

KEN-TON BEE ARTICLE  
FEBRUARY 2014

As we continue to address our new year of 2014, many events and activities will be transpiring in our Town that I will relate through this monthly column.

The year has started out with a blast of cold air and dangerous blizzard conditions. We carefully weighed the options as the storm a few weeks ago that moved from southtowns up to our town. As the weather conditions deteriorated so badly and so quickly that we declared a State of Emergency and a driving only if necessary advisory based upon recommendations of our Emergency Services and Police Department and Highway Superintendent. I want to personally thank all our residents for their assistance in keeping our road clear so that emergency vehicles and our Highway Department could perform the services necessary to protect our Town. We also thank our dedicated Town employees who worked diligently and efficiently so that we could remove the State of Emergency and driving cautions as quickly as we did.

TOWN CLERK – Just a reminder that your Town and County tax bills are due by February 18, 2014. This year they also can be paid by credit card, but additional charges are applied by the credit card company. You can still pay by check or cash at the Town Clerk's Office.

In 2013, New York State initiated having all recipients of the Basic STAR Property Tax exemption to re-register in order to continue receiving this exemption. This was part of an initiative to protect New Yorkers against fraudulent or inappropriate STAR Exemptions.

There are still over 1,000 property owners who have not re-registered. You must re-register directly with New York State by calling 518-457-2036, or on line at [www.tax.ny.gov](http://www.tax.ny.gov). This exemption results in savings up to \$600 on your school bill so please be sure to do this by March 3, 2014.

In addition with taxable status being March 3, 2014, taxpayers filing new or renewing for any Real Property Tax Exemption such as Enhanced Senior Star, Enhanced Star/Low Income Senior, Veterans or Disability – must file or renew his or her exemption on or before March 3, 2014. This can be done at our Assessor's Office from 8:00 A.M. – 4:00 P.M. in the Municipal Building.

In 2013, the Town of Tonawanda Water Resources Department replaced water lines along Delaware road. The project encompassed the sections of Delaware Road from Sheridan Drive to Highland Avenue and from Sheridan Drive to Brighton Road. This project was not completed until late in the Fall of 2013.

The Highway Department plans to reconstruct Delaware Road once the water line replacement is finished. I can assure our residents that this project will be atop our priority list Brighton Road to Highland Avenue this season.

In fact, this section from Brighton Road to Sheridan Drive will be the first project that we undertake this spring once the weather breaks. We will then mill and pave the section from Sheridan Drive to Highland Avenue once Kenmore West concludes its school year in late June.

We are aware of the current condition of the road and we are monitoring the potholes. As the need arises, we will make whatever temporary repairs we can this winter to keep the road as safe as possible for motorists.

We thank our residents for their cooperation and patience and anyone with questions is invited to call the Highway Department Monday through Friday between 7:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.