

VILLAGE OF HOOSICK FALLS

FALL NEWSLETTER

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\$3 MILLION THROUGH 3M PFAS CLASS ACTION

The Village of Hoosick Falls expects to receive **\$3M over the next 3 years** as a result of the Village joining a national class action settlement related to PFAS.

By joining the 3M Class Action Settlement, the Village of Hoosick Falls will be receiving funds from part of the nearly \$12 Billion settlement that involves PFAS Manufacturer 3M and DuPont. 3M has been estimated to pay around \$10.5 billion as part of this settlement, while DuPont expected to pay over \$1 billion.

In a video posted to the Village's social media, Mayor Allen explained the significance of the situation. "When comparing our situation to other locations that have faced PFAS contamination in drinking water, we find ourselves surprisingly ahead of the curve: we have a permanent filtration system and a brand-new water source arriving soon, and the vast majority of this was paid for by the responsible parties."

This settlement is separate from and unrelated to the Village's ongoing discussions and legal matters with Saint Gobain Performance Plastics and

Honeywell International. Both companies were named as the responsible parties for the PFOA contamination by NYS DEC and the US EPA. Along with a permanent GAC Filtration system (that has been operating since 2017), the companies have been directed to provide a new water supply to the Village. That new groundwater supply, located over a mile away from the Village, is currently under construction, with early 2025 as the expected time the new water source will be online and operational.

"These accomplishments are a product of the Village's continued advocacy by the community, its elected officials, consultants, and attorneys, as well as the regulatory work and oversight provided by New York State," Mayor Allen said. "The results of our efforts have led to a historic response to PFAS contamination that serves as a model for other communities as to what can be accomplished."

The full video is available on the Village website.

MUNICIPAL BUILDING

518-686-7072

Village Office Hours:
8:00am – 3:30PM, Mon - Fri

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Robert Allen, Mayor
Robert Ryan, Deputy Mayor
Deb Alter Megan Walraed
Doug Sauer Dan Schuttig
Brett Hanselman

MONTHLY MEETINGS

Board of Trustees
2nd Wednesday at 6PM
Location: Highway Garage

Zoning Board of Appeals
3rd Tuesday at 6PM (as needed)
Location: Municipal Building

Planning Board
3rd Tuesday at 7PM (as needed)
Location: Municipal Building

Transfer Station Hours

(through November 30th)

Tuesday: 8am – Noon

Saturdays: 8am – 2PM

Starting December 1st
Saturdays Only, 8am – 2PM

LATE ERP SUBMISSION LEADS TO DRINKING WATER VIOLATION

The Village's water system was recently issued a violation by NYS Department of Health relating to missed deadlines for the submission of our updated water supply **Emergency Response Plan** (ERP). Due to this, we are required to report this violation. We are including it in our newsletter, and the full letter of violation is attached. There is no immediate emergency, nor is there any corrective action required by individuals. Had this been an emergency, everyone would have been notified within 24 hours. We apologize for any confusion or frustration caused by this error, and have already begun working on the future ERP for our new water source with our engineering consultants.

NY FORWARD GRANT PROGRAM: UPDATES & TIMELINES

As you may recall, the Village of Hoosick Falls was announced as a winner of the 2nd round of the NY Forward Grant Program in the Capital Region. While this \$4.5 Million award will go towards a combination of public, private, and non-profit projects, the process to receive award money has just begun, with much more in store over the coming months.

As defined by the NY Forward Grant Program, a **Local Planning Committee** was formed and has been holding monthly public meetings since early July. This group has been tasked with several important goals: to understand how the NY Forward program operates, to fully vet out the goals of the projects as they pertain to Hoosick Falls, to decide on the particular downtown area targeted for eligibility, and to review and prioritize all proposals.

The long-term goal of the group and the NY Forward program is to put together a slate of potential projects, prioritized by the goals of the program, that falls somewhere between \$6-8 million in requested NY Forward funding. This process is expected to be completed by the end of the year. Once that full **Strategic Investment Plan** is submitted, it will be reviewed by various state agencies involved with the grant

program and eventually the Governor's office. From that slate of potential projects, **a final awarding of projects equaling \$4.5 million in NY Forward funding** will be chosen and announced by the Governor's office, **likely in early-to-mid 2025**.

Currently, the open call for proposals has closed, and the LPC is just beginning the review process of these proposals, as well as reviewing the criteria in which these proposals will be considered. In the near future, **a second public workshop** will be held that will review the various proposals with the community, so that the group can receive feedback on the projects and the overall goals of the program. **This important public workshop will be on September 9th, 2024 from 5-7PM at the Armory on 80 Church Street.**

Future LPC Meetings will be held on **September 23rd** and **October 28th**, both at 3PM in the Armory's meeting room. Just as with the previous LPC meetings, the public is welcome to attend these meetings and is given a chance to offer comments or questions near the end of each meeting.

For more information on meetings, or more information on the grant program and the proposals, visit <http://hoosickfallsnyf.com>

NEW VILLAGE WATER SOURCE UPDATE

The Village is probably about 6 months away from being on our new water source.

The construction of this new water source ramped up immediately after HFCS's graduation ceremony, and we are pleased to report that significant progress has been made:

NEW WATER LINE: The water main now runs from the edge of the LaCroix property all the way to the existing Village Water Treatment Plant. This includes the entire distance along Route 22, the new lines that go under the bridge, and the successful connection to existing Water Treatment Plant infrastructure.

Even better, there are no longer any expected lane closures along Route 22 for the remainder of the project.

PUMP BUILDING: Foundation work is already underway to prepare for the new pump building, which is expected to arrive in mid-to-late September.

SUBSTANTIAL CONSTRUCTION: Once power is installed and additional testing and disinfection is complete, substantial construction is expected to be done in mid-November, ahead of schedule. This not only seems to be the likely timing, but it will be ahead of schedule.

Various testing and sampling will be done over the last two months of 2024, including a review of all samples and engineering by NYS DOH.

The new Village Water Source looks to be online in early 2025, either in late January or February.

VILLAGE LOOKING TO HIRE ADDITIONAL PART-TIME CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER

After hearing from many in the community, the Village Board of Trustees has committed to growing its code enforcement department.

The Village of Hoosick Falls is looking to hire a part-time code enforcement officer. Interested individuals should see the Village's website and its Code Enforcement page for details on the job.

Please drop off resumes at the Village Office and/or email them to Mayor Allen at mayor@hfvillage.org

The deadline to submit applications is Wednesday, September 4th, 2024.