

2014 LYNDONVILLE TRUSTEES REPORT

To the Residents of Lyndonville:

2014 was a challenging year for the Village. For a variety of reasons, we ended 2013 with a deficit of about \$58,000. Due to weather and increasing salt prices, as well as the fact that both our water and sewer infrastructure is improving, we are spending more time on our highways, sidewalks, and parks and less time working for the water and sewer departments. We were able to cover a portion of the short fall with reserve funds and through careful planning were able to close out 2014 with a deficit of \$400.00. Although we cannot predict the weather, we can plan for the trends discussed above regarding where we are spending our time. A larger portion of our payroll moving forward will be shifted to our general fund budget, while a smaller portion is being assigned to the water department, the goal is to avoid similar deficits to what we experienced in 2013.

A great deal was accomplished during the year. We promoted Joe Dauphin to be the new Public Works Supervisor and he has worked out very well. We hired Brian Berthiaume as a new employee and he too has been a real asset. Jim Eldridge retired from the Village Crew in July. His position will not be filled as we are reducing our staff by one person. This is a direct result of all of the improvements we have made to the water distribution system, as we no longer have repairs to make on a regular basis. Fortunately, Jim has agreed to become a part-time winter hire to help out us out during big storms or prolonged periods of snowy weather. We would like to sincerely thank our Public Works crew for their outstanding contribution to the Village.

In 2014, we were able to complete a small improvement to the water distribution system on Skyline Drive. With the exception of small sections on Elm Street and Hill Street, the entire Village is finished.

The water rates were completely restructured for 2014. We made a small change to the rate structure for 2015, but overall the new method of billing will make our utility much more financially sustainable going forward and leaves the water budget less susceptible to wide swings in the water usage.

In 2014, the State repaved Route 5 heading north until 811 Broad Street. In 2015, the State is proposing to finish repaving Route 5 through the Village, as well as Center Street. Improvements will include a new median on Broad St. near the Post Office which will improve safety for pedestrians and drivers.

We are continuing to work on a new joint garage facility with the Town. We will also continue to bring our sidewalks into ADA compliance.

Bandstand Park continues to be a focal point. The park is always busy with events and people enjoying the space. We made some improvements to the

lighting in the gazebo and replaced the main electrical panel in 2014. Thanks to all who helped to expand the new Christmas display in the gazebo this year. It seems to be a big hit with everyone and we hope it will be an annual event.

There were also a number of changes to the Board of Trustees in 2014, as long time Trustee, Oralie Lefaivre resigned after 12 years of service. Her energy and observations about the Village from her nightly walks will be missed. The Trustees welcomed Heather Bollman to our Board in November to fill the seat vacated by Oralie. Heather's perspective and work experience will be very much valued moving forward.

Our Municipal Administrator, Dan Hill retired after serving the Village for 6 years. He will be sorely missed and we wish him the very best with his retirement. In August we hired our long term Zoning Administrator, Justin Smith as our new Municipal Administrator. Dan & Justin spent a significant amount of time working together and we envision a continued smooth transition. Justin will continue to have the same open door policy as his predecessor, please feel free to stop in with issues or concerns.

The Trustees would also like to thank our entire administrative staff for all of their hard work. They are invaluable in keeping the Village running smoothly.

We appreciate the opportunity to serve our community and the support you give us in that work.

Tim Gaskin
Chair, Board of Trustees

Randy Amadon, Ray Durocher, Ron Aiken, and Heather Bollman.