



Around About Olean

Ringling in the New Year

Olean Style



The City of Olean's Annual Organization Meeting was held on Wednesday, January 2, 2019 in the Council Chambers at 6:30 p.m. The Reverend Jason Hladnick of the First Baptist Church of Olean delivered the Invocation. Judge Daniel Palumbo presided over the Oath of Office of the three re-elected alderman: Linda Witte of Ward 1, Paul Gonzalez of Ward 3 and John Crawford of Ward 5. Alderman Crawford was re-elected as President of the Common Council.

Following the Council business, Mayor Aiello presented his sixth State of the City address in which he stressed that Olean's continued revitalization is successful because it is a community effort. The city is working with residents and our businesses to secure bright prospects

and opportunities for future generations.

In the address, Mayor Aiello described some of the changes that North Union Street has seen since the public works project on the street was completed two and a half years ago. He mentioned the ongoing revitalization in the City's Park System. He listed the Public Works projects that received funding from the Governor Cuomo's Downtown Revitalization Initiative. Mayor Aiello gave an overview of many of the departments in the City and detailed many of the efforts that are carried on by volunteers to make our City a great place to live.

More information about the State of the City is inside this newsletter.



"I want to recognize our city employees. Their commitment to Olean is outstanding and should be commended.

"City employees are highly trained and strongly motivated. They are very diligent in planning for the future and solving resident issues. In addition the staff has a deep sense of community spirit. The list is long, but some of the events that they participate in are the Gift Tree Program, Rebuilding Together, and Toys for Tots. In addition they raise money and collect items for the SPCA and Genesis House.

"The staff members in each department work hard to make Olean a great place to live, work, play and raise a family. I would like to thank them for their dedication."





"It is an exciting time for Olean--there is a renewed sense of pride in our home town."



"We are entering the third year since the completion of the major public works project on North Union Street. The great news is that private investment on the street has steadily increased each year."

The chart shows the number of building permits that the City has issued for North Union Street before, during, and after the project.

North Union Street reaps the benefits of revitalization.



New businesses have opened their doors.



Established businesses have painted, purchased new awnings, and made other investments in their properties.

And buildings that have been abandoned and long forgotten have been purchased and are on their way to a second life.



Revitalization continues throughout the City.



Project will link North Union Street to the Olean General Hospital and Park and Shop. The crossings on Main Street at the intersections of Front and Barry will be safer for cars and pedestrians.

Walkable Olean—Phase II

Currently in Design Phase—\$1.45 million budget



Making Olean Parks vibrant, active civic commons



Lincoln Park

The Concerts in the Park continue to draw large crowds and the City added two concerts to the roster.

A Permanent Farmer's Market is slated for construction this summer. Numerous grants are funding the effort.



Oak Hill Park

Restoration of the grand staircase with a grant established by Marianne and Erick Lane at the Cattaraugus Region Community Foundation.

Received \$350,000 from the Downtown Revitalization Initiative to upgrade existing facilities and install new amenities to complement the neighborhood and downtown.



Trailhead Parklet

Received a grant from KaBoom! and Built to Play Initiative, supported by the Ralph C. Wilson, JR. Foundation.

The City will transform a North Union Street property that has been vacant since the 1950's into a parklet.

Innovative equipment will bring out everyone's inner child.

Construction to begin in June 2019 and the park should be operational at the end of July 2019.



King Street Park

Received \$15,000 in financial assistance from Keurig Dr Pepper and KaBOOM for the Park.

Renovations and upgrades will include: installation of trees and a stone walking path; upgrades to the basketball area, replacement of the outdated equipment, creation of an ADA path.

The City has already installed a traffic calming curb extension to the crosswalks adjacent to King Street Park.





“A streetscape project is truly a work of art.”

Bob Ring, DPW Director

The City of Olean received DRI funding to continue our revitalization:

- North Union Street Streetscape—\$900,000
- West State Street Redesign and Improvements—\$1,600,000
- South Union Street Gateway—\$1,400,000
- Walkable Olean Phase III — East State Street—\$1,200,000

For the next few years , Olean is going to be under construction...when these projects are completed, and the backdrop of the Allegheny River and Mountains are added, Olean will truly be a civic masterpiece.



Upcoming Projects



Water Department

- Olean Water Plant celebrated it’s 100th anniversary
- City received grant to help replace Stardust pump station
- Continue to look for funding to help replace Washington Street waterline

Wastewater Treatment Plant

- \$22 million upgrade to facility
- Near completion
- Should be fully operational in 2019



Construction will soon start on a hotel in the former brownfields



Received \$200,000 For a Microenterprise Assistance Program. City partnered with the OBD to manage the program.

Business Development



Olean Urban Renewal Agency has named Savarino Companies as the preferred developer. Received \$2 million in DRI funding.



Solar Farm
Anticipated Metering Credits: \$90,000



Olean Police Department

Drug Enforcement was the main focus of 2108

10 Drug Search Warrants were conducted

Partnered with Olean City School district to provide Special Patrol Officers in the Elementary Schools

Officer Ryan Aylor graduated from Drug Recognition Expert School

Police Department participated in No Shave November and Shop with a Cop

The department hopes to implement a body-worn camera program in 2019.



Olean Fire Department

Two firefighters graduated from Paramedic School.

Two firefighters graduated from Advance Medical Technician School.

Department sponsors the Fourth of July Firework Display.

Department rang the bell for the Salvation Army Kettle Campaign.

Department works for Breast Cancer Awareness.



Blight Control

Partnering with:

Cattaraugus County Land Bank

New York State Office of Community Renewal

Rural Revitalization

Olean Residents



2017: 15 Demolitions

2018: 4 Scheduled



Youth and Recreation



Over 300 children in the Summer Recreation Program.
 20 Sponsors for the 12 Ice Skating Christmas—participation was outstanding.
 An Ice Bocce Program has been instituted.
 Senior Center and Youth Center numbers continue to increase.
 Bradner Stadium hosted the Olean City Cup Finals.
 Rec. Center hosts numerous groups: Home and Garden Show, AKT Martial Arts Tournament, and Enchanted Mountain Roller Derby.



	County	School	City
2014	\$13.19	\$25.23	\$14.41
2015	\$13.17	\$25.61	\$14.41
2016	\$13.64	\$25.11	\$14.42
2017	\$13.98	\$26.31	\$14.57
2018	\$14.22	\$25.84	\$14.86
Increase	\$1.03	\$.61	\$.41

“It is clear that Olean has a lot to offer and we work very hard to accomplish our tasks without raising taxes. We have been diligent over the past five years to keep the City portion of property taxes

Bartlett House

“Olean has an amazing group of volunteers who work diligently to make our community a great place to live.”

Just look at the Bartlett House--grounds and beautifully decorated rooms—all work of volunteers. When funding was on the line for the Bartlett House it was a private citizen who offered financial help to keep it open. And it was volunteers who sponsored events at the facility to make it accessible to all residents of Olean.



“But we can't do it without the help of our residents....”

Volunteers

It is volunteers who plant and maintain gardens in our parks. It is volunteers who weed many of the gardens on North Union Street. It is volunteers who pick-up the litter. It is volunteers who planted the planters on North Union Street. And it is volunteers who are helping to keep our neighborhoods safe with the new Task Force for Empowering Neighborhoods and Encouraging Proactive Change.





Olean really is a great place to live—optimism is spreading. The partnerships between our residents, our businesses, our Chamber of Commerce and our City’s staff help to make Olean shine.

In that same spirit, I’d like to suggest that we all look around and see if there’s something we can each do for Olean. It doesn’t have to be anything dramatic or time consuming. If there is a scrap of paper on the sidewalk, please pick it up and drop it in the trash. If your elderly neighbor’s sidewalk needs shoveling, please shovel it. If you have a suggestion for the City, please let us know. Your suggestions make Olean a great place to live.



Olean is better when we work together. Henry Ford said, “If everyone is moving forward together, then success takes care of itself.”

Better together in 2019.

A rising tide raises all boats, and as my grandfather used to say, “A wave of enthusiasm raises all hopes.”

He certainly knew what he was talking about—Olean is better when we work together to secure a bright future.



Photos on the right hand of this page courtesy Bob Clark, Olean Times Herald

Mak-



Mayor Aiello is available to perform marriage ceremonies in the City of Olean. Please call his office (376-5615) for more details. There is no set fee, however any donations will be placed in the Mayor’s Scholarship

Fund.

New York State law requires you to obtain a marriage license twenty-four hours prior to a marriage ceremony. For more information about marriage licenses please call the Department of Vital Records at 376-5605 or the City Clerk at 376-5604.

Many marriages are performed right in the Mayor’s Office. The John Ash Community Center on Barry Street is an excellent spot for a reception as are Olean’s various parks facilities. For more information on the city’s facilities please call 376-5666.



Seniors are Never Bored In Olean

The Olean Senior Center located at the John Ash Community Center on North Barry Street has many activities and programs for those age 55 and above. The monthly calendar is now on the city’s website under the [Youth and Recreation Department-Olean Senior Center](#).

For more information please contact: 376-5670 or seniorcenter@cityofolean.org.



The City’s website is great source of up-to-date information. Please visit it at cityofolean.org. In addition the city has a Face Book page and Twitter feed—all are excellent sources for information.

“I’m open to suggestions and I’d like to hear from people. If we’re doing something you think is right, I’d like to know. If we’re doing something you think is wrong, I’d like to know. If you have suggestions for me, I beg you pass them along.”

—Mayor Aiello, January 2, 2014



You can reach the mayor at his office in the Olean Municipal Building at 101 East State Street in Olean, or by phone at 716 376-5615, or by e-mail at waiello@cityofolean.org

