

Assessor (Metzler)

Exemption Renewals

Renewal applications for the Low-Income Senior, Low-Income Disabled, and Agricultural exemptions have been mailed to current recipients. Please review and return these promptly to ensure continued eligibility.

Online Eligibility Tool

Last year we launched a quick online worksheet to assist residents in determining their eligibility for the Low-Income Senior Exemption.

Assessment Update for 2026

I recently held a second meeting with the State regarding the 2026 update, with the goal of maintaining assessments at or near 100% of market value.

□ Market Trends: Sales data from 2023–2024 indicated a 5% upward trend for our shared market area. This trend continued into the 2024–2025 sales period. Resulting in at least 10% over a 2 year time frame.

□ Current Ratio: Due to these market increases, our current equalization rate is estimated at 88%. This aligns with our Assessment-to-Sales Price Ratio, which is currently tracking at 87%.

□ Next Steps: While we opted not to increase assessments for the 2025 Roll in hopes that the market would stabilize, the sustained upward trends necessitate adjustments for the upcoming year. I am currently actively analyzing the data to determine where specific valuation adjustments will be applied.

Building Department (Metzler)

No report

Business & Economic Development (Skerkis)

No report

CAC, Climate Smart & Environmental Management (Powers)

CAC:

Wastewater Feasibility Study - Our engineer will get us the projected numbers for property owners and the full study sometime in December. In order to provide as much information as we can to those in the potential district, we are getting potential cost numbers both with and without Tilden Commons. Over the winter we will focus on public education and outreach to those in the potential district, and among other things this will include a pretty complete picture of water quality in the district. We will figure out district formation legalities and present our progress to the Town Board when we have something to report. The project will become primarily a CAC project due to the

fact that wastewater and muni water are primarily water quality issues. The BEDC was instrumental in helping us get the Feasibility study and we will reach out as needed and warranted.

DWSP2 Water testing update - We will be testing this week. New information is coming to us on issues around town and we are testing downgrade of concerned areas. We will look into additional testing funding since the ARPA funds for testing will be spent by midyear. The CAC will conduct a few PFAS/PFOS tests in homes downgrade of the landfill in early summer. The DEC will test the monitor wells but at this time will not be testing private property.

NYS Drinking Water Quality Council Update - Over the past 5 years the CAC, and the Town Supervisor, have been involved with the Environmental Advocates of NY in pushing for and establishing lower limits of PFAS in drinking water. We have been continually urging the Governor to maintain strong limits of PFAS safety in our water, and are working on this again due to the US Government attempting to roll back limits due to the chemical companies aggressively pursuing rollbacks.

Tilden Commons update - We are awaiting the SEQR from the Planning Board and continue to review the revisions requested by the Planning Board.

ZRC - Comp Plan Committee - The CAC now has two members on the committee with an alternate. Members are Donald Lamonaca and Bruce Shenker with Peg Munves as an alternate.

CSC:

The CSC was informed that NYSEG has approved the installation of the new Level 2 EV charger at the Community Center. With any luck it will be installed by the end of the month. Grant money from NYSERDA will cover the entire cost and part of the agreement includes no annual subscription fees for 5 years. In addition, NYSERDA has informed us that they will cover the cost of replacing the Community Center light bulbs with more efficient LED bulbs.

The tension is mounting because the CSC plastic recycling program has now turned in 708 lbs of plastic since Feb. 2025 (1271 lbs total since we started collecting it) towards the one year goal of 1000lbs which will get the town a free bench made out of Trex products. Only 292 lbs. more by Feb. 2026 to get the bench!

The new heat pump in the town court/meeting room is up and running. If you have been to meetings there in the past, you'll remember how loud the old boiler was. The new heat pump is incredibly quiet and anyone sitting in the back can easily hear speakers in the front. This should be more incentive for residents to attend meetings at Town Hall!

EMC:

No report

Fire, Law Enforcement & Emergency (Powers)

No report

Highway (Powers)

No report

Historian & LVHS (Amlaw)

Historian:

Bitsy Sheffer-Winig has resigned as Town Historian due to personal reasons. I want to thank Bitsy for her 6 years as Town Historian and all the hard work she has put in to preserve and honor the history of our Town! She leaves big shoes to fill and will be sorely missed. If anyone is interested in being considered for the appointment to Town Historian for 2026, please reach out to me at supervisor@townofnewlebanon or 518-794-8889.

With gratitude, Supervisor Houghtling

LVHS:

No report

Justice Court (Skerkis)

No report

Library (Skerkis)

No report

Buildings, Parks & Recreation (Amlaw)

Buildings:

No report

Parks:

As we are coming to the end of the Year here is my report.

The Skatepark is unfinished.

Tennis Court Bathrooms have been finished and checked off by Jeff Hattat, and we will be painting the Outside in the spring.

The Pavilion Roof still needs its sealant and Park Manager says it will be done in the spring.

The Kitchen at the pavilion still needs a few things to be fixed from its original work status, since no check off was done at the time of completion.

The Barbecue roof is currently being worked on.

The Broken concrete at the Community center Bay doors was fixed.

The Septic was pumped at CC this year.

Town Hall needs some repairs to the front of the building, better lighting and the parking lot for handicapped needs new blacktop. The CC parking lot should be addressed also, both front & back

Both pipes near well for water on/off were replaced.

New lights were put on the Christmas Tree in the park.

Wifi and Cameras were added to the Little league Building at no cost to the Town by Kyle Slattery, Derrick Saviano, Jon Earle

The Splash Pad work all donated to the Town.

Tree work by Cassidy and Team all donated to the Town.

Thank you to all the Volunteers!

Submitted by Councilmember Amlaw

Recreation Commission:

No report.

Seniors (Amlaw)

Joyce reports that less than 5 % of Columbia County Seniors completed the survey. The results are being tabulated and will be available hopefully by the January meeting. Many of the representatives reported that the seniors they spoke to were tired of answering surveys and that this one was too long. Many towns are in the process of updating their town Comprehensive plan and have questions included about the needs of seniors in their town specifically.

Elections were held Co Chairmen will be Stephen King and Joyce Thompson; secretary will be Mary Young.

Nina reported about the addition of Grab and Go Meals for seniors available by calling the OFA office and requesting them. They will be available at the Canaan Senior Center for New Lebanon residents on Wednesdays.

Joyce presented a request to senior representatives to collect a list of resources in their towns that will be made available County wide to assist residents in need of help. The

New Lebanon OFA representatives will get together and develop this list to have by the January meeting.

The Lebanon Valley Seniors took their last trip for 2025, an overnight to the Amish country in Penn. Everyone reported that they had a good time. These trips allow people to socialize and see things they may not do on their own. The Holiday gathering was held at Marios this year with festive decorations and cheer. The group also participated in the PTA Craft sale on 12/6, selling homemade items, money collected was donated to the NLCS High School choir to support the program. The Choir did a dress rehearsal for the group on 12/9 at the Community Center. The group also sent signed cards to the VA to be sent to active-duty military to be sure they know they are not forgotten. The Senior group meets once more on 12/19 for 2025. The meetings for January through March 2026 will be held on the third Friday of the month only, with soup and sandwiches and games being on the program.

Traffic Safety (Metzler)

Traffic report: Attached are the reports from the traffic trailer from last month. The trailer has been placed in winter storage. Most of the requestors of the traffic safety trailer placement for 2025 report that while the trailer was in position the traffic slowed down, once the trailer was moved the traffic went back to the previous problem of speeding.

See the charts from the traffic trailer at the end of this report.

The state representative for the Traffic Safety Council reports that the State will be repaving and fixing drainage on the Rt 22 N. corridor from the intersection of Rt 20 and 22 at the site of the Old Hess station to the Rensselaer County Line during the summer of 2026.

Work will continue through the winter on rules and education about the use of the Walking trails in Columbia County especially concerning the use of E bikes.

Zoning Re-write Committee (Powers)

No report

Community Center/Free Store (Houghtling)

Yoga	66
Senior (2)	154
Jam	10
PrivateParty (\$100)	45
Potluck Dinner	43
Girl Scout Meeting	10
Red Cross Blood Drive	26
Karaoke	33
Potluck/LineDance	47
Free Store	896

Game Room Sign-ins	274
TOTAL	1514

November has certainly been the month of giving. In an effort to help our community members navigate through losing their SNAP benefits, we have been providing donated food and personal products to any NL resident in need. As expected, our caring community stepped up, not just by donating to the CC, but at many locations in town, to help our neighbors.

We have also been holding a coat drive and we have been accepting gently used and new coats whenever the Free Store is open. A big thank you to the LVCC for their generous donation of over 25 Brand new coats and snow pants to be given away to any New Lebanon School District child. If you know of a child in need, please send them our way so we can keep them warm this winter.

The Red Cross held a successful blood drive, with every appointment slot being filled, meeting their goal.

Shaker Preservation Committee (Powers)

No report

County Update (Houghtling)

No report

Landfill Closure (Houghtling)

The site has been closed down for winter. Meetings and work will resume in the Spring when the weather allows.

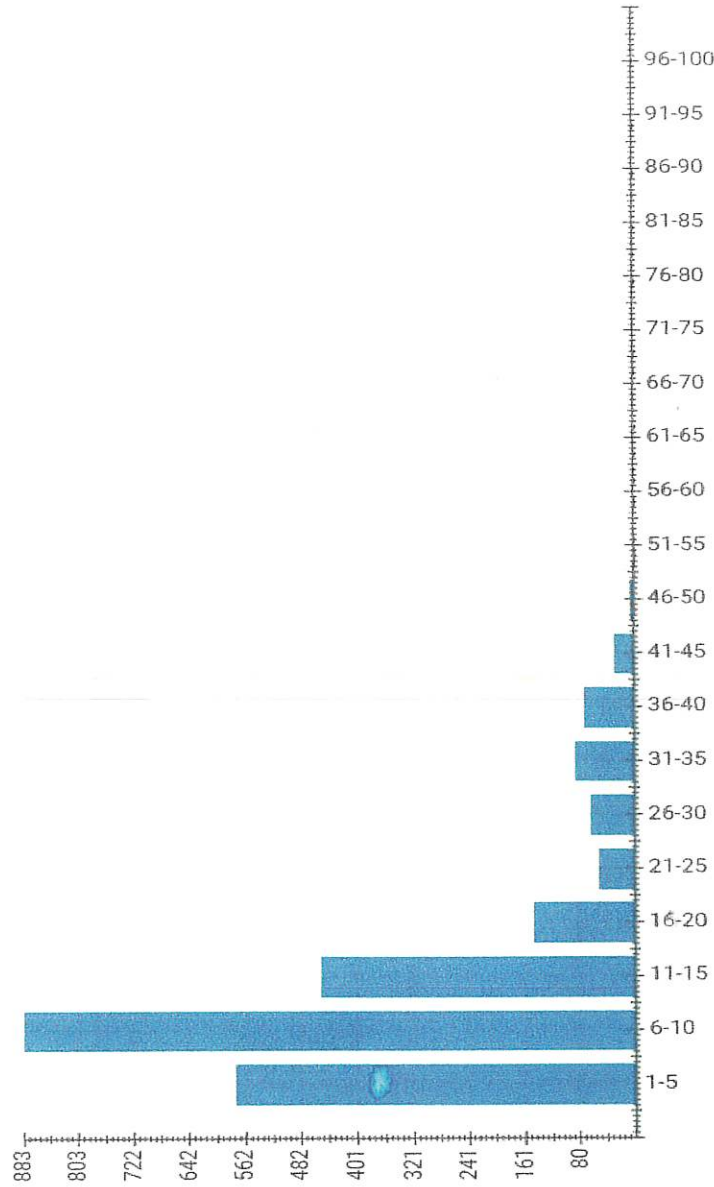
Active City 9S

Count by Speed Range Report

Location: New Britain Road
Address: 3892, New Britain Road

Report period: 2025-10-20 to 2025-11-13

Count By Speed Range	
Speed (mph)	Count
1-5	575
6-10	883
11-15	452
16-20	148
21-25	51
26-30	63
31-35	85
36-40	72
41-45	28
46-50	4
51-55	0
56-60	0
61-65	0
66-70	0
71-75	0
76-80	0
81-85	0
86-90	0
91-95	0
96-100	0
Total	2361



COUNT

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Stealth City PS

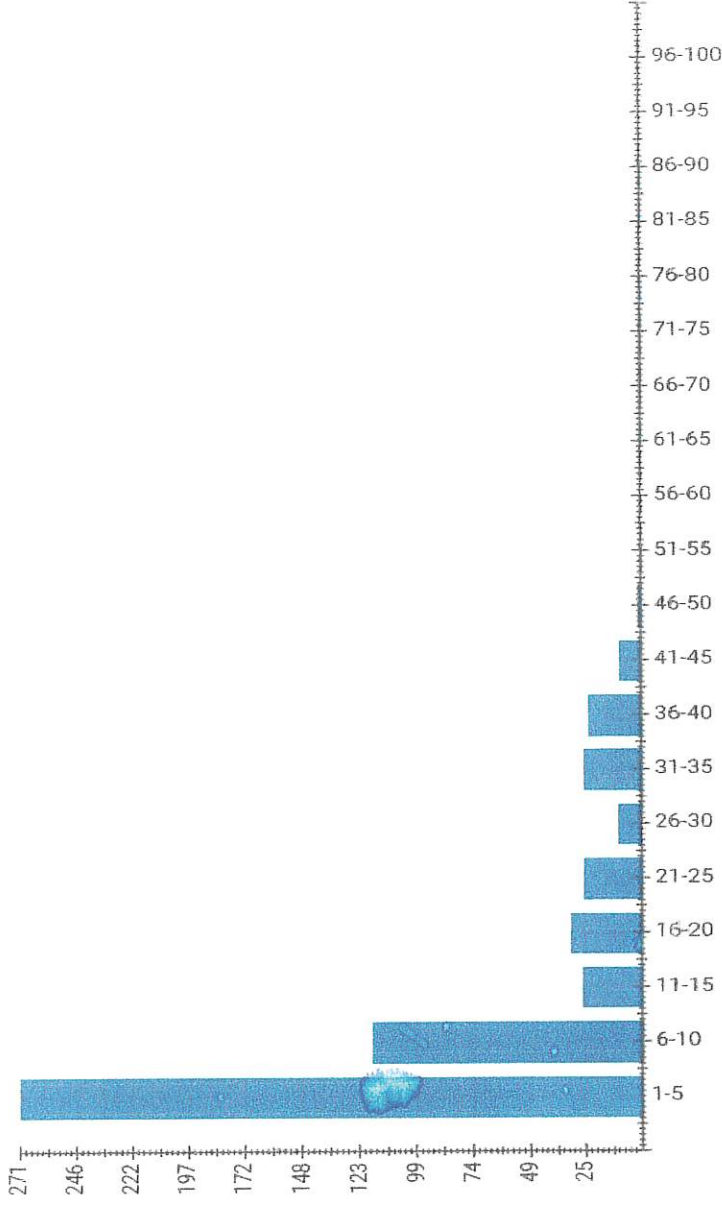
Count by Speed Range Report

Location: New Britain Road

Address: 3892, New Britain Road

Report period: 2025-11-11 to 2025-11-20

Count By Speed Range	
Speed (mph)	Count
1-5	271
6-10	117
11-15	26
16-20	31
21-25	25
26-30	10
31-35	25
36-40	23
41-45	9
46-50	1
51-55	0
56-60	0
61-65	0
66-70	0
71-75	0
76-80	0
81-85	0
86-90	0
91-95	0
96-100	0
Total	538



■ COUNT

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Stealth - County 95

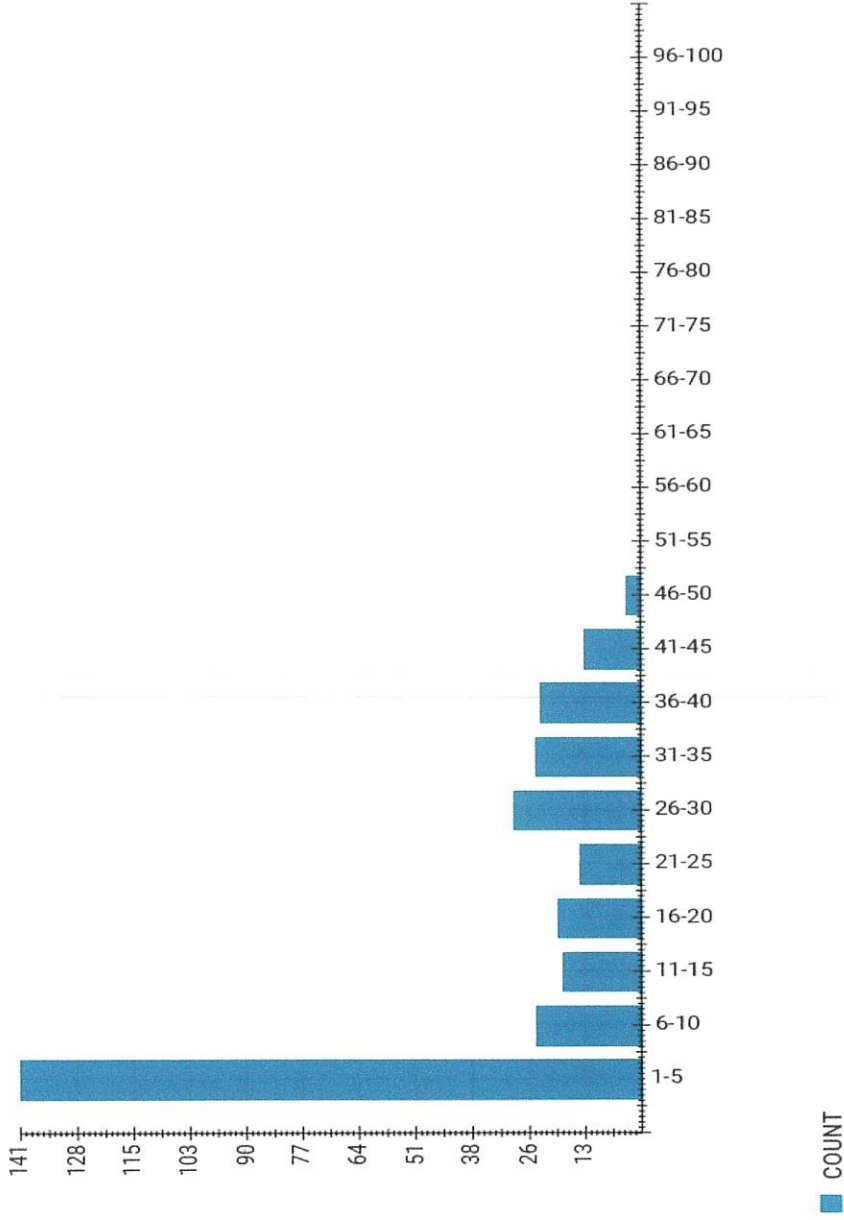
Location: New Britain Road

Address: 3892, New Britain Road

Count by Speed Range Report

Report period: 2025-10-20 to 2025-10-27

Count By Speed Range	
Speed (mph)	Count
1-5	141
6-10	24
11-15	18
16-20	19
21-25	14
26-30	29
31-35	24
36-40	23
41-45	13
46-50	3
51-55	0
56-60	0
61-65	0
66-70	0
71-75	0
76-80	0
81-85	0
86-90	0
91-95	0
96-100	0
Total	308



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