

Community Update

A Bi-weekly Report on the City of Olean
From the Desk of Mayor Linda Witte



Funds transferred for code violations enforcement

A depleted \$6,000 city account, used to address City Code violations with cleanup of unsafe buildings and cutting tall grass, received a cash infusion by action of the Olean Common Council during the October 8 session.

Mayor Linda Witte sponsored the resolution to move \$4,450 out of the Demolition of Unsafe Buildings account and into the Safety Inspection Fees for Services line item. The Safety Inspection Fees for Services account was used up earlier this year in payments to contractors hired to mow lawns, remove garbage and, in at least one case, eradicate roaches from an infested residence in the interest of public safety.

Property owners who continue to violate the City Code after receiving a warning will see liens attached to their property and tax bills will include the contractor fees and city costs.

Several worthy causes deserve attention

The 2013 “Stuff the Cube” challenge seeks food donations and is led by Buffamante Whipple Buttafaro. The items will go to the Olean Food Pantry for distribution to needy families. The Food Pantry will distribute the collected fixin's along with turkeys to needy families in time for the holidays.

Mayor Linda Witte and City Auditor Fred Saradin are seeking contributions in their offices, with the challenge to “Load the Lobby” with food.

Needed are corn, beans, corn muffin mixes, cans of pumpkin and small boxes of pie crust mix. Turkey basting bags, canned fruits, fruit juices, baking supplies such as flour, sugar, raisins and chocolate chips are also needed.

The City of Olean participates in several charity drives and collections during the holidays. We’ll be publicizing the Warm Hearts drive, in which we collect canned fruit, canned soup, throw blankets or crocheted lap throws, and puzzle books for seniors. The empty gift bags are also needed for the distribution. The Olean Medical Group and Mayor Witte assemble the bags and provide them to the Cattaraugus County Department of Aging for distribution just before Christmas.

Also needed are volunteers to shovel snow for the elderly and disabled. We hate to think of heavy snows piled in our paths, but it is something we will all have to contend with. Please help a neighbor and if you don’t have a neighbor in need, please call the Mayor’s Office (376-5615) where we will put your name on a list to help those who call every winter needing a hand.

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What does Olean look like to you? Do these images look familiar?

Mayor Linda Witte loves her city and sees the beauty in it everywhere. She loves to show you the sights. These visions were captured by her camera in late September and early October.



***Don't Forget
Veterans Day
is November 11***

Please join Mayor Linda Witte and event organizers in honoring our veterans on November 11. She will take part in two ceremonies.

The first will happen at 11 a.m., beginning in Lincoln Park at the Memorial there.

The second takes place at 1 p.m. in War Veterans Park.

October is National Bullying Prevention Month

Mayor Linda Witte is doing her part to raise awareness about bullying in schools, public places, social media and the community at-large.

She has been working with Advocates for Communities of Tolerance (A.C.T.) and has taken part in several community meetings that are being held to get the dialogue going on the topic.

This is National Bullying Prevention Month and

Mayor Witte has been reviewing the poems of Olean Middle School 6th and 7th graders. The poems will be judged and awards will be made to the winning writers., when Mayor Witte will present this proclamation. A.C.T. Now has an online presence with oleanact@gmail.com.

Here is an early draft of her Proclamation.

Please pitch in and help with this cause.

SPECIAL PROCLAMATION FOR BULLYING PREVENTION MONTH 2013

WHEREAS, the City of Olean wishes to safeguard schools and communities for our children, and, through our recognition of the serious issues that face them each day, offer our children an environment that holds promise and security; and,

WHEREAS, many organizations, school districts, educators and parents have publicly expressed concern about the bullying of children; and,

WHEREAS, each day an estimated 160,000 children refuse to go to school because they dread the physical and verbal aggression of their peers, and the loneliness that comes from being excluded and made the target of rumors and cyber-bullying; many more students attend school in a chronic state of anxiety; and,

WHEREAS, it is important that the city acknowledge and heighten awareness about the serious issues and the negative effects of bullying, including the long-term damage it can cause in our youth as well as the risks of teenage suicide; and,

WHEREAS, providing a safe physical and emotional environment is a significant goal and a personal responsibility of each individual; and,

WHEREAS, it is time to “*Stand UP for Character – DOWN to Bullying!*”.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Linda Witte, Mayor of Olean, NY, USA, do hereby designate the month of October 2013, as ***National Bullying Prevention Month in the City of Olean, New York, USA*** as a symbol of our commitment to the year-round struggle against bullying.

IN TESTIMONY THEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Seal of the City of Olean, the 22nd day of October, 2013.

(To be signed and delivered by Mayor Linda Witte)



Stay local, stay productive, our jobs and business will soon grow

Mayor Linda Witte presented her Special Proclamation For Manufacturing Day 2013 while addressing students from the Connect Four schools who toured the Cutco plant on October 4, 2013. Another group of students visited Dresser-Rand. Both companies took part in the Southern Tier Advanced Manufacturing Initiative (STAMI) observance of national Manufacturing Day. The STAMI's Dream It. Do It. program has a goal of showing potential job candidates that there are skilled jobs available and to direct the youngsters toward those careers in their home town.

Special Proclamation For Manufacturing Day 2013

WHEREAS, the City of Olean is proud of its manufacturing sector and corporate leaders who are reaching out to the local community to grow candidates for the highly-skilled jobs they need to fill their workforce; and,

WHEREAS, manufacturing is dependent on innovation and fresh approaches to fuel productivity and economic development, which in turn expands employment opportunities and boosts the standard of living and economic vitality; and,

WHEREAS, the resulting “Dream It, Do It” is a national campaign that has taken hold in the City of Olean, where a group of industries has invited students inside their walls today to promote training, education and career choices that will grow our community; and,

WHEREAS, the Manufacturers Association of the Southern Tier (MAST), has devoted October 4, 2013, national Manufacturing Day, to educating and preparing students and stimulating their interest in engineering, technology, productive work habits and other skills needed to fill many of the specialty jobs available in our local manufacturing community; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Olean is supportive of the “Dream It, Do It” partnership between our local manufacturing sector and our schools that will provide the needed skills to our area’s young people and keep them in the community; and,

WHEREAS, the number of skilled manufacturing jobs in the city appears to be on the rise and these efforts are an attempt to turn the local skilled labor shortage around, which could provide the additional benefit of increasing the city’s population over time and improving our economic viability.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Linda Witte, Mayor of Olean, NY, USA, on behalf of the City Council, do hereby proclaim Friday, October 4, 2013, to be ***MANUFACTURING DAY*** in the City of Olean, NY, USA; and,

IN TESTIMONY THEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Seal of the City of Olean, the 4th day of October, 2013.

(Signed and delivered Oct. 4 by Mayor Linda Witte)



March of Dimes Walk For Babies

Mayor Linda Witte spoke to the large gathering at 10:45 a.m. October 5 as part of the annual March of Dimes event program held at St. Bonaventure University. After the program she joined the crowd for the Walk.

Olean has gold-lined streets!



Mayor Linda Witte struck gold on October 4 when she stumbled on this view heading east on Wayne Street near



TIGER Grant Application will be up for Council vote Oct. 22

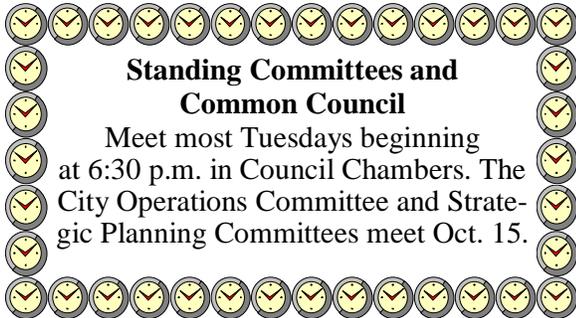
Mayor Witte reports that adjustments have been made to the “complete streets” application for changes to N. Union Street in response to public input. She thanks all who have participated up to this point and adds there will be more opportunities in the future. The Council will vote on submitting the federal \$6.5 million grant application on Oct. 22.

Page One Photo Feature: Mayor Linda Witte, holding bags of litter she removed from N. Union St. sidewalks one sunny Friday afternoon in early October, flashes her winning smile. **Photo by Kathy Kellogg**



Can the city help?

As your Mayor I continue to have an Open Door Policy on the first floor of the Municipal Building at 101 East State St. You can call my office at 376-5615 with questions and complaints. Please stop in and pick up a 2013 City Directory for phone numbers of Department Heads and Alderman or check the website, www.cityofolean.org. At that location is a link where you will find this newsletter!



Standing Committees and Common Council

Meet most Tuesdays beginning at 6:30 p.m. in Council Chambers. The City Operations Committee and Strategic Planning Committees meet Oct. 15.

13 drivers ticketed in four-hour crosswalk crackdown October 4

Five officers from the Olean City Police Department took part in an enforcement detail from noon until 4 p.m. on Friday, October 4, at the corner of N. Union and W. State Streets.

The largest number of tickets were issued to motorists who didn't give pedestrians the right-of-way in that area.

Olean Police Capt. Kurt J. Ireland reported that 13 drivers received tickets for not yielding the right-of-way to pedestrians.

Two drivers received tickets for expired inspection, while three others were ticketed in separate offenses for cell phone usage, failure to turn as required and no seatbelt.

Thinking of Getting Married?

Mayor Linda Witte will schedule your wedding in the Olean City Limits. To check on dates she is available call 376-5615. New York State Law says marriage ceremonies cannot be performed for 24 hours after a marriage license was issued.

To obtain a license, call the Department of Vital Records at 376-5605 or the City Clerk (376-5604). The nearby John Ash Community Center on North Barry Street is an excellent spot for the reception! To book that space, call 376-5666.



Boot Drive

Join Mayor Linda Witte and members of the Olean City Firefighters at the corner of Union and State Streets from 7 a.m. to 9 a.m. Oct. 25. They'll be wearing pink!

A "Pink Shirt" Event to help Raise Funds For Breast Cancer Awareness

Online Bill Pay Option

The Online Bill Pay & Customer Service option is up and running on the city's website for a \$3 fee. Go to www.cityofolean.org and click on "The Online Bill Pay & Customer Service" button from the menu on the right side of the home page. At the online payments home page, choose between water/sewer bill payment and parking ticket payment options.

Water and Sewer bill payers register and set up a password, then view transaction history and chart water consumption through by billing date. Parking ticket payers simply search for the citation number or vehicle info. (This destination can also be reached by typing this into your browser: <https://w.municipalonlinepayments.com/oleanny/utilities>.)

How do you contact your 2013 Alderman?

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