



TOWN OF PLEASANT VALLEY

Office of the Supervisor

TOWN HALL

1554 MAIN STREET

PLEASANT VALLEY, NY 12569

(845) 635-3598

FAX: (845) 635-8292

Press release

Salt Shed Grant Aids Pleasant Valley Taxpayers

PLEASANT VALLEY - The Town of Pleasant Valley has been awarded a \$50,000 Grant from the Dutchess County Municipal Consolidation and Shared Services Supplemental Grant Program to assist with the construction of a new Salt Storage Facility. The grant program was aimed at providing assistance to projects that result in savings to taxpayers. Construction of the Salt Shed provides cost savings, enhanced storage capability, and a protective barrier preventing salt from contaminating the environment while safeguarding the salt from environmental elements. This new structure replaces a much smaller, failing, 32 year old salt containment dome.

The Grant recognized local efforts to reduce costs. The original cost estimate for the project was expected to be more than \$750,000. Town Supervisor Mark Figliozi worked with the Town's Engineers to update and re-design the original plans for the Salt Shed to reduce costs resulting in a \$350,000 savings. Without the timely construction of this building, the Town could have lost an additional \$45,000; due to a light 2015/16 winter and standard contractual obligations requiring a minimum percentage of the Town's salt ordered had to be purchased. Without the capacity of a new, larger salt shed, the town would have had to purchase salt that it could not receive.

The Grant will greatly assist in reducing the property tax burden for Pleasant Valley taxpayers. This comes at a time when the Town is faced with a number of pressing community needs such as relocating an aging Town Hall that has been flooded twice in the recent past, addressing a water contamination problem in the downtown hamlet, and establishing a future water district. The highway garage is outdated and the building is failing. The Town must also address the necessity to replace deteriorating infrastructure and provide investments in park facilities.

Since taking office last year Supervisor Figliozi and the Town Board have been steadfastly committed to seeking grants to offset costs associated with operating Town Government. The Town was also recently awarded a \$100,000 State and Municipal Facilities Program (SAM) grant to assist in installing solar panels on the salt shed. This is expected to eventually reduce annual electrical costs by up to \$40,000.

"We are trying to increase revenue through non-tax sources," Figliozi said. "Grant funding helps us off-set the property tax burden. We are seeking grants strategically to provide a catalyst to produce non-taxed based reoccurring revenue sources. We are most grateful to Dutchess County Department of Planning and County Executive Marcus Molinaro for recognizing the need and importance of the Salt Shed project and Senator Sue Serino for the SAM Grant for Solar."

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