

THE SLOAN CONNECTION

KEEPING OUR VILLAGE RESIDENTS INFORMED AND CONNECTED

SUMMER 2024

FROM THE DESK OF MAYOR FERRUCCI

On April 9, 2024, the Board of Trustees held a Public Hearing and were presented with the 2024/2025 Tentative Village Budget. Highlights of the Hearing included updates on our Sanitary Sewer Project, Capital Equipment Replacement, Griffith and Wrazen Park improvements and anticipated revenue in the upcoming fiscal year. This year's budget, as adopted, sees a small increase in the tax rate, from \$6.27 to \$6.38 per one-thousand dollars of assessed valuation. The amount of tax levy (the total amount to be collected) is \$1,283,832, an increase of \$27,675. Most homes in the Village will see an increase in their payment due of between \$10 to \$25.00. While costs of services such as sewer treatment and collection of trash have increased, our anticipated revenue has also. Sales tax and cell tower lease revenue have gone up and help to offset the increases in services, insurance, utilities, and wages. If you don't have a mortgage, you will be receiving your tax bill the first week of June. Payments are due without penalty by July 1, 2024. They can be paid by cash or check only, at the Municipal Building, 425 Reiman Street. We do not accept credit or debit payments. Village taxes that are

not received by the due date will incur a late penalty that increases every month. The last day to accept payment by our office will be October 31, 2024.

Over the last several months, our engineer submitted final design plans to the DEC and EFC for approval. We completed a Request for Proposals and numerous vendors submitted bids. The contract was awarded to National Water Main and for the past month, they have been cleaning and televising our sanitary system where needed. Based on the results, our engineer and contractor will determine whether reconstruction, spot repair or slip lining will be required. The entire project is scheduled to be completed by June, 2025.

The Village has developed and implemented a long-term capital equipment replacement schedule over the last eight years. Strategic planning enables us to provide both our Highway and Fire Departments with the equipment they need to deliver invaluable service to our residents. In the fall of 2021, we ordered a new fire truck and two new plow trucks, to replace twenty-year-old vehicles. The new fire truck was placed into service in 2023 and after numerous delays, both plow chassis have been delivered to Peterbilt on Walden.

They are now awaiting customization from Valley Fab and should be in service by winter. The new plows are four-wheel drives, allowing our DPW to get through the heavier snow during such recent storms that Western New York has been experiencing. Wrazen Park, through the use of Community Development Block grants, has received brand-new playground equipment this spring. If you have a chance, stop in with your children and grandchildren to experience this state-of-the-art, ADA accessible playground. Griffith Park, in addition to the upgraded sports courts, will have new bathrooms installed in the splashpad shelter in the fall of 2024. Assemblywoman Monica Wallace has been instrumental in providing funding for these costly, but needed, capital improvements. With a generous donation from Our Soup Committee, we will have a toddler play area available in the splashpad this summer, with several play cottages, grills, tables, car wash station and more.

Lastly, the Griffith Splashpad will be opening in late June and the Summer Concert Series kicks off on June 27th with our returning favorite "Crash Cadillac". Hope to see you there!

Thomas Ferrucci, Mayor

FROM MICHELE KRAMARSYCK, TRUSTEE

Our Youth Recreation Staff is gearing up for Summer 2024! Tentative date for opening the splash pad is Monday, June 24th. The hours of operation will be 11:30am to 7:00pm, Monday through Saturday. Sunday hours will be 11:30am to 4:30pm. We will be closed on Thursday, July 4th so our employees can enjoy the holiday with their families. A new Village ID card is required to

use the splashpad and can be obtained on Monday, June 17th and Tuesday, June 18th at Village Hall between the hours of 12:00 and 8:00pm. Two current forms of identification (driver's license, utility bill, report card, etc.) will be required for proof of residency. Non-resident children can obtain an annual pass at the cost of \$50.00/child. ID cards will no longer be issued at the Park. Summer Craft Days will be held

every Saturday from 12:00 to 2:00pm. Check with our park staff to sign up! Our school district is again sponsoring the FREE Summer Lunch Program! This program is provided to any child under the age of 18, regardless of residency. Lunches will be available in Griffith Park, Monday through Friday, between 11:30am and 1:30pm. The program will begin July 8th and continue through August 18th.

FROM TWAN EVANS, TRUSTEE

Now that the summer weather has arrived and our Village Youth will be finished with school, it is a great opportunity to think safety. Our community has seen an increase in speeding vehicles on its streets and we ask that our residents heighten their awareness of pedestrians, bicyclists and our kids at play.

If you are participating in a sporting activity, properly designed and worn safety equipment is a must. Wear your bike helmet, regardless of age; elbow and knee pads for rollerblading; personal floatation devices for swimming and be

sure to drink plenty of fluids to stay hydrated on those hot days.

Barbecuing is an American pastime for both family and friends. Whether you are using charcoal, propane or natural gas, always have a fire suppressant or garden hose nearby and cook a safe distance from any structure. Small grease fires can quickly spread to your house or garage resulting in injury or property damage.

The sun is dangerous for everyone but especially our babies and young children. Proper sunscreen applied on a regular basis, especially during water activities, is vital for protection against sun-

burn. Sun bathing, yard work, and any outdoor activity can produce health related illnesses such as heat stroke or heat exhaustion. Recognize the symptoms of each: heat exhaustion results from dehydration leading to dizziness, headache, nausea, fatigue, weakness, muscle cramps, and difficulty walking; heatstroke is a life threatening condition and occurs when your core body temperature reaches 104F or higher. Heatstroke requires immediate medical attention to prevent permanent damage to your brain and vital organs.

Summer is short in Western New York so enjoy it and stay safe!

REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE

We see this motto everywhere, but do we actually practice it? Only 9% of the plastic ever produced has been recycled, and 19% has been incinerated. When recycling, remember that any plastic containers with residue from leftover

food or organic waste are contaminated and cannot be recycled. Give them all a quick rinse before placing in your recycling tote. Recycling conserves precious natural resources and reduces costs by decreasing the amount of materials that end up in landfills. Re-

cycling totes should be placed curbside "every other week" on the same day as your trash collection. Please refer to your Waste Management calendar for your recycling schedule. If you need an extra schedule, they are available at Village Hall.

FROM SLOAN COMFORT HOUSE

The Sloan Comfort Care House is located at 17 Gierlach Street on the campus of St. Andrew Church. Our continuing mission is to provide care for individuals near the end of their life without any fear of suffering, financial expense or loss of dignity for themselves and their families. The ongoing impact has resulted in the SCCH struggling financially and we are seeking community assistance through cash donations or donations of everyday items needed (i.e. Tide detergent, bleach, paper towels, trash bags, toilet paper, postage stamps and single serve beverage items). Donations can be made directly to SCCH as well as monetary gifts via personal check, Paypal or Venmo.

We are currently planning the

SCCH "**Summer Meat Raffle**"! Included that evening will be a Basket Raffle, 50/50 Raffle and Grand Prizes! This event will be held on Friday, July 12th at St. Andrew Church. Doors open at 6:00pm. First spin is at 7:00pm. Tickets are \$15.00 and can be purchased online, or at the door. Tickets must be purchased in advance if you want to reserve a full table. Your admission includes: beer, wine, pop and a slice of pizza. Snacks are welcome to be brought in but outside alcohol will not be allowed.

Another opportunity to help is to create a Facebook Birthday Fundraiser! On your iPhone or iPad, open the Facebook app. In the promotion in your Feed, either: Swipe through the non-

profits suggested, Type into the search bar to find a nonprofit (The SCCH official name is Accountable Health Community INC.) Tap the nonprofit you want to raise money for and follow the instructions. When complete, a message will pop up that congratulates you on creating your fundraiser. From there, invite your friends to donate, share your fundraiser in your Feed, or donate to the fundraiser yourself.

Thank you for supporting the mission of the Sloan Comfort Care Home! The ongoing community support is vital to keeping our palliative care mission possible! The SCCH is seeking volunteers in any capacity, especially for direct patient care. Training will be provided. Please contact us at (716) 931-5011 for more information.

FROM ALAN WIEBERG, SLOAN FIRE CHIEF

Even though the busy summer months are here, our members continue to train and drill, dedicating their time to protecting our residents. Our members want to thank all who have donated to our 2024 Fund Drive this past month. If you have not already done so and still wish to donate, envelopes can be dropped in the mail slot at the Fire Hall or you can donate using PayPal through our website at www.sloanfd.org.

When you dial 911 for an emergency, be it medical or fire, our department always answers the

call. Help us locate your home address as quickly as possible by displaying your number to be plainly legible and visible from the street. The house numbers should contrast with their background and be at least four (4) inches high. The extra few seconds it takes to identify your address could be the difference between life and death.

Mark your calendars for our Sloan Active Hose Company #1 Meat Raffle! Event will be held on Friday, October 4th, at the St. Andrew Church Hall. Doors

open at 6:00pm and raffle starts at 7:00pm. Tickets are \$10.00 and pre-sale is recommended. Table Reservations are being accepted for 8 people at a cost of \$80.00. Admission includes beer, pop and water. Bring your own snacks! This is a 21 and over event and no outside alcohol will be allowed. To purchase tickets, you can call (716) 897-1564 or email us at: sloanfd@sloanfd.org

Interested in becoming a Sloan Fire Department member? Please visit our website or call us at (716) 897-1564.

What is Supplemental Spousal Liability Insurance? Effective August 1, 2023, NYS Insurance Law § 3420(g) required an insurer issuing a policy that satisfies V&T Law to provide supplemental spousal liability insurance, unless the named insured elects, in writing, to decline and refuse such insurance in the insured's policy. Not married? They charge you anyways. Save a few dollars and decline if not needed but review with your agent first.

21ST ANNUAL GRIFFITH PARK SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

Everyone's FAVORITE Summertime Event is back in Sloan Griffith Park!

June 27th - Crash Cadillac

July 11th - Brother James

July 25th - Route 33

August 8th - Party Hounds

August 22nd - Two of Us

All concerts are held every other Thursday from 7:00 to 9:00pm

Bring your lawn chairs or blankets and enjoy an evening out with friends and neighbors!

Refreshments for sale at the concession stand!

Split Club tickets available for purchase during the concert and winners will be announced during intermission.

In the event of inclement weather on concert day, please check the Village of Sloan Facebook Page or Website for updated concert information.

THE VILLAGE-WIDE GARAGE SALE WILL BE HELD ON SATURDAY, AUGUST 24TH FROM 8:00AM TO 2:00PM. IF INTERESTED IN HAVING YOUR ADDRESS ADDED TO THE LIST, PLEASE REGISTER THROUGH VILLAGE HALL AT (716) 897-1560 BY AUGUST 22ND.

TRASH AND RECYCLING WILL BE POSTPONED ONE (1) DAY FOR THE WEEKS OF INDEPENDENCE DAY AND LABOR DAY. PICKUP WILL BE ON FRIDAY, JULY 5 AND FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2024.

Trash Tidbits and More...

Two-Item Bulk Trash pickup will be on June 27th this month. Mattresses, boxsprings and toilets must be bagged or securely wrapped in plastic to protect the workers. Acceptable bulk items are small furniture, rolled/bound carpet (4 rolls= one bulk item). Bulk is **NOT** extra bags- all bags must be inside of your trash tote. Waste Management does not accept construction material, concrete, fencing, dirt, sod, household hazardous waste, tires, electronics etc. Our DPW collects metal and white goods (stoves, refrigerators etc.) and cut/securely bound branches on a weekly basis. All totes should be removed from curbside by 6:00pm on the day of pickup and must be stored alongside or behind your house, **NOT** in front. Erie County Sanitary and Village Code mandates that tote lids must be fully closed at **ALL TIMES** to prevent vermin/rats from entering. As this is becoming an ongoing issue throughout the Village, further complaints will be referred to the Erie County Health Department ((716)961-6800), for fines and enforcement. Need an extra trash tote? Annual fee for a 95gallon is \$200.00, a 65gallon is \$140.00 and can be ordered through Village Hall.

The Cheektowaga 2024 Summer Concerts will be held on Tuesday's at the gazebo behind the Senior Center from 6:00pm to 8:00pm. Concession stand opens at 5:00pm. Bring your chairs, coolers, snacks, family and friends! Our concert schedule is: June 25- Party Hounds / July 9- 45 RPM / July 23- Alex Rene Big Bend / July 30- Hazzard Country / August 13- New Direction / August 27- Rock Angel!

ST. ANDREW CHURCH NEWS AND EVENTS

Come visit our **Thrift Shop** inside the old school! Days and hours of operation: Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday 11:00am to 4:00pm. All donations are accepted during hours of operation. Accepted items: small appliances and furniture, toys, games, clothes, shoes and purses. All donated items must be clean and in good condition. Please contact (716) 892-0425 for more information!

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