

#### VILLAGE OF BUTLER

12621 W. Hampton Ave., Butler, WI 53007

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#### **VILLAGE BOARD**

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#### VILLAGE STAFF

**Village Administrator** 

262-415-2522

Clerk

262-415-2524

Treasurer

262-415-2523

**Building Inspector** 

262-415-2534

Police Department Non-Emergency

262-446-5070



#### Where do my tax dollars go?

By now, you should have received your property tax bill in the mail. The good news is that the overall tax rate decreased this year with no change to the Village's tax rate. The first installment, or full amount, is due by January 31. Please note that Village Hall is closed on December 24, 27 and 31.

Though the Village collects all the taxes, we only keep a portion. The portion of property taxes the Village keeps is used to provide police and fire protection, refuse and recycling collection, snow and ice control, leaf and yard waste collection, routine street maintenance, sidewalk and alley maintenance, street and traffic lighting, library services, park facilities and maintenance, building inspection, election administration, and other miscellaneous Village services.

A homeowner of a home assessed at \$163,000 would pay approximately \$1,432.77 in property taxes for Village provided services. The total monthly cost for Village services on a \$163,000 home is approximately \$118.20 allocated to departments as follows:

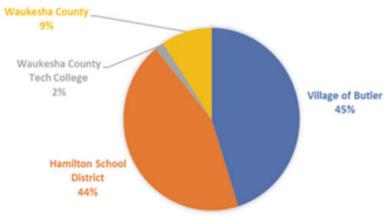
Department	E	Annually	N	bnthly
General Government	\$	143.28	\$	11.94
Police	\$	515.80	\$	42.98
Public Works	\$	128.95	\$	10.75
Library	\$	42.98	\$	3.58
Insurance & Contracted Services	\$	257.90	\$	21.49
Debt Service	\$	257.90	\$	21.49
Capital	\$	71.64	\$	5.97
Parks & Recreation	\$	14.33	\$	1.19
Total	\$	1,432.77	\$:	118.20

Continued on page 2

The Village collects taxes for four other taxing jurisdictions that establish their own budgets and levies. Below is an example of the allocation of property taxes to each taxing jurisdiction for a home with an assessed value of \$163,000.

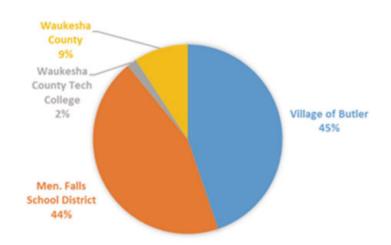
#### **Hamilton School District**

Taxing Jurisdiction	2	021 Taxes
Village of Butler	\$	1,432.77
Hamilton School District	\$	1,395.28
Waukesha County Tech College	\$	53.79
Waukesha County	\$	295.03
School Property Tax Credit	\$	(267.32)
Tot	tal \$	2,909.55



#### **Menomonee Falls School District**

Taxing Jurisdiction	20	021 Taxes
Village of Butler	\$	1,432.77
Men. Falls School District	\$	1,416.47
Waukesha County Tech College	\$	53.79
Waukesha County	\$	295.03
School Property Tax Credit	\$	(267.32)
Total	\$	2,930.74



Kayla Thorpe Village Administrator

#### From the Village President



On behalf of the Village of Butler Board and staff, I would like to extend our very best wishes to all for a safe and healthy 2022!

Pat Tiarks, Village President

#### Season's Greetings from the Butler Police Department

The Village of Butler Police Department has seen some personnel changes since our last news article. Officer Dustin Biermann left the department to work with military veterans at the Milwaukee VA Hospital. With his departure, we hired Officer Nicholas Schmitz. He came to us with previous law enforcement experience and has been a great addition to our department. After he completes his field training, he will be headed to 3<sup>rd</sup> shift to keep our Village safe while most of us are cozy in bed. When you see him, be sure to introduce yourself and welcome him to our great community.

I have spoken to many residents over the past few years and have often been asked how the department and our officers are doing. The answer is that we are busier now than ever. Our calls for service are for more complex issues including drug overdoses and investigations, mental illness related problems, and more calls involving guns, weapons and violent individuals. We

are investigating more white collar and financial crimes which are complicated and time consuming. Even with these increased demands, officers work by themselves over 50% of the time, responding to these types of calls or trying to conduct follow-up alone.

After explaining this, the follow-up question I'm asked is, "What can be done to get us the help we need?" After discussing ideas and options, I often hear people say they will do whatever it takes to get us the help we desperately need to keep our community safe. We are fortunate and blessed to have such tremendous support and a strong community partnership here in Butler. I'm very excited to announce there will be a referendum placed on the ballot during our Spring Village election asking you, our residents, to decide whether or not to support funding to add one full time officer to our department. The reason for going to a referendum is twofold. The first is that this is the only viable option to increase the annual tax levy. Secondly, and most importantly, it puts the power back in the hands of our residents to make this choice. Continued on page 4



I'm very much a fiscal conservative, just ask our officers. I don't take this decision lightly. I believe you, the tax-payer, should know where your hard -earned money goes and should have input on this along with prioritizing the public safety needs of the Village and department. I know there will be a lot of questions and the bottom line of "how much?" I welcome all your input and look forward to a thoughtful dialogue. We will be holding several information sessions at Village Hall leading up to the election in April. We will answer questions and provide as much information as possible to allow you, the resident, to make an informed decision. More information will be put on our Facebook page regarding these dates so please "like" our page to get all the latest information.

Thank you and I hope everyone had a great Christmas with their families and best wishes for a prosperous 2022!

Chief Dave

#### 10 NEW YEAR'S QUESTIONS

At this time of year, we may find ourselves looking back on the past year and reflecting on the highs and lows, what went right and what went wrong, lessons learned and lessons to learn. This introspect can help us process what has happened while looking forward to the goals and challenges that lay ahead. Below you will find a list of 10 questions that will help you do just that. At your holiday gatherings, share some time with family or friends and encourage each other to remember the bends in the road while setting a course to move on ahead. Happy New Year! What was the single best thing that happened this past year?

What was an unexpected obstacle or unexpected joy? Who were your most valuable relationships with? What was your biggest personal change of this past year?

In what ways did you grow emotionally? In what ways did you grow spiritually?

In what ways did you grow in your relationships with others?

What was your single biggest time waster in your life this past year?

What was the biggest thing you learned this past year? Create a phrase or statement that describes this past year for you.





#### 2022 Election News!

#### 2022 Election Dates

February 15, 2022 – Spring Primary April 5, 2022 – Spring Election August 9, 2022 – Partisan Primary November 8, 2022 – General Election

Voting is held at Village Hall, 12621 W. Hampton Avenue. Polls are open from 7:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m. on Election days.

The Village is always looking for individuals willing to serve as Election Inspectors (also known as Poll Workers) and/or Chief Inspectors. Individuals willing to serve in these roles are essential to

conduct open, accurate, and fair elections in Wisconsin. In order to be an Election Inspector, an individual must be a U.S. Citizen, be 18 years old (except high school student election inspectors), and be able to read and write fluently in the English language. We are also looking for individuals with strong problem solving, clerical, and communication skills.

Election Inspectors are responsible for checking in voters, assisting with voter registration, and issuing ballots to qualified electors. They must be residents of the county in which they will serve.

Chief Inspectors serve as the lead election official at the polling place on Election Day. Individuals interested in this position must be residents of the Village of Butler.

If you are interested in learning more about these positions, please contact our Deputy Clerk, Melanie Kollmansberger, at 262-783-2525 Ext. 1224 or mkollmansberger@butlerwi.gov.







#### Village of Butler Stormwater Resources

With winter just around the corner, residents of the Village of Butler need to prepare for the long and cold months ahead. Part of that preparation includes readying your property for winter stormwater management.

- Clear the gutters along your roof. Leaves or other debris can contribute to nutrient pollution as well as cause overflow, which could lead to dangerous icicles.
- Disconnect rain barrels from your downspouts, empty them, and cover and store them for the winter.
- Direct your downspout to an area where water won't flood and freeze. Downspouts directed to a rain garden can stay like this through the winter.
- Add mulch to planted areas to insulate and protect their roots.
- Remove excess leaves from rain gardens, storm drains, and ditches so they can drain.
- Some trees and shrubs should be pruned in the winter to avoid fungal infections. Grasses, on the other hand, should be left standing.
- While rain gardens will function to an extent in the winter, don't pile snow in all the beds,

especially snow from a driveway or walkway that was salted.

Visit respectourwaters.org for maintenance tips to ensure your landscaping will survive another rainy spring.











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#### News from the Butler DPW

As I write this article, we have just completed hanging Christmas decorations on Hampton Avenue for the holiday season. That means three things for the guys at the DPW: Santa Claus is coming (of course), snow plowing, and water main breaks will be here as well. We've already had four breaks this fall with the changing temperatures, so if you wake up some morning and don't have water, you'll know why. There are many steps involved with repairing a water main break starting with calling Diggers Hotline, throttling valves to slow water losses, and mobilizing equipment to ensure the crews safety before excavation can even begin. So please be patient, we'll get it fixed as soon as possible.

As far as the snow goes, Farmer's Almanac is predicting some pretty sizeable snow events for the Midwest, so hang on and we'll make it through. Seems to me they have been saying that for a long time now, but they're bound to be right one of these years.

Please remember to keep your garbage cans on top of the curb and not in the street for those

inevitable Sunday night snowstorms. Remember to shovel those sidewalks - there are a lot of people counting on it! Also, please keep as many vehicles off the road as possible, whether it's a snow emergency or not. This allows us to keep the streets wide from curb to curb for our friends at the police and fire departments.

Special shout out to Caleb, a second grader at St. Agnes school, who was asked to draw a picture of his community. He drew a picture of the DPW mulching up tree branches and his mother posted it on Facebook (We just absolutely loved it). Keep up the good work, Caleb, and come see us when you araduate school.

Working hard for you 24/7/365 Jim, Craig, Craig,

and Pat.





#### **Butler Business Bio**

#### **CHANGE FOR SUCCESS**

Change. It's been said that change is inevitable – except from a vending machine. But seriously, during its 100 years in business, MRPC, located at 13161 W Glendale Ave in Butler, has undergone a lot of change. MRPC was established in 1921 as "The Unbreakable Button Company" where rubber buttons were molded. These "rubber" buttons were able to go through the old-fashioned wringer washing machines without breaking, thus the namesake of the company. In 1957, the business changed hands and took on its current moniker MRPC (Molded Rubber and Plastic Corporation).

During the 1930's – 1970's, the company transitioned into supplying molded rubber and thermoplastic components to leading producers of small engines, power tools, plumbing supplies, electrical systems, and brewing and bottling equipment. They served worldwide companies and local ones such as Johnson Controls, Briggs and Stratton, Allen Bradley, Milwaukee Tool and Miller, Pabst and Schlitz breweries.

In the 1980's, the company took a giant leap and shifted the focus of the business into the medical device industry. This change proved to be what is now the main emphasis and profit generating aspect of the enterprise. According to Greg Riemer, President and CEO, "We wouldn't be in business today if we hadn't transitioned to the medical market." A major component of this change was investing in advanced clean-room facilities. A "clean room" is a specialized pressurized area with HEPPA filters to create a space free of dust particulates and air-borne contaminants in a controlled and certified environment. These rooms are essential in manufacturing components for medical and surgical applications. Molding products for laparoscopic sealing systems is a major portion of their production along with assemblies used in anesthesiology, medical implants, respiratory care equipment, dental components, robotic surgical instruments and more.

In order to support the growth of the corporation, MRPC acquired two molding companies, one in Largo, Florida, and the other in Hudson, New Hampshire. The global headquarters is here in Butler where there is plenty of room for expansion.

Throughout its history, MRPC has been and



continues to be a family-owned company. Greg Riemer is the third generation member of the family to lead the corporation. With 170 employees in Butler, MRPC is very family oriented, and I can attest to the "family feel" of the workplace. As I toured the facility, Greg greeted everyone by name as they smiled and waved in return – it's a very warm and caring atmosphere. "As an organization, we know that our employees are our strongest asset, and we have some of the best in the industry," stated Greg. "We are honored to employ such talented individuals, a number of who have worked here for multiple decades."

The company's mission is to improve the lives of its employees, customers, shareholders and people needing medical care. As a testament to the corporation's commitment to their employees, MRPC has been named a "Top Workplaces" award winner 6 times by The Milwaukee Journal Sentinel. In addition, MRPC strives to be a good corporate citizen to Butler through their support of the St. Agnes Food Pantry, St. Vincent DePaul, The Salvation Army and various other charities the employees recommend. Nationally, they are a corporate partner with St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

Winston Churchill said, "There is nothing wrong with change...if it is in the right direction." For 100 years, it is evident that MRPC has and continues to change...moving in the right direction.

Interview and article by Janet Holdmann

Butler Business Bio is a feature article highlighting a local business to discover interesting facts and tidbits about the business that aim to foster community awareness and pride.

#### **Butler Public Library**



#### The 'How Much Have You Saved' Contest is back!

Track how much you save on the bottom of your receipt when you use the library. The top Adult and Youth savers will win a prize basket courtesy of the Friends of the Butler Library.

January 1st, 2022— February 28th, 2022

#### Storytime with Melissa is Indoors!

Every Wednesday at 11:30 a.m. in the Children's Area



Join us for The Lionel Train Club model train display Saturday, **January 8, 2022** 



#### Lego Club 2022

Stop in every fourth Thursday of the month for Lego challenges and free build fun.

3:30-4:30 pm





Get FREE BOOKS for your child if you are a Butler resident! Dolly Parton's Imagination Library mails free high quality, ageappropriate books to children from birth to age five. Each month a new, carefully selected book will be mailed in your child's name directly to your home. The first book is always the children's classic The Little Engine That Could™. Best of all it is a FREE GIFT to your child through the partnership with the Friends of the Butler Library! There is no cost or obligation to your family. Sign up today at the library or online at imaginationlibrary.com.



2021-2022 Schedule

Meets 5:30—6:45 pm Library Conference Room

- •December 16th, 2021—The Thursday Murder Club by Richard Osman
- •January 20th, 2022—The Body in the Library by Agatha Christie
- •February 17th, 2022—Killers of the Flower Moon by David Grann

Butler Public Library 12808 W. Hampton Ave Butler, WI 53007 262-783-2535 www.butler.lib.wi.us; referencebutler@gmail.com; facebook: ButlerPublicLibrary,WI Congratulations to Village Administrator Kayla Thorpe and her husband Colin on the birth of their son Cormac! Mom and baby are happy and healthy!



Butler PD has a new addition: Officer Nicholas Schmitz was sworn in on November 2. He will be assigned to third shift following his initial training period. Welcome officer Schmitz!





#### Christmas Trees Recycling

Please put your Christmas tress out by the curb (do not put them in a bag). DPW crews will collect them the first and third weeks of January.



#### **Bulk and large Items**

Don't let your bulk trash become an eyesore! Johns Disposal will remove bulk and large items from residential properties in the Village for a small fee. Please make arrangements with Johns Disposal if you would like them to remove large items by calling 262-473-4700.

#### Stay Informed.

#### Signup for the Village of Butler e-Newsletter delivered to your Inbox

In the e-Newsletter, you will receive important bi-weekly village announcements or changes in services. Visit the Village of Butler website at https://www.butlerwi.gov/. A pop-up box will appear as soon as you visit the site.

## Village of Butler

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Monday is Collection Day Weekly garbage service. Every other week recycle service.

The recycling collection is on the shaded weeks. Large items may be picked up for a fee. Please call the office for scheduling.

Yard Waste service is available for a fee. The service runs from April through November. Call the office for details, or to sign up for this service.

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New Years Day - Saturday 1/1/2022 Collection will have no delay.

Holidays (no collection)

Memorial Day - Monday 5/30/2022 Collection will be delayed by one day.

Monday 7/4/2022 Collection will be delayed by one day. Independence DayLabor Day - Monday 9/5/2022 Collection will be delayed by one day.

# Collection Schedule

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Thanksgiving - Thursday 11/24/2022 Collection will have no delay.

Christmas Day - Sunday 12/25/2022 Collection will have no delay.

The garbage (brown cart) is emptied on a weekly basis. The recycling (green cart) is emptied every other week.

E-mail: office@johnsdisposal.com

Call Johns Disposal at 888-473-4701 www.johnsdisposal.com



12621 W. Hampton Ave. Butler, WI 53007

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**Connecting the Community** 

Our mission is to publish a quality newsletter committed to serving the Village of Butler by providing topics of interest, news and information.

#### The Caboose Staff:

**Mark Holdmann**, Village Board Trustee

Diana Armstrong, Resident

If you have any questions or comments regarding this newsletter, send an email to TrusteeHoldmann@butlerwi.gov. Announcement: If you would like to advertise your business in this newsletter, please contact 800-950-9952 ext. 5862.



"All advertising was solicited without direction or authorization from the Village Board. The views and opinions expressed in this publication are that of the individual and not that of the Village of Butler or it's Board of Trustees."

IMPORTA	ANT DATES
Spring Primary	February 15th
Spring Election	April 5th
Lionel Train Display	Library, January 8th
BINGO	January 15th

# VILLAGE BOARD 1st & 3rd Tuesdays at 7p.m FINANCE BOARD Before Village Board Meeting BUILDING BOARD Before Village Board Meeting PARK AND RECREATION 4th Wednesday at 5:30 p.m. LIBRARY BOARD 2nd Tuesday at 6 p.m.

All meetings are held at Village Hall except the Library Board meeting which meets at the Butler Public Library. Meetings may be held virtually. See meeting agenda for login information on the Village of Butler website.



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