. Rd. 772-2431
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NYS DISABILITY PARKING TAG



If you are suffering from a temporary or permanent disability that limits your mobility, you may be eligible for a NYS Disability Parking Permit Tag. Applications are available at the Town Clerk's office. Applications must be submitted to your physician in order to determine your eligibility. NYS requires **ALL** Temporary Tag Applications to include an '**ASSISTED DEVICE**' or we will be unable to issue the permit. If you should have any questions, we will be more than happy to answer your questions at the time you pick up the application.

PEKIN FIRE COMPANY EVENTS

3024 Upper Mountain Road, Sanborn, NY 14132 ~ 731-4777

Easter Egg Hunt ~ April 20th (10 am)

Meat & Cooler Raffle ~ April 20th (6 pm)

Summer Raffle ~ June 15th (6 pm)

Chicken/Rib BBQ & Basket Raffle ~ September 22nd (11 am)

Fall Gun Raffle ~ October 5th (5:30 pm)

For more information on these events and hall rentals, please visit our web site at: www.pekinfire.com



Town of Cambria
4160 Upper Mountain Road
Sanborn, NY 14132

PRESORTED STANDARD
PERMIT # 21
US POSTAGE PAID

CURRENT RESIDENT OR



Important message enclosed from the Town Supervisor



**2019
HOLIDAYS ~ TOWN HALL CLOSED**

Good Friday, Friday, April 19
Memorial Day, Monday, May 27
Independence Day, Thursday, July 4
Labor Day, Monday, September 2
Columbus Day, Monday, October 14

**MT. VIEW CEMETERY MEMORIAL DAY
SERVICE**

Residents are invited to join in the observance of a Memorial Day service on Monday, May 27, 2019.

A processional march beginning at the Pekin Fire Hall and leading to Mt. View Cemetery, Upper Mountain Rd., commences at 9:30 am, with services immediately following at the Mt. View Cemetery.



CAMBRIA TOWN COURT

Justice Jowdy Jr. ~ 433-3088 ext. 139
1st Tuesday at 2:00 pm & 7:30 pm, 2nd & 5th Tuesday at 6:30 pm

Justice Jowdy III ~ 433-3088 ext. 144
3rd & 4th Tuesday at 7:00 pm

ATTENTION VETERANS!!!

Are you aware of the many programs, benefits and outreach available to you and your family? Please contact the Niagara County Veterans Service Agency (438-4090) located at 111 Main Street, Suite 200, Lockport, NY for more information. Also - Check out our website www.townofcambria.com for information regarding events for veterans around Western New York.

Did you know you may qualify for an exemption? Please contact the Assessor's Office to find out! Call 433-8161 ext 122 or ext 135.

We humbly thank you for your service!

