



# The Tivoli Village News

tivoliny.org

Summer 2017

(845) 757-2021



## Hello from the Village of Tivoli Board of Trustees,

In addition to your quarterly bill and this newsletter, this envelope contained your 2016 Annual Water Quality Report. The Village is required to mail you this report every year. It is also posted on the Village website.

**There is very big news this quarter which overshadows all else in our Village: the discussion of the fate of Village water and wastewater has begun. All users of Village water & sewer should follow this conversation closely.**

The problem of our aging village water & sewer systems has loomed over Tivoli for years. We know that our systems are ancient (nearly 80 years old) and in poor condition. We all know that we have experienced more broken water main breaks than we would care to count or recall.

It is self-evident that well maintained, well operated W&WW systems are critical to the health, safety, and future of our Village. They are more than critical. **This infrastructure is essential.** Good water comes out your tap. Bad things go away down your toilet. When either of these two things don't happen properly. It is a problem.

And let's not forget that a water system is not just for drinking. It's also for fire protection. That is not something you may think about often, but the Tivoli Fire Department thinks about this on every call. These old mains, these old hydrants, and that old water tower, are also supposed to protect our lives and property when there is a fire. This is a densely built wooden Village. We need to have adequate water storage and a dependable distribution system, because **adequate fire protection is as important as clean, dependable drinking water.**



Across the state and nation, **the reality of long deferred maintenance of essential infrastructure is challenging communities large and small.** The headlines are filled with horror stories of communities who have not faced the challenge in time, or come to terms with the tremendous effort and costs required.

What is the condition of Tivoli's water & sewer systems? What must be done to fix them? How much will it cost? How will these repairs be made and financed? **We now have answers to those questions and it is critical all users of Village water & sewer review and understand this information. Tivoli is facing \$9.5 million in necessary repairs and upgrades in the next 20 years. Most of that cost must be incurred in the next five years!**

In 2014 Tivoli won an \$80,000 County Grant to perform a comprehensive evaluation of both systems and develop a transfer feasibility study **SHOULD** the Village choose to transfer ownership of the systems to the Dutchess County Water and Wastewater authority. Three years later the evaluation and reports are complete.

**These reports can be read online at the Village website, or you can read a hardcopy at the Village Clerk's office or the Tivoli Free library. If you go to the Village Website and go to "government" in the blue main menu and then click on "document center" you will find the reports. Or this link will take you there: <http://tivoliny.org/document-center/>**

You will find the Water System Evaluation Report and the Wastewater System Evaluation Report. These reports are the result of an 18 month study by the engineering firm Tighe & Bond. T&B looked at every physical component of both systems, prioritized necessary repairs, and provided a cost estimate of each repair.

The third report was prepared by the Dutchess County Water & Wastewater Authority and is a Transfer Feasibility Report, showing what would be required IF the Village were to transfer the systems to the DCWWA. This report also shows projected quarterly rates under continued Village ownership and under DCWWA ownership. The projected rates are nearly identical, because either owner would be facing the same list of repairs.

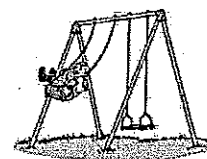
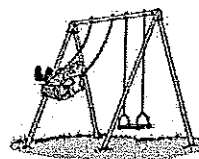
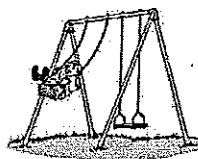
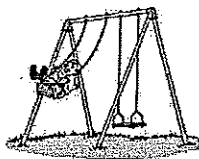
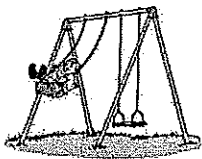
**Please study these reports to know exactly what we face in order to maintain, repair and replace these very old but essential systems.**

On Thursday, May 18<sup>th</sup> a public presentation was held at Village Hall at which the findings of these reports was presented by Tighe & Bond. Also present to answer questions was the Executive Director of the Dutchess County Water and Wastewater Authority. **If you missed that meeting, don't worry, it was filmed by PANDA23 and you can watch the entire two hour presentation and discussion here:**  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UAr1EPpKXPE>

We urge you to watch that video so you are up to speed when you attend the second meeting. That will be on **Thursday, June 22d at 7:00pm on the third floor of Village Hall.** All users of Village Water and Sewer are urged to attend. Everyone should understand the facts, and the choice facing Tivoli: **does the Village maintain ownership or transfer ownership to the DCWWA?**



In other news, **construction on Pine Street improvements will begin on June 26th and is expected to last approximately three weeks.** The west end of Pine St. and the bus stop area will be widened and curbed. There will be a new bus shelter, benches and other amenities. The shoulder eastward along the Community Garden will be rebuilt and there will be drainage improvements in the area. During the construction, one lane of Pine St will remain open at all times. During the construction, the DC LOOP bus will collect passengers in front of the post office. **This project is funded by a \$120,000 Dutchess County Community Development Block Grant which the Village was awarded in 2016.**



The Village Board has been hard at work to **bring back the Tivoli Children's Recreation Program.** We know the program will take place in August, but with a few more critical details to sort out, we cannot at this time announce when sign-ups will be. Later in June we will make a more specific announcement. Please stay tuned!

Lastly, **Tivoli Community Day 2017 will take place on Saturday, August 5<sup>th</sup> at 2pm in Memorial Park.** Save the date! And if you haven't seen the Community Photograph from 2016, it is framed and hung on the first floor of Village Hall. Drop in and take a look!

We're out of room for now. Please follow what your Village government is doing every month. We have to make decisions which affect all of us and we'd rather make them in concert with as many residents as possible. Our monthly board meetings are on 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays at 7pm and meeting minutes and other announcements can be found at <http://tivolinyn.org>. **Remember, if you have a concern, problem, or great idea about life in the Village, please contact us!**