

# The Muttontown Wire

The Incorporated Village of Muttontown One 'Raz' Tafuro Way, Muttontown, NY 11791







Spring 2019

### A Message from Mayor James Líguorí



Dear Neighbors,

It has been a busy winter in Village Hall. Thankfully, Mother Nature went easy on us this year and we made it to spring with a relatively mild winter.

Our plan to modernize the village is moving along well. Our village code has been digitally formated so that it will be available online and fully searchable. The Village clerk's office is functioning more efficiently with the installation

of new financial software. The building department's software should be fully operational by the middle of summer. The Technology Committee is hard at work on content for the new village website which we plan on rolling out this summer. Please check our website to find out when portals for resident use will be available.

After careful consideration, many hours and a lot of hard work, the Board of Trustees passed its first budget in April. (See P2 for further details). Our goal was to include the services which best met the residents' needs. This required allocating funds for anticipated expenditures and estimating costs for unforeseeable situations that may occur over the fiscal year

We are pleased to report that we adopted a balanced budget that includes NO INCREASE IN THE PROPERTY TAX RATE.

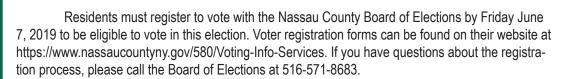
Spring clean-up of our roads including street sweeping, Belgian block repairs, and pothole maintenance has begun. The *Beautification Committee* is scouting out locations to put plantings to beautify our public street-scapes. They have also embarked on a plan to create an accessible community garden at Village Hall. The *Community Events Committee* is planning our first ever Muttontown Block Party, tentatively scheduled for early October 2019, and they are looking for activities and events that focus on community engagement. Entertainment for all members of the family, food, artisanal crafts and historical interest activities will be featured. Anyone looking to get involved in these events or any of our committees, please reach out to

I hope you have a wonderful spring and summer season. As always, we look forward to working with you and we encourage you to contact us if you think that we can be of service.

Sincerely,
Mayor James Liguori and the Board of Trustees

## Village to Hold Special Election June 18, 2019

The Village of Muttontown special election will be held on Tuesday, June 18, 2019 for the purpose of choosing and electing three (3) Trustees for the remaining term of one (1) year to fill three (3) vacancies. Polls will be open from 8:00 a.m. until 9:00 p.m. at Village Hall, One Raz Tafuro Way.





Any registered voter requiring an absentee ballot can pick up an application at Village Hall. If you would like to receive your ballot by mail, you must return it by Tuesday, June 11, 2019. If you or a designated agent plan to pick up the ballot in person, you must submit an application by Monday June 17, 2019 at Village Hall.

### 2019/2020 Village Budget Analysis



- East Norwich Fire Taxes (\$309,784.40)
- Non Property Tax Items (\$149,450.00)
- PILOTs (Payment in Lieu of Taxes) (\$5,100.000)
- Departmental Income (\$515,200.00)
- Fines and Forfeitures (\$91,000)
- State Aid (\$300,900.00)
- Other (\$569,298.57)

### \$4,939,478.40 (total estimated expenditures)

- \$1,630,948.57 (non-real estate tax revenues)

# **\$3,308,529.83** (balance to be raised by real property taxes.)

- The Village does not have the power to create new revenue sources or impose different taxes to reduce the real estate tax burden on property owners. We get no share of state income taxes, no funds from the town and very little funds from the County and the State.
- Throughout the year the budget is always under review. The Mayor, Board of Trustees and Clerk/Treasurer continuously monitor the year to date spending and look for ways to reduce costs.
- We are continuting to work on settlements in pending lawsuits where possible to save costs on legal fees while protecting the Village's interestes.

### Your Village Taxes at a Glance

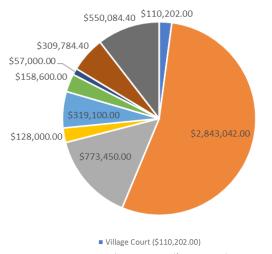
The total amount of taxes each property owner will pay is based upon the property's assessed value and the relationship it bears to the assessed value of the other properties in the village. The average assessed value of a home in the Village is \$1,573,369. This year's Village Tax on this property would be \$2,470.49. **This is a 0% increase over the last fiscal year.** 

For an average of *\$205 per month,* Village residents are receiving the following services:

- •village police protection
- maintenance of public roads
- snow plowing of public roads
- safety inspections of properties
- zoning and other local laws
- •board of appeals, planning board and site and architectural review board

### **Expenditures**

Total Expenditures= \$4,939,478.40



- Police Department (\$2,843,042.00)
- Village Hall (\$773,450.00)
- Snow Removal (\$128,000.00)
- Street Maintenance and Street Lighting (319,100.00)
- Legal (\$158,600.00)
- Village Boards (\$57,000.00)
- East Norwich Fire Department (\$309,784.40)
- Other (\$550,084.40)

# Police Officer Daniel Slane Honored

On April 7, 2019 Police Officer Daniel Slane performed his duties above and beyond normal expectations. At great personal risk, he entered a burning home and escorted three children to safety. Without his timely and selfless intervention, this incident may have had a tragic conclusion. For his exemplary display of bravery, Officer Slane was nominated for and subsequently awarded the Muttontown Police Department Exceptional Police Duty Award at the Board of Trustee meeting held on May 8, 2019.



Left to right: Mayor Liguori, Ashley Slane, Officer Slane, Legislator Lafazan, Trustee Singh, Trustee Todaro, Deputy Mayor Prasad, Trustee Fagen, Trustee Economou



Left to right: Mayor Liguori, Officer Slane, Legislator Lafazan

# Police Officer Ernst Promoted to Sergeant

Sergeant Ernst joined the Muttontown Police Department as one of the original officers in May 2011. He has consistently demonstrated a level of commitment, dedication, integrity and professionalism that exemplifies excellence. At the Board of Trustee meeting on May 8, 2019, Mayor Liguori and the Board of Trustees officially congratulated Sergeant Ernst on his promotion and offered their gratitude for his service on behalf of the residents of Muttontown.



Left to right: Mayor Liguori, Sgt. Ernst, Trustee Economou



Left to right: Mayor Liguori, The Ernst Family, Trustee Economou

### A Look Back in History...





May 1, 1963 William Willock, Jr. transferred a land title to the Village of Muttontown, effectively allowing for 2.15 acres from his 200-acre Gladwood estate to be used as Muttontown Village Hall. Willock's father had been a successful railroad executive, serving as vice president of the Monongahela Connecting Railroad. Following this, Willock, Sr. helmed what was at one point the second-largest steel business in the country (behind Carnegie Steel), Jones and Laughlin Steel. Upon Willock, Sr.'s death, Willock Jr. inherited the entirety of his father's \$120 million estate.

The Willocks also notably maintained a full-scale locomotive on their estate at Gladwood. The train was eventually moved to another of the family's residences in Maryland.

# Keep Your Yard Safe From Tick Exposure!

With summer upon us, please remember that tick season is in full swing. About 70 percent of people that contract Lyme disease catch it from ticks in their own yards. Our advice to keep your family safe from ticks:

- Keep your yard clean and free of debris, grass clippings, and leaf litter.
- Keep grass mowed, especially along property edges.
- Trim shrubs near walks and patios, and keep groundcovers away from these and play areas.
- Create a three-foot wide barrier, three inches deep, between lawns and wooded areas using gravel, mulch, or wood chips.
- Keep woodpiles away from gardens and lawns.





Muttontown Bleats

- MUTTONTOWN BLOCK PARTY BEING PLANNED FOR FALL 2019- STAY TUNED FOR DETAILS!
- SUMMER IS ALMOST HERE- IF YOU ARE GOING ON VACATION LET THE POLICE DEPARTMENT KNOW BY FILLING OUT A VACANT PREMISE FORM WITH THEM.
- •WE WILL BE HONORING MAYOR BENJAMIN MOORE, THE FIRST MAYOR OF MUTTONTOWN BY CEREMONIALLY NAMING A PORTION OF MUTTONTOWN ROAD AFTER HIM
- OUR NEW WEBSITE WILL BE READY DURING THE SUMMER-CHECK IT OUT FOR UP TO DATE INFORMATION AND TO LEAVE FEEDBACK
- NEW RESIDENT PACKETS ARE BEING CREATED- PLEASE LET US KNOW WHEN A NEW NEIGHBOR MOVES IN SO WE CAN WELCOME THEM!

# Get Involved - Volunteer on a Village Board!

The Village has three Boards whose membership is made up of volunteers from the Village who are appointed by the Mayor. The Mayor will fill open positions in July, 2019. There will be positions available on all boards. For the Zoning and Planning Boards, the terms of board members overlap in order to assure continuity. If you are interested in volunteering for a position on these boards, please send a resume and interest letter to Katie Dugan at: kdugan@muttontownny.gov.

#### Site and Architectural Review Board:

The SARB examines the exterior design of properties within the Village to ensure they retain the character of the neighborhood and are in accordance with appearance standards of the Village. All plans for new buildings, as well as alterations or additions to existing buildings, must be reviewed by the SARB as part of the permit process.

The Site and Architectural Review Board (SARB) is comprised of seven members who are appointed for a one- year term. This Board is scheduled to meet on the fourth Wednesday of the month at 7 p.m. In addition to attending the meetings, Board members are encouraged to review applications and conduct site visits to the subject properties prior to the meeting.

#### **Planning Board:**

The Planning Board reviews plans for the development of vacant areas, streets, parks, and other public places, as well as subdivisions of private property, to ensure consistency with established Village standards. Applicants for all new buildings and altered land use activities will appear before this Board. This seven member board is appointed for terms of five years. This Board is scheduled to meet on the second Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m. and is adjourned if no applications have been submitted.

### **Zoning Board of Appeals**

The Zoning Board is responsible for interpreting the Zoning Code and makes decisions on applications for variances and special permits. This seven member board is appointed for three year terms and is scheduled to meet on the third Thursday of the month at 7 p.m. and is adjourned if no applications have been submitted for review.

### Associate Village Justice

The associate justice is a public officer, appointed by the mayor and subject to approval by the board of trustees, who serves a term of one year. The justice will serve on the bench of the village justice court when requested by or in the absence of the elected village justice.

# How Do I reach the Muttontown Police Department?



The Muttontown Police Department wants to remind residents that the telephone number 516-364-3950 is only for non-emergency issues such as parking permits, vacant premise patrol requests or other inquiries. This phone number is not regularly monitored and messages are retrieved later from the voicemail system. In the event of a medical emergency, auto accident, crime in progress, suspicious cars or persons, or any issue requiring an immediate response by police officers, please call 9-1-1.

### **Feedback**

If you have comments or news of interest to the community, please contact Trustee Jeanine Todaro, our community outreach liaison, via e-mail at: JTodaro@muttontownny.gov



### Village of Muttontown

One 'Raz' Tafuro Way Muttontown, NY 11791

### Village Taxes are Due!

Village Taxes payments are payable June 1st-July 1st without penalty.

Payments can be made in person at Village Hall Monday-Friday between 9:30am and 12:30pm.

Payments that are mailed in must be postmarked by July 1st to avoid interest charges.

If you did not receive a copy of your tax bill please call, 516-364-3476.

### **EMERGENCY NUMBERS**

In Case of Emergency Call 911

Local Emergency Services can be reached at:

Muttontown Police Department 911 or 516-364-3950

East Norwich Fire Department 516-742-3300 Jericho Volunteer Fire Department 516-931-0898 Syosset Volunteer Fire Department 516-921-0000

# Village Contact Info

#### **MAYOR**

James Liguori: jliguori@muttontownny.gov

### **DEPUTY MAYOR**

Sudha Prasad: sprasad@muttontownny.gov

#### **BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

Susan Dasilva: sdasilva@muttontownny.gov Chris Economou: ceconomou@muttontownny.gov Brian Fagen: bfagen@muttontownny.gov Mohinder Singh: msingh@muttontownny.gov Jeanine Todaro: jtodaro@muttontownny.gov

#### **ACTING CLERK/TREASURER**

Joe Russo

516-364-3476 ~ jrusso@muttontownny.gov

#### **DEPUTY CLERK/TREASURER**

**Kaitlin Dugan** 

516-364-3476 ~ kdugan@muttontownny.gov

#### SUPERINTENDENT OF HIGHWAYS

**Tony Toscano** 

516-364-2822 ~ ttoscano@muttontownny.gov

#### **BUILDING DEPARTMENT CLERK**

Leslie O'Neil

516-364-6314 ~ loneil@muttontownny.gov

#### **BUILDING DEPARTMENT**

516-364-6314 ~ bldgdepartment@muttontownny.gov