



TOWN OF SCHROEPEL 2026 NEWSLETTER



MESSAGE FROM THE TOWN BOARD

As we step into 2026, the Town Board would like to thank all residents, staff, and volunteers for their dedication and hard work over the past year. 2025 was filled with progress, community engagement, and continued improvements to Town facilities, parks, and services.

Our focus for the coming year remains on responsible planning, infrastructure improvements, and maintaining safe, welcoming spaces for our community. With the support of grant funding and careful stewardship of taxpayer dollars, we look forward to building on the successes of the past year while ensuring Schroepfel remains a great place to live, work, and play.

We encourage all residents to stay engaged, share feedback, and participate in the many programs and initiatives that make our Town a strong, connected community.

— The Town Board

GRANT FUNDING AT WORK

| | |
|---|----------------------|
| William J. Farley Park Improvements . . . | \$ 500,000.00 |
| <i>NYS Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation</i> | |
| Local Waterfront Revitalization | \$ 118,000.00 |
| <i>New York State Department of State</i> | |
| Brownfield Opportunity Area | \$162,000.00 |
| <i>New York State Department of State</i> | |
| Renovation/Rehab of Prior RD Bridge . . . | \$150,000.00 |
| <i>Community Resiliency, Economic Sustainability and Technology</i> | |
| Municipal Facilities Generator | \$50,000.00 |
| <i>Funded by Assemblyman Will Barclay, State & Municipality (SAM)</i> | |
| Facilities Window Replacement | \$75,000.00 |
| <i>Senator Chris Ryan, CREST Program</i> | |
| Town-wide Water Study | \$ 80,000.00 |
| <i>Northern Boarder Regional Commission</i> | |

TOTAL GRANT FUNDING SECURED

\$1,135,000.00

Strengthening Town infrastructure while easing the financial burden on taxpayers.

NEW FOR 2026

SCHOOL & PROPERTY TAX COLLECTION

The Town Clerk’s Office now collects both school and property taxes. Payments may be made directly at the Clerk’s Office for a more convenient, centralized process.

JUSTICE COURT

Hon. Steven Kempisty - Official
Hon. Michael Trask - Official
Christina Mitchelson – Court Clerk

Phone: 315-695-6177

Please contact the Court directly for any court related mater
See Schroepfelny.gov for hours and court dates

TOWN CLERK’S OFFICE

Darlene Owens - Town Clerk

Michele Swidowski - Deputy

Phone: 315-695-6231

Hours: Mon–Thu, 8:00 a.m.–3:30 p.m.

Maintains official Town records; issues marriage and dog licenses, permits, and certificates; prepares Town Board agendas and minutes; publishes legal notices; processes FOIL requests; coordinates election documentation with the County Board of Elections; and collects related fees.

For helpful information on tax collection and Town Clerk services, please visit schroepfelny.gov.

ASSESSOR’S OFFICE

Hal Henty - Assessor

Michelle Case - Clerk

Phone: 315-695-7065

Hours: Mon–Thu, 9:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.

Secure lockbox available for document drop-off.

The Assessor’s Office maintains property records, reviews sales data, and processes exemptions

Key Dates:

- Exemption Deadline: March 1 (strictly enforced)
- Tentative Roll: May 1
- Grievance Day 2026: May 26, 4:00–8:00 p.m.
- Additional grievance hours are available in May.

Assessments are based on 45% of full market value.

Residents are encouraged to contact the Assessor early with questions.

Revitalizing Schroepfel's Waterfront Gateway

The Town of Schroepfel is participating in the **Local Waterfront Revitalization Program (LWRP)**—a New York State-funded planning effort designed to protect and enhance our waterfront for generations to come.

LWRP priorities include:

- ✔ Water quality improvements
- ✔ Protection of natural resources
- ✔ Expanded public access
- ✔ Thoughtful waterfront development

Project Update:

The first two sections of the LWRP, which define the Waterfront Revitalization Area and assess existing conditions, are complete. Work is now underway on the remaining sections to develop local waterfront policies and identify potential improvement projects.

The **Town of Schroepfel** is proposing a **Brownfield Opportunity Area (BOA) Nomination Plan** for a priority area along the **Oswego River waterfront** at the southwestern end of Town. This area serves as an important gateway into **Oswego County** and holds significant potential for revitalization and economic growth.

BOA Planning Goals:

- ✔ Analyze existing conditions along the waterfront
- ✔ Identify opportunities for redevelopment
- ✔ Establish a long-term vision to guide investment
- ✔ Promote sustainable reuse of underutilized properties

Why it matters:

This planning effort will help shape a waterfront that supports **economic activity, community access, and environmental stewardship**, ensuring the area reaches its full potential for years to come.

SOCRIS & WEST SCHROEPFEL SEWER

SOCRIS Project – Regional Wastewater Planning

Oswego County is studying the **Southern Oswego County Regional Interceptor Sewer (SOCRIS) project**, a proposed regional wastewater solution for southern Oswego County. The concept would allow participating communities to send wastewater to the **City of Fulton's existing treatment facility**, avoiding the need for new plants that could discharge into **Oneida Lake**.

Project Status: Currently in planning and review phase, further engineering, cost analysis, and municipal approvals required

West Schroepfel Sewer Project

The **Town of Schroepfel** continues planning for the **West Schroepfel Sewer Service Area Project**, which would provide municipal sewer service to the western portion of town. This project is intended to:

- ✔ Replace aging septic systems
- ✔ Protect water quality
- ✔ Support long-term community growth

Project Status: both projects are currently in planning and design phase & future progress depends on funding, engineering, and required approvals

WATER INFRASTRUCTURE

| Bankrupt Road WD | CR57 / Huntley Road | Schroepfel South WD |
|---|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Now serving 223 users ▪ In final stages of project completion ▪ Provides clean, reliable potable water to area residents ▪ Includes the addition of fire hydrants ▪ Improves public safety and fire protection. ▪ Project close-out activities are underway. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Service to approximately 135 users ▪ A USDA Rural Development grant for \$ 1 million ▪ Additional grant opportunities are being pursued to help offset construction costs. ▪ Final design is complete and has been submitted for agency review ▪ Bidding and construction anticipated following approvals and funding | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Proposed to serve over 1,200 users ▪ Project has received \$5 million in grant funding along with interest-free financing, ▪ Town continues to seek additional grant funding ▪ Project is expected to move into the final design phase in the first quarter of 2026. |

Additional information on the LWRP, BOA, and infrastructure projects is available on the Town of Schroepfel website at www.schroepfelny.com.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT



Jeffrey Jones - Highway Superintendent

Phone: 315-695-5454

2025 SNAPSHOT

The Highway Department continued to perform essential maintenance and infrastructure improvements across the Town of Schroepel. Work included roadway repairs, culvert replacements, and routine maintenance on all Town roads. Peter Scott Road and Ainslee Drive were resurfaced as part of the Town's ongoing roadway improvement program

LOOKING AHEAD IN 2026:

- Continue resurfacing Town roads as conditions and funding permit.
- conduct tree trimming and removal, focusing on dead/hazardous ash trees located in public right-of-way to enhance roadway safety.
- Winter plowing and sanding operations will continue with minor efficiency improvements while maintaining public safety.

CODE ENFORCEMENT AND PLANNING BOARD

Don Clark – Planning Board Chairman

Meetings: 4th Wednesday of each month

Applications must be submitted at least **10 days prior** to meetings; all fees must be paid in full.

THE PLANNING BOARD

- Reviews site plans, subdivisions, special use permits, and zoning changes
- Ensures public safety, infrastructure readiness, and environmental compliance
- Implements the 2022 Comprehensive Plan and guides long-term growth
- Recommends updates to zoning and land-use laws
- Holds public hearings for community input

2025 SNAPSHOT

- 24 applications reviewed or in progress
- 65% commercial / 35% residential
- Significant increase from 2018 (4 applications)

LOOKING AHEAD IN 2026

The Planning Board will continue to work to modernize zoning and land-use regulations to support responsible growth. Board members will remain active on the Comprehensive Planning Committee and advance updates developed with Saratoga Associates.

Planned improvements include:

- Updating zoning and land-use laws
- Removing outdated or unclear code provisions
- Adding modern standards
- Incorporating changes into broader Town Code revisions
- Supporting organized, responsible growth across the Town



Patrick Dolan – Code Enforcement Officer

Gordon Walts – Code Enforcement Officer

Office Phone: 315-695-6075

Fax: 315-695-3231

Office Hours vary due to field inspections

A secure lockbox is located at the public entrance for after-hours document drop-off.

The Codes Office assists residents with building code information, permits, zoning and property-related inquiries. The Town of Schroepel Code Enforcement Officers are certified under the New York State Uniform Fire Prevention and Building Code.

Their responsibilities include:

- enforcing local and state building and zoning codes
- conducting plan reviews and inspections
- issuing building permits
- coordinating with the Planning and Zoning Boards.

Additional Resources

New York State Tenants' Rights Guide (online)
DECinfo Locator for environmental and natural resource information

WILLIAM J. FARLEY TOWN PARK PAVILION PROJECT

The Town of Schroepfel is advancing plans for the new pavilion at William J. Farley Town Park, supported in part by a **\$500,000 grant from the NYS Department of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation**. In 2025, the Town awarded the scoping/design contract to La Bella Associates, who are currently developing schematic designs for the project.



Preliminary designs are expected to be presented to the public in early 2026, and public input is encouraged to help guide the project's direction. Details about the public input meeting will be shared on the Town website at schroepfelny.gov and on the Town of Schroepfel Facebook page.

BUILDING & GROUNDS

Chip Thomas – Department Head

Phone: 315-695-4311

B&G had an active and productive year in 2025, performing essential work to ensure that Town facilities remain safe, functional, and welcoming for residents.



2025 HIGHLIGHTS

- Maintenance of the Town Building/Park and Highway Garage
- Heating system repair in the Highway Garage
- Soccer bench & B&G trailer refurbishment
- Damaged fence removal
- Expansion of athletic fields
- Landscaping improvements
- New lighting installation in the Highway Garage

LOOKING AHEAD TO 2026

In 2026 several major projects planned, including:

- New generator, funded by a \$50,000 grant awarded by Assemblyman Will Barclay
- New windows, funded by a \$75,000 grant awarded by Senator Chris Ryan
- New roof on the Highway Garage

COMMUNITY SERVICES

Helen Knipp – Director of Community Services

Phone: 315-695-2801



There's always FUN happening in the Town of Schroepfel! Join friends and neighbors for family-friendly programs and special events offered throughout the year.

2025 HIGHLIGHTS

- **Winter Fun Night:** a frosty fun night of sledding, s'mores and hot chocolate
(Thank you, Enterprise FD, for the lights!!!)
- **Community Fun Day:** bigger than ever, over 500 attendees, 40 adult raffles & two youth bike raffles
- **Fall into Fitness:** a fun walking challenge
- **#SupportSchroepfel:** campaign to promote local pride and community support
- **Town Business Directory:** easy access to local business

MORE FUN IN 2026

- Adult basketball • MAM Elementary coloring contest
- Winter Sledding Party • Annual Easter Celebration
- Music in the Park • Mornings in the Park • Youth soccer and track programs • Tennis program for all ages • Community Fun Day (August) • Fall Youth Soccer • Trunk or Treat and #Support Schroepfel

Stay Connected! Find dates, times, and locations on schroepfelny.gov and our Facebook page.