

# City of Newburgh

## Press Release

83 Broadway, Newburgh, N.Y. 12550 • (845) 569-7354 – (845) 569-7370

*For immediate release*

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### **City of Newburgh/Town of New Windsor Sign Historic Water Supply Agreement Today**

Officials from the City of Newburgh today signed a historic agreement with the Town of New Windsor that will provide the town with an additional water supply for the next 20 years, with an option to renew. Mayor Nicholas J. Valentine and Supervisor George Green, along with Senator Bill Larkin and other officials, toasted the signing with bottles of City of Newburgh tap water, recently voted one of the best tasting in Orange County. The ceremony was held at Masterson Park (Washington Lake).



A toast to inter-municipal cooperation: City Manager Jean-Ann McGrane and New Windsor Town Supervisor George Green toast the signing of the Inter-municipal Water Supply Agreement. Also present(l-r): Orange County Legislator Christopher Eachus, Orange County Legislator James Kulisek, Councilwoman Mary Ann Dickinson, Councilman Sal Cracolici, Deputy Mayor Regina Angelo, Senator Bill Larkin, and Mayor Nicholas Valentine.

The agreement is the first between the two municipalities providing an “expanded” water supply to New Windsor. In September of 2006, the City of Newburgh signed a limited agreement with the town to provide water in the event of an emergency shortfall in the town’s water supply, which could result from a drought, the shutdown of the Catskill Aqueduct, or other unforeseen circumstances.

The impending shutdown of the Catskill Aqueduct is one of the primary reasons the town sought to expand the agreement with the City of Newburgh, according to Green. Both the Town Board and the Newburgh City Council passed resolutions to enter into this agreement by unanimous decision.

Mayor Nicholas Valentine commented, "I would like to thank Supervisor Green, the Town Board, our City Council and our attorneys for their hard work and attention to detail in creating an agreement that will not only ensure a stable water supply for the residents of New Windsor, but one that also makes protection of the watershed a mutual responsibility."

Senator Bill Larkin stated, "I commend the Newburgh City Council for taking such swift action to help meet the water needs of the residents of the Town of New Windsor. As municipal responsibilities become increasingly complex and more and more demanding, it is gratifying to know that the delivery of such critical services to our local communities was handled so effectively and efficiently."

Under the terms of the agreement, the town will have access to up to 1 million gallons per day of water, from three connection points. They are Brown's Pond, Little Britain Road, and Route 32 (Miron Lumber).

If water is drawn from Brown's Pond, the town will pay the city the same rate New York City charges for aqueduct water; if from the other connections, the city will charge the town the same fee as the "in-city" rate, (currently \$3.97/1000 gallons), plus 10 percent.

Meters will be installed at the town's expense to measure withdrawals, and the town will be responsible for paying for all work and infrastructure for the connections.

Additionally, the municipalities will work together to prevent water waste and to protect the watershed.

City Manager Jean-McGrane commented, "This agreement reflects the true spirit of regionalism. Whenever we work with another municipality or government agency for the mutual benefit of all, everyone wins."

"Inter-municipal cooperation not only works for the benefit of the people of the Town of New Windsor and the City of Newburgh, but it also makes good business sense," said Supervisor Green. "This is an agreement both the City and the Town can be proud of. It shows all the other cities, towns and villages in Orange County just what can be done when you combine hard work with mutual respect. We hope this is just one of many more projects that will be enhanced because the City and the Town of New Windsor do them together."