



TOWN OF ORCHARD PARK

ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

S 4295 South Buffalo Street Orchard Park, New York 14127-2609

Phone: (716) 662-6425
Fax: (716) 662-6488
Email: openg@orchardparkny.org

TOWN ENGINEER
WAYNE L. BIELER, P.E.

May 25, 2023

Honorable Town Board
Town of Orchard Park
4295 South Buffalo Street
Orchard Park, NY 14127

**Re: Proposed Change Order #2 - General
Little Loop Football Announcers / Storage Building & Lighting Project**

Dear Board Members:

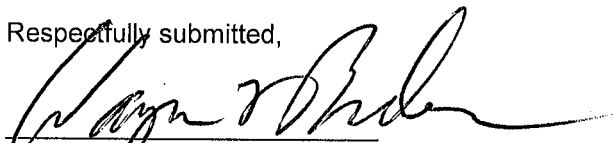
The Engineering Department is requesting your approval of Change Order #2 to the contract with Walter S. Johnson Building Co., Inc. for the Little Loop Football Announcer's / Storage Building & Lighting Project in the amount of \$732.88. If approved, this would increase the total contract amount to \$254,140.38, representing an increase of 0.2892%.

This Change Order is requested to perform additional work not covered under their contract. The additional work involves making safety improvements to the third story. The grab bars will aid when occupants are entering or leaving the third story. The safety spring gate will greatly reduce the potential fall hazard when the third story is occupied by little loop videographers. This change order consists of \$359.98 material costs and \$372.90 labor/fee costs.

Presently, there is \$178,194.00 funding allocated under AP009 "Brush Mountain Football Field". With the \$100,000.00 donation from Orchard Park Little Loop, the project is fully funded.

I, therefore, recommend that you approve Change Order #2 to our contract with Walter S. Johnson Building Co., Inc. for the Little Loop Football Announcer's / Storage Building & Lighting Project in the amount of an increase of \$732.88.

Respectfully submitted,



Wayne L. Bieler, P.E., CFM.
Town Engineer

cc: Walter S. Johnson Bldg. Co., Inc.
Remy Orffeo, Town Clerk
Chris Wood, Carmina Wood Design
File # 2019-006



TOWN OF ORCHARD PARK

ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

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TOWN ENGINEER
WAYNE L. BIELER, P.E.

June 6, 2023

Honorable Town Board
Town of Orchard Park
4295 South Buffalo Street
Orchard Park, New York 14127

**Re: Consultant Agreement with C&S Companies
Professional Services – Admin. Design, Construction Admin. Support
Orchard Park Maintenance Facility Project
Highway Bldg., Salt Barn, Parks/Grounds/Police Bldg., Wash Bay, Outdoor
Storage, & Topsoil Building. (Fuel Facility Separate Contract)**

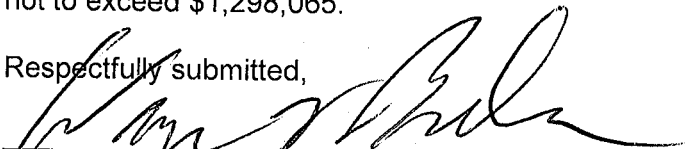
Dear Board Members:

As directed, I have negotiated a detailed scope of work and proposed fee with C&S Companies to complete the design and required documents for the recently adopted Highway master plan facility (projects #1, #3 and #4, attached). The professional scope is to provide detailed services entailing administrative, geo-tech, hazardous materials, site/civil, structural, architectural, mechanical, electrical, life safety, plumbing, cost estimating, bidding, construction administration, direct expenses and topsoil/salt buildings.

There is presently money being allocated (\$1,300,000.00) under Capital Project #AB-019, Orchard Park Maintenance Facility, for this project.

I, therefore, recommend that you authorize the Supervisor to sign an agreement with C&S Companies, 141 Elm Street, Suite 100, Buffalo, New York 14203 to provide professional services for administrative, overall design, and construction administration for the proposed Orchard Park Maintenance Facility Project (Highway Building, Salt Barn, Parks/Grounds/Police Building, Wash Bay, Outdoor Storage, & Topsoil Building) for a cost not to exceed \$1,298,065.

Respectfully submitted,


Wayne L. Bieler, P.E., C.F.M.
Town Engineer

Attachment

cc: Remy Orffeo, Town Clerk Andy Slotman, Highway Superintendent
Timothy Gallagher, Town Attorney Bill Fulton, OP Engineering
File #22-007

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Visit the Town's website at www.orchardparkny.org

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WHEREAS, the Orchard Park Highway Department has a vacant laborer position; and

WHEREAS, there are funds in the 2023 budget to fund a laborer position; and

WHEREAS, Andrew Slotman, Orchard Park Highway Superintendent, has determined that Pasquale Liberti is ready and able to serve as a laborer in the Orchard Park Highway Department,

RESOLVED, that based on the recommendation of Andrew Slotman, Orchard Park Highway Superintendent, Pasquale Liberti is appointed as a laborer in the Orchard Park Highway Department as a Blue Collar Laborer at Step 1 of the Blue Collar Contract at a rate of \$22.83 per hour effective June 26, 2023.

TC

Town of Orchard Park
Recreation, Parks, and Forestry Department
 4520 California Rd
 Orchard Park NY 14127
leake@orchardparkny.org (716) 662-6450 ext.1

6/7/23

To: Town Board

From: Ed Leak

Director of Recreation

Item 1: Appt. to the staff of the Town of Orchard Park Recreation Department PT for 2023 effective 6/7/23

- Abigail Kane \$16.75 Supervisor *
- Griffin Halter \$16.00 Lifeguard 1
- Olivia Jurek \$16.00 Lifeguard 1
- Hailee Johnson \$16.00 Program Coordinator 1
- Jackson Merritt \$16.00 Program Coordinator 1
- Amaya Neuwirth \$17.50 Director *
- Sanna Vollbrecht \$16.00 Program Coordinator 1

Note: The above appointment is dependent upon the applicant providing the required certifications.

*Att=Attendant

*LG= Lifeguard

Recreation Director: Ed Leak

Assistant Recreation Director: Kristin Santillo



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TOWN ENGINEER
WAYNE L. BIELER, P.E.

June 7, 2023

Honorable Town Board
Town of Orchard Park
4295 South Buffalo Street
Orchard Park, New York 14127

Re: Bid Award – Work Order #5
Cured-In-Place Sanitary Sewer Pipe lining Contract

Dear Board Members:

As the SW&L Department is continuing to perform video inspections of the Town's sanitary sewer infrastructure, United Survey Inc. was awarded contract #1-4 to perform Cured-In-Place Pipe Lining throughout various areas in the Town. This Work Order #5 is awarded as a bid through the Erie County Division of Purchasing (2022) Cured-in Place Pipe Lining Term Construction Contract #222253-02. The areas are being identified through video inspections performed by the SW&L Department and prioritized by the Engineering Department and the SW&L Department. The Town has lined over ±26,251 LF to date.

The following four Work Orders are complete:

- Work Order #1, released in September 2020 to rehabilitate the sanitary main on the west side of North Benzing Road (2,643 LF). Cost of Work Order #1 was \$83,888.
- Work Order #2 released in February 2021 to rehabilitate the sanitary main on a portion of Bussendorfer Road (3,454 LF), California Road between Duerr Road and Armor Duells Road (1,363 LF), and a portion of Duerr Road (327 LF). Cost of Work Order #2 was \$180,986.
- Work Order #3 released in August 2021 to rehabilitate the sanitary mains on Shultz Road (874 LF), Meadowlawn Road (1,754 LF) and Middlesex Road (1,449 LF), all these roads are off Abbott Road. Also, an area located on Southwestern Boulevard between Mid County Drive and Pleasant Avenue (3,308 LF). Cost of Work Order #3 was \$238,370.00.
- Work Order #4 released on April 6, 2022 to rehabilitate the sanitary mains on Forsythia Court (983 LF), Red Fox Lane (1,293 LF), Willowbrook Drive (191 LF), Webster Road (south side) (4,2929 LF), Webster Road (north side) (1,662 LF), Deacon Street (794 LF), and North Buffalo Street (north side) (1,554 LF). Cost of Work Order #4 was \$396,451.50.

The Engineering Department is recommending the release of Work Order #5. This work order will include the following streets/areas:

- First Route 219 Crossing from California Road to the Rear Lost on Washington Ave. and Auckland Ave. Forsythia Court, ±3,764 LF of Asbestos Cement Pipe (ACP), Auckland Ave and Washington Ave. +/-2,942 LF of Asbestos Cement Pipe (ACP), area,
- Second Route 219 Crossing from Taylor Road to Carriage Drive +/-1,052 LF of Asbestos Cement Pipe (ACP),

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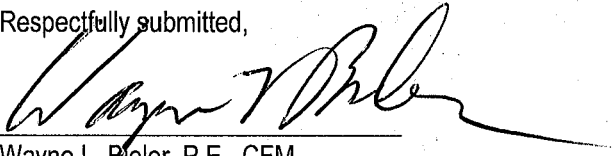
- Third Route 219 Crossing from the Rear Lots Hilltowne Drive to Rear Lots Breezewood Drive ±1,183 LF of Asbestos Cement Pipe (ACP),
 - Berg Road (north side, from the Route 219 overpass to the Berg Road Pump Station ±2,299 LF of Asbestos Cement Pipe (ACP),
 - Melberry Trail ±1,899 LF of Asbestos Cement Pipe (ACP),
 - Bieler Road ±1,673 LF of Asbestos Cement Pipe (ACP).

The three section that cross under Route 219 may require additional work to line portions of sewer main. The majority of these sewer mains are on easement and will require additional manpower as well as equipment to access the three section that cross under Route 219. Additionally, Sewer and Lighting Crews will be needed to clean and prepare the easement for the contractor. This additional work scope is not included with the County of Erie contract. This extra cost for Work Order #5 is estimated at ±\$11,200. The total cost of Work Order #5 is \$625,000.00 and the cost of the additional work on for the three crossings of Route 219 is \$11,200.00 for a total of \$636,200.00.

For Work Order #1-5 contract expenditures to date are \$1,535,895.50 with United Survey. There is presently funding remaining allocated under Capital Project G0007, "Sanitary Sewer Main Televising and Relining" \$1,091,439.14 for this work.

I, therefore, recommend that you award the CIPP Rehabilitation contract Work Order #5 to United Survey Inc., 25145 Broadway Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio 44146, in the amount not to exceed \$636,200.00.

Respectfully submitted,



Wayne L. Bieler, P.E., CFM
Town Engineer

Attachment

cc: Remy Orffeo, Town Clerk
Connor Murphy, United Survey Inc.
Andy Slotman, General Crew Chief
Tom Malecki, Drescher & Malecki
Timothy Gallagher, Town Attorney
File #2020.014



TOWN OF ORCHARD PARK

ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

S 4295 South Buffalo Street Orchard Park, New York 14127-2609

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TOWN ENGINEER
WAYNE L. BIELER, P.E.

June 6, 2023

Honorable Town Board
Town of Orchard Park
4295 South Buffalo Street
Orchard Park, New York 14127

Re: *Creation of Capital Account AB-019 for the Orchard Park Maintenance Facility*

Dear Board Members:

As you are aware, for the past several years the Town has considered moving forward making needed improvements to the Orchard Park Maintenance Facility (OP HWY) by retaining professional design services from C&S Companies. To fund this proposed work, a capital account needs to be created and funded the following was drafted by Accounting:

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2021 the American Rescue Plan Act was signed into law and established the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF) program which is intended to provide support to State, territorial, local and tribal governments in response to the economic and public health impacts of COVID, and

WHEREAS, funding of the SLFRF program is subject to the requirements specified in the Final Rule adopted by the US Treasury on April 1, 2022, and WHEREAS, the US Treasury has issued Compliance and Reporting Guidance which outlines each recipient's compliance and reporting responsibilities under the SLFRF program, and

WHEREAS, one of the eligible uses of SLFRF funds as outlined in the Treasury's Final Rule is for general government services to the extent of the reduction in revenue experienced due to the COVID-19 public health emergency, and

WHEREAS, the Town of Orchard Park has calculated revenue loss based upon the \$10 million revenue loss standard allowance,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Orchard Park hereby authorizes the SLFRF funds to be used for general government services as follows and modification of the 2023 budget:

S:\Correspondence\Letter to TB for Creation of Capital Account AB-019 6-6-23.doc

Visit the Town's website at www.orchardparkny.org

Transfer of fund up to \$1,300,000 to the Capital Projects Fund project AB019 – Orchard Park Maintenance Facility.

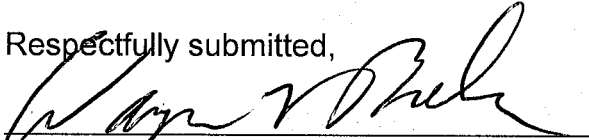
Increase A00000 44089 ARPA Revenue up to \$1,300,000.00
Increase A09901 50904 Transfer to Capital up to \$1,300,000.00

I, therefore, recommend that you adopt the following resolutions:

Authorize the creation of Capital Account AB-019 "Orchard Park Maintenance Facility".

Authorize the transfer of the SLFRF funds in the amount up to \$1,300,000 into Capital Account AB-019 to be used for the Orchard Park Maintenance Facility design and subsequent construction administration costs.

Respectfully submitted,



Wayne L. Bieler, P.E., CFM
Town Engineer

Cc: Remy Orfeo, Town Clerk
Timothy Gallagher, Town Attorney
Nichole Ruf, Drescher & Malecki
File



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ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

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TOWN ENGINEER
WAYNE L. BIELER, P.E.

June 6, 2023

Honorable Town Board
Town of Orchard Park
4295 S. Buffalo Street
Orchard Park, New York 14127

**Re: *New Buffalo Bills Stadium Abbott Road
Two Additional Hydrant Fees, per ECWA Lease Management Agreement***

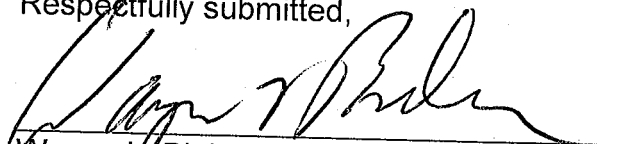
Dear Board Members:

The Town received a request from the Buffalo Bills for two additional hydrants along Abbott Road. Erie County Water Authority (ECWA) has agreed to install the hydrants with the Buffalo Bills reimbursing the cost, but requires the Town of Orchard Park to pass a resolution to pay the annual hydrant fee (\$160.80/ea.) upon dedication of the hydrant infrastructure project per the lease management agreement between the Town of Orchard Park and ECWA.

The total construction of the above referenced commercial project will result in two far side hydrants to service the construction work and future events parking lots/stadium. Attached is the draft hydrant resolution for said resolution.

I, therefore, recommend that you approve the installation of and authorize the annual payment of \$321.60/yr. for two (2) additional hydrants fees along Abbott Road upon dedication of associated hydrants for the Proposed New Bills' Stadium as required by the lease management agreement between the Town of Orchard Park and ECWA.

Respectfully submitted,


Wayne L. Bieler, P.E., CFM
Town Engineer

Attachment

Cc: Remy Orffeo, Town Clerk
Timothy Gallagher, Town Attorney
File #2023.007

Visit the Town's website at www.orchardparkny.org

THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION WAS OFFERED BY
COUNCILMAN _____, WHO MOVED ITS ADOPTION,
SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN _____

WHEREAS, the Buffalo Bills have made an application for site plan approval for two additional hydrants on the west side of Abbott Road for the construction of a New Buffalo Bills Stadium; and

WHEREAS, in order to meet the New York State Fire Code requirements for construction, it is necessary for two fire hydrants to be located in front of the New Buffalo Bills Stadium on Abbott Road; and

WHEREAS, the Erie County Water Authority which operates the Town of Orchard Park Water System pursuant to a Lease Management Agreement requires that prior to the installation of two new fire hydrants to the Town of Orchard Park Water System, that the Orchard Park Town Board approve such installation; and

WHEREAS, there is a cost associated with the installation of the additional two fire hydrants as well as annual hydrant fees associated with the installation of an additional hydrant, which costs the Buffalo Bills have agreed to pay.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:

1. The Town Board does hereby consent to and approve the installation of two new fire hydrants in front of the New Buffalo Bills Stadium located on Abbott Road upon the condition that Buffalo Bills will be responsible for the costs of installation and the Town will be responsible for the annual fire hydrant fees that are assessed by the Erie County Water Authority.
2. The Town Clerk is authorized and directed to forward a copy of this resolution to the Erie County Water Authority with a request that an additional two fire hydrants be installed in front of the New Buffalo Bill Stadium on Abbott Road at locations approved by the Town Engineer.
3. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

The above resolution was duly put to roll call vote at a regular meeting of the Town Board held on June 7, 2023, the results of which were as follows:

SUPERVISOR MAJCHRZAK	AYE
COUNCILMAN FLYNN	AYE
COUNCILWOMAN MOMBREA	AYE
COUNCILMAN LIBERTI	AYE
COUNCILMAN HONER	AYE

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY



TOWN OF ORCHARD PARK

TL

ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

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TOWN ENGINEER
WAYNE L. BIELER, P.E.

May 31, 2022

Honorable Town Board
Town of Orchard Park
4295 South Buffalo Street
Orchard Park, New York 14127

**Re: OP Engineering Department
Richard Mrugalski and Bill Fulton
Range Change from 0011E to 0012E**

Dear Board Members:

As discussed, to maintain and retain an experienced work force, filling vacancies and promotions are necessary in the Engineering Department. The Town Orchard Park has vast time and expenses in developing and training employee's necessary experiences with Town's infrastructure, specifications, standards and procedures.

The "Civil Engineer" was requested from Civil Service and interviews conducted. No qualified candidates were interested for the 0013 salary range listed in the White Collar Union contract. Several other Civil Service titles have been requested to fill vacancies, but no current lists exist and potential, candidates are not interested for the salary offered.

Erie County Department of Personnel was called for the New York State Department of Civil Service for a promotional test for the Town of Orchard Park, Assistant Civil Engineer as approved based on job classifications and duties as well as for the two appointments to the Senior Engineer Assistants title.

As discussed, since the Town was unable to fill the vacancy, and since the two existing Principal Engineer Assistants, Bill Fulton and Richard Mrugalski have stepped up to complete the work, I am requesting a change in range from 0011 step E to 0012 Step E for Bill Fulton and Richard Mrugalski.

Richard Mrugalski has worked with the Orchard Park Engineering Department for 34 years and was instrumental in completing the Town Wide Stormwater Management District and Existing Drainage District Consolidation Project, all Municipal requirements for NYSDEC/EPA Phase II mandated stormwater programs, as lead field inspector for the Community Activity Center Site work and drafts sanitary sewer relining CIPP Project work. Richard has volunteered as the Disaster Coordinator for years, and completes some of that work without pay as other Engineering Department employees where paid over time for plowing during the same winter storm event times.

Bill Fulton has worked with the Orchard Park Engineering Department for 21 years and is instrumental in GIS mapping, assisting with grant applications, grant construction paperwork and construction administration, as well as building facility maintenance/reconstruction projects and all new building projects. Recent projects include,

H:\Employment -Engineering\Employees\Letter TB RJM & BF Range change 0011 to 0012 06-7-2023.doc
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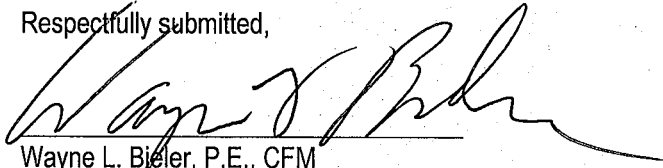
Senior CDBG project, Senior Bocce Ball Court Project, Community Center Entrance Sign, Little Loop Announcer and Storage Building Project, OPLL Field Lighting Project, Town Wide Stormwater Maintenance and Drainage District work as well as the OP HWY master plan.

Both Richard Mrugalski and Bill Fulton have accepted the challenge of various construction inspection duties and responsibilities with enthusiasm and have performed their assignments with diligence and effectiveness. Both have proven to be dedicated and dependable employees.

Funding for the Civil Engineer position is available in the Engineering Department budget. The title, per white collar union contract is range 0013, but remains vacant and funds unused. The range change for the Two Principal Engineer Assistants Range 0011 step E \$36.35/ hr. to Range 0012 Step E \$37.57/ hr. is covered

I, therefore, recommend that you authorize the Supervisor to sign a MOA to the White Collar Union Contract to approve the range change for Bill Fulton and Richard Mrugalski Principal Engineer Assistants from existing range 0011 step E to range 0012 step E in the White Collar Union Contract effective June 19, 2023.

Respectfully submitted,



Wayne L. Bjeler, P.E., CFM
Town Engineer

cc: Remy Orffeo, Town Clerk
Lisa McClean, Payroll
Nichole Ruf, Drescher & Malecki, LLP
Richard Mrugalski, OP Engineering
Bill Fulton, OP Engineering
File



Runner's Roost

TC

Remy C. Orffeo, Town Clerk
Town of Orchard Park
Orchard Park, NY 14127

Mr. Orffeo,

On behalf of the entire staff of this year's Gril-Mato 5K Race, we want to say Thank You for all of your help in making the race an even greater success than in the past.

The number of participants increased by almost 50 per cent, and the dollars we were able to raise to donate to two local charities reached more than \$3000.00. So many of our participating runners went out of their way to comment on how much they enjoyed the event and appreciated all of the efforts which went in to put this event on.

None of this would have been possible without your assistance, and we want you to know just how much you did for so many.

Thank you again for your continuing support and efforts.

Sincerely,

Robert Fox
Race Director and Owner-Runner's Roost

George Chernowski
Race Co-Director

Eugene Cook
Councilman



TC
Town Hall
100 Main Street
Huntington, NY

Phone: 631-351-3174

May 10, 2023

Honorable Remy Orffeo, Town Clerk
Town of Orchard Park
4295 S Buffalo St
Orchard Park, NY 14127

RE: Town of Huntington Voter's Identification Resolution


Dear Honorable Town Clerk Orffeo,

I hope that this finds you well. On May 9, 2023 the Huntington Town Board passed the attached resolution urging the New York State Legislature and Governor Hochul to draft and enact legislation regarding a voter's identification process. Please distribute this cover letter and attached resolution to the Town of Orchard Park Board Members.

The reason I sponsored this resolution, is that I was approached by various constituents of varying political affiliation about their concerns regarding the accuracy of voter rolls maintained by the of Board of Elections. In an economy where the Board of Elections may not have the funding or the staffing to regularly purge the voters rolls of individuals who may have relocated or have passed away, I believe that New York State needs to address the matter in a way that builds the public's confidence and ensures a fair election process. By urging our state representatives to work in a bipartisan manner to create a voter's identification process, this will allow for a fair and consistent procedure to keep voter rolls current and uphold the principles of democracy that the United States was built on.

I thank you for your time and cooperation with this matter, it's greatly appreciated. Please feel free to contact me at 631 351 3174 to discuss this matter further.

Warmest regards in the spirit of cooperation,



Councilman Eugene Cook
Town of Huntington

Eugene Cook
Councilman

Joan Cergol
Councilwoman

Edmund J. Smyth
Supervisor

Dr. Dave Bennardo
Councilman

Salvatore Ferro
Councilman

TOWN OF ORCHARD PARK

BUILDING INSPECTOR MONTHLY REPORT

MONTH OF APRIL 2023

BUILDING PERMITS	# OF	VALUE	BUILDING PERMITS	# OF	VALUE
NEW CONSTRUCTION:	0		ABOVE GROUND POOLS	1	2,750.00
SINGLE DWELLING	2	890030.000	INGROUND POOLS	10	743,056.00
DOUBLE DWELLING	0		DECKS	3	28,100.00
APT/MULTI-FAMILY	0		ELECTRICAL	7	15,425.00
COMMERCIAL	0		FENCES	12	102,470.00
ADDITIONS:			GARAGE / BARN / POLE BARN	1	20,000.00
RESIDENTIAL	1	40,000	GENERATORS	13	145,825.00
COMMERCIAL	1	4,750.00	MISC. (OPERATING/ DEMO)		
ALTER/REPAIR:			PORCH/PATIO	8	244,200.00
RESIDENTIAL	3	247,500.00	SHEDS	3	18,500.00
COMMERCIAL / TENANT BO	2	201,129.00	SIGNS	0	
COMMERCIAL MISC.	5	105,785.00	RESIDENTIAL MISC.	16	325086.00
SOLAR PV SYSTEM			TOTAL:	88	3098606.00

INSPECTIONS TYPE:	NUMBER OF INSPECTIONS PER ZONE				TOTAL
	1	2	3	4	
NEW CONSTRUCTION:					
RESIDENTIAL	5	4	4	8	21
COMMERCIAL				3	3
ADDITIONS:					
RESIDENTIAL	2	3	4	1	10
COMMERCIAL			4	1	5
ALTER/REPAIR:					
RESIDENTIAL	12	10	9	2	33
COMMERCIAL / TENANT BO	1		2	9	12
ABOVE GROUND POOLS		1			1
INGROUND POOLS	2	1	2	2	7
DECKS	1	2	4	2	9
ELECTRICAL	4	8	7	13	32
FENCES					
GARAGE/BARN/POLE BARN					
GENERATORS	3	5	5	10	23
MISC.	6	4	8	9	27
PROPERTY MAINTENANCE	3	11	9	19	33
SHEDS				1	1
SIGNS					
SOLAR PV SYSTEM			3	1	4
FIRE INSPECTIONS			1	1	2
CLOSEOUT INSPECTIONS					
TOTAL INSPECTIONS:	39	40	61	93	233

Meetings Attended	Town Board	Planning Board	Z B A	Court
Tom Minor	4	2		
John Wittmann				
Robert Rendon			1	
Rayne Degre				
Natalie Nawrocki				
Dave Holland				

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS:

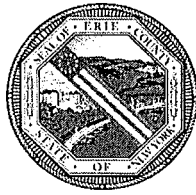
GRANTED: 3

DENIED: TABLED: 1

REMARKS:

SIGNATURE: *Tom M. Minor*

DATE: 5/22/2023



TC

ERIE COUNTY SOUTHWEST AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT NO. 8 | 8-YEAR REVIEW UNDERWAY

Why am I getting this flyer?

You are receiving this flyer because you own one or more properties that are located within the Southwest Agricultural District, which Erie County is currently reviewing. NYS Agriculture and Markets Law requires the Erie County Legislature to review districts every eight years thereafter. As part of this review, landowners in the District have a 30-day comment period during which landowners may request changes to the District. **The only time a property owner may remove their land from the Agricultural District, by law, is during the eight-year review period.**

What are Agricultural Districts?

An Agricultural District is an area within a local jurisdiction where farming is the preferred economic activity. The purpose of agricultural districts is to encourage the continued use of farmland for agricultural production. Farmers in Agricultural Districts benefit from "right-to-farm" protections, such as defense from private nuisance lawsuits and restrictive local ordinances. These protections are designed to prevent the conversion of farmland to non-agricultural uses.

My property is not farmed, what effect does being in the Agricultural District have on my property?

There is no effect on non-farm properties by being in the Agricultural District. Being in the District does not affect property taxes, property values, or property assessments for any parcel regardless of use; nor does it guarantee that any parcel will receive any tax exemptions.

What do I need to do?

1. To enroll additional property, or to remove property, from the District, complete the Agricultural District Modification Form at erie.gov/agdistrictwebform. For a paper copy of the form, email agriculture@erie.gov. To view current Agricultural Districts and determine if your property is enrolled, visit erie.gov/checkagstatus.

PLEASE NOTE: NO ACTION IS REQUIRED IF YOU WISH TO LEAVE YOUR LAND IN THE DISTRICT.

2. Complete the "Agricultural District Review Worksheet" to the best of your ability and return it to the Erie County Department of Environment and Planning. As part of this review, the County is required by the NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets to report summary data for farms enrolled in the District. All personal information and parcel identifying information is kept strictly confidential. The worksheet can be completed online at erie.gov/agsurvey. If completing the enclosed worksheet, return to:

Attn: Agriculture
Erie County Department of Environment and Planning
95 Franklin Street, 10th Floor
Buffalo, NY 14202

What is the deadline?

Modification requests must be submitted in writing between June 1-30, 2023.

I want more information...

More information on the District review period can be found at erie.gov/agriculture or by contacting Sarah Gatti at sarah.gatti@erie.gov or 716-858-6014.

****STAY TUNED FOR DETAILS ON THE UPCOMING ERIE COUNTY AGRICULTURAL AND FARMLAND PROTECTION PLAN UPDATE – VISIT [ERIE.GOV/AGRICULTURE](http://erie.gov/agriculture) FOR MORE DETAILS****