

TO ALL HALFMOON RESIDENTS: "FUEL" POLICY OF THE TOWN OF HALFMOON

Recently, the Times Union newspaper published a "blog" and "article" regarding the Town of Halfmoon's "fuel" policy for Town vehicles. In order to ensure Town residents have the most accurate and complete information, Supervisor Tollisen and the Town Board felt it was necessary to provide you with the Town's actual fuel policy initiatives:

1. The Town Board passed a resolution on January 20, 2016 to enter into the State of New York Fuel Card program under State contract #PS65802. This is a program that allows municipalities and other government agencies to purchase gas at any location; WEX is the vendor that was selected by the State of New York. This Town Board resolution was made upon the recommendation of the Highway Superintendent in an effort to ensure our Town vehicles have an efficient, reliable and cost effective way to get fuel at all times of the day or night.
2. Under this New York State sponsored program, each Town employee has a fuel card which monitors and tracks all purchases of gas. Town employees are required to turn in their gas receipt and document which vehicle was refueled for auditing purposes. The Town of Halfmoon purchases gas from local Halfmoon businesses which include Sunoco, Stewarts and Speedway.
3. The Town does NOT pay any SALES TAX whatsoever and the program is specifically designed to remove the sales tax before the bill is submitted to the Town.
3. Under this program, the Town also receives a rebate through the state awarded contract vendor, WEX, for a lower cost per gallon of gas. This is a program which is also used by the Saratoga County Sheriff's Office, many Sheriff's offices around the State, and area fire departments.
4. The Town of Halfmoon also has fuel pumps at the Highway Department. Each year, the Town seeks bid proposals in order to obtain the best fuel prices available. The fuel pumps the Town maintains are older pumps but are maintained to ensure the Town has a backup safety plan in place for any emergencies or when Town trucks are working during times when gas stations are not open.
5. It continues to be the Town's policy to provide the most competitive and cost efficient way to transact business. Despite a newspaper article which seeks to "fault" the Town for not using a State contract, the Town is actually using a program that the State of New York Office of General Services has bid out and authorized.

Please note that the above information was provided to the newspaper reporter , but for some reason was ignored when the article was published by the Times Union.

If you have any questions about the Town fuel policy whatsoever, please do not hesitate to contact Supervisor Tollisen at 518-371-7410 x 2200.