



Town of Fowler, NY • Annual Newsletter 2016

Town of Fowler Directory

Assessment Review Board

Chair:Currently Vacant
 George Erdman, Jr.315-287-3451
 Donna Brown.....315-287-2949

Assessors

Chair: Robert Fuller315-287-0118
 Robert Andrews Jr.315-287-4189
 Sherry Geer.....315-286-0298
 Assessors Office.....315-287-9792 / Opt. 1

Board of Appeals

Randy Durham.....315-222-6797
 Jeff Andrews.....315-287-0587
 Dustin Fayette315-523-0171
 Tony Woodward315-287-4656
 Mike Macaulay315-287-4287

Code Enforcement

Rick Whitford315-286-2360
 Code Enforcement Office.... 315-287-9792 / Opt. 3

Custodian

Tami Gale315-287-0045

Dog Warden

Dan Moyer315-528-7988

Ethics Board

Vicky Cappellino315-287-3503
 Lillith Griffith.....315-287-4542
 Karen Simmons315-287-4753

Health Officer

Dr. William Twining315-287-2192

Highway Superintendent

Randy Durham.... 315-286-8664 (C) 222-6797 (H)
 Highway Department Office.....315-287-2907

Historian

Karen Simmons315-287-4753

Justice Department

Paul Lamson315-287-9996 /315-535-4094 (fax)

Town Board Members

Karen Simmons315-287-4753
 Rick Newvine315-287-2708
 Lynn Bishop315-287-2728
 Dustin Fayette315-523-0171

Town Bookkeeper

Barbara Finnie315-287-0045

Town Clerk and Tax Collector

Kelly Harmer.....315-287-0045
 Fax #.....315-535-4094

Town Facilities

Town Hall315-287-4753
 Public Beach on Sylvia Lake.....315-287-2918
 Hailesboro Field315-287-2708

Town Planning Board

Chair: Rick Whitford315-286-2360
 Jeff Andrews.....315-287-0587
 Ed Siebels315-767-2202
 Art Besaw315-250-3353
 Stephen Gale315-287-1408
 Andrew Miller315-323-4250

Town Supervisor

Michael Cappellino315-323-7987

Fowler's Code Enforcement Officer, Rick Whitford, would like to remind everyone to check the batteries in their smoke detectors. Be sure to test them monthly!





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Assessment Review Board

There are three seats on the Board of Assessment Review. Currently, the Chairman seat is vacant. Other members are George Erdman Jr., and Donna Brown. The Board of Assessment Review meets once a year on the fourth Tuesday of May from 4:00 P.M. to 8:00 P.M. at the Fowler Town Hall.

Residents who have tax grievances are urged to meet with the Town Assessors to discuss their issues PRIOR to presenting their claims to the Board of Assessment Review. To make arrangements to meet with an assessor at the Town Hall, please call the Assessors at the phone number listed on Page 1 or call the Town Clerk at 315-287-0045.

If residents wish to grieve their assessments, they may do so at the date and time previously outlined. The Board will review grievances and then make a decision to either lower the griever's assessment or let it stand. Residents who have appeared are notified of the outcome by U.S. Mail.

Town Clerk and Tax Collector

The Town Clerk and Tax Collector Office is open from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM and 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM Monday through Friday. This office issues dog licenses, hunting licenses, disabled permits, has voter registration forms, absentee ballots, building permit applications and Star Program forms available for the public.

The Tax Collector started collecting taxes on January 4, 2016. If you have any questions feel free to call the Town Office at 315-287-0045.

NOTE: There is a convenient Drop Box at Town Hall. It is checked twice a day on business days.



Assessor's Office

If you have bought or built a new home in the Town of Fowler in the past few years and **do not** have a Star Exemption on the home, you may be eligible for the Star Exemption.



To determine if you are eligible, procure a Star Application Form from one of your Assessors or the Town Clerk's Office. Residents who have the BASIC STAR have got to contact the State to re-register for the star even if they have filled out a Star form with the Assessors Department this year.

- Re-register by phone at 518-457-2036
- by Internet - <www.tax.ny.gov/pit/property/star13>

If you need any help or have any questions, call or see Robert Fuller 315-287-0118, Robert Andrews 315-287-4189, or Sherry Geer 315-286-0298.

Town of Fowler Board of Appeals

Five Fowler residents volunteer their time for this board: Randy Durham, Jeff Andrews, Dustin Fayette, Tony Woodward, and Mike Macaulay.

The function of this board is to receive and consider Building Permits which the Code Enforcement Officer has denied when some aspect of the construction does not comply with the Local Building Codes. After examination of the site and review of the submitted plans, the Board considers, discusses, and then either grants or denies the Building Permit.

The Board meets only when necessary at 7 PM in the Fowler Town Hall. Meetings are advertised and all interested persons are invited to attend.



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Town Planning Board

The Planning Board is made up of six Fowler residents. The members are Chairman, Rick Whitford, Jeff Andrews, James Besaw, Ed Siebels, Andrew Miller and Stephen Gale. The purpose of the Planning Board is to recommend appropriate land use that will be to the betterment of the Town and submit their recommendations to the Town Board. They also review Building Permits and do special projects that the Town Board assigns.

The Planning Board meets the last Tuesday of the month as needed, as well as other times when necessary at 7:00 PM in the Fowler Town Hall. Meetings are advertised in the local paper and on the Town of Fowler website. All interested persons are welcome to attend.

The Town Board adopted the "Town of Fowler Land Use Site Plan Review and Subdivision Local Law" (December 6, 2014.) You may obtain a hard copy of the Land Use document by calling the Town Clerk at 315-287-0045. You may also view and/or print the document from the Town of Fowler's website: <www.fowlerny.com>

Code Enforcement Office

Fowler has had another busy and growing year with 86 Building Permits issued. Code Enforcement Officer Rick Whitford would like to thank everyone for their cooperation and patience.



Building permits are required for any structure 144 sq. ft. and over, any structural changes on your home or buildings, and for all roofing projects. If anyone has any questions, call Rick Whitford at 315-286-2360 or call the Town Clerk's Office at 315-287-0045.

Fowler is also trying to address the Maintenance and Junk Laws for the safety and health of our residents. We would like to ask your help in maintaining your property free of trash and junk cars.

The Property Maintenance Code of NYS/Sec.303 (F) requires premises identification and that buildings shall have approved address numbers placed in a position to be plainly legible and visible from the street or roadfrontronging the property. Numbers should be 4 inches tall.

Fowler Dog Control

This year has seen its share of complaints, lost dogs and dog bites. Again we would like to stress that there are dog laws in the Town of Fowler. Also, dogs 4 months of age or older must have a rabies shot and be licensed in N.Y.S. Our number is 315-528-7988.



Reminder: Free rabies clinic in May. Watch our website for information on the Spay/Neuter Now Clinics. Check our website for available adoptions through Friends 4 Pound Paws. (315-842-PAWS)

Justice Department



The Town of Fowler Justice Court, the Hon. Paul M. Lamson, Town Justice, holds court every Wednesday at 6:00 PM. Court is held upstairs in the town hall building.

If you need to contact the court during off times, please call 315-287-9996 and leave a message or fax us at 315-535-4094.



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Town Board

In the year of 2016 Town Board meetings will be held on the first Tuesday of each month at 7pm except for the months of January and November. Special meetings will be advertised in the Gouverneur Tribune Press and/or the Watertown Daily Times news papers and also on the town's website. www.fowlerny.com

The current Town Board consisting of four incumbents, Deputy Supervisor and Councilman Ricky W. Newvine, council persons Karen Simmons, Lynn Bishop and Supervisor Michael Cappellino would like to welcome newly elected Councilman Dustin Fayette to the board in January 2016.

The board would like to thank Natalie Spilman for her devoted service to the Town of Fowler as councilperson for the last four years. She did not run for reelection due to a promotion in her employment with the NYS unified court system.

The board congratulates Town Clerk Kelly Wood Harmer on her successful election bid in November 2015.

Congratulations to Sherry Spilman Geer for her successful write-in election bid for the two year seat as town assessor.

The Town Board says goodbye and best wishes to Gary Higgins who is retiring as the town's bookkeeper for many years. Ms. Barbra Finnie who is also a town resident will take over the duties as bookkeeper in January 2016.

The town has worked closely in 2015 with the St. Lawrence Co. Housing Authority. (www.nocohousing.org) Fowler housing rehabilitation using the grant monies from the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) will complete the rehabilitation of fourteen more homes in Fowler in the upcoming year 2016. The town is currently looking for applicants for a third grant application for another round of funding to be started in 2017. Residents can contact the Town Clerk office for an application.

The town board would like to invite all town residents and visitors to attend our monthly meetings and visit our website to view and download newsletters and minutes from town meetings.

Sylvia Lake Public Beach

29 Old Beach Road, Gouverneur NY 13642

The Public Beach is owned and operated by the Town of Fowler. The beach is open seven days a week from mid June to Labor Day. Certified lifeguards are on duty during the posted hours of operations. (10:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.) Handicapped and public parking is located near the beach entrance.

The beach has a picnic area with tables and charcoal grills for public use. Changing rooms and rest rooms are also available.

If you have special needs, or are planning for a large group to visit, please contact the lifeguard on duty at 315-287-2918 or call Rick Newvine at 315-287-2708.





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Historian's Office

The Historian's Office is open on Thursdays from 1-4PM or any time by appointment by calling Historian Karen Simmons at 315-287-4753 or the Town Hall at 315-287-0045.



Highway Department

The Town maintains 56.25 miles of roads.

In the winter months the town maintains 73.74 miles of road including 17.49 miles of county roads.

The summer of 2015 saw the completion of the paving project on the Chub Lake Rd. It included approximately three miles of new hot mix surface and new shoulders.

We are planning to repave 3-4 miles of town highway in the upcoming year.

We appreciate your patience during the construction season and ask everyone to drive slowly as they pass through the construction zones.



The highway department saw a change in leadership as Randy Durham replaced Michael Sweeney as a result of the November election. Randy will oversee the highway operations for the next four years beginning on January 1st, 2016.

Best wishes for a happy and safe new year in 2016 - From the Highway Crew: Randy Durham, Lyle Bishop, Nelson Bice, Francis Cole, Jeff Hill, Larry Allen, John Walsh.

Town of Fowler's Website

The Town of Fowler's website is managed by a Fowler business, Rainbowtech Designs. It is regularly updated with meeting information and announcements.

You can find minutes of meetings, a business directory and other documents. They are all searchable on the site.

WWW.FOWLERNY.COM

Use of Town Facilities

The upstairs in the Town Hall is available for use by Fowler residents. Arrangements to use the Hall may be made by calling Karen Simmons at 315-287-4753.

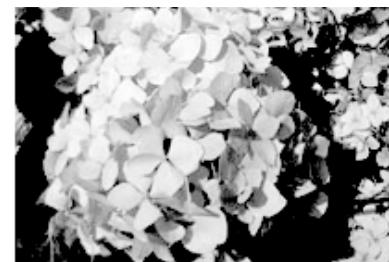
The Sylvia Lake Beach is open to the public seven days a week from mid June to Labor Day. For groups, parties or for more information call Rick Newvine at 315-287-2708.

Groups interested in using the Hailesboro ball field during the summer should also contact Rick at 315-287-2708.

2016 Town Board Meeting Dates

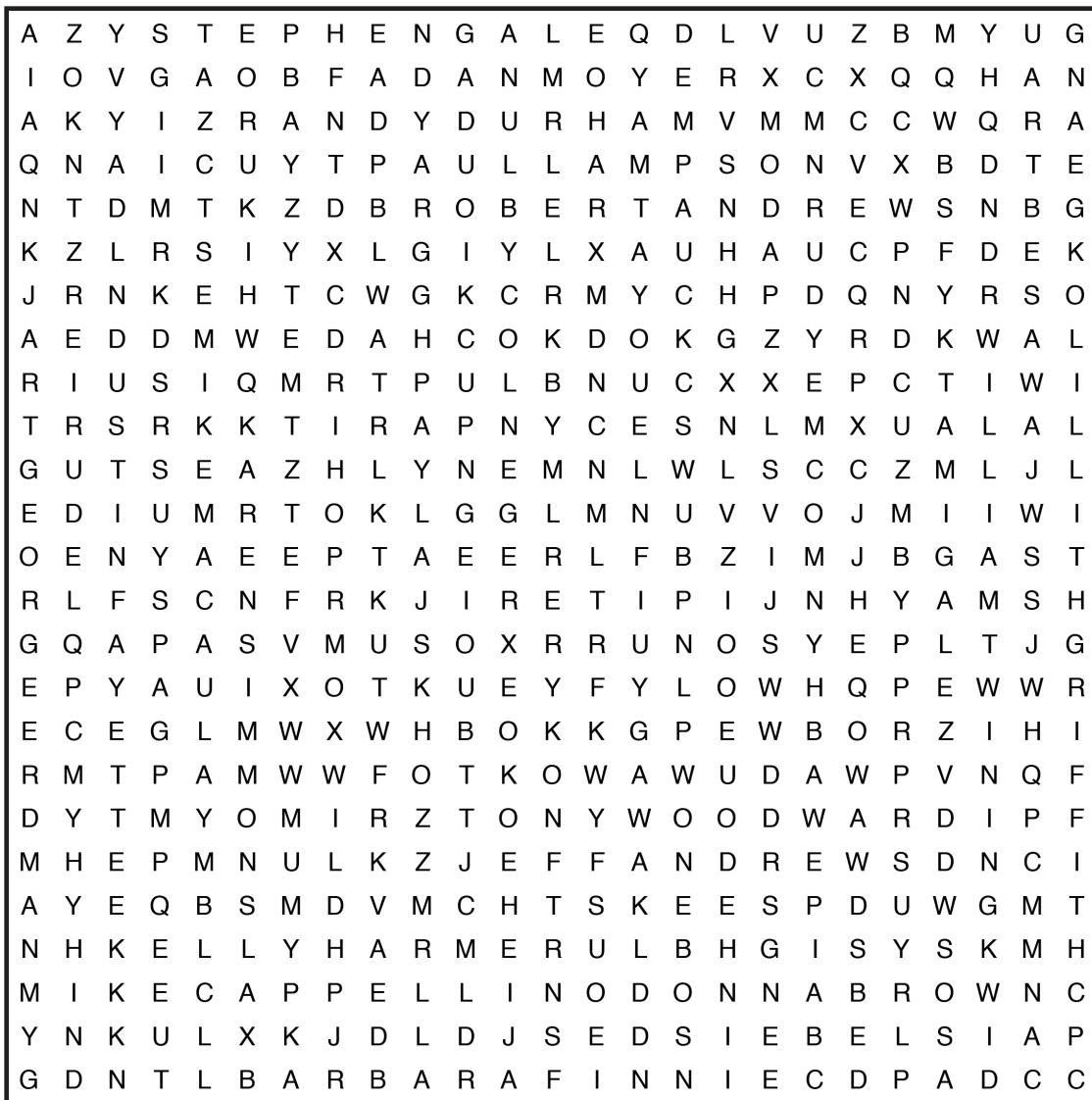
Meetings are at 7:00PM at the Town Hall.

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|------------------|-------------------|
| January 5, 2016 | July 5, 2016 |
| February 2, 2016 | August 2, 2016 |
| March 1, 2016 | Septmber 6, 2016 |
| April 5, 2016 | October 4, 2016 |
| May 3, 2016 | November (T.B.D.) |
| June 7, 2016 | December 6, 2016 |



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Puzzle: Fowler Town Officials 2016



DonnaBrown
GeorgeErdman
RobertFuller
RobertAndrews
RandyDurham
JeffAndrews

TonyWoodward
MikeMacaulay
TamiGale
DanMoyer
DrWilliamTwining
KarenSimmons
PaulLampson

RickNewvine
LynnBishop
DustinFayette
KellyHarmer
EdSiebels
ArtBesaw
StephenGale

AndrewMiller
MikeCappellino
VickyCappellino
LillithGriffith
SherryGeer
BarbaraFinnie

View the completed puzzle on our website—> www.fowlerny.com/2016-puzzle.html