Public Hearings Re: 24/25 Budget & Potential Tax Cap Override 4/21 at 7 PM, Village Hall

# Village Newsletter



Spring 2025

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## MAYOR'S REPORT

#### **INSIDE THIS ISSUE**

-Mayor's Report -Spring Clean-Up (SCUD) information and ticket -2025 Brush and Leaf Schedule -Livonia Public Library Update -The Deputy Clerk's Corner

Spring Bulk Clean-Up Day is Coming!

Our annual Spring Clean-Up Day takes place on April 26th. Village residents can bring items to the Town DPW area for unloading. Casella Waste will have plenty of roll-offs, and Village and Town Board members, Village DPW employees, and Casella employees will staff the event.

\*\*Please note that the Town is again joining with the Village for this one bulk clean-up event for 2025. There will not be a separate Town event later in the year. The April 26th event is your one opportunity to participate.

\*\*You must bring your enclosed ticket as proof of residency.

\*\*Please adhere to the guidelines of permitted and prohibited items as outlined in the enclosure.

Continuing a tradition, high school students from the National Honor Society will be throughout the Village earning community service hours by spreading mulch and picking up trash along the roadways and ditches. This is an excellent opportunity for our young residents to give back to their community, and we encourage everyone to join this spirit of service.

Building a Budget and Our Upcoming Meeting Schedule With the help of our Clerk/ Treasurer, Cindy Pfeifer, we have begun our 2025-26 budget process. The rising cost of health insurance, auto and property insurance, and everything else we buy(!) present significant challenges to us as we work to provide the services you expect in a fiscally responsible way. We are committed to managing our finances responsibly to ensure the best for our residents.

We will meet once in March on Wednesday the 26th and twice in April, on the 2nd and Monday the 21st. Our meetings start at 7 pm at the Village office. Our reorganization meeting will be on the agenda on April 2nd. We will discuss our budget in April, with the public hearing and passage of the budget at the April 21st meeting. All Board meetings are open to the public, and we welcome comments, questions, and suggestions concerning the upcoming budget and any issues that concern our residents.

## New Mural Coming to the Village

The Village Board is working with the owners of 27 Main St. (home of James S Sullivan Insurance Agency) to plan a mural for the side of the building along Grove St. A committee is being formed, and we invite members of the community to contact us if you would like to participate. The committee will review artist proposals, work on logistics of the painting of the wall (which will take place in August), and plan an artist's talk, painting day, and a dedication ceremony for the community. We want to attract input and involvement from many Livonia residents. If you are interested, please email chay@villagelivonia.org or call

the Village office (585-346-3100) and leave your name and number. We will then follow up with you quickly. Thank you.

A Pleasant, Walkable Village: Many residents walk our sidewalks year-round, and pedestrian traffic will increase as the weather warms. However, these walks are less pleasant when dodging dog waste! Town and Village code requires dog walkers to clean up after their dogs. The relevant code:

Section 69-3, subsection E:
Nuisances prohibited. No person owning, harboring, keeping or in charge of any dog shall cause, suffer or allow such dog to soil, defile, defecate or commit any nuisance on any common thoroughfare, sidewalk, passageway, bypath, play area, park or any place where people congregate or walk, or on any public property whatsoever, or on any private property without the permission of the owner of said property.

\*\*This code also requires dog owners to clean up after their dog in the area between the sidewalk and the road.

We appreciate your cooperation in keeping our Village clean and pleasant for everyone. Violation of this policy is punishable by a fine. If you witness a dog walker not cleaning up after their dog, please report this to me or the building and zoning office. We will take action.

If you have any questions or comments about this newsletter or need to reach me, please call 585-447-0203 or email me at mayor@villagelivonia.org.

Thank you, Chris Genthner



## Remembering Joanne Palmer

Joanne Palmer, a longtime resident of the Village of Livonia, sadly passed away on February 26th. For 30 years Joanne served as a Village representative on the local planning board and the Livingston County Planning Board. We will miss her dedication and contributions to our village and the county.

## SEEKING A NEW COUNTY PLANNING BOARD MEMBER

The County and Village seeks someone to fill Joanne's Livingston County Planning Board position. This is an important role that helps shape our county's future.

#### What You Need to Know:

- The Board meets on the second Thursday of each month at 7:00pm
- Meetings are held via Zoom or at the Livingston County Government Center in Geneseo
- Members are reimbursed for mileage

#### Why This Role Matters:

The County Planning Board plays a big part in how our area grows and changes. New York State law says that local boards must ask the County Planning Board to review certain plans before they make final decisions. This helps ensure that changes in one town or village don't cause problems for other nearby areas.

This could be an excellent opportunity if you're interested in how our community and county develop. The role is perfect for someone who cares about our village and county and wants to make a positive impact.

If you want to learn more or apply for this position, please contact the Mayor or the Village office at 346-3100.





## WEEKLY COMMUNITY GATHERINGS

Join us for weekly community gatherings at the library – check our calendar for details and upcoming events!

## TEEN ADVISORY BOARD

Earn volunteer hours while making new friends and helping out your community. Ages 13+ are welcome! Check out the library website for details.

## ONE BOOK, OWWL KIDS

Join us for a special event, One Book, OWWL Kids. We'll be reading *Going Places* and creating our own inventions. Open to children 5-10 with registration. See library website for details.

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Summer Reading 2025 Color Our World (June 25th-August 9th)

Get ready to explore a world full of color and creativity this summer! Join us for a vibrant reading adventure where books will brighten your imagination. With fun programs, exciting prizes, and stories that paint a picture of our diverse world, there's something for everyone. Sign up starts in June and let's make this summer the most colorful one yet! Follow us on Facebook for more details.



## **From Your DPW**

I'm sure we are all ready for that long winter to be over and nicer weather to arrive! As winter winds down, we will start our spring duties of taking the plows off, sweeping, getting summer equipment out, assembling the art park, and many other things.

This summer, the Village will replace another stretch of sidewalk on Spring St. and resurface it. As soon as the company notifies me, I will notify the public on the Village Facebook page of the paving date.

This newsletter includes the brush and yard waste schedule. Please follow the instructions and dates on the schedule. Brush piles put out too early make the Village look less attractive.

This year's Autumn in the Village will be held on September 13 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Please mark this date on your calendar and join the festival with family and friends. We cannot have a successful festival without you there! We will have food, live music, craft vendors, and more!

We have updated some equipment over the last several years, including the 1999 Salco chipper, the 2001 Giant leaf vac machine, and the 2006 International dump truck. We have updated all of these pieces of equipment with new, similar items. Our regular maintenance and professional handling of equipment allows us to keep equipment for many years and utilize money as efficiently as possible.

Please reach out if you have any questions or concerns. Your Village DPW looks to have another great year of excellent service!

Have a great Spring and Summer,

## Chris Hoffmann

Highway Foreman

## The Deputy Clerk's Corner

Hello Village Residents! I would like to introduce myself and let you know about our plans to expand customer service, protect Village records, and improve communication with you, our Village residents.

My name is Colleen Hay, and many of you may remember me from my days as Town Clerk for the Town of Livonia. I retired from the Town a couple of years ago but really wanted to stay involved in government on a part-time basis. When I heard that Rhonda was retiring, I jumped at the chance to apply for the Deputy Clerk/Treasurer position at the Village. I spent some time in November and December training with Rhonda and officially took over for her on January 1. She left the office in great shape, and I appreciate her time and patience in training me.

Now that I am up to speed, the Village Board asked me to work on expanding customer service and improving communication via our website. If you have not visited our website, I invite you to check it out at livoniany.org. (The website is a joint service shared between the Town and Village to make the best use of financial resources.) The website has now been updated to provide information about Village garbage services, Autumn in the Village, and legal notices. We also include attachments to the Village Board minutes to see the materials the Board considers when making decisions. We are especially excited about the new Parks Reservations calendar. People can view the calendar to see what dates are available at Bowen and Community Parks, and there are directions for making a reservation. Navigating the site is easy, simply select "Community" at the top of the

Home Page to access the Parks, Refuse Collection, and Grass/Leaf pickup schedule. Minutes can be found under the Government tab. Should you have any questions or comments about the website, please email me at chay@villagelivonia.org.

Our next undertaking will be a records access and protection project. We are currently talking with the County's Records Management Department to find ways to collaborate to increase public access to archives, protect important documents from loss or damage due to

fire or other disasters, and share costs for shredding services. We will keep you informed about our progress! Please reach out to me anytime with questions or concerns.

I look forward to serving you!

## Colleen Hay

Deputy Clerk Treasurer

## A Spotlight on New Village Businesses

We welcome Bakery Batch to our business district! Located at 31 Main Street, next to Margaret Linsner's law office, Livonia graduate Patty Symonds owns and operates the bakery. Customers can enjoy a variety of fresh baked goods, including gluten and dairy-free items. Currently, the bakery is open on Fridays from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Patty is working with the Livingston County Chamber of Commerce to realize her goal of finishing an on-site kitchen and expanding her hours.

Just down the street from Bakery Batch we welcome the re-branded **Lake Bistro!** Formerly Lake BBQ,

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# A Spotlight on New Village Businesses

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the Bistro is open for breakfast and lunch. Start your day by choosing from various brewed coffees or espresso while enjoying a breakfast sandwich or quiche. The lunch menu includes tacos, rice bowls, and sandwiches highlighting the Bistro's BBQ. Lake Bistro also offers catering services for breakfast, lunch, and dinner. Follow them on Facebook and stop in Wednesday-Friday from 9 am-3 pm, and Saturdays 9 am-1 pm.

Johnston (also a Livonia grad)

has expanded her footprint in the basement of Simply Positive. The newly remodeled space is home to the Salted Grove Healing Center, where clients can experience dry salt therapy in the new salt room and detoxify with IonCleanse Therapy. Appointments are necessary and available 7 days a week. Finally, we welcome ReNewed Coffee Co. to the former Masonic Hall building at the corner of Big Tree and Commercial Streets. Owner Hannah Green (another Livonia grad) operates out of a newly remodeled area that housed the Livonia Fire Department and the village's post office in the earlymid-1900s. She promises visitors "iconic vibes" and a variety of

"bevvies," including cold and hot coffees, refreshers using different juices, and lotus energy drinks. ReNewed has a kitchen where they bake pastries. They want to expand that aspect of their business as we move into Spring. Visit ReNewed 7 days a week from 6:30 am- 5 pm Monday-Friday and 7:30 am-2 pm on Saturdays and Sundays. Visit their website at renewedcoffeeco.com to learn about specials and order online.

We encourage you to visit these entrepreneurs and continue buying local as much as possible.



## **BRUSH AND YARD WASTE SCHEDULE (2025)**

April 7	Brush and Yard Waste	(Must Be in Paper Bags NO Plastic)
April 14	Brush and Yard Waste	(117450 De III 7 aper Bugs 140 1 instite)
April 21	Brush and Yard Waste	
April 28	Brush and Yard Waste	
May 5	Brush and Yard Waste	
May 12	Brush and Yard Waste	
May 19	Brush and Yard Waste	
May 27	Brush and Yard Waste	
June 2	Yard Waste	(MONTHLY Pickup of Brush Begins)
June 9	Yard Waste	
June 16	Yard Waste	
June 23	Yard Waste	
June 30	Brush and Yard Waste	
July 7	Yard Waste	
July 14	Yard Waste	
July 21	Yard Waste	
July 28	Brush and Yard Waste	
August 4	Yard Waste	
August 11	Yard Waste	
August 18	Yard Waste	
August 25	Brush and Yard Waste	
September 2	Yard Waste	
September 8	Yard Waste	
September 15	Yard Waste	
September 22	Yard Waste	
September 29	<b>LAST BRUSH PICKU</b>	P and Yard Waste Continues
October 6	FIRST LEAF PICKUP	and Yard Waste
October 14	Leaves and Yard Waste	
October 20	Leaves and Yard Waste	
October 27	Leaves and Yard Waste	
November 3	Leaves and Yard Waste	
November 10	Leaves and Yard Waste	
November 17	Leaves and Yard Waste	
November 24	Leaves and Yard Waste	(LAST PICK UP FOR BOTH)

# Refuse is scheduled for pickup every Wednesday, and the only Holidays that will impact the normal schedule this year are:

Memorial Day: Refuse Picked up on 5/29/2025 Labor Day: Refuse picked up on 9/4/2025

## **Pickup Guidelines**

Yard Waste Brush Leaves

We all want our Village to be safe, clean, and pleasant appearing. Piles of brush, tree limbs and building materials that are in the street or next to the roadway for weeks are unpleasant to see and a hazard to all.

Our service to you will continue to be at the highest level, but we need your cooperation. Our two trucks cannot be ready to perform multiple tasks. When we are prepared for snow, the trucks are equipped with plows and sanders and are not capable of picking up grass, leaves, or brush. This reflects some of our limitations. We need you to help us so that we can help you.

## YARD WASTE

(Grass and all plant material including flowers, weeds, grass, walnuts, spring leaves, etc.)

The Village will continue to be responsible for any yard waste pickup. Yard waste will be picked up weekly on Monday. Biodegradable bags or appropriate trash cans will be required for residents who would like this service. This is because all our yard waste is now being composted. The use of our backhoe and large truck will no longer be necessary. The bags and trash cans are easy to handle, and the bags decompose quickly. **Plastic bags are not appropriate and will not be picked up.** 

#### **BRUSH**

- Brush will be picked up weekly on Mondays from mid-April through May. From June to October, brush will be picked up on the first Monday of the month. Brush should be placed **no more than three days** in advance of the monthly pickup date.
- Piles should be no longer than 8 feet.
- Piles should not be in the immediate vicinity of a tree, power pole, mailbox, or fire hydrant.
- Piles should be placed between the road and sidewalk or adjacent to the road where there are no sidewalks. Brush should not be placed in the road.
- Other material should not be intermingled with brush. This is because the brush is chipped/shredded and composted. The chipper cannot handle dirt, rocks, large diameter body wood or stumps/rootballs and other foreign materials. **Dirt and rocks seriously damage your village equipment.**

#### **LEAVES**

- Leaf pickup will begin on the second Monday of October and continue daily until the last Monday of November, or until the first serious snowstorm.
- Leaves should not be piled in the road, but as close as possible to the road, similar to brush.
- No other materials should be intermingled with the leaves. This is because the vacuum equipment cannot vacuum sticks, dirt and other foreign materials. **Dirt and rocks seriously damage your equipment.**