

What would YOU change about the Town of Clarence?

This article is the third of three parts dedicated to reporting the results of the 2013 Town wide survey. This last segment will deal with the final question we asked residents to respond to, which was 'What would YOU change about the Town of Clarence?'

Issues that pertain to our youth were front and center, with the addition of better indoor youth sports facilities, a longer pool season and the addition of a second middle school at the top of the requests from Clarence residents. If there is a theme that resonated throughout this survey, it was for the town of Clarence to slow down development. Several residents told us that 'they do not want to become another Amherst.' Overdevelopment was also the top issue on the second question, 'what do you dislike about the Town of Clarence'. Residents also weighed in on the garbage question, asking for the town to pick up their garbage. The ongoing concern regarding the upkeep of our town was apparent when you asked for change in regulations to force owners to take better care of their homes and grounds, beautification of the hollow and better lighting in certain areas of the town. Residents also asked for an increase in commercial business development, possibly in an effort to keep Town taxes down and to increase funding for local schools. Issues that pertain to roads showed up in several questions, as residents asked that brush pickup be increased, better road maintenance, the addition of stop signs/additional traffic control and the drainage or elimination of ditches become a priority. They asked for additional senior apartments and a larger senior center. Seven residents wanted to end the deer program and six wanted to expand it. Interesting! Keeping Clarence green was an ongoing concern, with requests to leave land undisturbed as green space, extend the bike path, provide benches for walkers on the bike path and improve the parks weighed on the minds of residents. Lastly, the addition of a dog park, sidewalks, and consolidation of the fire departments closed out the survey.

Should you have any questions or positive comments on this article, please feel free to call, email dhartzell@clarence.ny.us or stop by my office at Town Hall. My door is always open!

