



## *Town of New Lisbon*

908 County Highway 16  
Garrattsville NY 13342  
(607) 965-2112

### **\*\*\* Press Release \*\*\***

## **New Lisbon Announces Highway Garage Groundbreaking**

The Town of New Lisbon announced today that a ceremonial groundbreaking for construction of a new town highway garage will take place on Monday, April 3, at 11:00am on the building site at 809 County Road 16, Garrattsville. Town, county, and federal officials will be among those in attendance. Members of the public are invited.

The new garage, which will be energy efficient and nearly 10,000 square feet, will replace the existing garage, which is over 50 years old, in poor condition, and inadequate for today's highway trucks and equipment. The garage will have two sections, one for storage and another one for office facilities and a service area. Construction is made possible by funding from the United States Department of Agriculture - Rural Development, with additional funding from the town and from Otsego County.

"We're very excited about this project," said Town Highway Superintendent Don Smith. "We needed to do something about the old garage and it just made no sense to invest in repairing the old building. Now, we'll have a modern, cost-efficient building with enough room to safely store and work on our trucks and heavy equipment," he added.

Town Supervisor Ed Lentz admitted that it was not an easy sell to some town residents. "There were a number of people in the town who were afraid their taxes would go up sharply. But, with public input, careful planning, good management of our limited resources, and help from the USDA and the county, we were able to make it happen with only a slight increase of town taxes despite pandemic-related cost increases." Lentz added, "The initial resistance was to be expected given that the project cost will approach three million dollars after all is said and done."

After preliminary sketches and plans were developed in 2021, the town held numerous well-attended public meetings to discuss and to refine the project, leading to a referendum in November 2021 in which a majority of voters approved the project. Following completion of site, feasibility and environmental studies in the first half of

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Supervisor: Ed Lentz  
Deputy Supervisor: Nancy Martin-Mathewson  
Council members: Flo Loomis, Brian Ryther, Bill Whitaker  
Highway Superintendent: Donald Smith

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Justice: William Burdick  
Clerk/Collector: Charlene Wells  
Assessor: Pam Dyn-Gohde  
Land Use EO: Tom Riso

2022, the project was put out for bid and bids were awarded in August, 2022. Completion is expected later this year.

The lead Engineer on the project is Bill Brown of Delaware Engineering in Oneonta. Upstate Companies LLC of Mt. Upton is the general and electrical contractor. S&H Mechanicals Inc. of Cincinnatus is the plumbing and HVAC contractor. A committee of town residents is assisting the town board in overseeing the project. A USDA architect is also providing oversight.

The attached photo shows the first delivery of pre-engineered steel building materials purchased from Iron City Structures of Ilion to the job site on February 27, 2023.