

THE MILTONIAN



www.cityofmiltonwv.com

March/April 2021

From the Mayor

We have been fortunate this Winter as far as the weather goes. As I write this article, we have had a good amount of snow, just not all at once! We still have several weeks to go and who knows what may happen.

As the Corona Virus continues, I encourage you to continue as well, continue to keep yourself and those around you safe by practicing what is recommended by the CDC. Many of you, like myself, have probably received a vaccine by now or plan to soon. Let us pray that an end to this virus is near.



Work continues to progress on the new Maintenance Garage. The retaining wall is complete, electric has been installed and we are currently getting the heat installed. Our next step will actually be steps to the second-floor storage. Plumbing will be the next project which we will do ourselves.

We have regular updates from the Corp of Engineers on the Flood-wall Project. So far all is moving along pretty much on schedule, like most other things COVID-19 has made an impact but only slightly.

We recently met with Mr. Hoops for an update on the Grand Patricia Resort and some of his other projects in the City. The resort hotel is about to be drywalled which will take a while. Other work has slowed on the hotel due to COVID-19 and people not traveling as much. Other work on Phase 1 includes the Wedding Chapel and Golf Course. They hope to have lights installed and the Canterbury Walking Trail, an unexpected surprise, will be open to the public soon. The upcoming year brings the start of Phase 2 which will be the Country Club, Spa and Pool. Work on other local projects will resume soon such as the old bank building, and an additional restaurant in the old Parrish building.

I have been approached by several people while out and about in the City who ask, "What is this I hear about Milton selling out to WV American Water?" My answer to that is, "I don't know how this rumor got started, but the City is not selling! Nothing can be further from the truth." We do, however, have an emergency connection to WV American Water which we have had for several years. This connection is only used during a major emergency or while work is being done at the plant. Our plant can supply the water we use, and this connection is only a 2nd Source of water which is required by WV Rural Water Association.



The City Council will be voting to purchase the property next to the American Legion on Main Street. We feel this is a smart purchase due to the lack of available parking for our businesses. Yes, it is a bit of a walk but think of parking in other Cities and we do not hesitate when we have to walk. The plan is to create free parking and a Farmer's Market area on the property. If the Main Street Business



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From Recorder Benita Ryalls

Election Day is Tuesday, May 4, 2021. I hope each registered voter exercises their right to VOTE! Some choose to VOTE Election Day, others VOTE during our Early Voting Period April 21—May 1, and new this year (due to COVID-19) any registered voter may fill out an application for Absentee voting. Just VOTE!

Council Members please check your mail and review the important dates for Special Election Meetings that require a quorum of Council and inform Susan or me immediately if there are any days you cannot attend. Between Budget planning meetings and Election-related Special Meetings, it is a very busy time.

We have been gathering info from each Department and doing preliminary work for our 2021-2022



Levy Estimate (Budget). Our scheduled Budget Planning Special Meetings are Mondays, March 8, 15, and 22 at 9:00 a.m. and Wednesday, March 24 at 9:00 a.m. Another important date is Tuesday, April 20, 7:00 p.m. when a Special Meeting will be held as required by law to Lay the Levy once approved by the Auditor's Office. All meetings are open to the public.

As we review last year's budget, a year full of COVID-19, we are very blessed and grateful for what we have accomplished as a Council and for having minimal effect on our budget. I know this virus has grieved many businesses and residents but let us keep looking forward to more positive days and thriving businesses.

If you have any questions, contact me at 304-743-3032.

From the Director of Public Works Charles Conard

Winter weather has created several leaks over the past few months. When the frozen ground begins the thawing process, water lines tend to break. Some leaks occur very unexpectedly, like when fiber optics lines are being laid, which recently happened to us and then to WV American Water a couple days later. All leaks are unfortunate headaches, but all water companies have leaks.

This is an ongoing process for us at the water company. Naturally, new lines are less likely to break or leak than old lines, but we cannot replace them all at once. The same way we cannot pave all streets at once. It is a slow process and moves along as money allows. We are fixing both old waterlines and old streets at the same time while also correcting stormwater drainage flow by re-establishing curbs.



The current paving project is a sidewalk, curbs, and paving on Harrison Street from Pike to Smith Streets. Thanks to all the residents for being patient while this work is being completed. Where do we plan to go next? We will continue Harrison Street from Smith to Glenwood Streets. So get ready; we will be there soon!

We hope to get much more accomplished on our new Maintenance Building before the mowing season begins. We hope to get the storage area complete and start organizing this area. We still do not have a completion date due to the fact that we are doing some of the interior work ourselves as time allows.



We have acquired bids for replacing the old, deep water lines on the west end of the City. These water lines created such a problem several months back when we had trouble finding a major leak because the water lines were covered over years ago, burying them about 12 feet deep. The water was going into

the river, so there were no wet spots, making it difficult to detect. Soon, this line will be relocated closer to Route 60 and will only be a few feet deep.

As always, we ask you to bear with us. If you have any questions, call 304-963-0713.

SPRING CLEANUP

**SEE ATTACHED MAP
FOR YOUR PICK-UP DAY**

1 DAY ONLY

1 STOP & 1 LOAD PER HOUSEHOLD

**NO: TIRES, CAR PARTS,
BATTERIES, APPLIANCES**

NO EXCEPTIONS

Grant / IT News from Mike Nixon

Even though 2021 has started out interesting I'm watching for more grants that can benefit our city. In the next 2 months I am hoping to begin a project with Governors Highway Safety Program to work on some funding for a Police Department. I am also looking at several other grant opportunities for city improvements. I'm hoping that by the next newsletter I will have more information to pass along on other grants that I am applying for.

In IT News, now that City Hall is running on new Fiber Internet and new phone service, our services have been more stable and have had zero downtime except when we had the extended power outage. However, after procuring some grant funding, City Hall will be installing a generator to keep all services running. The generator has been ordered and hopefully be installed soon. There are a few other projects I would like to get done soon that will allow us to broadcast our City Council and Water Board meetings on FaceBook Live and our website.



As always, please be very mindful with your data and information you give out. It seems like most of my tech tips are alerting you of scammers but that is because they are certainly out in full force. More people are working from home and they know they can easily reach more people. None of these companies have your information and a major corporation like Microsoft or Apple will ever call you to tell you there is an issue with your computer. Be safe and mindful of information and know you can always look up the number and call the company directly to see if they contacted you. Never trust a number they give you or what comes up on caller ID.



Senior Luncheon

Check with your local Seniors Center to see when **MONTHLY DINNERS** will resume. For more info on this or any other event, call the Center at 304-390-4164.

From the Utilities Department

Spring is right around the corner! I know we are all ready for some warmer weather.



I would like to take this opportunity to thank our crew members for enduring the frigid cold, sometimes working into the night to ensure our customers have water service. The freezing temperatures have brought numerous leaks that our crews have worked tirelessly to repair. So to them – THANK YOU!

You may have noticed that our after-hours emergency telephone has changed. We had been using a call service, but after receiving a number of complaints, we decided to have one of our own on-call employees take those calls instead. The new after-hours emergency number is 304-590-7649, and is listed on the top right-hand corner of each bill.



If you have any questions or concerns during our regular business hours, please call 304-743-3422.

Code Enforcer/Building Inspector Mike Ramsey

As the weather starts to break many residents here in the City will begin projects around their homes. Just remember if you hire a contractor always ask for their WV contractor's license number and it is always a good idea to get more than one quote on the job you want done.

If you have a question about a contractor or need to verify that they are licensed and insured, please feel free to call me here at City Hall (304) 743-3032 or you may check online at labor.wv.gov and click on the licensing tab and scroll to the tab contractor license search. Or call WV Division of Labor at (304) 558-7890 and they should be able to assist you in verifying whether your contractor is licensed in WV or not. Any contractor doing work in the City of Milton must also be licensed with the City and a permit must be pulled for that work as well.



On a side note, the City has installed dog waste boxes in different locations throughout the City. If you have a dog and let it outdoors to relieve itself please remember to clean up afterwards and dispose properly.

Here is the City Ordinance that applies:



505.10 EXCREMENT. Neither the owner of a dog or any person having charge of a dog, whether such dog is on a leash or not, shall allow any such dog in their charge to deposit animal excrement or other animal waste upon private property or to otherwise damage private property.

Again, if you have any questions about building, code enforcement, etc.—feel too call me here at City Hall at 304-743-3032, extension 202.

Milton Rotary Spaghetti Dinner Rescheduled for May 1

Each year the Milton Rotary Club has fundraisers for scholarships to give to students within the Community. Join us at Milton Baptist Church on Saturday, May 1 from 4:00—7:00 p.m. for a Spaghetti Dinner and Silent Auction. Please note the date change to hopefully avoid social distancing. More details in the next *Miltonian*. Bring the family for a delicious meal and support your local Rotary Club, who in turn supports local students.

Milton VFD Events:

Friday, March 12, March 28, April 9 and April 23, 7:10 p.m. — Robert Trippett and the Starlight Band. Concessions available.

Saturday, March 20, 10:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m. — Kendall's Heart Clothing Giveaway—free clothing for everyone!

Do You Qualify?

SCAC Weatherization Program, office located at 1595 US Rt. 60 East, Milton, WV helps individuals with some weatherization issues if you qualify (NOT REPAIRS). For more info visit their website www.acacwv.org.

USDA (304-284-4861) also offers assistance through the 504 Program, a low interest loan for those 62 or older who own their home and the 502 Program, a 100% financed, no interest loan for low income homeowners.





From Chief Joe Parsons

The past few weeks have been terrible with ice and snow storms, trees down and power out throughout Cabell County. As I write this there are still areas that have not had power restored or roads cleared of trees. This is by no means the fault of our electrical and tree removal people who have been working tirelessly to get everyone restored and roads cleared.

In times like this I always marvel at the spirit of West Virginians who come together and help one another in whatever way possible. From welfare checks on elderly residents, to transporting people to warming stations, delivering food or medicines to homebound people and also assisting motorists who are stranded the Milton Police Department has been assisting in any way we can.

But these times show that there are many heroes out there. The aforementioned electrical workers and tree removal personnel, the state road workers, the shop owners who brave the bad roads and frigid temperatures to open their shops so essential goods can be purchased, restaurant workers and food truck owners who came to work to feed those who do not have power and no means to cook a meal. Extend that out to utility workers who work to repair water line breaks and delivery drivers delivering propane to fuel generators, gas company employees doing the same and keeping lines from freezing off.

The bottom line is, everyone has a part to play if we are going to come through this winter and from what I've seen, everyone is playing their part. It makes me proud to be a part of such a community, a community I hope will never change. I am just one man, playing my part, but I want to applaud all of you unsung heroes who are doing what you can to play your part.

God Bless you all.

NATIONAL MEDAL OF HONOR DAY, MARCH 25





MVFD News by Chief Timmy Chastain

Hello Friends,

I hope everyone has managed through our epidemic without many issues, it has seemed that COVID-19 has decided to be a presence among us for a while longer.

Because of the uptick in COVID cases, we have had to discontinue our regular meetings and scheduled trainings and the department has only been responding to emergency incidents.

We anticipate that we will begin back to following a somewhat normal routine the first week in March.

Since our last Miltonian, we have responded to over 139 emergency calls and were very fortunate to have had only two residential fires. 78 calls were responded to within 24 hours during the ice and snow storms in February. Increases in residential fires have occurred all over the country this year however our community seems to be seeing less, KEEP UP THE GREAT WORK!!

On that note, please make sure you have working smoke alarms and maintain good fire safety skills.

With our department being approved by the West Virginia State Office of Emergency Services as a Medical Emergency Response Agency, we currently have had three members enrolled in a the EMT basic class and we expect more members to be enrolled in the next class.

With the Governor's COVID restrictions being cut back some, we have decided to begin renting out our community building for events once again. We will begin holding events such as live band entertainment, wrestling along with gun shows beginning in March. The COVID restrictions in place at that time will be required to be followed.

If you would like to use our facilities for an upcoming event contact Marsha Chastain 304-972-5333 to secure a date on our calendar.

Please keep an eye on the City's calendar, website and Facebook as well as our Facebook page for upcoming events in the department or in the community.

We appreciate the support that you continue to give our department and we will continue our promise of providing quality fire and emergency services to you. God Bless!

Milton Library News

The Milton Public Library Hours are 9:00-5:30 pm Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday; 9:00-7:00 pm on Tuesday; Closed Sunday.

- **Knotty Knitsters**, In-person, every Tuesday, 1:00—3:00 pm
- ♦ **Storytime Reading**, on Facebook, March 3, April 15, May 12 on Facebook
- ♦ **Storytime Craft**, on Facebook, March 17, April 21, May 26.
- ♦ **Code Club**, Online, Thursdays after School. Sign up for Code Club Online with the Milton Library. Using Google CS First Scratch program as the guide and Zoom to host the meeting.
- ♦ **Middle School Book Club**, On-line book club, every third and fourth Tuesday after school. More details soon on the library's Facebook page.
- ♦ **Can You Make It At Home?** Weekly videos with family-friendly crafts. Every Wednesday, 11:00 am.
- ♦ **Make Your Own Holiday Day**, on Facebook, March 26.
- ♦ **World Art Day**, Special craft videos and take-home packets for kids and adults. April 15,

Contact the Milton Public Library for more information about these events.

HOUSING FOR THE ELDERLY



The **MILTON HOUSING AUTHORITY** is accepting applications for tenancy for the elderly & disabled, 62 years of age or older, or handicap/disabled regardless of age, with or without children.

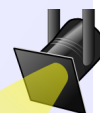
1 BEDROOM ONLY

Applications may be obtained online at cityofmiltonwv.com or at City Hall, 1139 Smith St., Milton, WV 25541

304-743-9530
TTY/TDD 1-800-982-8771

**AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY
PROVIDER**

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DRIVE-IN

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304-743-6800



Did somebody say “MMMilkshakes????”

Stop by for one of our 70 delicious varieties of milkshakes!

All Spring we will have Strawberry/Lemon. Or, try the flavor of the Month:

March—Shamrock or Vanilla/Chocolate Marshmallow

April—Caramel Cadbury

Open Monday— Saturday, 10 am—9 pm

Closed Sundays











MONDAY
TUESDAY
WEDNESDAY
THURSDAY
FRIDAY

Glenwood Road east to Brickyard Avenue
 Brickyard Avenue east to end of City Limits, including Hiddenbrook and Cabell Healthcare Center
 Electric Road east to Stewart Street, including Woodline Subdivision
 East of Stewart Street, Cardinal Drive to and including Newman's Branch Road
 East of Newman's Branch Road to Glenwood Road, including New Milton area and Harbour Trailer Park



“The deep roots never doubt spring will come.” – Marty Ruben

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <p>Will March Come “In Like a Lion.”</p>	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	5:30 pm Utilities 7 pm Council	10	11	12	13
	9:00 am Budget Mtg.	5:30 pm Court	17	18	19	20
	15	16		5 pm RPOC 6:30 pm Lions Club		
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
	9:00 am Budget Mtg.		9:00 am Final Budget Mtg.			
28	29	30	31	Out Like a Lamb”? 		

Please Note: Due to the uncertainty of gathering places being open, all events are subject to change.



Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
				1 6:30 pm Lions Club	2 Good Friday	3 9:00 am Recycling
4 Easter	5	6 5:30 pm Utilities 7:00 pm Council	7	8	9	10 9:00 am Recycling
11	12	13 5:30 Court	14	15 5:00 pm RPOC 6:30 pm Lions Club	16	17 9:00 am Recycling
18	19 7:00 pm Lay the Levy Special Meeting	20 	21 →EARLY VOTING AT	22 CITY HALL→→→→	23 →→→→→→→→	24 →→→→→→→→
25	26 EARLY VOTING →→	27 →→→→→→→→	28 →→→→→→→→	29 →→→→→→→→	30 →→→→→→→→	May 1 LAST DAY TO VOTE EARLY →→→→→→→→

Notes

ALL EVENTS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

City Wide Spring Cleanup
April 19-23

All items must be out by 8:00 am the morning of your zone's pickup day. Don't miss your day!
Remember, no tires, car parts, batteries, appliances or electronics will be picked up.

From the Mayor (Continued From Page 1)

area ever has the opportunity to gain a parking garage, we can always sell the lot.

As we work on the upcoming budget for the next fiscal year one of the areas we look at closely is our equipment – vehicles, tools, etc. – to make sure our employees have what they need to work efficiently. You cannot get much done when what you need is in the repair shop, and you can sink an unbelievable amount of money into old equipment.

This is an Election Year for the City of Milton. Our Early Voting is April 21—May 1. I ENCOURAGE YOU to VOTE during this time or on Tuesday, May 4, 2021, Election Day.

February was a hard month for our office staff. We have had 6 employees test positive for Covid-19, with one being hospitalized. We have sanitized all the offices and other common areas at City Hall and feel we have things under control. Please say a prayer for those who have been hit the hardest with this virus.



As always, it is an honor and pleasure to be your Mayor and a position I take seriously! Thank you for that opportunity.

WELCOME TO THE CITY OF MILTON WHERE LIVING IS A PLEASURE!

City of Milton

1139 Smith Street
Milton, WV 25541

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1139 Smith Street
Milton, WV 25541-1327

(304) 743-3032

recorder@cityofmiltonwv.com

cityclerk@cityofmiltonwv.com

financeclerk@cityofmiltonwv.com

miltoninspector@cityofmiltonwv.com

miltoncemetery@cityofmiltonwv.com

it@cityofmiltonwv.com

Milton Municipal Utilities

(304) 743-3422

After-hours emergency, call

(304) 590-7649

miltonwater@cityofmiltonwv.com

miltonutilities@cityofmiltonwv.com

mmuc@cityofmiltonwv.com

publicworks@cityofmiltonwv.com

Milton Police Department

(304) 743-9211

mpdclerk@cityofmiltonwv.com

mpdchief@cityofmiltonwv.com

Visit www.cityofmiltonwv.com

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