



March 2022 Newsletter

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Mayor Tim Collopy

If you have questions or comments, don't hesitate to contact me at:

845-677-3939 option 5
villageofmillbrookmayor@gmail.com

Hello! Welcome to my March 2022 Village of Millbrook Newsletter in which I'll update you on a variety of topics before the Village Board of Trustees.

2022-2023 Budget Status

Our budget review/update process started on 2/23/22 with public meetings on most Wednesdays through March at 6PM in the Firehouse. To-date we have individually reviewed all elements of the budget: Water/Sewer, Highway, Fire/Rescue, Police & Front Office. Next is a review of the rollup of all expenses vs. projected revenues by month-end. There will then be a public hearing of the full

budget for Fiscal Year 2022-2023 on 4/13 as part of our regular monthly business meeting. Prior to that I intend to send out a Newsletter devoted to this new budget for 2022-2023.

Bennett College Demo

As you may have seen, most of the buildings on the Bennett College grounds have been removed and the demolition of Halycon Hall has begun. Given the asbestos concerns, the demo company is using 3 fire hoses and 2 converted snow-making machines to put a "shower curtain" over each part of the building as it's being removed. Even so, dust has been reported when one of the center towers fell and the engineering firm has reoriented the firehoses to ensure this doesn't reoccur. Air-quality sampling equipment is placed around the entire construction site and analyzed by an off-site lab daily. The NYS Department of Labor routinely does on-site visits (including 2 this week) to ensure the operation conforms to all health standards. If you decide to watch the demo in person, please do so safely without impeding construction or local vehicle traffic.

Also, the nonprofit Millbrook Community Partnership recently received a \$554K grant from Dutchess County's Partnership for Manageable Growth Program to help fund the conversion of this property into a public park over the next few years.

Capital Improvement Need for the Sewer System

While we are still pursuing a long-term capital improvement of the Waste Water Treatment Plant, we have a more-immediate issue to address. Next to Franklin Avenue in front of Bennett College's Halcyon Hall is a pump station for sewage coming from the Dutchess County Dept of Community & Family Services and residences along the way. This station dates back to 1986 and needs a complete replacement of both the pumps and the housing. Additionally, there is currently no generator available to maintain operation in the event of a power failure. As part of the new sewer budget, we have included estimated principal & interest costs to fund the \$227K cost of this upgrade while we solicit local banks for a bond to spread the cost over the upgrade's useful life. In parallel, we are submitting a request to FEMA for partial funding of this as well.

Littering in the Village

Recently between snowfalls, when it's possible to see the ground, I've noticed a lot of litter, including used face masks, along the sidewalks and roadways. Please do your part to keep the Village clean. While we do occasionally patrol the Village for trash, let me know by [email](#) or phone if you see litter that needs removal. On a related note, per my request, a member of the USDA visited Millbrook on 3/9 to assess our turkey vulture problem (reference my [January Newsletter](#)). His immediate recommendation was to encourage businesses and residents in the Village to keep their trash cans and dumpster lids closed at all times. Additionally, he will develop a proposal for the USDA to institute some mitigation techniques which could be done at a yet-to-be-determined cost to the Village.

Village Code Updates

One of the projects which the trustees have been working on is a chapter-by-chapter review and update of the local laws that are in the Village code. Since this hasn't been done for years, there are many outdated laws that are currently in our code. With the approval of the significant changes to the chapter on Water and Sewer at the last board meeting, we have now updated 14 of the 44 chapters in our code over the past year.

Millbrook Rescue Squad Update

Given the switch to 24/7 paid paramedic coverage of Village of Millbrook/Town of Washington by NDP since 6/2019, there has been a reduced-demand for volunteer EMS calls. Based on this, the Millbrook Fire Department decided to sell the older of their 2 ambulances and received \$79K which we have deposited into the reserve fund for the next apparatus purchase.

Millbrook Library Turning Outward Community Report

In 2021 the Millbrook Library hosted 8 community forums with area residents to solicit issues and ideas from the public regarding the present and future Millbrook community. The [report](#) is available on the [library's website](#) and lists a variety of concerns and suggested improvements. The library is now looking for volunteers to lead an effort to convert some of these ideas into action plans.

Ukraine Flag Signs

You may have noticed that many residences in the Village now have yard signs showing support of the Ukrainian people. These signs are available for a nominal fee from [The Country Postman](#) in Salt Point with a portion of the profits going to one of the Ukraine Relief Organizations.

HOW TO HELP



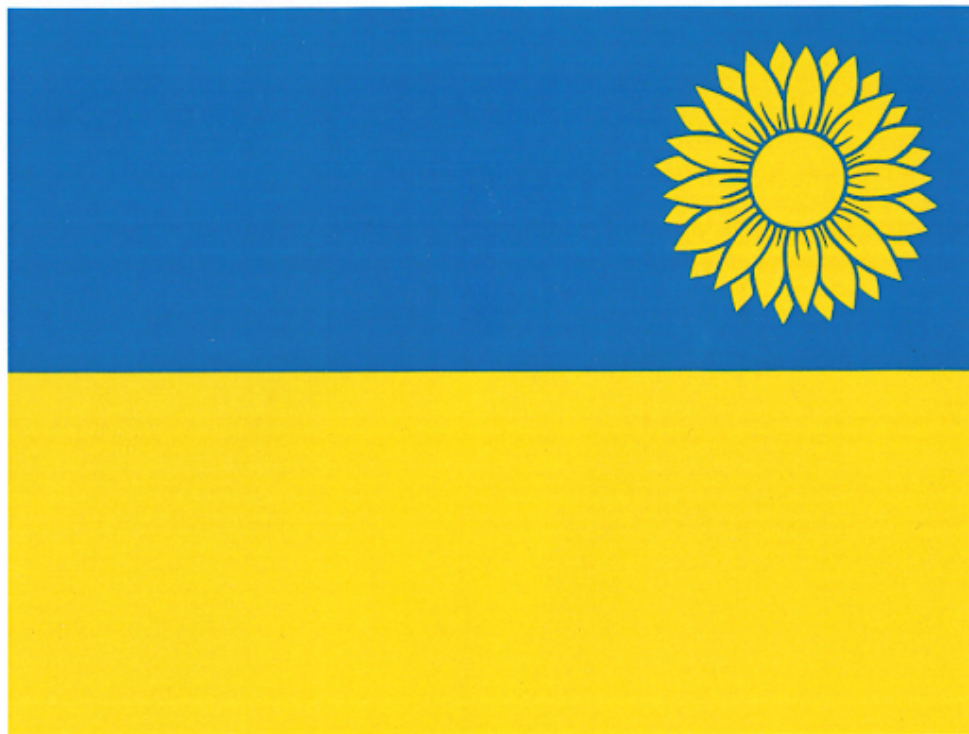
Lawn signs available now at

The Country Postman 2517 Route 44, Suite 11 | Salt Point, New York 12578

PHONE (845) 677-1076 EMAIL info@CountryPostman.com

A percentage of the profits will be going to relief in Ukraine.

24" x 18" includes metal stake \$14.99



The following are organizations responding in Ukraine:

- National Bank of Ukraine
- Come Back Alive Foundation
- Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN
- ICRC
- International Medical Corps
- International Organization for Migration
- Save the Children
- UNICEF
- UNOCHA
- World Food Program (WFP)
- World Health Organization (WHO)

Disclaimer: This is not an official solicitation or endorsement for any individual organization.

www.CountryPostman.com

Eagle Scout Achievement

Another member of Millbrook Scout Troup 31 has reached the ultimate rank of Eagle Scout - Jason Sayah just completed his final project by installing a sign at the entrance of the Washington Hollow Cemetery in Salt Point. Jason will be a graduating senior at Millbrook High School this coming

June and has plans to attend college next Fall. He has completed an application to become an adult scout leader for Troop 31 to stay involved in the Troop program. Please join me in congratulating Jason on this significant achievement!



Village Board Meetings

Monthly meetings are held on the 2nd Wednesday of the month

Millbrook Firehouse
20 Front Street, Millbrook, NY

APR
13
6:00 PM

NEXT BOT MEETING

Visit our [meeting docs page](#) for **agendas** and documents relating to the upcoming meeting.

If you have questions or comments, don't hesitate to contact me
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