

May 2021 Number 232

May Meeting Calendar

3 & 17 Village Bd. Mtg.

- 5 Cons. Adv. Council
- 11 & 25 Planning Bd. Mtg.
- 11 Rec. Advisory Comm.
- 12 Zoning Bd. Mtg.
- 19 Bike/Ped Comm.
- 23 Sustainability Comm.
- 24 BOT Work Session
- 25 Div. & Inc. Comm.
- 25 Fire Council

All meetings are being held via Zoom. Please check the Village website or call 271-4848 for details on joining meetings via Zoom.

Village Board meetings are also broadcast live on Facebook.



Have you joined the Village on Social Media yet?

Facebook: Search for Village of Croton-on-Hudson Government Twitter: Search for VillageCroton Instagram: Search for VillageofCroton

Sign up for Village emails by going to crotononhudsonny.gov.

Stay connected!

Village Adopts 2021-2022 Budget

On April 26, the Village Board adopted the 2021-2022 Village Budget. The budget provides for a 2.73% increase in the property tax rate. This is a decrease from the 3.82% increase proposed in the 2021-2022 tentative budget.

Total appropriations are \$18,868,054, which is \$559,601 lower than the prepandemic 2019-2020 budget. The adopted budget also reduces total Village debt by \$1,822,825. The adopted budget complies with the New York State Tax Cap Levy Law.

Included in the adopted budget are rate increases for the water and sewer funds.

This budget is the cumulative work of the Village Board, Village Manager and Village staff, who held numerous meetings and work sessions over the last month to review the tentative budget. Maximum efficiencies have been realized in this budget while preserving vital Village services.

Also adopted with the budget was the Capital Plan for 2021-2022 at a total cost of \$905,837, and the master fee schedule to be effective June 1, 2021.

To view all the adopted budget documents online, please visit the Village website at www.crotononhudsonny.gov and click "Find It Fast."

Municipal Building Renovations Underway

The Dept. of Public Works has been busy working on renovations to the basement and first floor of the Municipal Building. The Croton Historical Society office and archival room have been moved to new quarters in the basement. The Police Department is in the process of expanding on the first floor of the Municipal Building.

The original renovation project was expected to cost approximately \$4 million and included the relocation of the court office and courtroom to the second floor. However, due to the pandemic, Superintendent of Public Works Frank Balbi and Chief of Police John Nikitopoulos went to work revising the renovation plans to a more financially-manageable project that could still achieve many of the renovation goals while keeping the court in its current location. The current cost estimate is approximately 90% less



DPW Laborer Luciano Ponce Ponce and Maintenance Worker Brian Senno are hard at work on the renovation project in the Chief of Police's office on the first floor of the Municipal Building.

than the original and is almost all being done in-house by the DPW. Work on the renovations should be completed before the end of the year.

Silver Lake 2021 Plans

The Recreation Department is planning to open Silver Lake for Village residents only on June 26. As with last year, the limitation of Silver Lake to Village residents only is to ensure adequate social distancing for patrons.

The exact regulations regarding available time slots and reservations will be announced later this month once guidance is received from New York State.

As part of this year's budget process, the Village Board has increased the day rates for Silver Lake as follows: \$8 for adults and \$4 for children and seniors. This price increase is necessary to help cover the costs of operating Silver Lake with certified lifeguards and gate guards.

Please note that, unlike last year, there is no requirement for vehicles parking at Silver Lake to have a resident parking sticker at this time.

All those who wish to make use of Silver Lake this year should have a Parks ID Card. Cards can be obtained or renewed using the online forms available on the Village website.

Please contact the Recreation Department at 271-3006 with any questions about Silver Lake.

2021 School Election Information

The annual school district budget vote and election will be held on Tuesday, May 18. If you are not a registered voter with New York State, you may register with the district clerk by calling 271-4713 x4202. You may also register with the Board of Elections. The last day to register is May 13.

Absentee ballot applications are available from the district clerk at the above telephone number or by visiting the district website at www.chufsd.org. Absentee ballot applications must be received by May 11, if they are to be mailed; otherwise they may be requested up until May 17, if personally picked up by the voter. Absentee ballots must be received by the district clerk by 5 p.m. on the day of the vote in order to be counted.

Intercom System Installed at <u>Municipal Bldg.</u>

An intercom system has been installed at the Municipal Building to control access into the building. The intercom system is available at the west entrance of the building, nearest to the police department. Anyone who needs to access the building can call the Village department they need to transact business.

Please note that the building remains closed to the public at this time due to the COVID-19 pandemic.



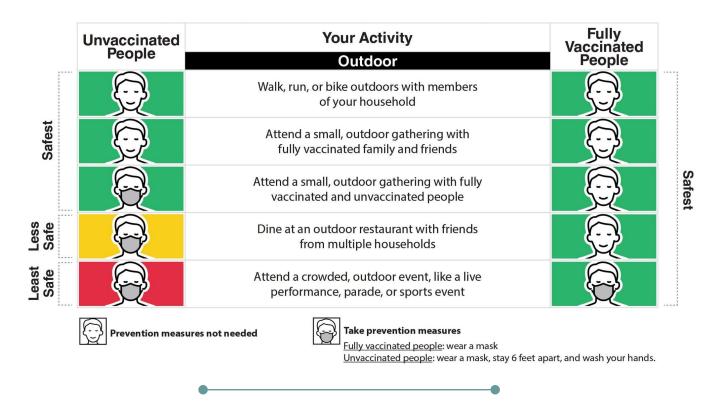
Newsletter Delivery Options

As part of the Village's efforts to reduce expenses, all those who need to receive the Village newsletter by U.S. Mail are asked to re-subscribe by completing the below form or by calling 271-4848.

Only those who do not have access to the internet or email should subscribe to receive a newsletter by U.S. Mail. All others should visit www.crotononhudson-ny.gov/subscribe to sign up for electronic delivery of the newsletter. Thank you for your cooperation!

Name:

Address: _____



Reminder: License Your Dog

Did you know? New York State law requires all dogs over the age of four months to be licensed. Here are some reasons to license your dog (besides, of course, it being the law):

- Licensing prevents the spread of rabies: all licensed dogs must show proof of inoculation against rabies.
- Easy pet identification: simply provide the license tag number to the Police Dept. or Village Clerk's Office and the owner's information is readily available.
- Help care for/prevent lost animals: A portion of the license fee goes to support local animal control programs.

Visit the Village website to download a dog license application. For more information, please contact the Village office at 271-4781.

Reminder! Village offices will be closed May 31 in observance of Memorial Day.

COVID-19 Vaccine Availability

Beginning April 29, all New York State mass vaccination sites are open to eligible New Yorkers (anyone ages 16 and older) for walk-in vaccination on a first come first serve basis. The walk-in appointments are reserved for first doses only with second doses to be scheduled automatically.

People who would prefer to schedule an appointment at a state-run mass vaccination site can do so on the Am I Eligible App or by calling I-833-NYS-4-VAX.



Annual Water Quality Report

This year, the Annual Water Quality Report will not be mailed out to individual homeowners and businesses.

The AWQR will be available on the Village of Croton-on-Hudson's website at the following link: <u>https://www.crotononhudson-ny.gov/water-</u> <u>department/news/2020-water-quality-report.</u>

For more information, please call the Engineering Department at 271-4783.



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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

May Recreation Update

The spring brochure is now available on the village website. Many programs are being offered by the department this season - be sure to check them out! The summer brochure will be available on June 1.

Youth Programs: Spots are still available for ballet; the program begins May 6!

Adult Programs: Gentle Yoga at the Landing is being offered Mondays & Thursdays; spaces are still available. Defensive Driving is being offered on May 15. Space is limited!

Spots are still available for kayak/canoe storage at Croton Landing. Get yours today before they are gone!

For all the details on these programs and more, visit the Recreation page on the Village website. You may also call 271-3006 for more information. If you have not signed up to receive the recreation email blasts, please do so by visiting the Village website and clicking on "Subscribe to E-Alerts."

Updates from the Conservation Advisory Council

The Croton Conservation Advisory Council (CCAC) will once again be sponsoring a tree giveaway in recognition of Earth Day. Village residents are welcome to stop by Vassallo Park on Saturday, May 8, from 2 to 4 p.m., or while supplies last, and pick up a sapling. The tree saplings are small, bare-root plants and are varied.

On Saturday, May 22, the CCAC will be taking part in the Trees for Tribs program organized by the New York State Dept. of Environmental Conservation. Approximately 80 plants have been reserved for Black Rock Park along the banks of the Croton River. Volunteers will be on hand to plant the saplings.

For more information on these programs, please visit the Village website or call the Village Manager's office at 271-4848.