

## Pilfering of Road Metal Taken Up by Councilman Panico

posted on 4/30/2010 3:59:15 PM

**FARMINGVILLE, NY** - At Town Board meeting of April 20th Councilman Dan Panico moved to have the Town Board authorize a Public Hearing to consider enacting a new local law addressing rampant sign theft.

"Manufacturing is a vital part of our economy. Scrap metal recycling is a significant part of the manufacturing process. A healthy scrap recycling industry is important to our Town. However, ensuring safely signed streets is also of paramount importance and theft of street signs is a serious problem, of which scrap recyclers are often the victims. Protecting our community against theft is a responsibility to which the material owners, law enforcement, and scrap recyclers can all contribute," said Councilman Panico.

In order to encourage legitimate business and to aid law enforcement in investigating the theft of materials, the Councilman proposed a law enacting the following: It shall be unlawful for a seller to sell and a scrap metal recycler to purchase the following materials unless the scrap metal recycler receives reasonable written documents that the seller is the owner of the material, or is an employee, agent or other person authorized to sell the item on behalf of the owner: utility access covers, street light poles and fixtures, road and bridge guard rails, highway or street signs, water meter covers, traffic directional and control signs, traffic light signals, any metal marked with the name of a governmental entity or anything clearly identifiable as a municipal sign.

### **Division of Public Information \* Office of the Supervisor**

One Independence Hill • Farmingville • NY 11738 • Phone (631) 451-6595 • Fax (631) 451-6258