

FEBRUARY 2023

ONE SQUARE MILE

Official Newsletter of The Village of Bronxville

Welcome to One Square Mile

THE LATEST NEWS FROM VILLAGE HALL

Welcome to February and a no snow winter! (fingers crossed)

We are thinking the anticipated budget surplus could translate into more road and streetscape improvements including our needed municipal tree replenishment!

February is synonymous with all things budget: State obligation, County of Westchester, Town of Eastchester and Fire District as well as the Village's annual budget which is on the June 1st to May 31st cycle.

Though only 15% of your total property tax obligation, we are actively aware that every dollar saved by steadfast oversight is critical, and we spend months honing our budget.

February also kicked off a new season for our energetic and reinvigorated Chamber of Commerce which could not hold group events for almost three years. Co-chaired by Leah Caro of Sterling Park Realty and Yiota Koriniotu of Bronxville Diner the team is back and needs our support. Shopping at our local merchants last year garnered \$1,604,144 tax dollars to the Village budget. Without this line item, taxes would have to be raised 14.0% or services severely curtailed.

Shopping local remains the best financial bargain in the Village.

We are looking forward to March being the 80th anniversary of our Adult School. Similar to our venerable movie theatre, its importance to the fabric of the Village cannot be overestimated. Please support it as you so generously did for the theatre to keep it going for another 80 years.

To a snowless month and signs of spring.

Respectfully,
Mary Marvin



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NEWS FROM THE TRUSTEES

The Village Board meeting on January 9th included a presentation of the 2021-22 Financial Statements to the Village Board of Trustees. Alan Kassay, Partner of PKF O'Connor Davies, the Village's Financial Auditors, presented the statements to the Board and summarized the findings. The Village increased its unassigned fund balance to \$8,724,568 (an increase of \$493,257) due in large part to an increase in sales tax revenue which continued to remain strong. Building permits and court fines also came in above budgeted and reflect continued improvement following Covid. Expenses came in below budgeted in large part due to a lower than projected increase in health insurance premiums.

Copies of the Village's financial statements and adopted budgets can be [found here](#).

The Board of Trustees closed the public hearing on Local Law 5 amending our Speed Limits on Village streets and roadways and unanimously agreed to a reduced maximum speed limit of 25 m.p.h. Village-wide. The Village Board relied in part on the findings and determination by the consulting engineer charged with completing an engineering review in compliance with the adopted state legislation. The Board agreed to make the legislation effective September 1st to allow for an effective implementation which would include an extensive educational and outreach campaign. Additionally, on January 11th the Village Board agreed to petition New York State to reduce the speed limit on State Route 22 to 25 m.p.h.

The Village Board appointed the Village Administrator, James Palmer, to serve as the Budget Officer once again for the 2023-24 budget. A timeline for key dates for the 2023-24 budget is as follows:

- Feb. 01, 2023: Assessor files tentative Assessment Roll
- Mar. 20, 2023: Administrator files tentative budget and circulates to the Village Board
- Apr. 01, 2023: Assessor files final Assessment Roll
- Apr. 10, 2023: Public Hearing is held on the budget
- May 01, 2023: Last date by which budget must be adopted
- June 1, 2023: Taxes levied on the 2023-24 tax roll

The Village Board will also hold at least one work session on the budget during this period.

The County of Westchester, Town of Eastchester and the Eastchester Fire Department all have fiscal years that commence January 1. Their respective budgets for the 2023 fiscal/calendar year can be accessed here:

- [Town of Eastchester](#)
- [County of Westchester](#)
- [Eastchester Fire Department](#)

The NYS executive budget was filed on February 1st and is currently being reviewed by the State Legislature. The State's fiscal year commences April 1st.

The Village Board authorized the Police Department's participation in the County's Stop DWI High Visibility Engagement Campaign and to seek reimbursement through this grant program. The Village Board also authorized the transfer of \$52,876 to the Library Fund reflecting the balance of what was approved for the Library for the 21-22 fiscal year but had remained unspent at the end of the fiscal year.

On January 11th, the Village Board held a work session to discuss a variety of subjects including next steps on the Route 22 crosswalk. The Village Board updates on this issue can be [found here](#).

The Village Board discussed the timetable for the review of the Village's outdoor dining programs and authorized the Village Administrator to execute the scope of work with our consultant, Street Plans. Initial meetings with restaurant owners are now scheduled for Tuesday, February 14th at 8:30am to 10:30am and 1:00pm to 3:00pm. An opportunity for public comment will be held at 3pm on Tuesday, February 14th. The Board requested that the Administrator also share the recent actions by the Town of Greenwich, CT concerning their outdoor dining program with our Consultant.

The upcoming February 13th Village Board Meeting will include a resolution to fund the purchase of additional LED streetlights to replace the remaining 60 incandescent bulbs. The Village Board will also authorize the sale of surplus equipment including replaced police cars using the Village's vendor Auction International.





NEWS FROM THE TRUSTEES - Cont'd

The Board will also consider resolutions on the following items at their February 13th meeting:

- The scheduling of a public hearing for a local law to increase the membership of the Design Review Committee (DRC) to five (5) members from three (3) and to simplify the approval process for sign applications.
- A resolution to authorize participation in a DEC grant program for the creation of a Climate Action Plan
- A resolution to authorize the solicitation of pledges for improvements to Maltby Park by the Friends of Maltby Park
- A resolution to authorize additional funding to replace playground equipment at Sagamore Park
- A resolution to authorize a tax lien sale for unpaid taxes for 2021-22 fiscal year
- A resolution to schedule a public hearing for tax cap override legislation

ENERGY SMART HOME PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENT

Bronxville, through the Green Committee, is partnering with Sustainable Westchester, a nonprofit consortium of local municipalities, to help residents utilize and benefit from clean, renewable energy.

Energy Smart Homes program provides access to information about clean energy technologies and tax incentives, NYSERDA certified contractors, local resident testimonials and one-on-one assistance to help you make your home more energy efficient. “Bronxville is excited to be partnering with Sustainable Westchester to bring residents valuable home energy information and resources,” says Mayor Mary Marvin. “State and federal incentives are now higher than ever. It makes sense for homeowners to learn what efficiencies they can achieve, and what money they can save.”

Rather than waiting until your old boiler dies and you’re forced to make less-than-ideal choices, contact us to learn more about your options now so you’re ready to act when the time is right. If you’re already scheduling an energy audit or installing new clean energy equipment, email us to confirm you are receiving the maximum discounts and rebate benefits and put your name on the Village list of residents working to decrease our environmental footprint.

Learn more about the Energy Smart Homes program on the Green Committee [website](#) and email them at bxvgreencommittee@gmail.com to get started. Comfort, safety, lower costs, and reducing your carbon footprint – a great way to start the new year!

The Bronxville Green Committee is a volunteer organization that is part of the Village of Bronxville. We work to propose and implement environmentally sustainable programs in our community. Visit our [website](#) and follow us on Instagram @bxvgreencommittee to learn more. Please consider joining our efforts.





INSIDE VILLAGE HALL

GREEN COMMITTEE

The Bronxville Green Committee had a very productive 2022!

One of our proudest accomplishments is achieving Bronze status in the NYS Climate Smart Communities Program. This is the first level of achievement in this program and the actions taken will help the Village create municipal and community Climate Action Plans.

Learn more about our exciting work on our [website](#) and check out our [My Hometown Bronxville](#) articles under the Sustainable Living tab. Please consider [joining us](#) as we continue this important work in 2023!

We are Bronxville Strong & Sustainable – protecting what we love!

RECREATION NEWS

The Village is happy to announce that new playground equipment will be coming this spring to our Sagamore Playground! We appreciate the feedback our residents provided regarding the equipment. The new equipment will feature a structure for children from 6 months to 2 years of age and an additional structure for 2 years to 5 years of age. Pictured below is the architect's rendering of the new equipment.



PUBLIC WORKS NEWS

Over the past several weeks, DPW staff has been taking advantage of the lack of snow to complete various projects including the continued replacement of incandescent lighting fixtures with new LED bulbs. Not only will this brighten our streets and sidewalks, but it will also help to reduce the Village's carbon footprint. The work is ongoing and anyone who observes a light fixture that may be out or not working properly should contact DPW to request a repair or by visiting the [website](#).

Also, a friendly reminder to please keep your sidewalks clear of snow and ice. Your cooperation is essential to ensuring our sidewalks are safe and accessible.

Finally, on January 31st, DPW staff received CPR training led by the Police Department's certified instructors. The in-person training combined informational lectures with hands-on skills.



Additionally, the Friends of Maltby Park are commencing a soliciting campaign to raise funds for a new playground and landscaping in Maltby Park to be located near the Village Paddle Courts. You can learn about this campaign and how to contribute by [clicking here](#).

VILLAGE ELECTION NEWS

2023 Village Elections will be held on Tuesday, March 21. The seats to be filled are Mayor and two Trustees (each for a two year term).

Additional information about the Village election can be found by visiting our [website](#).

[Click here for an Absentee Ballot](#)





FROM CHIEF SATRIALE'S DESK

Monthly reports highlighting arrest, accident, crime and personnel statistics are available on the Police Department home page and can be [accessed here](#). The Police Department's second Annual Report highlighting key initiatives and other information will also be available in the coming weeks.

January 2023 training included defensive tactics training as well as Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) and the use of an automated external defibrillator (AED) by trained PD Officers for Village employees.

Pictured below (right) are Officer Ahmed Danso-Fariel along with Sgt. Nicholas DeYoung, Det. Sgt. Wilson Valentin and Officers Jason Kaiser, Nigel Butler and Justin Sokol



Pictured left demonstrating CPR are Sgt. Nicholas DeYoung and officer Justin Sokol

STAY UP TO DATE WITH THE LATEST VILLAGE NEWS, EMERGENCY ALERTS, AND INFO FROM SPECIFIC VILLAGE HALL DEPARTMENTS.

[SIGN UP HERE](#)

Dedication of the Kelly Center for Health Sciences NewYork-Presbyterian Iona School of Health Sciences

The Mayor and members of the Board of Trustees were honored to be present for the dedication which took place on January 12th. The new 32,000 s.f. state of the art facility spans three floors consisting of classroom seminar rooms, simulation rooms and laboratory rooms which allow for hands on training for students and their teachers. Located on Iona's new campus (formerly Concordia College), the Kelly Center for Health Sciences will serve as the flagship building of the NewYork-Presbyterian Iona School of Health Sciences. The facility was made possible in large part by a \$5 million dollar gift by the Kelly family. The dedication included several presentations including remarks by Iona University President Seamus Carey, Ph.D, Alfred F. Kelly, Jr, as well as a pre-recorded presentation by the Archbishop of New York, Cardinal Timothy M. Dolan.



Pictured here are Trustee Fredericks and Trustee Behrens at the dedication.

