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SUMMARY OF ONE SENECA COMMUNITY BRIEFING & PREPARED EXCLUSIVELY FOR SENECA COUNTY CHAMBER INVESTORS



COMMUNITY BRIEFING - NOV. 14, 2024



THIS ISSUE

Keep up to date with community happenings that impact business in our community

BOB SHIPLEY, SUPERVISOR

- Board of Supervisors received the draft plan the same night as the board meeting
- About 50 people opposing Seneca Meadows came; around 12 spoke for one hour and ten minutes
- Seneca County has no control over what happens with Seneca Meadows
- The budget presented Tuesday night was also the first time the Board had seen it
- IDA board members officially approved (three people)

SARAH DAVIS, IDA

- Currently negotiating a pilot agreement with Finger Lakes Railroad and four other counties
- 3 new IDA board members elected to start their terms after the New Year/approved by Seneca County Board of Supervisors

CHAMBER EVENTS:

- Chamber U- Sexual Harassment Training virtual, 12-1:30 p.m. Tuesday Nov. 19th
- Business After Hours: del Lago, Nov. 20 5-7 p.m.
- Annual Dinner: Jan. 16, 2025

JOIN US FOR THE NEXT ONE SENEGA

When: Thursday mornings at 10 a.m.

Where: Zoom

Meeting ID: 885 5612 6750

Password: 974642

Open to members of the community who want to know things that are happening or have something to add to the conversation.

THIS WEEK'S HEADLINES

INVASIVE WEED SPECIES CAUSE FOR CONCERN FOR NEW YORK FARMERS

<u>Spectrum:</u> Pigweed, native to Southwestern United States, has become an invasive species upstate and runs the risk of destroying soybean and corn crops. The weed can grow up to an inch per day and get to ten feet tall; rotating crop fields with wheat or alfalfa has helped to diminish its spread.

INCOMING SENECA NATION PRESIDENT DISCUSSES CASINO COMPACT NEGOTIATIONS

<u>Spectrum:</u> Seneca Nation has elected a new president, J.C. Seneca, who received over 87% of the tribal election vote. Seneca doesn't like the idea of the state receiving a percentage of slot machine revenue, but plans to take the issue back to the Nation to discuss what the majority wants. The current discussion is 25% to the state. Seneca has urged Governor Kathy Hochul to meet to discuss it in person.

SENECA COUNTY PROPOSES \$8M BUDGET INCREASE, PUBLIC HEARING TO FOLLOW

FL1: An \$8 million dollar boost in general fund spending was proposed by the Seneca County Board of Supervisors aimed at addressing rising operational costs and maintaining essential services. The proposed budget includes a property tax levy increase of \$3.45 million, marking a 31.2% hike from the previous year. The average property tax would go up from \$3.33 to \$4.19 per \$1,000 of assessed value, creating an annual increase of \$111.80 per median household.

GILLIBRAND APPLAUDS USDA DECISION TO RESTORE FAIR DAIRY PRICING FORMULA

<u>FL1:</u> The USDA recently made a decision to reinstate the "higher of" Class I pricing formula for milk. This measure aims to fairly compensate dairy farmers and address significant revenue losses caused by a formula change in the 2018 Farm Bill.

TWO LANDMARK WATERLOO WATER TOWERS TO COME DOWN

<u>FL Times</u>: Two elevated water storage towers in Waterloo will be removed. One is on Reed Street and the other is on East Wright Avenue. Bids for the project are being accepted until Dec. 4th at 10 a.m. Reed Street's tower was built in 1944 and East Wright Avenue's was also built in the 1940s. They could hold between 200,000 and 250,000 gallons of water. The new tower on North Road can hold up to 1 million gallons. Whoever wins the bid will also need to restore the sites by grading to a depth of 24 inches and planting grass.

SENECA COUNTY RESIDENTS DEMAND LANDFILL CLOSURE IN WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN

<u>FL1:</u> Residents near the Seneca Meadows landfill expressed frustration over extending operations for 25 more years. The landfill is set to close next year, but it may remain open until the year 2040 if Waste Connections' permit is approved.