



## The Village Newsletter

Our team is pleased to publish a monthly communication to Village of Franklinville residents. The purpose of these newsletters is to keep residents informed and strengthen our sense of community. These letters will touch on a variety of relevant topics to raise awareness and provide a look into what work is being done. Please understand that this will NOT be a complete list of things going on in the village.

Our goal is to publish this within the first full week of the new month, but quality content will be prioritized before meeting that deadline. In addition to being emailed to subscribers, letters will be posted to our Facebook, website, and physical copies will be available upon request. If you know someone who will need a physical copy, please have them contact the village office at 716-676-3010.

In April, our newsletter was sent to 360 subscribers and had a 75% open rate. We are starting off May with 413 subscribers. As a village, our goal is to build a complete contact list of residents including name, address, phone number, & email. Having this information will allow the Village of Franklinville team to effectively reach out to residents when needed. This may include a utility need, info sharing about an upcoming project affecting the residence, etc.

### **We will not share your personal contact information.**

Several residents have picked up copies from the village office. For copies of previous newsletters, please visit our website or contact the village office at 716-676-3010. Below you will find a summary of topics covered in April.

If you have questions or concerns, please come to a meeting or reach out to us. I recommend subscribing to this monthly newsletter, following "Village of Franklinville" on Facebook, and utilizing our **website** for information. If you want to get involved in a bigger way, **volunteer**.

Last Month's Newsletter Topics (copy available on our website):

- Re-introduction of newsletter
- Mayor Schumaker takes office & discusses change/high-level plan
- Water System Improvement Project- detailed information
- Park Square: Past, present, & future including upcoming project
- Local Law: Unreasonable noise (help us maintain a peaceful community)
- Spring clean-up/property maintenance: brush pickup, long grass, etc.
- Calendar of upcoming events

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## Mayor Ashley Schumaker

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My first month in office is officially under my belt! The transition from trustee to Mayor has been a smooth one so far. Behind the scenes, my time has been spent getting organized, prioritizing initiatives, and working with our team. Progressive growth is a term I will be using regularly. I believe that making gradual and continuous improvements will help move our village forward in a positive way. We will be executing this strategy by making small adjustments on a regular basis. Additionally, we will be tackling a few "big picture" projects that will be long-term initiatives.

Publicly, I had the honor of being a part of various community events.

- On Friday April 26th, I presented the Arbor Day Proclamation and dedicated a new tree to this year's 5th-grade class. Taylor C and Aubrey M from TBA FFA also shared insights into Arbor Day's rich history. This year marked the 40th consecutive Arbor Day Ceremony at FCSD. Mr. Chris Enser from the Department of Environmental Conservation presented us with the Tree City USA-40 years award. Thank you to everyone who planned, presented, & attended this event.
- On Saturday April 27th & Sunday April 28th, the village was host to the 60th Annual WNY Maple Festival. I had a prime view of the parade alongside Senator George Borello, Assemblyman Joseph Giglio, County Legislature Mike Brisky, and Town Supervisor Catie Campbell. Franklinville's community spirit shined as everyone enjoyed a very successful festival. I would personally like to thank every person and organization that sacrifices their weekend to serve their community year over year for this event. This festival serves as one of the largest fundraisers of the year for many organizations in our community. To learn more about the WNY Maple Festival as a non-profit organization, click [here](#).
- On Saturday 5/4, I got to throw the first pitch at the Franklinville Little League Opening Day Ceremony with my 6-year-old son Alex. I did not hit anyone, and Landon Agett showed off his skills while making the catch with ease. This organization is made up of about 125 kids and 25 coaches. I saw firsthand how much pride those involved take in maintaining the fields and working with their respective teams. Thank you for all you do to support our community's youth.
- On Saturday 5/4, I also attended the annual Franklinville Volunteer Fire Department Installation Dinner as a special guest with my husband Eric. It was great to experience this tradition and speak to the men and women who serve our community. Their services are something we hope we never need but there is a sense of security in knowing that someone will come if we ever have to make that dreaded call. In 2023, the department responded to 602 calls, the most on record in a single year according to Chief Jon Hyman. I look forward to interacting with and learning more about the Fire Department. Thank you all for answering calls when you can and striving to keep our community safe.

Last month, I acknowledged that change is inevitable while assuring everyone that our ability to make decisions that affect our entire community is not a privilege our village team takes lightly. We will continue to listen, share information and make sound, educated decisions based on facts to move our village forward.

I am a strong believer in having, following, and raising awareness on a process.

Understanding how things happen can help provide a sense of comfort against the unknown. Later in this newsletter, you will find an inside-look at what happens when local government receives a site plan application.

For any questions or concerns, I encourage you to attend a meeting or reach out to the village offices at 716-676-3010 during regular hours. I am available by appointment for meetings and am typically at the village offices Monday and Friday mornings.

## [VISIT OUR WEBSITE](#)



### **Local Law Prohibiting Unreasonable Noise**

With the warmer weather upon us, we would like to refresh everyone on our village noise ordinance. This law was passed in August of 2023 and is intended to establish standards for the regulation of noise and to provide adequate notice to the residents within the Village with regard to their activity and the activities of others.

To put it simply, quiet hours are between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. Sunday thru Thursday and 11:00 p.m. and 8:00 a.m. Friday and Saturday. Click [here](#) for a brief interpretation of the law, an FAQ section, & the full law.

This law exists to ensure that residents are not exposed to excessive noise levels that may interrupt their serenity and quality of life. We ask that everyone understand this law and do their part to follow it while also remaining reasonable.

### **Water System Improvement Project**

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Water main replacement construction projects began in late March. These projects will be completed by private contractors, with oversight by the Village and the project engineer. These projects will consist of installing new water mains, hydrants, valves, and service stubs on along various streets throughout the Village (see map below).

The contractor started work March 25th and is currently working on Howard/Pine Street. We will continue to provide updates as to where the work will be taking place and to any water service interruptions as we are able. Traffic control, in the form of cones and signage, and/or temporary stop lights, will be installed near the work site and will be relocated as the construction progresses. Please use caution and be patient as they work.

For detailed information on this project and its background, please go to the [Village of Franklinville Projects Page](#) & previous newsletters.

Benefits of the project include the following:

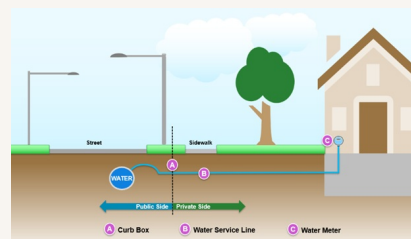
- Replacing failure-prone and leaking water mains that have far exceeded their useful life.

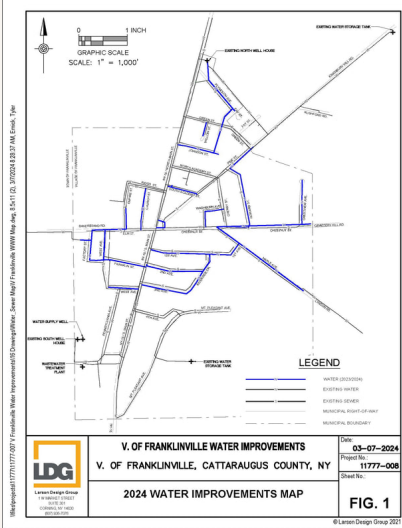
- Upsizing various water mains to provide improved hydraulics and fire protection.
- Replacing lead components that remain from the original water system.
- Improving distribution system operation and flexibility.
- Reducing operations costs by reducing water loss and decreasing the frequency of emergency repairs.

#### Important Information:

- Due to Health Department regulations, the new water mains must be located a minimum of 10' horizontally from the existing sanitary sewer mains, which means in most cases the new water mains will be located in the subway, or tree lawn area between the sidewalk and street. The contractor and engineer will work hard to preserve any existing trees, but in several locations the trees within the village right-of-way will need to be removed to facilitate the pipe installation. Our team will be working through identifying the trees that will be removed and notify residents as needed. The village Tree Commission along with the DPW will work to replace trees wherever possible, and as soon as possible.
- The village will be replacing all water distribution infrastructure within the public right of way, including the section of water service from the water main to the private property boundary (referred to above as the 'service stub'). The portion of the water service that extends from the front property line to the structure is private property and is not owned or maintained by the Village.
- Please be advised that many privately owned water services have exceeded their useful life and need replacement. This replacement of privately-owned infrastructure will not be included in the Village projects at this time and will be the responsibility of each property owner. Most dated water services in need of replacement are constructed of galvanized steel or lead piping, typically approximately 1/2" to 3/4" in diameter. Modern water service materials include copper and plastic (HDEP, high density polyethylene) service tubing. If you have copper or plastic water tubing extending through your basement wall, it is likely that your water service has been installed or replaced within the last 40 years and may be in suitable condition. If you have galvanized steel piping or, less commonly, lead piping extending through your basement wall, you likely have a water service that has extended its useful life and is need of being replaced.

Again, please be patient as we work to improve our water system infrastructure. This will surely cause some temporary traffic delays, inconveniences, water service interruptions, rough roads and mud and dust. The long term benefits The contractor will clean up and restore it to existing condition as soon as they are able. The contractor will be overseen by an inspector to ensure work is completed to village specifications.





## An Inside Look:

An overview of what a site plan application is & what happens when a municipality receives one.



### Why is this information important?

Due to our geographic location and convenient Route 16 access, Franklinville has always been one move away from a resurgence. The addition of Great Lakes Cheese (GLC) has put us on the map and opened a plethora of opportunities that will shape the future of our community. While the plant straddles the Franklinville & Farmersville town lines, the village benefits greatly due to our close proximity and infrastructure.

Great Lakes Cheese is a 468,000 square foot structure that will produce American & Italian-style cheeses for much of the East coast, employ hundreds, and bring business travelers into our area. The impact this company will have on our community is equivalent to that of Ontario Knife Co. in its prime.

Local government plays a huge role in what happens going forward. As elected and appointed officials, it is our job to be knowledgeable, thoroughly review our options, advocate for the best interest of all our residents, and make the best decisions to build our community. As a village team, we are simultaneously addressing things as they come while taking a proactive approach to build a strong foundation for what is coming.

The purpose of this article is to raise awareness on what happens behind the scenes when a site plan application is submitted and to assure you that decisions are made through following a series of processes and regulations, not just a feeling on any given day. The benefits a community will see with the addition of a company like this should far outweigh the negatives.

### What is a site plan application?

A Site Plan is a type of discretionary permit that is required prior to the construction of a project. The application contains detailed information to outline the scope of the project

being proposed.

The application includes a(n):

- Preparation by a qualified registered professional (i.e. engineer or land surveyor)
- Plan depicting lot dimensions, site layout, topography, boundary lines, existing easements, wetland areas and adjacent properties and structures
- Location of footprints for existing and proposed structures, including building heights and number of floors
- Traffic patterns and off-street parking areas (if applicable)
- Proposed landscaping, site grading and elevations, lighting and signage
- Layout of utilities, drainage, sewage disposal, and trash storage/removal
- Environmental assessment form used to assist in determining the environmental significance or non-significance of actions. This is a long form and must contain enough information to describe the proposed action, its location, its purpose, and its potential impacts on the environment. You will hear the term "SEQR" alongside this process which is the state environmental quality review.

## **What does a municipality do when a site plan application is submitted?**

The submission of a site plan application triggers a site plan review which is a **"regulatory tool and means for communities to control the aesthetics and environmental impacts of land use under their zoning by-law"**.

In the Village of Franklinville, the Board of Trustees also serves as the Planning Board and is the site plan review authority that will ultimately vote on a proposal within village limits. Other municipal authorities and boards including but not limited to public works and code enforcement will provide an advisory opinion on the matter.

The following steps are taken by the review authority (this is not an inclusive list):

- Send notice to adjoining property owners and other interested parties as required by law for special permits.
- Undergo a public hearing process before a decision is made by the review authority (for the Village of Franklinville this is the Village Board of Trustees). These will be posted to our website and in the local newspapers.
- After all required steps are taken, a proposal will be approved as submitted, approved with conditions/restrictions, or denied. Depending on whether the underlying use is a special permit use or a use allowed by right, the board's authority and discretion to condition or impose restrictions within an approval, or even deny a site plan, is somewhat limited.
- Once a site plan is approved, oversight continues through building permits and regulations.

The site plan review process is one of many tools that exist to give a community control over the aesthetics and environmental impacts of land use under their zoning by-law. A municipality also has a comprehensive plan, zoning laws, and local laws. These documents are designed to serve as the playbook to how our village operates. Keeping this information updated and in line with the vision we have for our village plays a key role in how our community is shaped. The Village of Franklinville's comprehensive plan was last updated in 2017. Reviewing our plan in its entirety is on our upcoming "long-term" project list. If you have additional questions or concerns regarding this process, please reach out!



9:00 Service at Cadiz Cemetery

9:30 Service at Siloam Cemetery

10:00 Service at Farmersville

11:00 Service at Mount Prospect Cemetery with Band

March from Mount Prospect Cemetery to 11 Park Square, Franklinville

11:30 +/- Park Square with Band, Mayor and Awards

12:15 +/- VFW with Hot dogs and Hamburgers



- Monday 5/13 6PM - regular board meeting at 19 Pennsylvania Ave & final public hearing for Park Square Improvement Project input.

- Tuesday 5/14 7PM- regular town board meeting
- Wednesday 5/15- Weeds, long grass or other harmful growths shall be cut and shall not be allowed to grow to a height greater than six inches.
- Monday 5/27- Memorial Day Ceremonies (see above for details). Regular board of trustees meeting canceled.
- Tuesday 5/28- NO GARBAGE COLLECTION--delayed due to Memorial Day
- Wednesday 5/29- Garbage Collection- Bulk item pickup, no recyclables, 2 bulk items per unit.
- Tuesday 5/28 7PM- Town of Franklinville Special Meeting & Public Hearing @ Franklinville Fire Department re: Schwab Proposal
- Thursday 5/30- curbside Village Brush Pickup

**VILLAGE OF FRANKLINVILLE**

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[www.villageoffranklinvilleny.org](http://www.villageoffranklinvilleny.org)

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