

**Christine Montague
Town Board Member Report
October 2026**

Lansing Housing Authority, Sept 28

- The Woodsedge community had multiple new social events, including a band, a singing group, and dinners brought by the Methodist Church.
- The Maintenance Supervisor is working to replace WIFI routers, get the trees trimmed, and fix the parking lot drain. He'll set up fire safety training with the Fire Department.

Tompkins County Youth Services Advisory Board, Sept 28

- The County Youth Services department had new hires for Deputy Director and Youth Services Specialist, Coordinator of Community Youth, and Youth Services Specialist.
- They had a Wellness Domain event to bring together funded agencies, Cornell Cooperative Extension, Probation, Dept of Social Services, Workforce Development, County Administration, Tompkins County Legislators, and Community Partners.

Chamber of Commerce event in Lansing, Sept 29

- Tompkins Co. Chamber of Commerce met with Lansing community members and business owners. A positive in the last year is the Town starting on the zoning rewrite. The business owners criticized the County's minimum wage study, saying it didn't look at farms and young people working summer jobs, and that the business viewpoint was misrepresented and underrepresented. They believe the County will lose some businesses to other counties. The Chamber asked business owners to calculate the financial hit a minimum wage increase would cause. They encouraged those present to communicate with all the county legislators directly.
- The business owners also said the Town needs to be seen as more business-friendly to attract investment. They said the impediments to building in Lansing are too high and businesses move to other towns. They wished for a more vibrant town center to get people to spend money in Lansing, instead of driving through Lansing to spend in Ithaca. Although the hurdle for that area is no sewer infrastructure.
- They discussed how to encourage residents, especially young people, to support local businesses. Apparently our population is aging. The opportunity in Lansing is tourism, and businesses need a way to encourage tourists to spend time and money.

Conservation Advisory Council, Oct 7

- Our Climate Smart Communities application was not approved, so we had a visit from our representative from Southern Tier 8 Regional Board to help us determine more actions the

Town has done or can do in the next year before reapplying. One is a resolution adding a member of the government, listing the members of the CAC on the Climate Smart Communities task force, and listing a member of Town staff, such as a Planner, as a coordinator. Other actions include participating in educational events with groups outside of town on particular subjects, or providing details on the new HVAC system, LED street lights, and any energy-saving additions in the new DPW building. One issue with actions like benchmarking our energy use in Town buildings is that we were doing it through Cornell Cooperative Extension's Clean Energy Communities, but NYSERDA needs to approve their new plan so the funding can go through. The new hazard mitigation plan being written with the County will provide the climate vulnerability assessment to add to our application. Other actions that could provide points would be setting up charging stations, and buying electric landscaping equipment. Our Southern Tier Board representative will send information about grants for charging stations when they open up.