



JANUARY 2023 | VOLUME 3 ISSUE 1

# MAYOR'S MONTHLY

The Village of Millbrook Monthly Newsletter By Mayor Tim Collopy



*Mayor Tim Collopy*

If you have questions or comments, please

contact me at:

845-677-3939 option 5

[villageofmillbrookmayor@gmail.com](mailto:villageofmillbrookmayor@gmail.com)

## ANNUAL RE-ORG MEETING

On January 4th, the Board of Trustees held our annual re-org meeting which included swearing in re-elected Trustee Peter Doro and newly-elected Trustee Pat Murphy, re-appointing Vicky Contino as Deputy Mayor, and re-appointing the Clerks, Department Heads and members of each board that serves the Village. Details can be found on the Village website under [Agendas and Minutes](#). On the following Wednesday, at our first regular monthly meeting, the board accepted the hiring of Kristen DiFiore as the new secretary of both our Planning Board and Zoning Board of Appeals.

## IN THIS ISSUE

ANNUAL RE-ORG MEETING

BUDGET PERFORMANCE

YEAR-TO-DATE

BUDGET SCHEDULE FOR  
FISCAL YEAR 2022-2023

IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS  
FOR 2023-2024

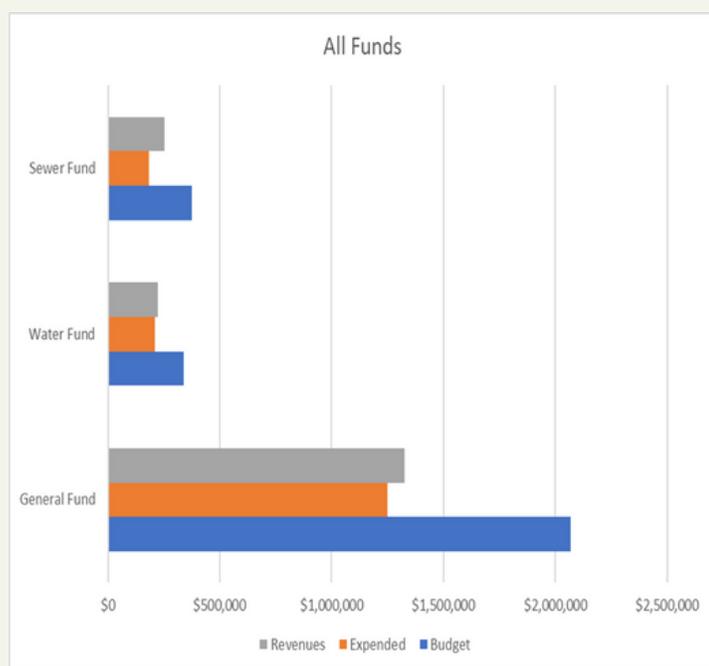
DEFECTIVE WATER METERS &  
GAUGES

MEET THE NEW TRUSTEE

MEET THE NEW POLICE  
OFFICER

## BUDGET PERFORMANCE YEAR-TO-DATE

Since our fiscal year goes from 6/1 to 5/31 of the following year, we are now midway through our current budget. At last week’s Board of Trustees Meeting, Sr Acct Clerk Karen McLaughlin reported on the results-to-date of both our expenses and revenues for each of the 3 budgets: General Fund, Water Fund, and Sewer Fund. Details are contained in the [presentation package](#) from the last meeting and they show that, to-date, revenues are exceeding expenses in each of the 3 funds and that we are on track to meet or beat year-end targets for each.



## BUDGET SCHEDULE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022-2023

Clerk Sarah Witt presented the [schedule](#) of reviews for each element of next year’s budget. Meetings will be held on Wednesdays at 6PM at the Millbrook Firehouse starting on 2/22 with a review of the proposed budgets for Water and Sewer. Subsequent Wednesdays will cover Police, Highway, Front Office, and Fire budgets with a planned [public hearing](#) of the full budget on 4/5 and Board approval on 4/12. All meetings will be open to the public and broadcast live on [YouTube](#).

## IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS FOR 2023-2024

The Board of Trustees is involved in a variety of projects to improve the Village:

- Work with Town of Washington to complete the installation of an EV station at the Town Hall
- Work with Cornell Institute to achieve **Climate Smart Community** certification for the Village of Millbrook
- Complete the Village of Millbrook **Police Modernization Plan**
- Replace sidewalks in the business district
  - **Phase 1:** south-side of Franklin between Front & Church Streets
  - **Phase 2:** south side of Franklin between Church & Friendly Lane
  - **Phase 3:** north side of Franklin between Church & Friendly Lane
  - **Phase 4:** north side of Franklin between Front & Church Streets

We were awarded a \$100K Community Development Block Grant from Dutchess County which should cover about 60% of the total cost of phase 1. We are working with Rennia Engineering to prepare specs to submit to Dutchess County and NYS DOT with a plan to have this phase completed in 2023. We have also submitted a 2nd grant request to cover a portion of phase 2, with a goal of completing that phase in 2024.



## IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS FOR 2023-2024 (CONTINUED)

- Replace the sewer pump station at Bennett Park
- Replace the fences at the water tower
- Upgrade the exterior of the Village Hall
  - The Village Hall exterior is in need of significant repair work. Because the downstairs windows are rotted and provide very poor insulating value, the Board approved spending \$26K to replace the 7 downstairs windows with efficient Anderson material from Hobson Windows. Since this is not a budgeted item, we will use a portion of the funds in the HNL account to pay for this project (recall that the \$40K in the HNL account is the result of us consolidating 3 trust funds into a single account which is available for Village-related improvements). Next year we will solicit bids to repair and renovate the exterior stucco walls of the V Hall, although financing of such has not yet been discussed or decided.
- Continue to update our Village code
  - We continue to make progress in updating the local laws that constitute our Village code. The Board reviewed the complete re-write of Chapter 220 “Vehicles and Traffic” and we agreed to reschedule the February public hearing (TBD) so as to resolve some issues which were raised at the meeting.

## DEFECTIVE WATER METERS & GAUGES

Scott Osborn from VRI stated that there are about 30 meters or gauges in residents’ homes which need repair or replacement. This requires an on-site visit by VRI, but even though there is no cost to residents and VRI includes a special notice in the water/sewer bills of affected residences, there has been no resident response. Until the repair is completed, the affected residents receive estimated bills which is based on historical usage. In order to encourage residents to allow VRI to fix their meter issue and ensure proper billing, the Board is considering implementing a quarterly non-compliance fee. Details are being developed and will be proposed to the Board of Trustees at the February meeting.

## MEET THE NEW TRUSTEE



**Hi, my name is Patrick Murphy!**

I would like to graciously thank the Millbrook community for their immense support in granting me the opportunity to represent my hometown as Village Trustee. I plan to use my unique solution-focused approach, gained from years of working locally in the construction/excavation field and my knowledge of small business operations to best serve the constituents. I welcome all questions, concerns, and ideas and look forward to connecting with you soon.

## MEET THE NEW OFFICER



**Hi, I am Officer Brooks Lyman!**

I completed Police Academy in 2013. I have been working in law enforcement for 9 years. I was hired here 3 months ago and I look forward to serving the residents of the Village of Millbrook.