

2015 LYNDONVILLE TRUSTEES REPORT

To the Residents of Lyndonville:

2015 was another challenging year for the Village. After ending 2014 with a deficit of about \$400.00, largely due to weather and increasing salt prices, we were once again facing the same dilemma as we headed into the fall of 2015. The weather in the first three months of 2015 had largely exhausted our winter highway budget. Fortunately, we had a very mild fall and we were able to come in under budget. Through some careful planning we were able to close out 2015 with a surplus of \$34,000.00. After several years without saving for paving our streets, we are going to put a significant portion of the cash on hand into our class 3 highway savings so we can begin resurfacing some of the streets we have identified which are most in need of resurfacing.

A great deal was accomplished during the year. Joe Dauphin completed his first full year as our Public Works Supervisor. We also hired Zachary Willey as a new employee. Jim Eldridge who retired from the Village Crew in July of 2014, has continued to work part time for the Town as Maintenance Technician for the Municipal Building. He is responsible for many of the repairs and the overall improvement to the appearance of the offices.

One of our large initiatives in 2015 was to improve the appearance of the Downtown. We believe through the hard work of our Village Crew, in coordination with the Village Clerk's office and many volunteers, we were able to make significant improvements to the appearance of our downtown. In 2015 we purchased four additional flower planters to place on our sidewalks. We would like to extend our gratitude to Mary Waldron for putting the flower arrangements together. In addition to the flowers, this fall Michele Maccalous, one of our Assistant Clerk's, created scare crows to place around the Village and Town with the help of our Village Crew. It was very pleasing for all of us to see that several businesses created their own unique scare crows to place on their properties, in addition to the ones we placed around the Village and Town. We are hopeful that this is just the beginning, and that we will see increased community participation in many of these activities.

The water rates were completely restructured for 2014. We made a small change to the rate structure for 2016, but overall the new method of billing has made our utility much more financially sustainable going forward and leaves the water budget less susceptible to wide swings in the water usage. The water rates were largely unchanged for the upcoming year. Any changes to an individual user's bill will come only from a change in usage.

We are continuing to work on a new joint garage facility with the Town and are in hopes to be into the new facility in the fall of 2016. We will also continue to bring our sidewalks into ADA compliance.

Bandstand Park continues to be a focal point of the Village. Thanks to all who help to continue to expand the 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 was one change to the Board of Trustees in 2015, as long time Trustee, Tim Gaskin did not seek re-election after 21 years of service. His historical perspective and decision making will be sorely missed. The Trustees welcomed Chris Hunter to our Board in March to fill the seat vacated by Tim. Chris' perspective, work experience, and many years as a volunteer at Powers Park will be very much valued moving forward.

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.

Ray Durocher
Chair, Board of Trustees

Randy Amadon, Ron Aiken, Heather Bollman, and Chris Hunter.