

Welcome to the

City of Johnstown

...we are more than just a City;
we are a community of neighbors.



2020 Resident Information

Vernon F. Jackson, Mayor

Directory

| | |
|------------------------------|----------|
| Mayor..... | 736-4012 |
| Treasurer / Tax Collector .. | 736-4017 |
| Clerk | 736-4011 |
| Attorney | 736-4018 |
| Assessor | 736-4015 |
| Engineer | 736-4014 |
| Police | 736-4021 |
| Codes | 736-4076 |
| Fire..... | 736-4079 |
| Library | 762-8317 |
| Senior Center | 762-4643 |
| Water | 736-4027 |
| Animal Control Officer..... | 736-4020 |
| Historian | 762-7419 |
| City Court..... | 706-3310 |

Council Members

| | | | |
|---------------------|----------------|-----------------------------|----------|
| Councilman-at-Large | Craig Talarico | 406 S. Market St. | 762-2893 |
| Ward 1 | Bradley Hayner | 184 Maple Ave. | 848-1584 |
| Ward 2 | Kathi Iannotti | 9 Elmwood Ave. | 762-3767 |
| Ward 3 | Amy Praught | 4 Cady Street | 736-1350 |
| Ward 4 | Max Spritzer | 101 W. 2 nd Ave. | 848-4416 |

The Common Council meetings are open to the public and held on the 3rd Monday of each month, in the Common Council Chambers, 2nd floor in City Hall @ 6 p.m.



2020 Holiday Closings

| | | |
|----------------------------|-----------|--------------------------|
| New Year's Day | Wednesday | 1 st |
| Martin Luther King Jr. Day | Monday | 20 th |
| Presidents' Day | Monday | 17 th |
| Good Friday | Friday | 10 th – ½ Day |
| Memorial Day | Monday | 25 th |
| **Independence Day | Friday | 3 rd |
| Labor Day | Monday | 7 th |
| Columbus Day | Monday | 12 th |
| Veterans' Day | Wednesday | 11 th |
| Thanksgiving | Thursday | 26 th |
| Thanksgiving | Friday | 27 th |
| Christmas Eve | Thursday | 24 th – ½ Day |
| Christmas Day | Friday | 25 th |

Note:

*When Holiday Falls On Sunday, The Following Monday Will Be Observed As The Holiday.

**When Holiday Falls on Saturday, The Preceding Friday Will Be Observed As The Holiday

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Garbage & Recycling

| | <u>Garbage</u> | <u>Recycling</u> |
|---------------|----------------|--------------------|
| <u>Ward 1</u> | Friday | 1st & 3rd Thursday |
| <u>Ward 2</u> | Wednesday | 1st & 3rd Thursday |
| <u>Ward 3</u> | Tuesday | 1st & 3rd Friday |
| <u>Ward 4</u> | Thursday | 1st & 3rd Friday |

Things to remember regarding garbage collection:

- Must be placed in front of your residence no later than 6:00 a.m. the day of your scheduled collection.
- Clear plastic bags must be used.
- Only household garbage is accepted. Ex. of items not considered garbage are: yard debris, construction material, appliances, large electronics, paint, needles, etc.
- If your scheduled collection day falls on a holiday, we will do a double pickup either the day before or after the holiday. Notices are sent to the Leader Herald and posted on our website to inform the public of the pickup day.

If you have questions or concerns regarding your pickup please call the City Engineer's Office at 736-4014.

New York State Law as of January 1, 2012: Private and Municipal haulers are no longer allowed to dispose of electronics in the landfill. Therefore, the Department of Public Works can no longer pick up of the following items with household garbage; a free electronics recycling location is available at the Department of Solid Waste for residents to dispose of these items:

- Computers or monitors
- Televisions, cable or satellite receivers
- small scale servers
- computer peripherals - cables, cords, wiring
- electronic keyboards
- cathode ray tubes
- digital converter boxes
- fax machines, scanners, printers
- portable music players
- Digital recording devices

- VCRs / DVD players, electronic or video game consoles
- small electronic equipment (including any cabled, corded or wired devices, mice or similar pointing devices)

Spring Clean Up / Drop off Program

This service is for Johnstown City residents and property owners. Dates for program will be advertised in the Leader Herald and posted on the City’s website.

- NO contractors, businesses, commercial users or dump trucks!!!! Cars, vans and pickup trucks only.
- Limited to the equivalent of 2 pickup truck loads per resident
- No fee charged for the disposal of furniture, appliances, home improvement project materials or misc. junk
- Unacceptable items included:
paint, propane tanks, motor oil, curbside recycling or regular weekly trash, liquid waste, batteries, leaves/brush or hazardous waste.
- Tires; limit to 4 per household at no charge. Must be off the rim.
- Remove refrigerator and freezer doors. REMOVE FOOD!!!!

Street Light Problems

To report problems with street lights (staying on during the day, cycling on and off, dim, exposed wires, light making noise, etc.), you can do so directly to National Grid simple by accessing their web page @ www.nationalgrid.com and entering the information. Click on Your Account and scroll down to Street Lighting. Be sure to have the address of the pole and it would also be helpful to have the pole number (located directly on pole).

Monthly, the City Engineer sends a report to National Grid provided by the Johnstown Police Department.

CITY ASSESSOR

Key dates which affect the assessment process:

| | |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| Valuation Date | January 1st |
| Taxable Status Date | March 1st |
| Exemption Filing Deadline | March 1st |
| Tentative Roll Filed | May 1st |
| Grievance Day | 4th Tuesday in May, 4-8 pm |

Star Program

This only applies only to school taxes. The following are requirements for filing for the exemption:

Qualifications for Enhanced Star:

1. property must be owner occupied
2. property must be primary residence of the owner,
3. all owners must be at least 65 years of age (if husband and wife only one has to meet age requirement),
4. contact assessor's office for current income limits. All household income must be included even, if only husband or wife is listed as owner; and
5. an application, along with supporting documents must be filed no later than March 1st.

Qualifications for Basic Star:

1. property must be owner occupied,
2. property must be primary residence of the owner, and
3. application must be filed no later than March 1st.

Your property assessment will not be raised for any of the following:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| -garages, barns, sheds | -siding; new or repair |
| -sheds under 144 sq. ft. | -basements or entryways |
| -repairs to foundations | -porch and step repair |
| -plumbing and electrical | -boilers or furnaces |
| -chimney; new or replacement | -hot water heaters |
| -carports, patios, breezeways | -repairs to outside of building |
| -roof; repair or replacement | -windows and door repair/replacement |
| -trees and shrubs | -paving driveways |
| -interior renovations | -sidewalks; repair or replacement |
| -painting; interior/exterior | -insulation |

However, permits may be needed and you should contact the **Code Enforcement Office** for further information 736-4076.

CITY CLERK

The Office of the City Clerk assists the taxpayers and residents of the City of Johnstown by providing a variety of diverse services. These services include: processing birth, death and marriage certificates, vendors/solicitors, games of chance/bingo, and several other municipal licenses; issue Conservation Licenses; the administration of elections within the City of Johnstown and where law permits, providing access to city records.

The City Clerk also serves as the Clerk to the Common Council and works with the legislative body in the management of agendas, meetings and other Charter-mandated activities.

- Marriage Licenses: \$40.00 and must be obtained at least 24 hours before the ceremony and is good for 60 days. Couples must appear in person and provide the following documents: -proof of age/identification (birth certificate & driver's license) -if previously married, we must see all executed, filed decrees of divorce. Licenses are issued until 3:30 p.m. Monday-Friday.
- Vital Records/Genealogy: If you are researching your family history, need to obtain a certified copy of your birth or marriage record or a certified copy of a death certificate for a family member, we may be able to provide you with that information. An application must be completed or a written request provided either in person or by mail. Fees and certain restrictions apply; call for details.
- Landfill Permits: City of Johnstown residents must apply for a permit to use the Fulton County landfill on Mud Road. Fees: Permits: \$35.00 (valid from January 1st - December 31st). Questions regarding the landfill can either be answered by the City Clerk's Office or by calling the Fulton County Dept. of Solid Waste @ 736-5504.
- Hunting/Fishing Licenses: Fees vary
- Dog Licenses: Dogs must be licensed by the age of 4 months. \$7.50 spayed/neutered or \$15.50 un-spayed/un-neutered. *Proof of current rabies must be provided in order to license your dog.
- Disabled Parking Permits: A form must be completed by your physician prior to obtaining a permit.

- Winter Parking: There are designated areas in the city where residents can park during the winter months. Permits are issued on a 1st come / 1st serve basis. There is no parking on City streets December 1st - April 1st from 12am - 6am
- Snow Plow: Permits are needed if you will be plowing areas other than your own property. Permits are \$5.00.
- Garage Sale: Permits are \$2.50 each and are good for 3 consecutive days. Residents are allowed only two (2) sales per year.
- Racing / Wagering (Bingo): Please contact the City Clerk to discuss the procedure necessary to obtain a permit.
- Sidewalk / Driveway / Curb-cut / Street-opening / Tree: Fees vary depending on permit needed (average cost is \$10.00)
- Vendor / Solicitors Permits: Please contact the City Clerk to discuss the procedure necessary to obtain permit.
- Sign Permits: \$50.00 per year

LIBRARY

From school to career, family to retirement, the Johnstown Library can help you through all stages of life. Whether you want to open a business, work towards a GED, research ancestors and study local history, or learn about community events, the library is a perfect place to start.

Our collection is approximately 35,000 pieces with a special collection dedicated to Local History. Materials available for loan include books, large print books, audio and videocassettes, downloadable audio books, CD's, DVD's and magazines.

We offer for public use a photocopier, meeting room space, a general reference collection, public access computers with internet access and free wireless access to the internet. We are open to the public seven days per week from September-May.

Families can enjoy weekly Preschool Story-times or adults can participate in monthly book discussions. We offer an annual Summer Reading Program for Preschoolers-8th graders.

With a valid library card, users can borrow books from any participating member library in the Mohawk Valley Library System/Southern Adirondack Library System. The automated system allows members to use their bar-coded card in all

65 libraries that comprise the MVLS/SALS consortium. Materials can be ordered by visiting us on the internet; johnstownpubliclibrary.blogspot.com

How to Get A Library Card

Library cards are offered free to anyone. Applying members are asked to provide a valid driver's license showing current address. If the driver's license does not show current information, two items, such as a checkbook or mail, can be used to validate current address along with the driver's license. Cards are renewable every three years. Children under the age of 18 must register with a parent or legal guardian.

SENIOR CENTER

The Shirley J. Luck Senior Citizens Center is a multiple service center specifically designed to meet the needs of mature adults. This building is financially supported through the generosity of the City of Johnstown with the additional support coming through membership in the club and fundraising events sponsored by center staff. The Center is home to the 50+ Club and oversight for club activity is provided by the Board of Directors. Additional financial support for building maintenance and programs is provided through the generosity of the 50+ Club fund raising.

The center offers a wide variety of classes ranging from educational, health-related, or social. The center does offer some weekend events and times available for a safe and quiet space for seniors. A sheltered setting for frailer adults through the Adult Day Program is also available. Family members or care givers are welcome to visit the program or make referrals for someone who may need a more structured setting. In addition, offers a county sponsored meal site which serves a hot noon time meal every weekday.

Staff at the center consists of the Central Executive Director, secretary, two program coordinators, several program aides, and a custodian. As guests are always welcome, any center staff member would be happy to provide a center tour and further outline upcoming programs. The Senior Center staff is ready to assist any member or guest and we strongly encourage utilizing the programs and services available at this center. Now is the time to enjoy your earned leisure time, to keep your health and social life active, to try a new hobby, and to share your time and talents with others.

Johnstown Meal Site

Fulton County Office of the Aging offers a meal site at the Center. Each weekday the meal site is open at 10am and a delicious hot meal is served at 12pm.

Reservations are necessary, one day in advance, and may be placed by calling 736-5650.

WATER

Our constant goal, is and always has been, to provide to you a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and to protect our water resources.

We want our valued customers to be informed about their drinking water. If you want to learn more please attend any of our regularly scheduled water board meetings.

The City bills each and every water customer semi-annually based on water meter usage.

Water Conservation Tips:

- use water saving showerheads
- repair all leaks in your plumbing system
- water your lawn sparingly in the early morning or late evening
- do only full loads of wash and dishes
- wash your car with a bucket and a hose with a nozzle
- don't cut your lawn too short; longer grass saves water

Thank you for allowing us to continue providing your family with clean, quality water this year. In order to maintain a safe and dependable water supply we sometimes need to make improvements that will benefit our customers. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community. Please call our office if you have any questions @ 736-4027.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Emergency Dial: **911**

Non-Emergency: (518) 736-4021

Office is open 7 days a week 6am—10pm; after 10pm call Dispatch: (518) 736-2100 or 911

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Emergency Dial: **911**

Non-Emergency: (518) 736-4079

Please have your house number posted & visible to assist emergency personnel.

CODES OFFICE

Please contact the Codes Office prior to doing work around your home; a permit may be required. (518) 736-4076

Permits are required for, but not limited to:

| | | |
|--------------------|----------------------|------------|
| Roofs | Signs, Awnings, etc. | Fences |
| Decks | Windows | Additions |
| Plumbing / Heating | Garages, Carports | Sheds |
| Additions | New Construction | Demolition |

PLANNING BOARD

If there is a matter to be heard before the Planning Board, it will be heard on the 1st Tuesday of the month at 4:00 pm in City Hall. Meetings are only held if there is an agenda.

If you are required to have a matter heard before the board you must contact the Codes Office @736-4076 and fill out the necessary application. The application must be completed and turned in to the Codes Office at least five (5) days prior to the meeting. Applications not received within that period will be scheduled for the next meeting of the following month.

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

If there is a matter to be heard before the Zoning Board, it will be heard on the 3rd Thursday of the month at 3:45 pm in City Hall. Meetings are only held if there is an agenda.

If you would like to have a matter heard before the board you must contact the Codes Office @736-4076 and fill out the necessary application. The application must be completed and turned in to the Codes Office at least ten (10) days prior to the meeting. Applications not received within that period will be scheduled for the next meeting of the following month.

All zoning matters must be published in the paper as a legal notice, a \$15 fee is imposed and must be paid to the City Clerk's Office once you have filed an application with the Codes Office.

A BRIEF LOOK AT OUR HISTORY

This brief history of the City of Johnstown has been provided by our City Historian, Noel S. Levee. If you are interested in further information please contact Noel @762-7419.

Kalaneka

During the early 18th Century, the area that is now known as Johnstown was the Indian resort area called Kalaneka; a place where one stops to fill his bowl with food and drink. This was a very familiar spot as it was the junction point for all the early trails and the main trail became William Street where the Indians would camp on the high bluffs. A winding little stream below, known as the Cayadutta Creek, flowed south to the Mohawk River.

Johnstown

In 1753, William Johnson received from Goldsborrow Banyar, Under Secretary of New York, "a conveyance...of one sixth part of a tract of land granted to Arent Stevens and others", on about 20,000 acres which Johnson named the Kingsborough Patent. At this spot, he would build a home for himself and a town named after his son John.

By 1754, Johnson was actively settling Palatine Germans on this Patent. **The year of 1758 is given as the beginning of clearing the land for his home and town.** Johnson's overseer, Thomas Flood, was already haying and harvesting crops by 1760.

The lack of specialization, normal to the frontier, encouraged Johnson to advertise in big-city newspapers for tradesmen and artificers who would make goods for the settlers or process the raw materials the frontier produced. He welcomed a sword-maker, hatter, breeches maker, indentured shoemaker, tanner, wheelwright, collar maker, surveyor and a gunsmith. Robert Adems, the storekeeper, used the endless ashes created by the clearing of the fields to make potash. Johnson's nephew, Dr. John Dease from Ireland, was the first neighborhood physician followed by Robert Adems' brother, Dr. William Adems. Johnson Hall and some other buildings on the plantation were completed in 1763.

By 1770, the town was endowed with several "good houses" and a "neat stone church", one or more grist and saw mills and a steady stream of new inhabitants were developing other industries. The town consisted of four north and south streets with four that ran east and west. Johnson also opened one of the first free co-ed and interracial schools in New York. "The town", Johnson wrote in 1771, "is a mere thoroughfare, every day full of sleds...which really makes the place more lively than Albany or Schenectady, who are suffering from the want of snow".

Johnson's petition in 1771 to establish the county seat at Johnstown, which lies "at the terminus of several public roads and where there is a good church, parsonage and Glebe and about 20 houses", was adopted the following year. A new church was built in 1772 and the courthouse and jail were completed in 1773.

The Hall Plantation and the town were built to be Sir William Johnson's personal retirement community, a place where he could enjoy his remaining years. Johnson felt that his enjoyment of good living was another of his virtues. He believed his example would "stir up a spirit of industry amongst the people here".

Points of Interest

Johnstown Historical Society
17 North William Street
Johnstown, New York 12095
518-762-7076

<http://fulton.nygenweb.net/history/johnsvisit.html>

Johnson Hall State Historic Site
139 Hall Avenue
Johnstown, New York 12095
518-762-8712

<http://nysparks.com/historic-sites/10/details.aspx>

Walk in the Footsteps
of Elizabeth Cady Stanton
A 1 hour, 1 mile cell phone tour
www.elizabethcadystantonhometown.org
518-406-7081

Community Information

Voting

Polling Places

Ward 1; Trackside Homes (Community Hall), W. State Street (Robin Circle)

Ward 2; Senior Citizens Center, 109 E. Main Street

Ward 3; First Baptist Church; 325 South Comrie Avenue

Ward 4; Grace Lutheran Church, W. Montgomery Street

Register to Vote

Fulton County Board of Elections

2714 St. Hwy. 29, Suite 1

Johnstown, New York 12095-9946

(518)736-5526

County and State

County Representative

Jack Wilson, Chairman of the Board

Fulton County Board of Supervisors

223 West Main Street

Johnstown, New York 12095

Phone: (518) 736-5540 / Fax: (518) 762-0224

Email: fultbos@co.fulton.ny.us

Board – City of Johnstown

| | | | |
|--------|---------------------|----------------------|----------|
| Ward 1 | Richard Handy | 116 Pleasant Ave. | 762-9497 |
| Ward 2 | G. Michael Kinowski | 108 N. Perry St. | 736-4613 |
| Ward 3 | John E. Callery | 23 Cady St. | 762-1884 |
| Ward 4 | William H. Waldron | 116 S. Market Street | 762-1012 |

Fulton Montgomery Regional Chamber of Commerce

Mark Kilmer, President/CEO

2 North Main Street
Gloversville, New York 12078
Phone: (518) 725-0641 / Fax: (518) 725-0643
Email: infor@fultonmontgomeryny.org

State Representatives

Senator James Tedisco
Legislative Office Bldg., Room 515
Albany, New York 12247
Phone: (518) 455-2181
Fax: (518) 426-6821

Assemblyman Robert Smullen
Legislative Office Bldg., Room 527
Albany, New York 12248
Phone: (518) 455-5393
Fax: (518) 455-5889

OR

OR

County Office Building, Room B2
223 West Main Street
Johnstown, New York 12095
Phone: (518) 762-3733
Fax: (518) 762-3721
Email: tedisco@nyenate.gov

City Hall
33-41 East Main Street
Johnstown, New York 12095
Phone: (518) 762-1427
Fax: (518) 762-9871
Email: smullenr@nyassembly.gov