

APRIL 2023 • ISSUE 358

OPERATING BUDGET RISE HELD TO 1.4%

2022-2023 Operating Budget	Proposed 2023-2024 Operating Budget	Amount Increase	Percent Increase	Average Cost Per Household
\$10,613,000	\$10,761,499	\$148,499	1.4 %	78¢ per month

Dear Library Patrons:

Our community's families and individuals face challenging financial decisions in these times of historically high inflation. In January, the inflation rate was 6.4 percent. It has forced us to take measures to tighten our budget at the library the same way you've had to tighten your budgets at home. We were able to reduce costs and increase efficiencies that have enabled us to limit the increase in our operating budget next year to only 1.4 percent – well below the state's 2 percent tax cap. This has been no easy feat, as we face rising expenses in such essential areas as books, media, IT databases, supplies, utility costs, and contractual obligations for staff.

Amid these challenges, we're committed to maintaining the quality and accessibility of library services for the entire breadth of our community. We recognize our important role in providing vital resources and programs that support lifelong learning and community engagement. We'll continue to seek ways to operate within our means while preserving the high standards our patrons expect and deserve.

We appreciate the ongoing support of our community and remain committed to being responsible stewards of public funds. Together, we can navigate these challenging times and emerge stronger on the other side.

Please note that in addition to the operating budget, state law requires our budget to include the principal and interest of bond payments already approved by voters in December 2019 for the two new satellite branch libraries in Mastic Beach and Moriches, and for the main building in Shirley.

Sincerely,
THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

DID YOU KNOW?

Over the last seven years, the Mastics-Moriches-Shirley Community Library has increased its operating budget **just once**.

2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024*
0%	0%	0%	4%	0%	0%	0%	1.4%

*proposed



TUESDAY, APRIL 4
9:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.
at the
Mastic Beach Satellite Branch,
369 Neighborhood Road

Annual Budget Vote & Trustee Election

Voter Registration at the Library:
Tuesday, March 28, 9:00am to 9:00pm

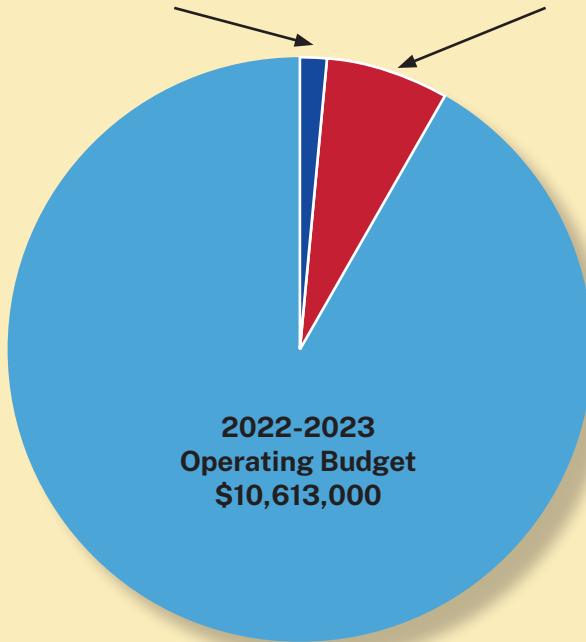
The library is governed by a five-member board of trustees, elected by the voters of the district. One trustee is elected each year for a five-year term. In order to vote you must be: (1) 18 years of age or older, (2) a U.S. citizen, (3) a resident of the district for at least 30 days, and (4) registered to vote.

OPENING NEW DOORS TO LEARNING!

The public is voting on a **\$148,499** operating budget increase which is **1.4%** higher than last year.

Proposed 1.4% Operating Budget Increase Subject to Voter Approval
\$148,499

Previously Approved Bond Payments
\$778,876



Construction of the new Moriches satellite branch is complete. Books, supplies, and furniture have been moved in. The town has issued its Certificate of Occupancy. We are awaiting final land division approval from the school district.



The Mastic Beach satellite branch opened its doors on January 14. The beautiful, new 7,000-square-foot building has been a welcome addition to downtown Mastic Beach.

1.4% Will Continue to Provide...

- Lending of books and media
- Programming for infants, toddlers, school-age children, and teens
- Arts and crafts workshops
- Parenting workshops
- Technology classes
- Movies
- Career counseling
- Job search and resume help
- Field trips
- Home improvement workshops
- Help with government assistance
- Social work referrals
- College planning
- Medicare/Medicaid assistance
- Access to computers and internet
- Printing, scanning, faxing, and photocopying
- Reference and research assistance
- Homework help for students
- Speaking engagements by authors
- Meeting and study rooms
- Yoga classes
- Assistance with genealogy and local history research
- Language learning resources
- Access to online databases, including academic journals and newspapers
- Special collections, such as rare books and manuscripts
- Reader's advisory services to help patrons find books that match their interests and reading level

Mastics-Moriches-Shirley Community Library
 FY 2023-2024
 Operating Budget (PROPOSED)

	<u>2023-2024</u>
Employee Salaries	
Professional	\$ 2,213,481
Clerical	\$ 1,154,198
Page	\$ 243,643
Custodial	\$ 255,731
Security	\$ 334,241
Employee Insurances & Benefits	\$ 1,139,015
NYS Retirement - Mandatory Contribution	\$ 389,332
Payroll Taxes	\$ 310,000
Materials and Programs	
Books & Periodicals	\$ 283,150
Recordings & Videos	\$ 171,150
Electronic Resources	\$ 75,000
Programs (Adult, Teen, Childrens & Literacy)	\$ 237,650
Library Operations	
Equipment & Equipment Maintenance	\$ 1,108,760
Telecommunications	\$ 65,000
Printing & Postage	\$ 143,090
Supplies	\$ 61,362
Contracts - SCLS	\$ 85,263
Insurance	\$ 90,000
Professional Fees	\$ 289,195
Administrative	\$ 107,000
Facilities	\$ 1,300,920
Principal & Interest	
Bond Referendum (Previous Year)	\$ 704,318
OPERATING BUDGET	\$ 10,761,499
Principal & Interest	
Bond Referendum (This Year)	\$ 778,876
Less: Anticipated Income	\$ 270,000
(Contract Revenue, Fines, State Aid, etc.)	
TOTAL TAX LEVY	<u><u>\$ 11,270,375</u></u>

Voting will take place on Tuesday, April 4, 2023, from 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the Mastic Beach Branch of the Community Library. In order to vote, you must be: (1) 18 years of age or older, (2) a citizen of the U.S., (3) a resident of the district for at least 30 days, and (4) registered to vote.

The estimated tax rate associated with the proposed operating budget is \$34.06 per \$100 of assessed valuation, which equates to an estimated annual levy of \$680 for an average household (based on an assessed valuation of \$1,995).

A five member Board of Trustees elected by the voters of the district governs the Library. If you have any questions about this proposed budget, please contact Kerri Rosalia, Library Director at (631) 399-1511 ext. 1001.