# Newsletter

May 2022 Number 243

#### **May Meeting Calendar**

- 3 BOT Work Session
- 4 Cons. Adv. Council
- 10 & 24 Planning Bd. Mtg.
- 10 Rec. Advisory Comm.
- 11 Zoning Bd. Mtg.
- 16 Village Bd. Mtg.
- 18 Bike/Ped Comm.
- 23 BOT Work Session
- 31 Fire Council

Most meetings are once again being held in-person at the Municipal Bldg.

Please check the Village website or call 914-271-4848 for specific location information.

# 2022-2023 Village Budget Adopted

On April 25th, the Village Board adopted the 2022-2023 Village Budget. The budget provides for a 2.38% increase in the property tax rate. This is a decrease from the 3.67% increase proposed in the 2022-2023 tentative budget.

Total appropriations for the general fund are \$19,222,047, which is \$353,993 higher than the 2021-2022 budget. The adopted budget reduces total Village debt by \$1,082,584. Over the past two years, total Village debt has decreased by more than \$2.9 million. The adopted budget complies with the New York State Tax Cap Levy Law.

Included in the adopted budget is a 5% rate increase for the Water Fund. The rates for the Sewer Fund will remain flat this year.

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 2022-2023 at a total cost of \$2,340,720, and the master fee schedule to be effective June 1, 2022. \$714,076 of the capital plan costs will be funded through grants and Village trust accounts.

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

## **Lorraine Hansberry Afternoon Event**





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!

The Lorraine Hansberry Coalition (LHC) invites residents to attend an afternoon event honoring the life of playwright, activist, author, and Croton resident Lorraine Hansberry, scheduled for Saturday, May 21, 2022, from 2 to 3 p.m. at the historic Bethel Chapel and Cemetery, 19 Old Post Road.

Please note that there is no parking at the chapel. Instead, please use street-level parking and walk. Drop-offs can be made at the chapel entrance. This event is not wheelchair accessible. If you require assistance, please email coh.di.lhc@gmail.com.

The LHC is part of Croton-on-Hudson's Diversity & Inclusion Committee. A volunteer-driven group, the LHC creates innovative & inclusive opportunities that reflect the values and ideals by which Lorraine Hansberry led her life, and welcome new members to join!



#### **Upcoming Events**

Each year, the Croton Free Library honors published authors hailing from, working in, and/or writing about Croton-on-Hudson and its neighboring towns and villages. Stop in on May 15th from noon to 3 p.m. to hear short readings (beginning at 1 p.m.), and meet authors in your community! Free and open to all. Books will be available for purchase and signing. A portion of book sales will benefit the Library.

The Croton Diversity & Inclusion Committee will again be discussing The 1619 Project. The conversation this month will focus on the Capitalism chapter, and steps that can be taken locally to expand social justice in Croton. Please join us for a thought-provoking conversation on May 3rd from 7 to 8:30 p.m. via Zoom. RSVP by May 2nd at COH.DI.Committee@gmail.com.

Reminder! Sign up now to receive your tax bill electronically. Visit the Village website and click the Bill Email Form under Village Treasurer.

#### **School District Election Information**

The annual school district budget vote and election will be held on Tuesday, May 17th. If you are not a registered voter with New York State, you may register with the district clerk by calling 914-271-4713 x4202. The last day to register is May 12th.

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 11th, if they are to be mailed or by May 16th, 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.



#### **Employment Opportunities**

The Croton Recreation Dept. is currently looking to hire Village teens for a variety of summer jobs. These include working as camp counselors and lifeguards. To complete the seasonal employment application, please visit the Village website and click "Employment" under the Citizen Action Center.

For more information, please contact the Recreation office at 914-271-3006.

The Village is also seeking a permanent part-time clerk for the Manager-Clerk's Office as well as a temporary part-time clerk for the Treasurer's Office. Applications for both positions are due May 10th. To complete the employment application for either of these positions, please visit the Village website and click "Employment" under the Citizen Action Center.

#### **Memorial Day Observance**

Join Fox-Ekloff American Legion Post 505 as the annual Memorial Day ceremony takes place on Monday, May 30th at Veterans Corner at 11 AM.

In the event of bad weather, the observance will take place in the gymnasium at Holy Name of Mary Parish.



#### **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: <a href="https://www.crotononhudson-ny.gov/water-department/news/2021-water-quality-report.">https://www.crotononhudson-ny.gov/water-department/news/2021-water-quality-report.</a>

For more information, please call the Engineering Department at 914-271-4783.

#### **Reminders on Dogs**

Did you know? Village law requires the "curbing" of dogs when not on one's own property. Any owner who curbs their dog should immediately remove the waste and dispose of it upon returning home.

Did you know that 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.
- Dog park privileges: any dog entering the dog park must be licensed.
- 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 or stop by the Municipal Building during normal business hours. For more information, please contact the Village office at 271-4781.

#### **Fun Finance Fact: AIM-Related Payments**

Every year, New York State provides various types of funds to local municipalities. A lesser-known category of this funding is the Aid and Incentive for Municipalities (AIM). Here is what the Office of the State Comptroller's website states about it:

"The 2019-20 Enacted State Budget reduced AIM funding by \$59 million, eliminating aid for 1,325 towns and villages determined to be less reliant on AIM. At that time, the State established AIM-Related payments which continued funding for the impacted towns and villages in the amounts that they had previously received through AIM in State Fiscal Year 2018-2019. The Office of the State Comptroller (OSC) is required to withhold certain county sales tax revenues and to make AIM-Related payments, paid in December and May each year, pursuant to Chapter 59 of the Laws of 2019."

The Village of Croton-on-Hudson receives its annual AIM-related payment in May. This year, the Village is slated to receive \$45,347.

### <u>Update on Community</u> <u>Choice Aggregation (CCA)</u>

In April, the Village Board authorized the Village Manager to execute a Memorandum of Understanding with Westchester Power/Sustainable Westchester to continue in the CCA program on a short-term basis.

As energy prices have spiked across the globe, the CCA program has not been unaffected. The average price per kWh has nearly doubled from 7.41 cents to 13.9 cents.

It is hoped that by agreeing to a short-term extension now, the prices will lower some over the next 3-4 months.

For more information regarding the CCA program, please contact Westchester Power at 914-242-4725.

All Village offices will be closed on May 30th in observance of Memorial Day.



#### May 2022 Newsletter

## 1 Van Wyck Street Croton-on-Hudson, NY 10520

Published for the Residents of the Village of Croton-on-Hudson

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## **May Recreation Update**

The spring brochure is now available on the Village website. There is a full compliment of classes, camps, outdoor pursuits and entertainment being offered. Be sure to signup today!

Some of the programs being offered this spring/summer include Fly Fishing (Introduction and Intermediate), Acrylics & Mixed Media Painting, Zumba at the Landing and Vegetables Love Flowers.

Consider signing up your children for some of the specialty camps being offered this summer. These include a basketball camp in July and a super science camp in August.

The Croton Seniors Club continues to meet every Friday at the Municipal Building. All Village and school district residents age 60 and older are invited to join. For more information, contact Joanna Straub at 914-271-5804.

Picnic permits are still available for Village and School District residents for Senasqua Park and the park pavilion. Contact the Recreation Department office for availability.

Day Camp and Tiny Tots camp registration continues this month as well. Camp application forms are available on the recreation page of the Village website, Recreation Department office and the Croton Free Library.

For all the details on these programs and more, visit the recreation page on the Village website. You may also call 914-271-3006 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."