

MAYOR'S COLUMN

The Board of Trustees convened a Special Meeting on July 20th to address two issues that required timely action.

We approved our agreement with Verizon in time for our application to be presented at the August meeting of the Public Service commission. As a result, Verizon FIOS service should begin to rollout in the Village in September. Had we followed our normal meeting schedule, approvals would have been delayed until November.

Also on the agenda was the approval of an inter-municipal agreement with Eastchester and Tuckahoe to purchase raw materials for road resurfacing. This inter-municipal collaboration increases our purchasing power as we receive the discounts given on volume purchasing. This was borne out by the surprisingly modest increase in the cost per ton of asphalt from \$62.24 to \$63.50. Since oil is a major component of asphalt, we were expecting a much higher increase due to the steep rise in fuel costs over the past year.

We have an extremely close and productive relationship with our colleagues in Eastchester and Tuckahoe and continue to seek any opportunities to collaborate on the purchase of goods and services. It just makes economic sense to take advantage of bulk pricing when purchasing like products.

The Village plans on spending slightly over \$375,000 on road resurfacing and curbing this summer. The streets slated for paving are Edgewood Lane from South Road to North Road; Sturgis Road from Locust Lane to the Village line; Sunnybrae Place from Sturgis Road to Pine Terrace; the High Road from the Byway to Pondfield Road and Wellington Circle from Prescott Avenue to Park Avenue.

Morningside Circle; Oriole Avenue from Elm rock Road to Tanglewyld Avenue; Palmer Road from the Village line to Parkway Road; Lookout Avenue from Wellington Circle to Park Avenue; South Road from White Plains Road to Edgewood Lane; Middle Road from White Plains Road to Edgewood Lane; Park Avenue from the end of the brick road to Wellington Circle and the Byway from Pondfield Road to Masterton Road will receive a combination of road resurfacing and curbing where needed.

The work will take place throughout the month of August with all projects completed by Labor Day. We are continuing the practice we began two years ago of “milling”, which is the removal of all prior layers of asphalt before repaving. This avoids the layering of asphalt which continually raises road surfaces leading to negative changes in water flow and drainage. All streets will be milled over a three day period and then paved. The asphalt products removed during the milling process will be recycled for later use as road bedding material.

Roads are passable post milling and access will not be limited until paving begins. Homeowners will be notified by hand delivered flyers a week in advance of the paving of their street. The only variable that could disrupt/delay the process is inclement weather.

If your street does not appear on this year’s list and you believe it requires attention and repair, please send in a written notice to the Department of Public Works. The project will then be added to the list for future review and repair. We are very careful to record all requests and carry over the list from year to year.

The only street we are precluded from repairing is White Plains Road. It is the Village’s only State owned stretch of roadway and exclusively maintained by the New York State Department of Transportation. We recognize the general state of disrepair of White Plains Road and have contacted the Department of Transportation to request more on-going maintenance and general upgrade.

As a small part of the resurfacing program, we will also be replacing the cracked sidewalk at the rear entrance of the Library.

Taking care of the infrastructure of our Village remains a high priority of the Board of Trustees. In order to preserve our Village for future generations, we must keep things in good repair now.