

## Ontario Town Supervisors Column:

May 2018:

It looks like winter has finally ended. Even when the seasons get stuck on repeat, however, the Town of Ontario and I are always moving forward. Here are some new developments in the town since my last writing:

**Farm Labor Camps:** On April 16, we held a Public Hearing regarding the adoption of Local Law #1, which would amend our Town Code and allow for Farm Labor Camp usage in the Suburban Residential Zoning District. The Town Board unanimously agreed to amend the Law, following an hour of discussion with a diverse group of Ontario's citizens. It is now Planning Board discretion whether to establish a labor camp in the proposed zone or not, once there is a formal application.

**Town Cleanup:** It's been three years and two supervisors since our last Town Cleanup, so I'm excited to announce that we're bringing it back on May 18th and 19th. Our Supt. of Highways Marilee Stollery and my Confidential Clerk Joshua Faulks have both worked very hard in getting contracts with Alpro and Sunnking, with the latter company specializing in e-waste collection. More information about that will be forthcoming, so stay tuned.

**Solar code:** Many of our residents have asked the Town Board to adopt a new solar code. We initially planned on borrowing our code from Webster; upon further pontification, however, we decided the code needed amending, so as to be congruent to Ontario's needs. While the code is not ready to be formally adopted, we've had many discussions at our Town Board Meetings about what we plan to add or remove from it, and I look forward to the finished product.

**Sign code:** Speaking of codes, the Town Board has also discussed updates to our sign code. Our Coding Officer Brian Smith was the first to bring it to our attention two months ago, and since then, we've made great progress towards adopting a new one. I can't thank our local business owners enough for the amount of patience and creative input they've dedicated to our work.

**Updates to Town offices:** We've continued our work with Casco to make much needed improvements to our town office security measures. They've installed panic buttons and cameras in just about every room, and fixed some of the wiring issues with our alarm systems. My staff continues to meet with audio/video technology organizations, who will implement much needed changes to the presentation of our Town Board meetings.

**Website/Social media update:** My confidential clerk Joshua Faulks continues to make improvements/enhancements to our town web site. On top of that, Josh and NFP Telecom are working hand in hand to create a new town website. If you have suggestions, you can reach out to my confidential clerk Joshua Faulks at 315-524-7105. Make sure to follow my page on Facebook, and check out the Ontario Town Board's new Facebook page as well. Both pages are geared towards opening lines of communication between our government and Ontario citizens.