



From the Mayor



Autumn is almost here. The leaves are beginning to change into brilliant color, creating a natural portrait of Nature's beauty, especially here in "Almost Heaven" West Virginia.

That is not the only thing that has changed. This Corona Virus has changed all our lives in some fashion. We naturally hear the negative – wear a mask, social distancing, business closed or affected, ballgames canceled, concerts canceled, special events canceled such as our City Anniversary Celebration, the Pumpkin Festival and Halloween in the Park just to mention a few. However, I hope there has been some good – families spending more quality time together doing things our busy schedules usually prevented. Hopefully, this will end soon, and our lives will change again, maybe we can keep some of the quality family time in our routine.

We have our Fireworks display scheduled for Saturday, September 19 at 10:00 p.m. and this time you will get to see the entire show! These are made possible by the generous donations from the Ohio Valley, Putnam County and City National Banks, along with funds from the City. A BIG thank you to Donna Clagg for providing the perfect location at the last minute. This is something our community can enjoy while following the social distancing guidelines. Enjoy and stay safe.



We have continued to work in all departments keeping the City operating as normal as possible. Our daily office visitors are asked to wear masks when entering the building, our Council meetings and our Municipal Courts are following social distancing and mask wearing. It has been wonderful to have a drive thru window where most of the water business transpires and the capability to accept online payments for other City and Police business. Our goal is to continue to serve our customers while protecting you and our employees.

We have many projects that are on going; the 2018 Sewer Project, the Floodwall Project, our paving/water line/sidewalk/curb project, and our Maintenance Building project. Work continues but at a slower pace and with a watchful eye on our finances. Most of the permits have been acquired and land acquisitions are in process for construction in the first quarter of 2021. The City will be busy once the sewer and floodwall projects begin.

After a delay for approval of addition permitting we hope to see work continue at the Grand Patrician Resort, the wedding chapel and the golf course. Once again Covid-19 has had an impact and it is amazing how processes and schedules can be slowed or even put to a temporary halt.

(Continued on Last Page)

From the Recorder Benita Ryalls

As we enter the fall months, let us aggressively pray for the fall of Covid-19! This virus has affected each of our lives personally in some way. I hate wearing a mask, but I will continue to do so in hope that our area remains lightly affected. Sometimes we forget how our actions can affect others.

The end of the fiscal year for 2020 was a bit concerning with all the issues with the Corona virus and the uncertainty of how or if it would affect the City financially. After some worries, we are happy to report we completed the 2020 fiscal year with a surplus of \$20,000.00. Our Financial Statements will be published in the paper as required along with the Vendor Report for the Fiscal Year ending 2020

There are still lingering concerns to go with this lingering virus. We will continue with our projects and daily work to improve our City. We will just do it in a more guarded fashion as we constantly review the effects of Covid -19.

Do you own Rental Property? If so you are required to have a City business license and pay B & O tax.

City Business Licenses should have been renewed July 1. All businesses with the Milton City limits are required to hold a current license for any type of business.

Third Quarter B & O Tax returns will be mailed out soon and are due by November 15. Did you realize that you can take care of these online? Just contact Cameron Ernst at financeclerk@cityofmiltonwv.com.

If you have questions contact Cameron at 304-743-3032, extension 211 or myself at extension 201.



From the Director of Public Works Charles Conard

The first issue I want to address is our Fall Cleanup which will be October 19-23. **We have a new schedule for pick-ups, and we will only make one trip to each area.** During the Spring Cleanup we repeatedly returned to the same residents who would put more items out each day. This is a free courtesy for our residents; however, we need everyone to cooperate with the process. Included in this edition of the Miltonian is a map that indicates your pickup day. Please have items out on your scheduled day and **remember: it is only 1 day.** We will not come back to your area. Make sure to have your items at the curb by 8:00 a.m. on your morning. Remember, no tires, car parts, batteries, or appliances will be picked up. **Be sure to review the map for your pickup day.**



FALL 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

Also, a reminder that most trash services will pick up 1 or 2 large items a month, free of charge. You need to contact them to schedule a pickup anytime throughout the year.

As far as our paving projects go, Hallison Circle is complete with new water lines, sidewalks, curbs, paving and a widened street. Our next project was Stewart Street where we installed new water lines, curbs, and paving. We were not able to install sidewalks due to the numerous utility lines. We have also paved Rear Florida Street and put in new water lines, and Spring Street and a portion of Sunset View were paved as well. Our next anticipated project is Mason Street between Pike and Smith Streets, where we plan to widen the road, pave, install new sidewalks and curbs. We have accomplished so much in our paving projects due to the 1% Municipal Sales Tax; it has been amazing. Remember we plan on getting to your street, but we cannot do them all at once.



A side note, the State has plans to begin a paving project on Newman's Branch Road beginning September 14.

The 2018 Sewer Project is moving along, very slowly but moving along. We have been working with the Corp on a few projects that will be impacted by both the sewer and floodwall projects. In the long run it should be a financial savings for both projects.

The new Maintenance Building shell is complete. Now the fun begins as we finish the inside. We hope this winter our employees can work on the inside. We do not have a completion date at this time, however; we will continue to work as our funds allow.

The guys have also been cleaning out ditches throughout the City. This is an ongoing process which must be done regularly in order for all water to flow correctly. It is amazing how quickly our ditches fill up with sticks, leaves and other debris.

If you have any questions, please call me at 304-743-3422.



Milton VFD Events:

Due to limitations imposed on indoor gatherings, events at the Milton VFD have been put on hold until further notice. We hope to be permitted to host events in the near future, so keep an eye on the sign at Wendy's for information.



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.

Code Enforcer/Building Inspector Mike Ramsey



As we all say goodbye to another Summer, we welcome the change of leaves and cooler air temperatures that come along with the Fall.

But before the weather grows too much colder, it's important to prepare for the winter months to prevent costly damage. Below are the fall preventative home maintenance steps that homeowners should follow.

Gutters and Downspouts

- ◆ Clean gutters and downspouts frequently throughout fall to prevent buildup of leaves and other debris. Neglected gutters can lead to wood rot problems and pest infestations, not to mention ruined gutters.
- ◆ Be sure water is not coming down behind gutters and that all support brackets are securely in place.
- ◆ Ensure that water drains properly and does not pool. Pooling can cause damage to foundations, driveways, and walkways.

Windows and Doors

- ◆ Change summer screens to storm windows and doors.
- ◆ Inspect and repair any loose or damaged window or door frames.
- ◆ Install weather stripping or caulking around windows and doors to prevent drafts and to lower heating bills.

Heating Systems

- ◆ Replace the filter in your furnace.
- ◆ Consider having a heating professional check your heating system to ensure optimal performance and discover minor problems before they turn into costly major repairs.
- ◆ Clean your ducts to better your heating system's efficiency as well as to reduce household dust and to provide relief to those with respiratory problems.

Plumbing

- ◆ To prevent pipes freezing and bursting, ensure that the pipes are well insulated.
- ◆ Know how to locate and turn off the water shut-off valve in case pipes do freeze.

Chimney and Fireplace

- ◆ Call a professional in to inspect and clean your chimney. Fireplaces that are regularly used during the season should have an annual cleaning to prevent dangerous chimney fires.
- ◆ Test your fireplace flue for a tight seal when closed.



Attic ventilation

- ◆ Be sure attic insulation doesn't cover vents in the eaves to prevent winter ice dams on the roof.
- ◆ Be sure ridge vents and vents at eaves are free of plants and debris.
- ◆ Check bird and rodent screens for attic vents to prevent any unwanted guests.

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A Message From Blenko Glass

Here in Milton, West Virginia we are again producing hot glass! Current and ever changing circumstances make each day a new challenge—as you know from your own COVID-related experiences.

It is our desire to share and update some information about our events and what we are currently planning.

Blenko is working hard with a lean staff of about 75% of the people on our team prior to COVID. We have face mask and social distancing rules in place for our onsite gift shop ("the Visitors Center/VC"). We ask that our customers respect our new guidelines that have been mandated by WV Governor Jim Justice.

We continue to balance our employees' safety, your safety, and our efforts to survive by moving most if not all remaining 2020 events to virtual on-line events.

From holiday celebrations to 'Cat'urdays we anticipate NO onsite events.

Thanks for your continued interest and support!

It is a privilege to twist hot molten sand into amazing color and forms for you.

May we be so privileged for many years to come!

Appreciatively,
Dean Six, VP Blenko Glass Co.

Milton Senior Citizens



At this time it we are unsure when regular lunches will resume. However, the **Meals on Wheels** program is active for anyone that needs lunch provided. For more information on this or to order a lunch call the Center at 304-390-4164.



From Chief Joe Parsons

Let me start by saying, once again, how lucky our department is to have citizens who are so supportive and show us so many different acts of kindness. We

are often asked what we think of all the media regarding Covid—19 and all the negativity towards police departments and officers in general in other states and cities. All I can say is “Thanks so Much” for your concern for us. We have received from local individuals and organizations masks, hand sanitizer, Clorox wipes, cookies and other goodies, even entire meals. We have also received numerous cards of appreciation and phone calls from those who just want to personally say thanks. It is a tough time to be a police officer; however to see the genuine concern and respect from our community means so much. Thank you.

It is with much regret that I announce the resignation of another excellent officer. Albert Collins turned in his resignation for health and personal reasons. Albert has been one of our K9 officers since he began with the department and has led our K-9 program, developing many guidelines for the program. We wish him the best in his future endeavors and hope he stays in contact with us. He will be sorely missed around the office, for his work ethic as well as his sense of humor.

**THANK YOU!
FOR YOUR
SERVICE!**

We have been quite busy of late with criminal investigations and arrests. Recently, most of the traffic stops we make are not even local residents. We have so many traffic stops that end up being someone from another City or out-of-state and these stops more often than not, are turning into possession of a controlled substance (sometimes with the intent to deliver), driving with no license or a suspended license, felons in possession of a fire arm and lately there have been so many with outstanding warrants from other states. It is important to do this work to try to stem the flow of the ever increasing criminal element coming into Milton.

We have received some complaints from those who are not aware that we have an 11-mile jurisdiction of Interstate 64. It is unbelievable how many drivers we stop with speeds more than 90 mph on the Interstate. And often those drivers are very young drivers, or drivers under the influence of drugs and/or alcohol. We feel it is worth an officer patrolling the interstate and we feel it helps keep other drivers safe. You can control your driving, but you never know about the drivers around you.

**EVERY DAY
MAY NOT BE
GOOD,
BUT THERE IS
SOMETHING
GOOD IN
EVERY DAY.**

It is just about time for the beginning of school or is it? Decisions were been made for the return to our local schools, and changes are likely. School needs to be a safe place for our children and that includes the trip to and from school each day. Use extra caution for increased traffic with buses and parents dropping off and picking up students. And be extremely aware of the walkers, some of them are pretty small.

Finally I want to address the recent uptick in violent crime in the past month. We had a shooting with a young man seriously wounded on Smith Street and the current homicide that we are working with the Sheriff's Department. These are unusual events for Milton and I fear may be a picture of our future with current attitudes across the country. We already made an arrest in the Smith Street shooting and are working toward an arrest in the homicide. Rest assured that if there was any widespread threat to the community at large we would advise you and as always we stand ready to protect you or respond to any threat to public safety.

From the Utilities:

Fall is a great time to prepare your home for colder weather. We all know that water expands when it freezes. That's not a problem with the ice cubes in your freezer, but if that ice forms in your plumbing, it's a potential disaster. A frozen pipe can crack, spewing water into your home. Fortunately, you can take steps to help prevent a catastrophe and put your mind at ease.

Turn off outdoor faucets at their shutoff valves. Open the faucet and the bleeder cap on the shutoff valve to drain any water out of the pipe. If you don't drain the pipe, it can still freeze and crack. Leave the bleeder cap open with a bucket underneath to catch any drips. If the dripping continues, your shutoff valve needs to be replaced.



Disconnect your water hose. A water-filled hose left out in cold weather will freeze. If the hose is still connected to the faucet, ice can back up into the pipe inside your house and cause the pipe to crack. Once the hose is disconnected, cover the hose bib with an insulated cover to slow heat loss.

Heat cables are a great solution for vulnerable pipes. They have an integral thermostat that senses pipe temperature, turning the heat on and off as needed to keep the pipe from freezing. You need an accessible outlet to plug in the cable, which you can find at home centers.

Lastly, if you're leaving town for a few days or more, **turn the water off at the main shutoff**. That way, if frozen pipes crack, you will have far less damage. Be sure to shut off your automatic icemaker so it doesn't continually try to make ice, burning out the motor.

As a courtesy, we contact our customers if our computer system alerts us to a potential leak. In some cases, this has allowed customers to quickly find the issue and prevent a costly bill. If you have concerns or suspect a leak, please call us at 304-743-3422.



COVID—19 has changed lots of things here at the City of Milton. The way we conduct business, our Utilities and Council meetings, municipal court, even obtaining a business license or building permit. We are using extra caution for everyone’s safety. Here at the City we have canceled just about all our community social events with the exception of our September Fireworks where people can social distance.

We have canceled our City Anniversary Celebration, Halloween in the Park and probably Christmas in the Park. This will end—we just need to be patient and engage in simple safety procedures.

COVID—19 has changed lots of things at our local Churches. Some have limited services and programs to keep us safe. Most of their extra activities and programs have been canceled for now—be sure to check if your church has video services that are live or recorded so you can participate in some way if you are not comfortable attending in person.



COVID—19 has changed lots of things about our Health Care. Some have been seeing a new doctor for months and to date hasn’t seen his face! Many participate in virtual appointments. Hospital visits are just about a thing of the past the last few months. And nursing home visits—what can I say—it is just a very sad and confusing time for so many nursing home resident.

COVID—19 has changed lots of things about our schools. Are they opening or not. Is it safe for our children or is not? Lots of questions regarding that issue but I am sure our local government and the school authorities will consider all factors and make the best decision.

Covid-19 has changed our social lives, community events and family activities such as vacations, family reunions, the birth of a child, how we grocery shop, sporting events, Pumpkin Festival, Cabell County Fair events; and the list could go on and on.

The one thing Covid-19 cannot change is each individual’s decisions. We can choose to remain calm. We can choose not to hoard toilet paper and hand sanitizer. We can choose to social distance and wear a mask and may-be help in the fight to prevent the spread. We can choose to be patient and remain positive for this too shall pass. Don’t let Covid-19 change you as a person! Let’s all work to CANCEL COVID-19!



EARLY VOTING FOR THE 2020 GENERAL ELECTION WILL BE AT MILTON CITY HALL
OCTOBER 21ST THRU OCTOBER 31ST
MONDAY—FRIDAY, 8:00AM—4:30PM, SATURDAYS, 9:00AM—5:00PM

United Daughters of the Confederacy, Cooney Ricketts, #2726, Milton

On Saturday August 15th, the United Daughters of the Confederacy, Cooney Ricketts Chapter #2726, Milton, West Virginia held its election for new officers, for 2020-2022.

We were delighted that the retiring West Virginia Division President, Linda Whaley, was able to join us and conducted the installation of the newly elected officers. The new Executive Board is:

President: Billie Johnson, 1st Vice President: Marilyn Coleman, Treasurer: Jean Hatfield, Registrar: Donna Stevens, Secretary: Bertie Casey, Historian: Easter Miller, Recorder of Military Service Award: Teri Carr.



L to R, Billie Johnson, Marilyn Coleman, Jean Hatfield, Donna Stevens, Linda Whaley, Bertie Casey, Easter Miller, Teri Carr.

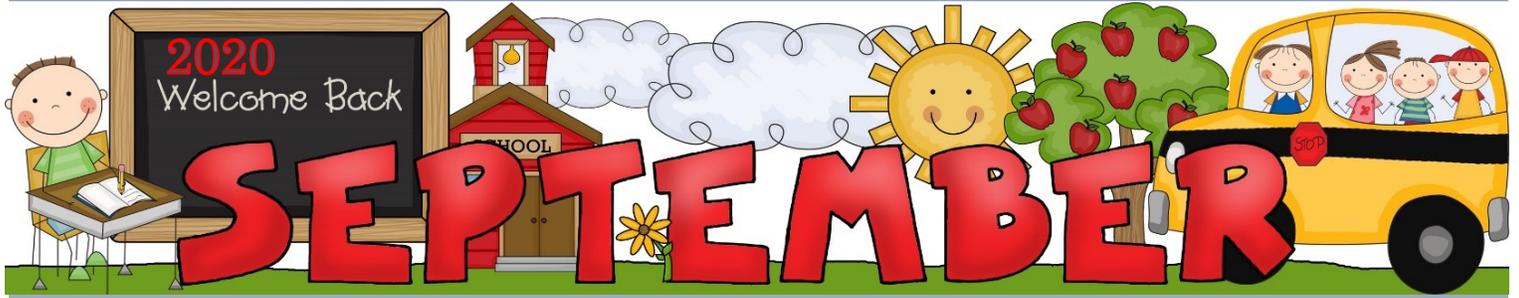
We congratulate our new officers and wish them every success in the coming year.



Gaines R. Johnson,

After we had enjoyed a delightful casual lunch filled with chit-chat and laughter, we made what has evolved into an annual twenty-two-mile pilgrimage to visit the final resting place of our Chapter’s namesake, Private Lucien Cincinnatus (Cooney) Ricketts.

We were joined there, by Gaines R. Johnson, a member and assistant Chaplain of the Sons of Confederate Veterans, A.G. Jenkins, camp 628. Mr. Johnson, who is the official guardian and protector of Cooney’s grave site, participated with us in a short, dignified memorial service to honor Cooney’s 173rd birthday.



Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
		1 5:30 pm Utilities 7:00 pm Council	2	3	4	5 10:00 am Recycling
6	7  OFFICE CLOSED	8  5:30 pm Court	9	10	11 	12 10:00 am Recycling
13	14	15	16	17 5:00 pm RPOC	18	19  10:00 am Recycling 10:00 pm Fireworks
20	21	22	23	24	25	26 10:00 am Recycling
27	28	29	30	<i>Welcome Autumn</i> 		

Notes

Due to restrictions in place for safety reasons, many events have been cancelled or postponed. Watch our website, Facebook page and the sign at Wendy's for event information.

*Milton Fire Department

**American Legion Post 139

*** Milton VFW

PAC – Performing Arts Center



October 2020

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Notes

Ⓞ THESE EVENTS ARE TENTATIVE AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE – CHECK THE GROUP'S WEBSITE TO VERIFY

*Milton Volunteer Fire Department
 **Milton Performing Arts Center

**City Wide Fall Cleanup
 October 19-23**

◆ ◆ ◆

**All items must be out by
 8:00 a.m. the morning of your zone's pickup day.
 Don't miss your day!**

Building Inspector (Continued from Page 3)

Landscape and Yardwork

- ◆ Although grass appears to stop growing in the fall, the roots are actually growing deeper to prepare for winter. Now is the best time to fertilize and reseed your lawn.
- ◆ Prune your trees and shrubs after the leaves turn to encourage healthy growth.
- ◆ Trim any tree limbs that are dangerously close to power lines or the roof of your house. Heavy snow and ice can cause damage.

As always make sure the person or company doing the work is licensed with the City and pulls the proper permits.

Again, if you have any questions, feel free to call me here at City Hall at 304-743-3032, extension 202.



Grant / IT News from Mike Nixon

In Grant and I.T. news, the new CARES Grant has made it possible to obtain some improvements for the City, and I am currently working to secure a generator for City Hall for power emergencies. This will benefit the employees and the residents as we will be able to continue to serve our City in the event of a power outage. We are still waiting on the new fiber internet service and phone system to be installed in City Hall. There have been delays, but we are anxiously awaiting this service as it will save the city money while receiving new equipment and extremely reliable fiber internet with wireless redundancy. We also received enough funding from a grant to purchase a new server that will house our new financial software and other programs needed for the city. This server was a much-needed upgrade and is already in place and running!



This year has been a huge year for scammers. There are several scam emails and text messages that users need to be aware of. Please remember that, unless you have personally initiated a call and given your email address to a government contact (IRS, DHHR, etc) they will not reach out to you via email requesting your social security number, birthdate, or similar information. These emails are info grabbing scams and you should flag the emails as junk so your provider can hopefully filter them out in the future. Also make sure you look at the sender's email address. Often it will be the name of someone you know, but the email address is completely different. Don't reply at all. When you reply to those messages, that informs the scammers that yours is a valid email address, and they will continue to attempt to gather information from you, or sell your email to email list gathering sites.

The next thing is text messages. You may receive random text messages asking you to click on a link saying XYZ Company is hiring and will pay you \$500/day to work from home. Do not click on this link regardless of the phone you have! They can install key trackers and software on your phone allowing them to enable your camera and microphone any time they wish. So, be careful out there. The scammers are staying at home and devoting more time to these scams. Stay safe!



Milton Library News

The Milton Public Library Hours are 9:00 am — 5:30 pm Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday; 9:00 — 7:00 pm on Tuesday; Closed Sunday. Check us out on Facebook.

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

- **Outdoor Story Time**, (weather permitting) Wednesdays, 10:00 a.m.
- **Knotty Knitsters**, 1st & 3rd Tuesdays, 1:00—3:00 p.m.
- **Can You Make It At Home?** Wednesday: 11:00 a.m. Virtual program through Milton Library Facebook page

SEPTEMBER—OCTOBER

- **Adult Book Tea:** TBA
- **Online Code Club:** Every Thursday. Learn beginning HTML/CSS in September, Javascript in October, and Python in November!
- **Virtual Story Hour:** September 16, October 14, and November 18
- **Virtual Middle School Book Club:** Every other Tuesday, beginning on September 15. Sign up for Hoopla using your library card, then hang out in a virtual chat room to discuss our monthly book" under the September – November heading...
- October 28 – Come into the library at any time Wednesday to receive your Halloween treat and craft bag! **Happy Halloween!**



September 19 @ 10 pm
Launched just east of Pre-K

From the Mayor (Continued)

We face a lot of unknowns in the months to come and we have had a lot of tough decisions to make regarding public events. Do you cancel or do you not? That seems to always be the question. We have several community events throughout the year, and we have canceled most of them like everyone else. There is so much uncertainty. Once the Corona Virus clears, we look forward to scheduling our community events, I think we enjoy them as much as you do!

I came across this quote from former Actress Gilda Radner and thought it was interesting for this time of pandemic. I hope it holds some meaning for you as it did for me. *"I wanted a perfect ending. Now I've learned, the hard way, that some poems don't rhyme, and some stories don't have a clear beginning, middle, and end. Life is about not knowing, having to change, taking the moment and making the best of it, without knowing what's going to happen next. Delicious Ambiguity."* She closed her quote by saying *"Delicious (affording great pleasure) Ambiguity (uncertainty)."* Not sure I agreed with those final words but I do agree we should take the moment and make the best of it, without knowing what's going to happen next. I think we all have had an experience like that in our lives.



As always, I thank you for allowing me to be your Mayor. It is a position I am honored to fill. I encourage you and your family to be wise and keep safe during this time.

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

City of Milton
1139 Smith Street
Milton, WV 25541

City of Milton

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

1-855-212-8272

miltonwater@cityofmiltonwv.com

miltonutilities@cityofmiltonwv.com

stormwater@cityofmiltonwv.com

publicworks@cityofmiltonwv.com

Milton Police Department

(304) 743-9211

mpdclerk@cityofmiltonwv.com

mpdchief@cityofmiltonwv.com

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