



Town Times

ISSUE
24 Quarter 4
2025

Regularly Scheduled Board Meetings:

Town Board meets at 6:00 pm the second Tuesday of every month. Come at 5:30 pm for an informal meet and greet with department heads and town board members.

Planning Board meets the third Tuesday of every month if they have received an application. Meetings start at 6:00 pm.

Zoning Board of Appeals meets the fourth Tuesday of every month if they have received an application. Meetings start at 6:00 pm.

***Please check website and/or facebook for updates!**



this issue:

- Updates from Departments
- New! Pay Your Water & Sewer Bills Online
- Floyd Kofahl to Retire
 - Local Programs
- Opportunities to Get Involved

From Supervisor Mark Venuti

Hello Town Residents, Business Owners and Friends,

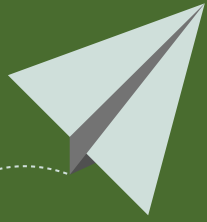
Happy New Year! I hope you have been enjoying the holiday season and the start of a new year. Town government ends 2025 in good shape and looking forward to 2026.

New Faces on Town Boards. At our December 9 town board meeting we recognized the service of Robert Gringeri, who is stepping down after 15 years on the Town Planning Board, and John Wilson, who is stepping down after 11 years on the Town Zoning Board of Appeals, the last 7 as chair. We are grateful for their service. We welcome to the Planning Board Tom Bonacci, Tom Klementowski and Molly Cadle-Davidson, and to the Zoning Board of Appeals Susan Coyne, Vicky Davis and Larry Magguilli.

Comprehensive Plan. The Town's Comprehensive Plan Update was approved by the Town Board on November 11, 2025 and is available on the Town's web site. The committee that worked on the update will now tackle the action plan so we can work toward achieving the goals outlined in the update. Meetings are open to the public so check the Town's web site for dates if you would like to attend.

Winter closings. The Town's Bike Park and Box Field are closed for the winter. Slate Rock Road is also closed for the winter to spare the timber bridge over Wilson Creek the wear and tear of heavy plow trucks and salt.

(Continued on next page)



Stay Informed!

Email users, give us your email address and we'll include you on periodic messages about important town and area events. Send an email to supervisor@townofgenevany.gov or visit <https://www.townofgenevany.gov/about-the-town/contact-us/subscribe.php> to sign up! Your email address will never be shared with others, and you can be removed from the list at any time by hitting the unsubscribe button at the bottom of town messages.

From Supervisor Mark Venuti (continued)

Ontario County Board of Supervisors. The Board of Supervisors is seeing its largest turnover in memory; nine new supervisors throughout the county (out of 21). Two are from the City of Geneva, Jan Regan and Esther Dickinson, joining myself and Jim Kennedy to make up the four Genevans. We look forward to working together.

Reuse. Reuse Systems, Inc. continues to organize to bring a reuse center and other programs to our area. Hobart & William Smith Colleges will be taking down Eaton Hall in 2026, and Reuse Systems has stepped in to salvage parts that can be saved and sold, reducing what will eventually head to the landfill.

Kashong Glen. Kashong Creek is a major tributary to Seneca Lake and flows past the Town's well field on Kashong Point on its way to the lake. The owner of about 95 acres around the creek put it up for sale in the spring of 2025, and the Town, with the help of the Finger Lakes Land Trust, will acquire 75 acres that include the creek and four waterfalls. The parcel will be protected from development and will allow the Town to install stormwater controls to reduce erosion and unwanted substances entering the lake.

New! Pay Your Water & Sewer Bills Online!



Residents can now pay their water and sewer bills online. The link (<https://water.nyquickpay.com/tgeneva.php>) can be found on the website. Residents can pay by credit card or by e-check.

Also, if you would like to receive your bill by email, please send an email to watersewer@townofgenevany.gov, including the following information:

Your name:

Your water/sewer account number:

The email address that you would like to receive your bill at:

Whether you would like to still receive a copy by mail or not:

REMINDER!

If you use the food waste container at the transfer station, please do not put the food waste in plastic bags and put the bag and all in the container! This includes bags that say they are compostable. These "compostable" bags are usually for use in commercial composters, which the town does not use. The suggestion is to use no liner to the bucket at all and do quick wash after dumping it into the toter at the transfer station or to use a paper bag to line the container which again would require a quick rinse of the bucket after dumping it.

Opportunities for Community Involvement



- Kim Aliperti, Town Board Member

With a new year approaching, now is a wonderful time to think about becoming more involved in the Town of Geneva and helping shape its future.

Every two years, Town Board members are reelected. Over the past six years, there has been no opposition to any board seats—an indication that many residents are satisfied with the direction of our town. While we appreciate this strong vote of confidence, we also believe our town is strongest when more voices are involved.

As Chair of the Town Communications Committee (kimaliperti@townofgenevany.gov), I encourage you to consider how you might participate. You don't need to run for office to make a meaningful difference. Geneva has several committees that welcome community members and benefit greatly from resident involvement.

The Communications Committee focuses on sharing important town information—through this quarterly newsletter, our website, and our text outreach program. We meet twice a year, with additional meetings as needed.

If you are interested in growth and smart development, the Economic Development Committee, chaired by Bob McCarthy (robertmccarthy@townofgenevany.gov), may be a great fit. This committee meets in person every other month.

The Sustainability Committee meets monthly via Zoom and in person. Through its efforts the Town is a Bronze Certified Climate Smart Community which has earned us \$250,000 in grants over the past five years. The Town and committee continue working to implement practical, sustainable initiatives throughout the town. Contact Jennifer Grant to learn more (jennifergrant5316@gmail.com).

Our Recreation Committee, chaired by Gordy Baxter (gbaxter@townofgenevany.gov), oversees the box field behind Town Hall, the bike park, and other recreational programs—some in partnership with the City of Geneva.

Mitch Wilber (mitch.wilber@townofgenevany.gov) chairs both the Kashong Conservation Area Committee and the Town Comprehensive Plan Committee. Whether you're interested in helping maintain trails at the Kashong Preserve or contributing to long-term planning for Geneva's future, these committees offer meaningful opportunities to get involved.

While there are currently no openings on the Planning or Zoning Boards, positions do become available from time to time. Attending a meeting is a great way to learn more about town operations and see if this type of involvement is right for you. You can find the times and dates on our website: <https://townofgenevany.gov/>

Please feel free to reach out to any Town Board member to learn more about committee opportunities and how you can get involved. Our community is at its best when many voices help shape its future.

Code Enforcement Officer [CEO] Floyd Kofahl to retire in January

- From Mitch Wilber, Town Board Member



Floyd Kofahl's approach to a new development proposal was to ask, "How do we make it work?" There might not always have been a successful answer to that question. But his bias through 28 years of planning and code enforcement was to see if there was a way a new project could fit within a community's vision. He was open to the possibilities before addressing the obstacles. On January 31, 2026 that positive attitude retires from our Town Hall.

How did Floyd come to see his role as searching for what can be done, as opposed to what can't, when the very nature of code enforcement can tend toward "thou shall not"? Perhaps some of that attitude sprang from the compromises involved with growing up in a family of eighteen children fortunate to have a two-seater outhouse. Or maybe it was from the experience of being shot at twice (early in his career as an energy consultant) and yet eventually turning those shooters into cooperative clients. And it might have been from the return visit to the elderly woman in Auburn who initially welcomed him swinging a 2x4. This is a man willing to make lemonade from life's lemons.

Early career positions led to Floyd obtaining New York State code enforcement certification in 1987. In the early 1990s he was working throughout six northeastern states facilitating residential energy improvement policies but missing time with a young family of his own. A chance to come off the road came in 1997 when he was appointed CEO for the Town of Victor. Floyd had grown up in Pumpkin Hook in northwestern Farmington, so the Victor position was nearly a homecoming. Victor had a well-run planning department that helped in Floyd's professional growth. In 2006 he became Farmington CEO, a position he held until 2015. His tenure at Victor and Farmington saw typical annual building permit issuance in the range of 1,000 to 1,200 as those towns' residential communities exploded. In 2015 he became the village of Pittsford's CEO and thought he would retire from there until Geneva's outgoing CEO, Bill McAdoo, alerted him to Geneva's need for his successor. A late 2016 conversation with Supervisor Venuti and Councilman McCarthy sealed the deal and the Billsboro resident was appointed CEO January 2017 here in his current hometown.

Floyd is retiring after a year of above average permit issuance for our town. While not at the pace of his peak years at Victor and Farmington, his office will issue close to 180 permits in 2025, well above a more typical volume of approximately 120. He is proud of many commercial collaborations such as with the (unfortunately departed) Cheribundi company and CCMI, Inc now planning an additional expansion. A particularly memorable project is the over two-year collaboration with Rochester Regional Health to repurpose a vacant eyesore into a state-of-the-art medical facility. A piece of advice for his successor (who he has been mentoring since September 2024), Kyle Bunce, is to resist a quick answer to a technical question because of the breadth and complexity of the code world. "The key to the job is knowing how to find the answers. There's way too much involved to answer every question when in the field." In addition to his work with developers, our Planning Board, and the Zoning Board of Appeals, Floyd has also served as Geneva's Fire Marshall conducting annual safety inspections of facilities where the public congregates.

Retirement will bring opportunities to enjoy personal interests such as breeding irises and shooting pool. With 78 different types of irises in his collection he carries on a skill he learned from his father. A competitive pool player, he continues the Kofahl billiards reputation honed at DeLyser's Bar in Macedon by his grandfather and brother; if his grandfather needed grocery money, he would head to DeLyser's, cue in hand!

The Town Board thanks Floyd for his nine years of service and wishes him the best in retirement. His positive approach and professional competency will be missed.

Water & Sewer Department

- From Howard Bailey, Water and Sewer Superintendent

The water department has completed its flushing and exercising of the water system's valves and hydrants and made all the necessary repairs. The employees have put away the mower for the winter and have gotten ready the equipment needed to keep all our facilities clear of snow for the upcoming season.

The sewer department has also completed the flushing of its sewer mains and also scoped a few of the problem areas.

The sewer plant upgrade has been on hold due to delays with getting some of the new equipment. It should get going again by the middle of February with hopes to be done by early spring.

During this past year there have been many new homes added to our system, including some in Bay Heights Circle and three new apartment buildings off Carter Road by the Home Leasing Group. There is also a new manufactured home development coming to the Carter Road area near Gambee Road. This project should get going after the first of the year.

During the winter months if there is a fire hydrant near or on your property and you have the capability to keep it clear from snow, it would be greatly appreciated.

Highway Department

- Bernie Peck, Highway Superintendent

A REMINDER TO TOWN RESIDENTS:

The Town of Geneva is not responsible for damage to mailboxes. The damage done to mailboxes is primarily caused by snow coming off the plow wing. Most of the time it is the mailbox posts that are old/rotten and in disrepair. We advise you to be sure that your mailbox and post are both in good condition and if not, replace them during the warmer months.



Please make our jobs a little easier by following these guidelines provided by the Ontario County Highway Superintendents Association and the Ontario County Sheriff's Department:

With the winter driving season upon us, the Ontario County Highway Superintendents Association and the Ontario County Sheriff's Office would like to remind area residents how they can help snow plowing crews in performing their jobs.

Motorists are encouraged to operate their vehicles at a reduced reasonable speed with regard to road conditions and poorer visibility due to blowing and drifting snow. Motorists should drive defensively keeping in mind that you could encounter black ice, a slow moving snowplow or other vehicles entering the highway from behind high snow banks. Brake in a safe and efficient manner. Remember, that bridges and overpasses freeze first. In our cold and snowy winters, automobile drivers should remember to always wear their seat belt and make sure passengers do, too. Snow tires or, at the very least, all-season tires should be on your vehicle. Bring gloves, a coat and boots in case your car breaks down or gets stuck. Check the weather forecast for your destination. Tell someone where you are going and when you expect to return.

When you are plowing out your driveway, it is recommended that the snow be plowed from the road to the sides of the driveway. It is best to pile the snow on the right side of your driveway as you face the highway. This will help to keep snow from being plowed back into your driveway by the highway crews. **Snow should not be plowed from driveways and across a highway.** Not only is this type of snow removal illegal but the snow that is left behind in the highway presents a hazard to the motoring public and results in the Highway Department making a costly trip back to remove this snow hazard. The Highway Superintendents and the Sheriff's Office also encourage parents to make certain their children are not playing on or in the snow banks adjacent to the highway.

To ease the job of the highway snow removal crew, homeowners should shovel away the snow from around their mailbox. Not only does this allow mail to be delivered but provides the opportunity for the plow operators to see the mailbox. Unfortunately, many mailboxes are damaged yearly by heavy snow and ice as it is being removed from the roadway. The Ontario County Highway Superintendents Association reports that their crews are aware of the damage that is done to mailboxes by snow removal and as many precautions as are possible are taken to prevent mailbox damage. When this unintentional damage occurs, it is the homeowner's responsibility to repair or replace the mailbox. The Highway Superintendents understand the frustration of homeowners when this type of unintentional damage occurs but they point out that the municipality cannot legally reimburse for mailbox damage while the municipality is engaged in snow removal.

The Ontario County Sheriff's Office also reminds motorists that parking along the highway, in snow plow turn-arounds and school bus turn-arounds, also can be hazardous and prevent highway crews from removing snow properly. If your vehicle becomes disabled, first notify the Sheriff's Office, then try to remove the vehicle as soon as possible. If the operator fails to follow these mentioned steps, the vehicle may get towed at the owner's expense for hampering snow removal.

Building Department

- From Floyd D. Kofahl, Code Enforcement Officer

It's Winter Time! For all property owners that have sidewalks in front of their property, remember that you are required to keep these sidewalks clear of snow and ice. The sidewalks are to be maintained within 24 hours of snow fall. This also includes after plow trucks go by and throw snow on to the sidewalks. This is a safety issue for the residents of the Town.

New Business Update - Salvatore's Old Fashioned Pizzeria is now open!



Sound the Alarm

Home fires remain the most frequent disaster in the U.S., and on average, seven people die each day—often in homes without working smoke alarms. Working alarms can cut the risk of death in half.

As part of the **American Red Cross Home Fire Campaign**, trained volunteers visit homes to:

- Install **free smoke alarms**
- Help residents develop a **2-minute escape plan**
- Provide basic **home fire safety education**

Residents can request a visit by calling **(585) 241-4390** or visiting [Western New York Home Fire Campaign](https://www.redcross.org/sound-the-alarm.html). Interested in volunteering? Visit <https://www.redcross.org/sound-the-alarm.html> for more information!



American Red Cross
of Western New York



**FREE Smoke
Alarms Available!**

Call: **(585) 241-4390**

or request online:



Assessor's Office

- Vincent Fischer

****Deadline for all exemption applications and renewals is March 1st, 2026, pushed to the next business day March 2nd 2026****

News from NYS

Simplifying the STAR program

Beginning in 2026, seniors no longer need to apply to their assessor to qualify for Enhanced STAR. In addition, only one resident owner of the property—regardless of the relationship of the owners—must be at least 65 years of age as of December 31 of the benefit year.

With this simple change it will make it easier to receive Enhanced STAR.

The Department of Taxation and Finance will notify property owners and the Assessor's office if residents qualify for an Enhanced STAR exemption. Department of Taxation and Finance will send a letter to Basic STAR exemption recipients who may be eligible for the Enhanced STAR exemption.

2026 Townwide revaluation project

WHAT HAPPENS DURING A REASSESSMENT??

The purpose of the reassessment is to ensure that all properties are assessed fairly at a uniform level of assessment. (Typically, assessments are adjusted to 100 percent of market value at the time of reassessment.) To analyze the real estate market, the assessor will review recent property sales and other indicators. All assessments in the municipality will be reviewed to determine where assessments should be increased, decreased or remain the same. This may or may not include visual re-inspection of some or all of the parcels.

WILL MY TAXES INCREASE AFTER DOING A REASSESSMENT??

First, a reassessment does not necessarily mean that your assessment or your taxes will increase. Furthermore, if your assessment does increase, it does not necessarily mean your taxes will increase.

A property's assessment is supposed to reflect its market value. As market values increase or decrease and the assessments do not keep pace and reflect these changes, some property taxpayers could pay more than their fair share of taxes, while others may pay less than their fair share. Reassessments are intended to restore fairness within the community.

Sometimes the taxes will be shifted among types of property. What if all the market values in a community increased since the last assessment, but the value of brick houses had increased much faster than wooded houses? Then the owner of brick houses should pay a greater portion of taxes, while the owners of wooden homes should pay a smaller portion. This is one of the reasons that it is important for municipalities to conduct reassessments on a frequent basis. The longer between reassessments, the more likely taxpayers will experience dramatic tax shifts.

From the Town Clerk's Office

Happy New Year from the Town Clerks Office! With Tax Season approaching us here is some helpful tax information.

2026 TOWN OF GENEVA/COUNTY TAX INFORMATION

Pay at Geneva Town Hall, 3750 County Road 6, Geneva, NY

TOWN OF GENEVA COUNTY TAX - Starting January 2, 2026
SEND ENTIRE BILL - DO NOT RIP APART! - Phone # on all Checks!

PAYMENTS payable to "Lorie Peck/Tax Collector"
CHECK MEMO: Put Phone number & Tax bill # on the check
NO CREDIT CARD PAYMENTS

PAYMENT DATES: starting January 2nd
Monday – Thursday 8:00 am – 4:00 pm.

**2026 TAX
INFORMATION**

February 1st-29th (1% interest) and March 1st -April 1st (2% interest)
Monday – Thursday 8:00 am – 4:00 pm

WHERE TO PAY: In person payments can be made at the town Hall, 3750
County Road 6, Geneva, NY 14456

OR

DROP BOX by the flagpole until APRIL 1st at 3pm.
*Any payments after April 1st, 2026 will need to be payable to Ontario County
Treasurer's Department and mailed to Canandaigua.*



Reminder: 2026 Recycling Stickers and Price Changes

The 2026 Recycling Stickers price is \$30.

Trash punch cards will be \$90 beginning January 1, 2026.

STOP BY AND DONATE!

The Town Clerks Office is still accepting donations for the Ontario County Humane Society. There is a box at Town Hall to put donations in.



Town Sustainability Committee

Committee members continue to be very involved with ReUse Systems Inc. Vinny Aliperti recently accepted the responsibility of ReUse Board chairperson. As reported in the fall newsletter, an Executive Director and an Americorps VISTA worker came on board as the first staff members in September. They are currently writing a five year plan as required for the County's grant, and continuing the search for a physical location for our first Reuse center.

The committee meets quarterly. All are welcome. The next meeting is January 12 at 7pm at the Town Hall.

Watch for dates for the spring Free Stuff Day and Fix-It clinic (usually early June).

From Geneva Family YMCA



Town residents ages 65 and older that are **NEW to the Y, on a first come, first served basis, will receive a punch card allowing 12 visits to the YMCA, allowing you to use the facility and participate in programs for active older adults.**

****Must show proof of town residency.****

*****Limited to first 40 town residents.*****



Contact Us

Town of Geneva
3750 County Road 6
Geneva, NY 14456
315-789-3922
townofgenevany.gov

