



The Muttontown Wire

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



Spring 2024

A Message from Mayor James Liguori

Dear Neighbors,

It is hard to believe that another year has come and gone and we are at the start of another fiscal year. While I am an honored to hold the title of Mayor my most treasured title is that of Grandpa. My family was blessed to add my third grandchild to the family this Winter!



The Board of Trustees passed the 2024-2025 Village Budget in April which is explained in greater detail on page 4. Preparing a budget is not an exact science or an easy task. The Board of Trustees took the responsibility of determining the services that our residents need and desire, planning for anticipated expenditures as well as unforeseeable ones very seriously. The budget is a result of much thought and hard work on the part of all concerned. I am pleased to announce a **0% property tax increase** for the upcoming fiscal year!

I am proud to report that the NYS Comptroller has once again given the Village a fiscal stress rating of 0 for the third year in a row, which is explained in further detail on page 3. I want to thank our Clerk/Treasurer Joe Russo for his diligence and insightfulness in ensuring the Village is on a fiscally responsible path.

I want to thank Chief Irizarry and all of the Officers in the Department. As always, they do an exceptional job to provide safety and security for our residents. We are thrilled to report zero home invasions or stolen cars in the last year. We began the install of License Plate readers throughout the Village using village funds and grant funds.

After another Winter in which Mother Nature went easy on us as far as snow fall, we have begun our Spring public works projects including roadwork and paving, Belgian block repair, and plantings. Many thanks to Tony Toscano for all of his work in managing these projects and ensuring they are completed with minimal disruption to our residents.

The Board of Trustees and I are looking forward to another year serving the residents of Muttontown. We will continue to work to run the Village in a fiscally responsible manner planning for both the short term and long-term needs. If we can be of assistance, please reach out to me at, 516-364-3476.



Mayor James Liguori

Village Election June 18, 2024



There will be a Village election held on Tuesday June 18th. Registered voters can vote in person at Village Hall between the hours of 8:00 am and 9:00 pm.

To request an absentee ballot please call the Village Clerk's Office at, 516-364-3476 to get an application for a ballot.

For residents who are not registered to vote you must register with the Nassau County Board of Elections by June 7, 2024 in order to vote in the Village election. For information on registering to vote please call 1-800-FOR-VOTE or visit their website to print the registration form at, <https://www.nassaucountyny.gov/580/Voting-Info-Services>.

How To Reach the Police Department



The Police Department can be reached at, 516-364-3476 option 2. This is for non-emergency issues such as parking permits, vacant premise patrol requests or other inquiries. Messages will be retrieved from this voicemail system throughout the day.

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.

A Message from Police Chief Irizarry



As we head into the Summer months many residents will be going on vacation please continue to be vigilant in securing your home. This includes leaving lights on or using timers, setting alarms, ensuring the outdoor of the home is adequately lit, and make sure all vehicles are locked. In addition to these steps please fill out a vacant premise form which can be found on our website at, www.muttontownny.gov and send it to the Police Department either via email, mpd@muttontownny.gov or drop it off to Village Hall so we can conduct premise checks while you are away.

The Department continues to be proactive in our approach to providing safety and security. We have increased patrols as needed, implemented a safe driving program, continue to work in conjunction with our surrounding Departments, and have provided training, new tools and equipment to our Officers.

As mentioned, we have installed 8 License Plate Readers purchased by the Village of Muttontown in addition to the LPRs obtained through the grant funding with the surrounding Villages. License Plate Readers capture an image of the license plate, along with the time, date and geo-location where the plate detection occurred. It immediately notifies our police via text, email and/or their vehicle's mobile data terminal, if a reported wanted person, missing person, stolen car, or any other "hot list" vehicle enters our communities.

License Plate Readers also have a valid use for investigating crimes after they occur, as investigators can use the plate readers to see who was in the immediate area at the date and time of an incident. This technique has been used frequently in Nassau County, with great success, to identify and arrest suspects. It is another example of what we will be able to do for our communities. Of course, this technology will never be a substitute for the alert, conscientious police officer on patrol, but the combination of the two is an enormous force multiplier and an important addition to our public safety toolbox. (For more information on LPRs, please visit www.flocksafety.com/use-cases/neighborhood-safety.)

I would like to remind all residents that achieving public safety is an active partnership between the public and the police. That's why I urge you to call 911 if something doesn't look right or feel right.

Update Your Alarm and Gate Code Information

Please submit an updated alarm permit registration form to the Police Department. These forms are important to ensure the Department has updated contact information and valid gate codes in case of an emergency.

Forms are available on the village website under the resources tab titled "forms, permits and fees." If you need a form or have any questions please call the non-emergency line or e-mail us at, mpd@muttontownny.gov

NYS Comptroller Fiscal Stress Rating ZERO!



The Fiscal Stress Monitoring System examines financial information from local governments to determine the municipalities fiscal strength. Each municipality received a fiscal score and an environmental score. The fiscal score is based on data provided by the municipality including fund balance, operating expenses and revenues, cash assets, and debt. The environmental score is out of the control of the local government but looks at factors that could influence revenue-raising capability and demands for services that the local government will have to operate under.

We are proud to announce that our fiscal stress rating has remained the lowest possible level of 0 for the third year in a row.. The current year's environmental score is 20. The fact that the Village has no debt insulates us as far as the environmental score. We are proud that through continued fiscally responsible budgeting and decision making we have been able to maintain a stress rating of zero.

Grant Funding Update

We have made an effort to pursue funding from all available sources and have been successfully awarded three grants:

The Justice Court Assistance Program is an annual grant the Village Court can apply for. This year the Village Court was awarded \$30,000 in grant funding which is being used to renovate the rear entrance to Village Hall including lighting, a paved walkway and refinishing of the porch, repair the Village Hall air conditioning system, and some new signage.

The Muttontown & Upper Brookville Police Department, along with three other local police agencies (Brookville, Old Brookville, and Oyster Bay Cove Police Departments), collectively applied for and received a \$113,000.00 federal grant to be used for 34 "Flock Safety" License Plate Reader Cameras (LPRs). They are now being installed at key locations in Muttontown and Upper Brookville and the surrounding villages and are already providing critical data to help us better serve and protect our residents. These 34 cameras are in addition to the 8 that were previously installed by our department.

The SS4A grant award is a federal grant program that the Village has been awarded in conjunction with the Village of Upper Brookville. The SS4A program funds local initiatives that make roadways safer and aims to prevent roadway deaths and serious injuries. Together, we have been awarded \$250,000 and are currently working with the Village of Upper Brookville on a plan for these funds.



Muttontown Bleats

- Early Spring brought heavy winds which caused many trees to fall and the substantial quick falling rains caused flooding in many areas. We recommend having your trees and gutters checked for damage and have drywells and catch basins cleaned.
- Stay up to date by joining our e-mail list, check the village website, and sign up for our emergency alert system.
- This is a friendly reminder to please curb your dog. The Village has received numerous communications from residents about dog waste not being properly disposed of, and left on private and public property.

2024/2025 Village Budget

- Estimated expenditures in this year budget total, \$7,763,709.00. From that, we subtract non-real estate tax revenues of \$3,916,980. This leaves a balance of \$3,846,729 which must 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.

- A copy of the 2024/2025 budget is available on the Village Website

- 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.



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 \$1,667,420. The Village Tax on this property would be \$3,033.04. This is a 0% increase over the last fiscal year.

For an average of \$252 per month Village residents are receiving the following services:

- private police protection
- maintenance of public roads
- snow plowing of public roads
- safety inspections of properties
- zoning and other local laws
- board of appeals and other board services such as: planning board and site and architectural review
- Village Court.

Village Taxes Due June 1- July 1



Village tax bills will be mailed out in late May and are payable June 1st through July 1st without penalty.

Taxes can be paid in person at Village Hall, by mail or online by following the link "Pay or View Property Taxes Online" on the homepage at www.muttontownny.gov. To search for your property enter your section block and lot (include all zeros) and your WIPP pin number. The pin number can be found on your tax bill.

Please call the clerk's office at, 516-364-3476 option 1 with any questions or to get a copy of your tax bill.

Do you Want to Get Involved?



The Village has three Boards whose membership is made up of volunteers from the Village and are appointed by the Mayor. These Boards include the Site and Architectural Review Board, Planning Board and Zoning Board of Appeals. The Mayor makes the appointments annually in July. If you are interested in volunteering for a position on these boards, please send a resume and interest letter to Joe Russo at jrusso@muttontownny.gov.

Stormwater Management Plan

The Village is continuing in its efforts to reduce the impact on our tidal and freshwater wetlands from storm water runoff. A major component of this program is the prevention of pollutants, such as pathogen containing pet wastes, trash, petroleum products, and nutrients and toxics found in lawn care and gardening products from running into the Village's drainage systems.

To meet the program's goals, the Village is asking residents to get involved and help. Detailed information can be found on the Village website. Here are some ways you can help:

You can help keep our environment clean by following the steps below:

- 1. REPORT ILLEGAL PUMPING, DUMPING** or direct connection to a drain or waterway to the Nassau County Illicit Discharge Hotline (516) 571-6863.
- 2. REFRAIN FROM FEEDING GEESE AND DUCKS** While we all love our "feathered friends", feeding them interrupts the natural migratory cycle. Birds that would normally migrate south in the winter to find food, take up residence if food is "artificially" provided.
- 3. KEEP YOUR SEPTIC SYSTEM WELL MAINTAINED** Generally, you should have your septic system inspected at least every 3 years by a professional and your tank pumped as recommended by the inspector (generally every 3-5 years). Household chemicals, gasoline, oil, pesticides, antifreeze, paint, etc. should be taken to the Town S.T.O.P collection sites and not flushed.
- 4. PROPER USE OF FERTILIZERS and PESTICIDES ON YOUR LAWN AND GARDEN** If you think you must use heavy amounts of pesticides to grow a beautiful lawn, think again. A bright green, weed-free lawn can be yours by mowing your lawn only as needed, watering wisely, and using slow-release organic fertilizers.
- 5. DISPOSE OF YOUR HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTES AT A TOWN SITE** the Town of Oyster Bay hosts its S.T.O.P. ("Stop Throwing Out Pollutants") program throughout the year, for more information call the Town at (516) 677-5748.

Village of Muttontown

One 'Raz' Tafuro Way
Muttontown, NY 11791

Tax Payments Due July 1

Annual Village tax payments are due by
July 1, 2024

If you do not receive a copy of your bill by June 1st
please call Village Hall at 516-364-3476 option 1.

Payments can be made in person, via mail, or online.
For detailed instruction please visit
www.muttontownny.gov.

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

In Case of Emergency Call 911

Local Emergency Services can be reached at:

Muttontown Police Department
911 or 516-364-3476 option 2

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

Toni Bardong: tbardong@muttontownny.gov

Chris Economou: ceconomou@muttontownny.gov

Brian Fagen: bfagen@muttontownny.gov

Michael Schloss: mschloss@muttontownny.gov

Mohinder Singh: msingh@muttontownny.gov

ACTING CLERK/TREASURER- Joe Russo

516-364-3476 option 1 ~ jrusso@muttontownny.gov

DEPUTY CLERK/TREASURER- Kaitlin Dugan

516-364-3476 option 1 ~ kdugan@muttontownny.gov

VILLAGE COURT CLERK- Stefanie Gambino

516-364-3476 option 4 ~ sgambino@muttontownny.gov

SUPERINTENDENT OF HIGHWAYS- Tony Toscano

516-364-3476 option 5 ~ ttoscano@muttontownny.gov

BUILDING DEPARTMENT

516-364-3476 option 3

bldgdepartment@muttontownny.gov