

MAYOR'S MEMO SEPTEMBER 2019

Hello once again, I know it has been way too long since I last wrote my Mayor's memo. I hope everyone had an enjoyable summer and are ready for a fantastic fall. In this memo I hope to bring you up to speed as to what is going on in the Village and the Village Departments.

Grants – You may have heard that the Village completed a grant application for the Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI). The DRI is a contest that the Governor created to award ten communities throughout the state ten million dollars. Medina was a finalist and we presented to the selection panel in Rochester our pitch on why we deserve the grant. There are at least five other communities that presented to the committee. The Governor announced five of the ten so far. Our region, the Finger Lakes, has not yet been announced. I expect an announcement of the winner in the next two months

GRANTS AND FUND RAISING

LWRP - The Village was awarded a thirty-six-thousand-dollar Local Waterfront Revitalization Program grant to conduct a study of the best way to revitalize all our waterfronts. Throughout the year there have been public meetings and surveys to gather residents and visitors' thoughts of the best use of our waterways and surrounding areas. The study has been completed and sent to the Department of State for approval. Once approved we can begin to apply for funding for some of the improvements.

Maple Ridge Road Study – The Village received a grant to conduct a shared serviced study of Maple Ridge Road from Bates Road to Salt Works Road for traffic and pedestrian safety. This study is in cooperation with the Town of Shelby and the Orleans County IDA. Several public meetings and surveys have been completed to receive input from residents, businesses, and schools. We are currently working with the NYS Department of Transportation to finalize plans for a presentation. Once a plan is in place, we will be able to apply for funds to begin work.

Dog Park – The friends of the Medina Dog Park, which will be located next to the former Village compost building, is nearing its goal to build the park and construction should start in the near future. They have worked hard at their fundraising efforts and are planning the first dog park in Orleans county that Medina can be proud of.

Skate Park - The Medina Slate Society is active in fund raising efforts to meet their Fifty Thousand Dollar Goal. They are about halfway there and have until March to raise the rest of the money. A 50/50 match was awarded to the Village from the Tony Hawk Foundation. They will match any funds over the Fifty Thousand dollars. If anyone is interested in donating to the new skate park that will be built at the current skate park you can drop off a check at the Village Office. Please make the check out to the Medina Skate Society.

Playground/Splash Pad – The Pine Street Park Group have raised enough funds to build a new playground and install a splash pad at Pine Street Park. Site work by the Village DPW will begin the week of September 10th, the installation company will begin work the week of September 16th

The Village Board is confident that the quality of life will only be enhanced with these grants and fund-raising efforts.

DEPARTMENTS

Police – The police officers are now wearing body cameras; these cameras are activated manually by the officer. It begins recording thirty seconds prior to activations. Our department has been involved in several mass shooter drills in the county. These drills are held in conjunction with other police, EMS and fire agencies in and around Orleans County. We are currently updating the computer system in the police station to meet the state mandated reporting system.

Fire – The fire department has been very busy with 911 ambulance and fire calls as well as inter-facility transports to outside hospitals. There is a very active fire prevention program that teaches fire safety at all ages from pre-K to senior citizens. Between calls for service your firefighters have been completing all of their daily, weekly and quarterly training requirements. Through a grant the fire department received a new SUV and will be purchasing a utility trailer that will be used to store the swift water rescue and low angle rope rescue equipment.

DPW – Our DPW crews continue to work hard on the Village streets, water and sewer lines. Crews were able to repair several major water leaks that has saved the Village over sixty thousand dollars in lost water this year. Street milling and paving has been completed, cold and hot patching of potholes continue as needed. The paving was a shared service effort from the Towns of Shelby, Ridgeway, and the County. Our Sanitary Sewer System is undergoing a seven-million-dollar project. Approximately two million has been funded through grants. We are continuing to apply for grants to assist in defraying the cost.

Code Enforcement – Marty Busch, our Code Enforcement Officer, will be retiring the end of September. We hired Dan Gardner to take Marty's place. Dan is going to the Code enforcement classes to be certified. Marty has agreed to stay on as a consultant until Dan has completed the classes. This office is extremely busy with all the construction projects that are taking place. The office is also responsible for Village property maintenance codes and the vacant property law.

Village Clerk Office – Our dedicated employees in the Clerk's Office are very busy. There seems to be a line of residents coming in for birth certificates due to the NYSDMV drivers license and non-drivers' identification process. If anyone needs information about the Village you normally can get it in the Clerk's office.

Your Village Board members are a dedicated group that works hard for the Village. If you have any concerns, please email one of us for help or clarification on an issue. You can find our names and emails on the new village website.

Thank you for taking time to read this memo,

Mike Sidari

Mayor

