

THE MILTONIAN



www.cityofmiltonwv.com

May / June 2022

From the Mayor



Hello, again! I'm so happy to be out of the hospital and back to Milton, my home sweet home. I truly appreciate all the cards, prayers and well-wishes from many of you during my recovery. Your thoughtfulness is a gift I will always treasure.

I also want to say thank you to all those who worked hard to ensure the City of Milton continued to run smoothly while I was out. I understand there was some short-lived disorder, but it all worked out in the end. A lot goes into running a City, even one as small as Milton, and *working together* toward common goals is essential to success.



Several projects, including plans to build a new police station, are progressing. I feel strongly about this issue, and I am determined to make sure that our officers have the space and equipment they need to properly and safely do their jobs. We are still trying establish the best placement for construction, and have had some preliminary sketches drawn up.

Over the years there has been speculation about why the City needed to add on to City Hall or build a new maintenance building, and I'm sure we will hear talk about why we need to build a police station. Two motivating factors apply to all these projects: Growth and Safety.

Here are some of the challenges with the existing police facility:



- Inadequate work spaces and offices
- Limited space for processing and storage of evidence
- Lacks safe and secure holding areas
- *Compromised safety for officers and employees
- Lacks safely accessible bathroom facility
- Lacks space for K9 kennels

If you have any questions, or need more reasons why a new police station is needed, talk to Chief Parsons.

On another note, as you know, the Sewer Project, which began about four years ago, is reaching the point where construction can begin. Once it begins, the sewer rate increase that was approved in 2019 will be implemented. If construction starts as scheduled, you will see that increase in your utility bill in June or July.

Unfortunately, the bid over-runs were substantial and we were forced to seek more funding, which resulted in the need for another

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Offices within City Hall
will be closed these dates:

May 30—Memorial Day
June 17—Juneteenth
June 20—WV Day
July 4—Independence Day

From the Recorder

Welcome back, Mayor Tom. We are glad you are on your feet and back at City Hall. I'm happy to turn the reins back over to you!

I encourage all of you to exercise your right and duty to vote. Early voting continues at City Hall until Saturday, May 7th. If you choose to vote on the Primary Election Day, May 10th, please remember to go to your normal polling place to cast your ballot.

All 1st Quarter Business & Occupation Tax returns are due by May 15th without penalties. If you have referenced an email address, the City will email you a "fillable" 2nd Quarter 2022 B&O Tax Return on or by June 30th.

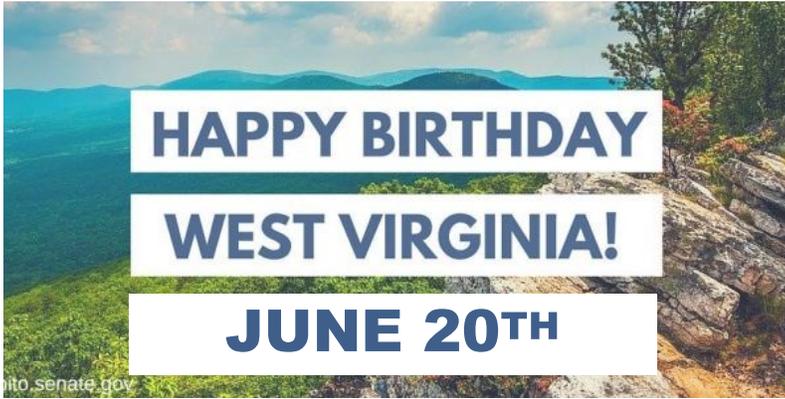
The City's 2022-2023 Business License renewal letters will go out June 1st. All businesses within City Limits must renew their annual license. Please make sure you have updated your email and telephone number.



Help the City of Milton go green; please check out our website, cityofmiltonwv.com, and utilize the fillable forms.

Finally, per the West Virginia State Auditor's Office, the City will be working on its final budget revisions for 2022, which are due by June 10, 2022.

As always, please do not hesitate to contact me or the Finance Clerk at 304-743-3032 with any questions you may have regarding B&O or business licenses.



From the Director of Public Works Charles Conard

Spring Clean-up resulted in several tons of trash being collected from residences in Milton City limits. This event gives our residents a chance to get rid of unwanted items and helps promote beautification of our City. Unfortunately, it appears that this service is being abused, as we've witnessed people bring in trash from other areas and unload it onto City properties for our employees to handle. Whether or not this is happening with the homeowner's consent is unknown. We don't want to eliminate this service, but it is an expensive enough endeavor without having to pay to dispose of trash from households beyond City limits.



This influx of others' trash has us reconsidering how, or if, we can continue to provide this service. Aside from discontinuing this service, one option we are considering is to eliminate curbside pickup during the week of the City-wide cleanup; instead we would provide dumpsters and allow residents, with proof of residency, to dispose of up to one truckload of unwanted items. We will keep you posted on how or if we will continue this service. Remember, Mountain State Waste will pick up two oversized or bulky items per month. All you have to do is call them.

Throughout the year, City employees also pick up a lot of leaves, grass clippings and brush. Please make sure brush is cut into manageable pieces, and make sure that bags are no heavier than 35 pounds.



Paving on Harrison Street is complete. Very soon we will begin patching some areas, and paving Rear Florida, Taylor Street, Freedom Lane, Heck Street and Lawhorn Street, as well as a portion of Mason Street from Lawhorn up toward GoMart.

At long last, construction should begin on the Sewer Project. As you know, once construction begins, the 18.5% rate increase voted for in 2019 will commence. You should notice this increase on either your June or July utility bill. Upon completion of this project, another smaller rate increase will go into effect.

If you have any questions call me at 304-963-0713.

Milton VFD Community Room: Need to rent event space? The Milton VFD Community Room is available to rent for birthday parties, wedding or baby showers, etc. There is space to accommodate large or small groups. For more information, contact Marsha Chastain at 304-972-5333.

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.

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.

WHAT'S GOING ON AT PUMPKIN PARK?

Saturday, May 7 beginning at 9 am we will hold our annual Arts & Crafts Jury Session.

If you are a crafter/artisan and would like to be considered for a booth in the Arts & Crafts tent for the 2022 WV Pumpkin Festival, you can bring a representation of your craft to be juried for acceptance. Call 304-743-8774 and follow the prompts for Arts & Crafts for more information.

That evening (May 7) the Cabell Midland High School Prom

will be held at the Pumpkin Park.

Friday & Saturday, May 20th & 21st We will be hosting our first ever WV Pumpkin Spring Fest Friday from noon to 9pm, Saturday from 9 am to 7 pm.



Grant / IT News from Mike Nixon

Spring has sprung and I am thankful we are heading into warmer weather. The City received great news that it was awarded \$151,000 in technology grants from the Congressionally Directed Spending earmarks! These funds, when received, will be used for new computers for our officers in their cars and in the station, new radios for all of the cars, and a license plate reader. There are also some other small projects that the money will be used for which we are excited to get started.



As a reminder, be careful on all the schemes going around! Social media platforms are full of scammers and so are the marketers via email and telephone. Just as 2 major examples, neither the IRS or Microsoft will call you or "lock your computer" while searching the internet and demand a phone call or a contact to take control. And if they call and request payment via gift cards or wire transfer, that is also a huge red flag. Happy Surfing and Happy Spring!



NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER

MAY 5, 2022

NATIONAL
DAY OF
PRAYER



Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.

Colossians 2:6-7

Get Ready! Milton's City-Wide Yard Sale Is June 4, 2022.

Start Cleaning Out Those Closets, Garages and Sheds!





SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL POLICE DEPARTMENT

From Chief Joe Parsons



Summer is fast approaching and school will be out shortly. That means more kids out riding bikes, skateboarding and playing ball near the roads. I would ask that drivers be extra vigilant in watching for children playing close to the road and reduce their speed accordingly.

Summer is also vacation time and many will travel and be out of town for a week or two. Please do what you can to avoid becoming a victim. Nothing ruins a week of fun like coming home to a burglarized house or getting a call from neighbors that your house was broken into. Have the Post Office hold your mail until you return home. Advise neighbors you are leaving town and who may be coming by to feed animals or check your residence. Remember, if you call the Milton Police Department we can put you on our vacation watch list for extra patrol while you are gone. Leave a contact number where you can be reached while you are out of town.

Tax season just passed and many are waiting for their returns. Please do not be a victim to scammers who are preying on you to get some of that tax return money. Anyone who calls you and wants you to go purchase gift cards and call them back with the numbers on the cards to draw out the money is a scammer. We have had several people contacted and actually went to the store to purchase the cards when alert employees at the store called us to intervene. They will tell you many different stories on why you need to pay the money but just remember, the federal government, local government and your help organizations DO NOT deal or trade in gift cards. Be aware and if you think it is a scam, it probably is so call us for advice or assistance.



Finally, thank you for the prayers for Mayor Tom Canterbury and all the well wishing. It will be good to see him back.

Our flag does not fly because the wind moves it... It flies with the last breath of each soldier who died protecting it.



Memorial Day - May 30, 2022



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

Armed Forces Day May 21, 2022

A Salute to all our Men and Women in Uniform
Thank You for Your Service!





MVFD News by Chief David Lewis

I know we haven't posted much in the past several months. We had limited our activities to calls and administrators only at the Fire Department due to COVID, and minimized our time being there.

We had two long-time veteran members who passed away from COVID and this put tremendous pain on our department. Dana Ryder and Merle Goodpaster were tremendous assets to our department over the years and this definitely left a void we will have a hard time filling. We are a big family, and anytime we sustain a loss within our FD Family it's a tough time for sure. We appreciate the support our community gave us during those times.

We have begun having our meetings, trainings and other functions again and we are slowly getting back into the swing of things. Our building is available for rental again. Contact Marsha to schedule it if you are interested.

We have purchased a new fire truck and we expect to have it in service around the beginning of May. This could not be done without the support of YOU and our City Administration! We are working on a plan to begin a replacement process for our older fleet so we hope to have it in place in the near future.

Thank you for your continued support!

THANK YOU



**Milton Public Library Hours: 9 am—5:30 pm
Monday, Wednesday—Saturday;
9:00am—7:00pm Tuesday; Closed Sunday.**

- ◆ **Storytime Reading** Wednesdays, 10am
- ◆ **Knotty Knitsters** Tuesdays, 1-3pm, Weekly knitting session for beginners & pros alike. No knowledge, needles or yarn needed; we can provide all three. Crocheters are welcome as well.
- ◆ **Chess Club** Thursdays, 3pm
- ◆ **Book Tok With Milton**, May 9-13, This week we're opening our TikTok to the public. Visit us to share with the world your favorite book or why you love the library.
- ◆ **Red, White, 'n' Blue** May 23-28, Crafts, crafts and more crafts!
- ◆ **Summer Reading Program**, Kick off will be June 13, the schedule hasn't been nailed down, so check the library's Facebook Page. These are what we have so far for our Summer Reading schedule:
 - * Week 1—Ocean Life Scavenger Hunt to kick off summer reading
 - * Week 2—Read a book about the ocean and receive a raffle ticket for each one and we will draw for prizes—the more books, the more tickets, the more winners!
 - * Week 3—Create your own Ocean Bottle craft

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

From the Utilities Department

Spring is in full swing and Summer is right around the corner. For those of you with swimming pools or those who plan to purchase a pool this summer, here is an explanation of our Pool Adjustment Policy. Of course, when you decide to fill your pool is completely up to you, but keep in mind that a pool adjustment will only be given for one billing cycle and will only be given once per calendar year. Meters are typically read on the 17th of each month, which is something you may consider when planning your pool fill so that you get the most benefit from your adjustment. The pool adjustment form can be found on our website under the utilities tab or can be picked up at our office. Please be aware that submission of this form does not relieve responsibility of payment and that those forms will be reviewed at the September Water Board meeting. Adjustments granted will be reflected on your October bill.



As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please contact our office at 304-743-3422 during regular business hours. In the event of an after-hours water emergency, please call 304-590-7649.

Code Enforcer/Building Inspector Mike Ramsey

With the increasingly warm weather upon us, comes the need to stay cool. What better way to beat the heat, enjoy the summer and still maintain an acceptable level of social distancing than to go swimming in your privately-owned swimming pool. Just remember according to 2015 International Property Maintenance Code, swimming pools must be maintained in a clean and sanitary condition, and in good repair. Here is the City of Milton Ordinance on swimming pools:

303.2 ENCLOSURES. Private swimming pools, hot tubs, and spas, containing water more than 24 inches in depth shall be surrounded by a fence or barrier at least 48 inches in height above the finished ground level measured on the side of the barrier away from the pool. Gates and doors in such barriers shall be self-closing and self-latching. Where the self-latching device is less than 54 inches above the bottom of the gate, the release mechanism shall be located on the pool side of the gate. Self-closing and self-latching gates shall be maintained such that the gate will positively close and latch when released from an open position of 6 inches from the gatepost. No existing pool enclosure shall be removed, replaced, or changed in a manner that reduces its effectiveness as a safety barrier.



Exceptions: Spas or hot tubs with a safety cover that complies with ASTM F 1346 are exempt from the provisions of this section.

AG105.2 (10)

NOTE! Where an above-ground pool structure is used as a barrier or where the barrier is mounted on top of the pool structure and the means of access is a ladder or steps:

The ladder or steps shall be capable of being secured, locked or removed to prevent access,
or

The ladder or steps shall be surrounded by a barrier which meets the requirements of this section. When the ladder or steps are secured, locked, or removed, any opening created shall not allow the passage of a 4-inch-diameter (102mm) sphere.

If you have any questions about your swimming pool, please contact me at City Hall at (304) 743-3032 ext. 202 And as always, any contractor doing work in the City of Milton has to be Licensed and any structural work must be permitted.

United Daughters of the Confederacy Cooney Ricketts #2726 Milton



Standing L-R Mary Johnson, Bertie Casey, Dee McComas, Sharon Williams, Easter Miller. Seated L-R Jean Hatfield, Marilyn Coleman, Billie Johnson

Chapter 2726 held its regular monthly meeting on April 9th at Shonet's Country Café here in Milton. Our Milton UDC Chapter has been meeting at Shonet's every month since the COVID-19 pandemic closed our regular meeting place in the spring of 2020. We greatly appreciate their staff for the friendliness, hospitality, and support; we look forward to our monthly luncheon meetings there.

At this month's meeting, we finalized the planning for a Confederate Memorial Day Service that we held on Sunday, April 24th at 2:00 PM at the Mud River Baptist Church at Ona. We also greatly appreciate and thank Pastor Simon Morrison and the Congregation for allowing us to hold this year's service there because there are four known Confederate graves in the cemetery on the hillside behind the Church.

Confederate Memorial Day began with a group of Southern women in Columbus, Georgia, under the organizational leadership of a lady named, Elizabeth Rutherford. At the time, Miss Rutherford was an active member of the Soldiers' Aid Society, an organization dedicated to providing supplies to the soldiers on the battlefield and caring for the sick and wounded. At the end of the War Between the States, that group of women was then caring for the graves of the fallen Confederate soldiers at nearby Linwood Cemetery.

Miss Rutherford was inspired to suggest that a special day be set aside each year to decorate Confederate soldiers' graves and thereby honor them in perpetuity. This suggestion was warmly received by other members of the Society. They sent out many letters to former Confederate Soldiers asking them to suggest a date for this special day of observance. Overwhelmingly, the soldiers replied that it should be held on April 26th because that is the date most soldiers believed the war really ended. It was on that date that General Joseph F. Johnston surrendered the remaining major Confederate field army to Major-General William T. Sherman, commander of the United States Army in North Carolina.

Thus, the first Confederate Memorial Day was held on April 26, 1866, exactly one year after the war ended.

DID YOU KNOW?

BLENKO
GLASS CO.

Blenko Glass Co.'s hot shop viewing area is again open to the public, and they have resumed glass factory tours! Schedule your FREE guided tour by calling 304-743-9081. For more info, check out their website, blenko.com.



The Milton Lions

Club meets at 6:30 p.m. on the 1st and 3rd

Thursday of each month at 809 Mason Street. If you would like to become a member, pick up an application at the Library.

The Lions Club still has delicious apple butter available for purchase!

Are you looking for event space? The Lions Club building at 809 Mason Street is available.

For more information on any of these matters, call Brad Stewart at 304-941-5683.

WV Pumpkin Spring Festival

Craft and Vendor Show



Adobe Stock | 404220116

May 20th and 21st, 2022

WV Pumpkin Park, Milton, WV

Friday Noon to 9 - Saturday 9 to 7

Over 80 booths of Arts & Crafts, Vintage items, Direct Sales, Balloons,

Face Painters & Concessions.

Open to the public! Tickets \$5.00 at the gate.

Children 10 and under are free!

MAY 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	<p>Early Voting at Milton City Hall:</p> <p>5:30 pm Utility Board 7 pm City Council</p>	<p>Monday-Friday, 8:30am-4:30pm; 12 pm Rotary @ Venetian 12:10pm, National Day of Prayer @ City Hall 6:30 pm Lions Club</p>			<p>7pm Bingo @ Am.Leg.</p>	<p>Saturday, 9am-5pm</p> <p>9am Recycling 9am Arts & Crafts Jury Session @ Pumpkin Park 5-7 pm Dinner @ Am. Leg.</p>
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
<p>Happy Mother's Day</p>	<p>7pm Cabell County Fair Bd 7pm VFW</p>	<p>NOTE</p> <p>Primary Election @ Your Normal Polling Place 5 pm Court 7 pm Am.Leg. Post 139</p>			<p>7pm Bingo @ Am.Leg.</p>	<p>9am Recycling 5-7pm Dinner @ AmLeg</p>
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
						<p>Armed Forces Day</p>
				<p>12pm Rotary @ Venetian 5 pm RPOC 6:30 pm Lions Club</p>	<p>12pm-9pm WV Pumpkin Spring Fest 7pm Bingo @ Am.Leg.</p>	<p>9am Recycling 9am-7pm WV Pumpkin Spring Fest 5-7pm Dinner @ AmLeg</p>
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
		<p>7 pm Am.Leg. Post 139 7pm Pumpkin Board</p>		<p>12 pm Rotary @ Venetian</p>	<p>7pm Bingo @ Am.Leg.</p>	<p>9am Recycling 5-7pm Dinner @ AmLeg</p>



In memory of
many
In honor of all

29	30	31
	<p>Memorial Day - Closed</p>	

June 2022



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
				12 pm Rotary @ Venetian 6:30 pm Lions Club	7pm Bingo @ AmLeg	YARD SALE City-Wide Yard Sale 9am Recycling 5-7 pm Dinner @ AmLeg
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	D-DAY ANNIVERSARY 	5:30 pm Utility Board 7 pm City Council		12 pm Rotary @ Venetian	7pm Bingo @ AmLeg	9am Recycling 5-7 pm Dinner @ AmLeg
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	7pm Cabell County Fair Bd 7pm VFW	 5 pm Court 7 pm AmLeg Post 139 Mtg		12 pm Rotary @ Venetian 5 pm RPOC 6:30 pm Lions Club	Juneteenth Observed - Closed 7pm Bingo @ AmLeg	9am Recycling 5-7 pm Dinner @ AmLeg
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
 	 WW Day-Closed			12 pm Rotary @ Venetian	7pm Bingo @ AmLeg	9am Recycling 5-7 pm Dinner @ AmLeg
26	27	28	29	30	1	2
		7 pm AmLeg Post 139 Mtg 7 pm Pumpkin Board		12 pm Rotary @ Venetian		

From the Mayor (Continued From Page 1)

rate increase. This secondary rate increase will not begin until the sewer project is substantially complete. I realize these rate increases are unwelcome, but they are necessary.

May and June hold two holidays that are very special to me. Mothers' Day on May 8, and Fathers' Day on June 19. I encourage you to take the time to visit or call your parents on those days and let them know how much you care. Happy Mothers' Day and Fathers' Day to everyone out there blessed with those titles.



Memorial Day is another special day set aside to honor and remember the overwhelming number of men and women who died while serving in the United States military. I appreciate the sacrifices they made for our country, and I thank the men and women who still today protect our freedoms.

Since being elected as your Mayor, it has always been a position I take seriously. It is both an honor and privilege, and I thank you all for this opportunity. I am certainly a blessed man to have so many family, friends, colleagues and neighbors wholeheartedly wishing me a speedy recovery. I won't forget your outpouring of support.



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
(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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