

THOMPSON TOUCHPOINT



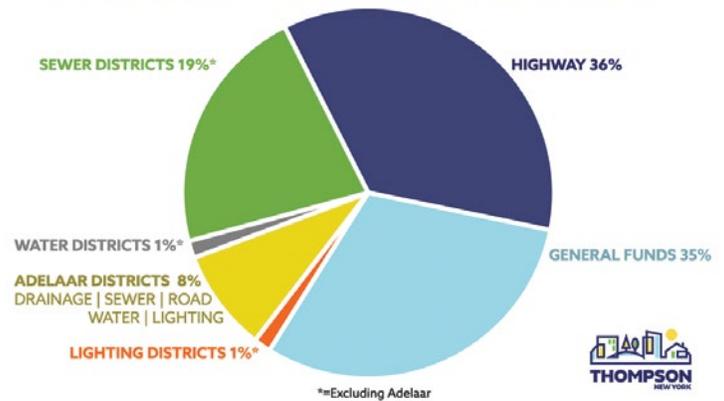
FROM THE SUPERVISOR'S DESK BILL RIEBER

Let's kick off 2023 with some great news: your Town taxes have decreased for the 8th consecutive year - and have been reduced by 20% since 2016.

The General fund tax rate dropped .4% over last year. After the economic reversal and inflation we lived through in 2022, your Town has remained fiscally responsible through these difficult times. We finished 2022 with a surplus and our tax rates for 2023 reflect decreases in some funds and modest increases in others. The Town could not avoid the nationwide and regional jumps in energy costs, road salt, and health insurance. However, we were able to cut and maintain costs in other areas. Let's put this all in perspective: if your home is assessed

for \$250,000 your Town taxes for operating and highway funds in 2016 would have been \$1,402 and in 2023, they would be \$1,123. NOTE: We have many special districts in the Town. These special districts such as lighting, sewer, water, fire, Adelaar (Casino/Waterpark), etc. only are billed to the properties served by the district. As mentioned, if your property is assessed at \$250,000 your taxes have dropped 20% or \$279 over 8 years! I'll share what we've accomplished on the next page, but wanted to first share this helpful graph that shows where your tax dollars are allocated. Please reach to me with any questions!

HOW YOUR 2023 TOWN TAX BILL IS ALLOCATED



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What I am most excited about is that while we kept your taxes lower, we were very busy improving life for Town residents like you by doing the following in 2022:

- Increasing services and building better roads
- Renewing our fleet of trucks and service vehicles. EVERY plow truck has been replaced!
- Completed phase I of digitizing records
- The goal is to free up valuable space and move toward a more efficient, paperless Town
- Completely upgrading our original park, now called East Mongaup Park – adding everything from paved walkways to a relaxing riverside pergola and Adirondack chairs
- Building two new parks, Lake Ida Park on Adams Road in Rock Hill and the Neversink River Access Park in Bridgeville
- Investing heavily in family and youth activities like never before...we hosted over a dozen events and programs in 2022 – and the 2023 winter lineup is already packed with everything from a guided snowshoe event to an indoor youth basketball league
- Embarking on the most ambitious upgrades to our sewer treatment plants since the mid-1970s! We have secured \$35,000,000 in grants and up to \$25,000,000 in zero-interest loans to make it happen
- Creating a vibrant Route 42 business district which is attracting national tenants such as Old Navy, Marshalls, and Hampton Inn with even more coming
- Maintaining a pleasant work environment with great employees who are paid fair wages
- Converting all street lights to LED for better visibility and pedestrian and vehicular safety
- We have not borrowed any money in over 9 years except for special districts such as sewer and water. Our funds are well managed and we pay as we go!



Kids had a blast making holiday wreaths at the free Winter Craft Day in December.



Residents got a sneak peek at the new Lake Ida Park during a free guided autumn hike.



Boxes of documents are prepared to be digitally archived.



Hundreds of visitors enjoyed wagon rides at the free Treats and Trails Halloween event.

YOUR OPINION IS WANTED! TELL US WHAT YOU WANT FROM THE TOWN PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT

The Town of Thompson Parks & Recreation Department held dozens of events in 2022. As we plan out 2023, we want to know how we can enhance your life through recreation opportunities and outdoor recreation areas. Take a short survey to help us add fun to your year! Just scan the QR below with your smartphone or visit:

www.townofthompson.com/news/survey/



NEW NAME, SAME GREAT SPOT FOR YEAR-ROUND FUN: EAST MONGAUP RIVER PARK

The Town of Thompson Park is now officially called East Mongaup River Park and is located at 181 Town Park Road in Monticello. This beautiful park is open daily from dawn until dusk. Stop by this month to enjoy hiking, the large playground, Adirondack chairs next to the beautiful East Mongaup River, and more. This park features paved pathways so it is accessible to those using wheelchairs. Once spring arrives, we'll share information about exciting events and programs that will take place at the park.



THOMPSON LAUNCHES YOUTH PROGRAM TO MAKE IT EASIER FOR KIDS TO ACCESS EVENTS AND PROGRAMS

In early 2023, the Thompson Parks & Recreation Department launched the Youth Program. This program provides youth under 18 who reside in the Town of Thompson with access to many events and programs - most of which are FREE! For example, youth who signed up could ski, snowtube, or snowboard for free at Holiday Mountain in Monticello on Thursday nights while the Mountain was open this season. Now, they can also join the Town's youth leagues for basketball, flag football, and more.

"With the launch of our new Youth Program, my hope is that even more Thompson kids take advantage of all our Town has to offer – all year round," said Jamie Ferriero, Thompson Parks & Recreation Events Manager.

To enroll your child, scan the QR code below or visit:

www.townofthompson.com/youthprogram





LOOKS CAN BE DECEIVING! ROUTE 42 CONSTRUCTION IS NOT CAUSING DELAYS SO COME SUPPORT LOCAL BUSINESSES & RESTAURANTS

Yes, you will see construction equipment and signs that say “road work ahead.” The good news? No, you will not experience significant delays! Traffic flows very well in both directions on Route 42 - even during the morning/evening commute and over the lunch hour. That’s because the construction is taking place off the roadway, and there are two lanes flowing past the construction in either direction. We hope this information encourages you to come out and support local restaurants and retailers in the Route 42 corridor!

SEEING BOXES WHEN YOU STOP INTO THE TOWN HALL? WE’RE MOVING TO THE CLOUD!

Sullivan County and the Town of Thompson recently received a Shared Services grant to begin digitizing documents. The Town Building, Planning, and Zoning Department had over 20 massive filing cabinets worth of applications, site plans, and more. After careful assessment and organization of the files, they were boxed and prepared for the digital archiving company hired by Sullivan County. The documents will be carefully scanned in by hand, and then securely stored in multiple virtual places: several servers housed in different locations. This is what is known as transferring data “to the cloud.” The move to digital storage will free up physical space and save the Town from having to either relocate or build an expensive addition to the Town Hall.



6 WAYS TO STAY CONNECTED WITH TOWN OF THOMPSON

- 1. Sign up** for our e-newsletter “Talk of the Town” by visiting bit.ly/thompsonemail
- 2. Get text alerts** for weather and other important information by visiting bit.ly/thompsonalerts
- 3. Join us** on Facebook at www.Facebook.com/TownofThompson
- 4. Follow us** on Instagram at www.Instagram.com/TownofThompson
- 5. Call us** at 845-794-2500
- 6. Stop in and see us!** The Town Hall is open daily M-F from 8:30-4:30 at 4052 Route 42 in Monticello