



Spring 2025 Town Newsletter

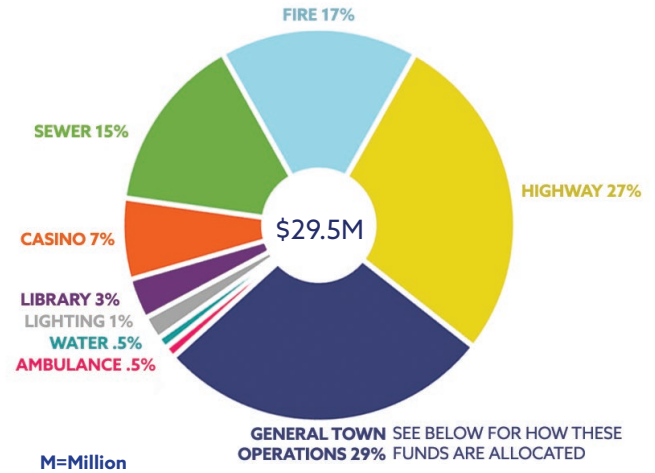
THOMPSON TOUCHPOINT



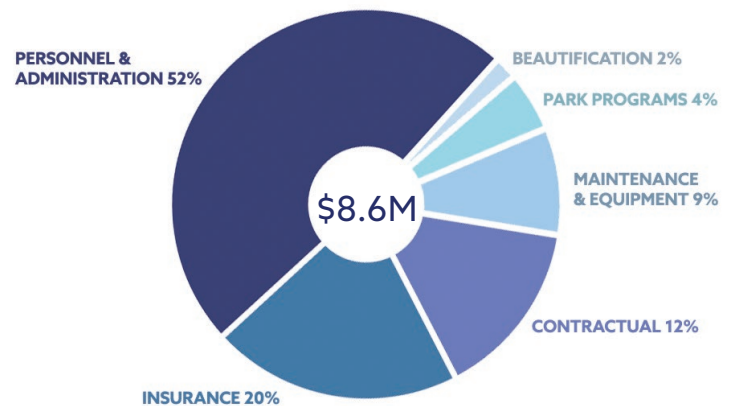
BUDGET UPDATE FROM TOWN SUPERVISOR BILL RIEBER

It's time to review our 2025 Town budget and Town happenings (see next page for exciting project updates)! For the 10th consecutive year, tax rates have dropped for our main operating funds and highway repairs without impacting services. We met the NYS tax cap which limits tax increases to 2%. There was again a ZERO dollar levy for the Planning, Zoning and Building Department Services. Financially, we are in a good place. Our General Fund is invested safely and wisely, generating \$1.2M in earnings last year. Taxes are stable and we are steadily growing our tax base with new projects hitting the tax rolls annually. The key takeaway is that without reasonable growth and an increasing tax base we would have to raise taxes. Your Thompson team works hard to improve our quality of life: investing in parks and activities, updating our Comprehensive Plan, keeping your sewer and water facilities in top shape, and maintaining a balanced budget. We attract investment because we are stable, predictable, and always ready to try something new and exciting. Wishing you all a wonderful year full of enjoyment and good health. Always feel free to reach out! *Sincerely, Bill Rieber*

HOW THE \$29.5 M TOWN APPROPRIATIONS ARE BUDGETED



BREAK DOWN OF GENERAL OPERATING FUNDS



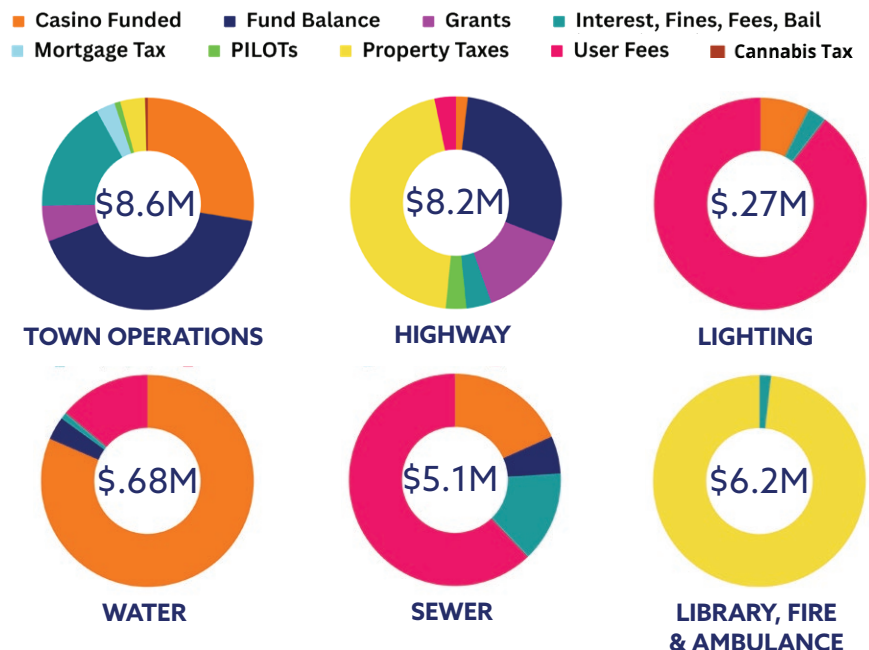
NUMBER OF TOWN DISTRICTS



ABOUT TOWN DISTRICTS

Taxes and user fees are paid by property owners who reside in the affected district. For Fire, Ambulance and Library, the taxes received are passed onto the appropriate district.

REVENUE SOURCES FOR TOWN APPROPRIATIONS





More Opportunities for Community Fun

We're excited to share even more events and programs for all ages through our Thompson Parks & Recreation Department. Now in its third year, the Thompson Youth Program continues to expand opportunities for youth - including swimming lessons, sports leagues from basketball to flag football, skiing, as well as bus trips to NYC (tickets still available for the March 22nd trip to see the Knicks, details at right!). Check out the programs on the back page and visit our website for new events.

Finalizing the Thompson Comprehensive Plan

Throughout 2023 and 2024, the Town Comprehensive Plan Committee met to gather community input and craft a framework for how the Town should develop for the future. The committee will submit a draft plan to the Town Board for review this spring and will hold a series of public hearings before adopting the plan. The plan will lay out goals and strategies for managing growth throughout the Town.

Exciting Updates at Town Parks in 2025

Coming soon to East Mongaup River Park and Lake Ida Park...EV chargers will be installed! Also at Lake Ida, look for new bathrooms to open this summer and a series of concerts to be announced. At East Mongaup River Park, you'll see additional changes: Thanks to a Community Impact Grant received from Sullivan 180, the Town will be working with Assemblywoman Paula Kay's office to administer a DASNY grant to develop a dog park and an ADA-accessible playground (see rendering above) at the East Mongaup River Park. This playground will allow residents to use the playground even during YMCA summer camp!

Wrapping Up the LED Lighting Project

This year, we will conclude the LED Lighting Project. Since the project's start, we have installed over 800 LED lights throughout the Town, reducing our carbon footprint and implementing an online system for outages and on-going maintenance.

More Updates to Water & Sewer Infrastructure

The Town has acquired millions in grant funding and no- or low-interest loans to cover much-needed updates to our water and sewer systems. We will continue to make improvements to these systems in 2025. We will be going to bid this year on major sewer and water projects in Rock Hill/ Emerald Green, Kiamesha/Route 42, Sackett Lake and Melody Lake. Total estimated costs are \$55.3 million. Presently, we anticipate \$34.4 million in federal and State grants to offset user costs with the balance financed with mostly 0% loans.

Ongoing Beautification Efforts

Have you noticed the beautiful new banners along Route 42 in Thompson? It's all thanks to 28 local artists of all ages who submitted their work in 2024. Keep an eye out this summer, and you'll see the return of the hanging baskets alongside the new banners. We want to thank our wonderful Parks & Recreation Department for installing the banners and baskets as well as planting new flowers, weeding, and ensuring signage and roundabout green spaces look their best. These initiatives are guided by the Grow the Gateways project, which prioritizes beautification of entryway areas into Thompson so that visitors and residents alike have the best impression of our hometown.

Digitizing Court Records

Starting in 2024, over a million records began to be scanned from the Court Department, including all criminal and civil cases. Recently, our Planning Department underwent the digital archival process, and the benefits have been tremendous. Digital archiving the court records will clear up storage space and scans will be indexed for easy retrieval when documents are needed.

Stay Informed of What's Ahead...

We will post updates at TownofThompson.com as projects are initiated or completed!



Calling all adults with kids who love basketball! Join us for an exciting day at Madison Square Garden to watch the New York Knicks in action.

Your child/ren simply need to join the FREE Thompson Youth Program (details on the previous page), and then you can purchase tickets for them (and you!) to head to Madison Square Garden on March 22nd for an unforgettable game.

Cheer on your favorite players, enjoy the electric atmosphere, and create unforgettable memories with friends and fellow fans.

The cost is free for children and an adult ticket is \$150 (plus fees) and includes the bus transportation there and back.

All participants must be Town residents. Your group must be accompanied by an adult chaperone, who must also purchase a ticket. One adult per child max, up to 3 kids per adult max. Adults must accompany a Thompson youth.

GET TICKETS NOW!
<https://townofthompson.com/parks-and-recreation/knicks/>



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Receive our e-newsletter bit.ly/thompsonemail
Get text alerts bit.ly/thompsonalerts
Like www.Facebook.com/TownofThompson
Follow www.Instagram.com/TownofThompson
Call 845-794-2500
Visit M-F 8:30-4:30 at 4052 Rt. 42 in Monticello



Big changes are happening in your Town of Thompson Highway Department! The ultimate takeaway is that we'll continue to enjoy the same high-quality service on Town-managed roadways.

Thank You & Congratulations, Richard Benjamin!

After over two decades as the Thompson Highway Department Superintendent, Richard Benjamin has retired. We wish him a wonderful and fulfilling retirement doing his favorite things (including following NASCAR races around the country!).

Welcome, Hayden Carnell!

Prior to retiring, Richard Benjamin worked closely with Hayden Carnell to prepare him for the role he has now: the new Thompson Highway Department Superintendent. Hayden has a background in engineering as well as site planning and construction. He has already shown exceptional leadership and is doing a great job keeping the Town Board up to date. Hayden also ensured the surplus of road salt was available for residential use this winter.

Safe Roads Thanks to The Highway Team

Thank you, Town of Thompson Highway Department, for the exceptional care of our roads during the early winter ice storms. Roadways were kept plowed and salted, resulting in a safe drive for all!

Connect with Your Highway Department

The Highway Department invites you to follow along for road-related updates on Facebook. You can also reach out to Hayden directly at 845-794-5560 or email: HighwaySuper@townofthompson.com.

 **FOLLOW THOMPSON HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT ON FACEBOOK**
[facebook/thompsonhighwaydept](https://facebook.com/thompsonhighwaydept)

FREE SPRING FUN FOR ALL!

*Events are free for Town of Thompson residents except for fees noted below for Thursday Night Lights. Check www.townofthompson.com and Facebook/TownofThompson for latest event news.



DATES VARY - CHECK WEBSITE CALENDAR & FACEBOOK PAGE

LOCATION: East Mongaup River Park, 181 Town Park Rd. in Monticello

New for 2025! Renowned local crafter Patti Sonnenschein leads projects for kids and adults indoors at the East Mongaup River Park Community room. From pinecone bird feeders for kids to painting for adults, don't miss out!



SATURDAYS THROUGH APRIL 26TH | 9 AM - NOON

LOCATION: Kenneth L. Rutherford Elementary at 26 Patricia Pl. in Monticello

Boys and girls of elementary school age who reside in Thompson can join this fun event for all skill levels held indoors at Kenneth L. Rutherford Elementary. Instruction provided! Parents must remain with their child.



NOW THROUGH APRIL 29TH | 6-8 PM

LOCATION: Monticello High School at 39 Breakey Avenue

Kids 5-18 can enjoy an evening of sports and fun, indoors! It's the perfect way to stay active this season. Parents must stay on site, why not join in pickleball going on at the same place, same time...see below!



NOW THROUGH APRIL 29TH | 6-8 PM

LOCATION: Monticello High School at 39 Breakey Avenue

Pickup games for adults are held every Tuesday from 6-8pm. All experience levels are welcome. No need to pre-register, just drop in and play ball.



STARTING MAY 1ST | 5:30-6:30 PM

LOCATION: Upper Pavilion, East Mongaup River Park, 181 Town Park Rd.

Instructor Jamie Vandervoort will lead FREE classes at East Mongaup River Park in the upper pavilion every Tuesday and Thursday through August. You'll dance your way to better fitness and build strength!



SAVE THE DATES! | APRIL 26TH IN ROCK HILL, MAY 3RD IN MONTICELLO

LOCATION: Rock Hill TBD, In Monticello...Meet at Thompson Town Hall

This spring, we're going to make Thompson look its best and you're invited! We'll provide the gloves and trash bags, just show up in comfortable, bright clothing and we'll pick up roadside trash along Route 42. Time TBD.



SIGN UP FOR OUR YOUTH PROGRAM...IT'S FREE!

Youth under 18 who reside in Thompson can access events and programs - most of which are FREE! Enrollment in the Youth Program is required for Thursday Night Lights. To enroll, scan the QR code or visit: www.townofthompson.com/youthprogram