

## **Assessor**

The Assessor attended the October Seniors meeting to discuss the exemptions. Applications and information were left for anyone in attendance.

Low Income Senior, Low Income Disabled and Agricultural RENEWAL Exemptions will be sent out around December 1st . The Deadline for accepting renewals is March 1st.

The Assessor's office has opted to print their own forms this year. This allowed us to slightly alter the Low Income Senior form to make it more understandable and easier for those needing to reapply. We have also created an online worksheet for anyone wishing to quickly check and see if they might qualify for the Low Income Senior Exemption. The website designer Sharon made it all come together and is very user friendly.

Because the Assessor Office had so much information on the town website, it was decided to devote an entire page to our information. This should make it easier for views to find needed information.

Many thanks to Sharon!

## **Building Department**

No report

## **Business & Economic Development**

No report

## **Outreach & Marketing**

No report

## **CAC, Climate Smart & Environmental Management**

**CAC:**

**Drinking Water Source Protection Plan (DWSP2)** - The CAC is continuing to test water around New Lebanon and has done 136 tests to date - some of those are retests. When bacteria is discovered we go back and retest weeks later (post treatment if that was done by property owner), or just retest to see if there is a persistent issue. Many of the completed tests will help assess water quality for the Wastewater - Muni Water feasibility study along the Business corridor.. We will be testing into 2025 depending on how much money is remaining in the testing budget. We will look into additional funding for more testing now that we have the DEC approval for the DWSP2. We continue with our exploration for PFAS sources and rely on residents to contact

us. This testing is 100% voluntary, both those doing the tests as well as those residents requesting tests. We have done several PCB tests around the Brown field and so far there is 0 PCB detected in wells. We would like to test more wells around that area, which is near COONS storage.

### **Joint BEDC and Conservation Advisory Council Wastewater Feasibility Study -**

The joint BEDC and CAC committee on Wastewater and Muni water are assisting the engineers with PERC testing along the Rte 20-22 corridor and surrounding streets. We are reaching out to any property owner where a PERC test is requested and appreciate folks responding and agreeing to the testing. If you are reading this and live in and around the business corridor, please reach out to us so we can do a PERC test. A PERC test is a soil test designed to evaluate the soil's capacity to accept a subsurface sewage disposal system (septic system). We are exploring locations for a potential treatment center as well. PERCs tests have two parts, the soil evaluation and the site evaluation. These are hand dug 1foot x 2 foot holes, dug and filled back on on the same day. We are also working together with our advisors at RCAP Solutions on a survey for all participating property owners to assess more in depth concerns on water issues along the business corridor. Please reach out to [nlcac.munves@gmail.com](mailto:nlcac.munves@gmail.com) with questions or if we can do a PERC test on your property.

**Open Space Inventory (OSI)** - The CAC continues to re-edit the 2015 OSI and are making sure we are doing everything required. An OSI helps communities understand their natural resources, identify issues, and plan for development. It can also help inform the management of open spaces. An OSI can be used to inform environmental reviews, support tourism, and improve stormwater systems. Planned completion is early summer 2025.

To encourage more understanding of the work the CAC has been doing and how to best utilize the conservation information, we are at the beginning stages of figuring out how to digitize the OSI maps, the DWSP2 maps, AND the NRCP (Natural Resource Conservation Plan) maps and data. Most municipalities are digitizing these types of data to make the work eminently more available to Town boards and residents.

**Trees for Tribs** - Trees and shrubs in Shatford Park are doing very well and volunteers will mulch the plants for winter. Tubes will come off in the Spring! In the meantime, feel free to grab a shovel and wheelbarrow at the mulch pile in the park and mulch a few trees. There are many already mulched so use those as examples. It is important to move the mulch away from the tubes a bit and remove leaf debris from the inside bottom of the tubes.

**Stream Erosion in Shatford Park** -There remains a big concern over the stream erosion in the park. The CAC and Climate Smart Task Force (CSC) plan on applying for a grant to hire people to help stop the erosion. This is part of the CAC/CSC's Hazard Mitigation Project. Keeping water in the stream banks is vital for flood control. Many have said: who cares if the banks erode? We all need to care! Natural streams and floodplains reduce flood damage by **reducing water velocity**. They also maintain water

quality by filtering sediments and pollutants; preserving and recharging groundwater supplies, providing fish and wildlife habitat; and offering areas for community recreation. If you take a look at the stream in the park, it is very clear that the parts of the stream buffered with abundant plants on either side of the banks are holding the stream in its banks. It is also abundantly clear where trees and shrubs were cleared long ago the stream is eroding quickly and the water will not stay in its banks with heavy rain. While the Trees for Tribes, a bioengineering project, had potential to contain the stream, more needs to be done. It is important to remember that residents did not want plantings to encase the view of the stream so plants were spread out.

The Conservation Advisory Council is Bill O'Neill, Peg Munves, Donald Lamonaca, Bruce Shenker, and Bob Gilson. Meetings are on the second Monday of the month at 6:30.

**CSC:**

The CSC is still waiting for NYSERDA to confirm the \$250,000 grant for energy upgrades to town buildings that we qualified for prior to Oct 1st. Apparently NYSERDA has been backed up with grant applications but we were told we would hear in the next week. Meanwhile NYSEG has finally responded with the requirements to connect the garage solar panels. They will need to install a new transformer and the CSC will cover the \$350 cost for it.

Last month CSC Chair, Steve Powers, was invited to participate in a panel discussion on NYSERDA's Clean Energy Communities (CEC) program that we are leading the region in. Including the upcoming \$250,000 grant, the CEC program has allowed New Lebanon to earn over \$560,000 in the last 3 years by achieving high impact actions that save energy and costs to residents.

The Columbia County Hazard Mitigation Plan consultants have informed us that they have revised their timeline and expect to have a public review of the plan by Dec 18th with the final plan submitted to NYS by Jan 31, 2024.

The CSC plastic recycling program is being extended to include businesses in town. To date we have recycled 648 lbs of plastic that will go into the production of Trex composite decking.

The final Repair Cafe of the year will be on Nov 16 at the Community Center from 10am- 2pm. We encourage residents to come down and get their broken products repaired for free by your neighborhood fixers!

**EMC:**

No report

**Fire, Law Enforcement & Emergency**

Fire Calls and Activities - October 2024

1. 10/4/2024 Alarm Activation 3 people .48hr
2. 10/5/2024 AAPI 8 people 9.04hr

3. 10/6/2024 Alarm Activation 3 people 1.33hr
  4. 10/7/2024 Fire Prevention 3 people 7.5hr
  5. 10/12/2024 Mutual Aid 3 people 3.54hr
  6. 10/13/2024 Co2 Alarm 3 people 3.42hr
  7. 10/14/2024 Drill 6 people 15hr
  8. 10/16/2024 Alarm Activation 5 people 1.20hr
  9. 10/18/2024 Brush Fire 3 people 1.06hr
  10. 10/21/2024 Dill 5 people 10hr
  11. 10/23/2024 Brush Fire 4 people 8.36hr
  12. 10/24/2024 Alarm Activation 2 people .20hr
  13. 10/27/2024 Indoor smoke investigation 6 people 6.84hr
  14. 10/27/2024 Mutual Aid 4 people 8.2hr
  15. 10/28/2024 Mower Fire 3 people 1.08hr
  16. 10/28/2024 Brush Fire 6 people 2.22hr
  17. 10/28/2024 Class 6 people 15hr
  18. 10/29/2024 Alarm Activation 2 people 1hr
  19. 10/30/2024 Alarm Activation 2 people 1.02hr
  20. 10/31/2024 AAPI 3 people 3hr
  21. 10/31/2024 Outdoor Fuel Odor 3 people .51hr
- Totals 83 people 100 hrs

- AAPI-2
- Mutual Aid-2
- Alarm activation – 7
- Indoor odor investigation-1
- Outdoor fuel odor-1
- Brush fire-3
- Mower fire-1

- 17 Alarms
  - Drills – 3
  - Fire Prevention – 1
  - Halloween-1
  - Trunk or Treat – 1
- 6 other activities

## Highway

No report

## Historian & LVHS

**Historian:**

No report

**LVHS:**

No report

## **Justice Court**

No report

## **Library**

No report

## **Buildings, Parks & Recreation**

### **Buildings:**

No report

### **Parks:**

No report

### **Recreation Commission:**

The recreation commission last met in September. We'll meet again in March. We didn't have any events this month. We stayed under budget for the year.

When we did have our movie night, we ended up using the projector from the courtroom with the town supervisor's approval. As the town hall meetings now use the TV, we'd like the projector to be assigned to the recreation department to use for movies in the future.

We do plan to buy an inflatable screen for next season, it will cost approximately \$200. The courtroom pull down screen is the wrong shape, and not large enough.

In a few weeks, we'll arrange the setup of the ice rink. Hopefully we'll have some cold weather so it can freeze.

## **Seniors**

The Office of the Aging will be meeting this month. Updates include that the HEAP program has started. Senior Star program has started, which is a program where community members donate monies to the OFA to purchase items for seniors in need that have been nominated by their towns or peers. If you know a senior that has a special need or perhaps has no family, you can nominate them by sending their name, address and wish list to the OFA. Monies can also be sent to the OFA as well to purchase gifts. The Senior Scoop is online.

New Lebanon Seniors are enjoying the beautifully decorated space Alissa has made the Community Center. We will be having a potluck Thanksgiving dinner on 11/15. We enjoyed a wonderful luncheon catered by Woodlife for our Halloween party with costumes and games in October.

Trips are finished for the year. We had full buses on each trip and fun was had by

all.

Thank you to the Town Board for the support of the Seniors in New Lebanon.

## **Traffic Safety**

Attached you will find three traffic reports, the first is from Lovers Lane, the second is from Gale Hill Road, the first week the sign was placed and the third is a report from that same area. I have been working with Pete, our highway superintendent regarding signage for speeds and school zones. Many of the signs in town have been stolen or defaced. Bus stops signs are needed at two bus stops in town.

## **Volunteers**

No report

## **Quality of Life**

We finalized the task given to us by the Town Board from the Comprehensive Plan Action Plan. We were tasked at examining what other towns are doing to accommodate the needs of older residents and to retain/attract younger individuals and families and to submit an action plan and conceptual framework to the Town Board for approval. The draft has been submitted and is on the agenda for the November 12<sup>th</sup> meeting for Town Board review and approval.

We will also be meeting in November or December with the Zoning Re-Write Committee to review the Town's zoning through a housing lens to see if there are changes we can recommend to the Town Board to potentially address the housing issues here in New Lebanon.

## **Zoning Re-write Committee Update**

No report

## **Community Center/Free Store Update**

The Community Center and Free Store had a busy month.

The Center brought in 302 people. Our first go at hosting a pumpkin carve and paint party was a huge success. Kinderhook Creek Farm in Stephentown gave me permission to go in their field and gather 75 good sized carving pumpkins for free. So I did. And I'd like it on public record that my 2015 Toyota 4Runner TRD Pro can handle 800+ pounds of pumpkin with no problem. Woodlife Farm provided another 75 smaller pumpkins for free, giving us 150 in all. We ended up with 103 guests who painted and carved the night away. Everyone had a really good time and I'm looking forward to next year's. I'm even going to chip in and put in my own pumpkin patch next year. Fingers crossed.

Many other events took place in the building in October. The Seniors had 2 meetings, their regular meeting with 45 in attendance and a Halloween Party with 70 guests. They also held a Meet the Candidates night with 50 guests. The Bike Guys, Larry and Moy had a repair clinic and a dozen people showed up. I had an early hours (2-6) Trick or Treat where 10 kids came looking for candy (and left with potatoes; their choice). And the Free Store had a whopping 625. That gives us 1,114 people who used the facility in October.

I'm seeing new people pop in on a daily basis and I'm receiving a lot of positive feedback. I've added a nicely stocked art area and kids are always coloring at it, especially on Saturday nights. The Free Store gets new kid and adult coloring books and a lot of them end up at the CC for everyone to enjoy. I just added a small instrument area in the main dining room and anyone is welcome to come in and use the Casio keyboard and guitar that are there. I thought it would be nice for anyone who plays but doesn't have access at home. It's new for November so I'm curious and hopeful that they will get used. I'll let you know next month.

## **Shaker Preservation Committee**

No report

## **County Update**

No report

## **Depot Committee**

No report

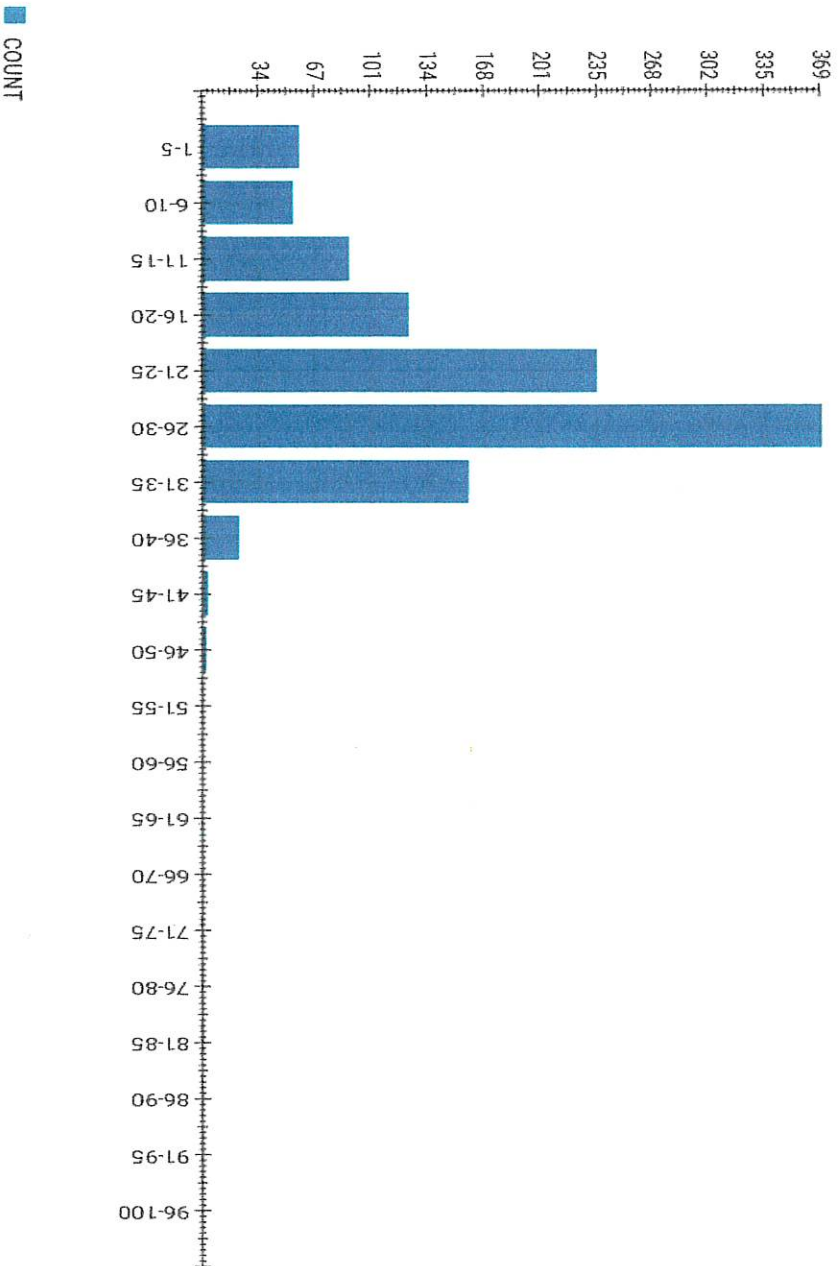
# Count by Speed Range Report

Report period: 2024-10-04 to 2024-10-25

Location: Lovers Lane  
Address: Lovers Lane

## Count By Speed Range

Speed (mph)	Count
1-5	58
6-10	54
11-15	87
16-20	123
21-25	234
26-30	369
31-35	158
36-40	21
41-45	3
46-50	2
51-55	0
56-60	0
61-65	0
66-70	0
71-75	0
76-80	0
81-85	0
86-90	0
91-95	0
96-100	0
Total	1109





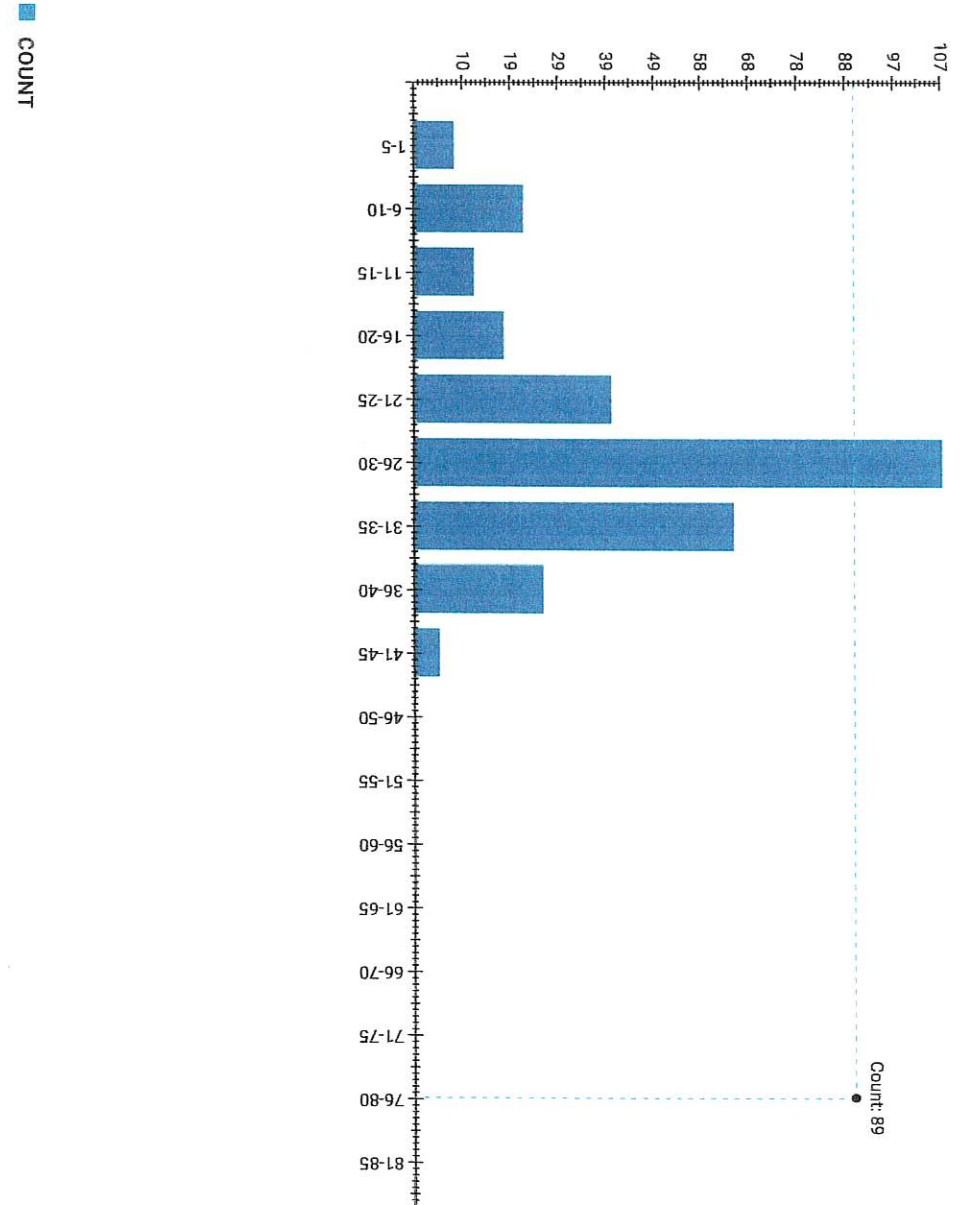
# Count by Speed Range Report

Report period: 2024-10-25 to 2024-11-01

Location: Gale Hill Road  
Address: Gale Hill Road

Count By Speed Range

Speed (mph)	Count
1-5	8
6-10	22
11-15	12
16-20	18
21-25	40
26-30	107
31-35	65
36-40	26
41-45	5
46-50	0
51-55	0
56-60	0
61-65	0
66-70	0
71-75	0
76-80	0
81-85	0
86-90	0
91-95	0
96-100	0
Total	303



# Count by Speed Range Report

Report period: 2024-10-25 to 2024-11-07

Location: Gale Hill Road  
Address: Gale Hill Road

Count By Speed Range

Speed (mph)	Count
1-5	13
6-10	37
11-15	16
16-20	32
21-25	79
26-30	200
31-35	125
36-40	53
41-45	9
46-50	2
51-55	0
56-60	0
61-65	0
66-70	0
71-75	0
76-80	0
81-85	0
86-90	0
91-95	0
96-100	0
Total	566

