

Village of Ballston Spa

Saratoga County Seat
66 FRONT STREET

Ballston Spa, NY 12020

Phone: 518-885-5711

Fax: 518-885-0512

December 1, 2021

Dear Ballston Spa Neighbor,

Season's Greetings from Village Hall, and welcome to the first edition of the Ballston Spa Voice – the new official Village newsletter. In this newsletter we will provide updates on what the Mayor, Trustees, and Village Staff have been doing for our community, and share some upcoming village events.

New Mayor - On Nov. 8, the Board of Trustees appointed **Christine M. Fitzpatrick** to serve as Mayor of Ballston Spa through the end of our official year, which is April 4, 2022. In accordance with Village law and regulation, Ms. Fitzpatrick was appointed by the Board of Trustees following the resignation and departure of former Mayor Woolbright.

The Board of Trustees is currently working to fill the Trustee seat vacated when Ms. Fitzpatrick became Mayor. Mayor Fitzpatrick says, "The transition from one mayor to another and the functioning of the Village government has been seamless. Thank you to Village Staff and the Board of Trustees who made this seamless transition possible."

Please visit our website www.villageofballstonspa.org where you can find details about many of the activities listed below, and associated materials.

Upcoming Events

- **Ballston Spa Holiday Parade presented by the Ballston Spa Business and Professional Association – Friday, December 3, 6:30 p.m.** –Starts at South St., goes down Milton Ave. to Wiswall Park, where Santa will light the Christmas tree, and Toys for Tots will be collected. Special thanks to BSPBPA, DPW, Police & Fire Depts, and EMS.
- **Mark your calendars for a Special Election - On March 15, 2022**, there will be a special election to choose a Mayor and a Trustee to serve through April of 2023.
- **The Comprehensive Planning Committee is looking for new members** – The Village is updating its Comprehensive Plan. If you are interested in joining this effort, please call Village Hall. You will be asked to provide a letter of interest to join the committee.

(Over for Progress Update)

Progress Update

Infrastructure: Infrastructure is a top priority of the Board and recent efforts include:

- Infrastructure Planning Workshop #1 Nov. 17 – We created an action plan that includes engineering studies this winter and grant proposals this summer – to address water, sewer, and stormwater.
- Completed Village Income Survey to make us more competitive for grants.
- Created Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plan.
- Submitted grant for adding sidewalks, improving intersections, and traffic calming; awards to be announced in early 2022.
- Completed a Tree Inventory to help manage village trees.

Legislation:

- Drafted new zoning for large commercial projects (Planned Development District, or PDD).
- Approved Cannabis (Marijuana) dispensaries and on-site consumption businesses.

Services:

- The Ice-Skating Rink will be at BARC again this year. Thank you to neighborhood volunteers, BARC, and the School District for providing this much-loved winter activity.
- The Committee on the Arts has started a planter decoration project and is planning a wall mural project for the spring – stay tuned for updates.
- The Wellness Express provides transportation to medical care for village seniors (60+) – please take advantage of this village-funded service and tell your neighbors. 518-399-4624.

Improving Government Communication and Transparency:

- Purchased computer equipment so people can always participate in board meetings from home.
- Instituting annual reports from Village Departments.

We want to hear your ideas for improving the village! You can reach the Village Board by emailing: VillageClerk@villageofballstonspa.org, or by calling Village Hall: **518-885-5711**. Website: villageofballstonspa.org. Trustee Board meetings are second and fourth Mondays of the month at 7 p.m. Currently, these meetings are held via Zoom. Password can be accessed through the calendar on the website. To get on the email list for this newsletter, email or call Village Hall. Please share this newsletter with your friends.

Wishing you and your family health and happiness this holiday season!

Mayor Christine Fitzpatrick, Trustee Shawn Raymond, Trustee Liz Kormos,
Trustee Ben Baskin, and Village Staff

