

Yonkers Rising

YonkersTimes.com

FRIDAY, MAY 22 2026

City Council OK's Tax Cap Override: \$800 Million is Not Enough to Settle NY Archdiocese
Public Comment at Saunders HS- May 28 Sex Abuse Cases: Will Your Parish Be Asked to Pay?

Budget Snapshot: \$1.57 billion total budget
-Sets the combined city and school tax rate at \$1,013.69 per one thousand of assessed valuation, an increase of 5.25% over last year's \$963.14.
-\$298.4 million appropriation for the Board of Education
-\$17.3 million in school construction in its capital budget
-The City's water and sewer usage rates are proposed at a combined 3.17% increase.
-General Fund Wages and Fringe Benefits represent a 74% of General fund expenditures.

By Dan Murphy

The Yonkers City Council held a special meeting on May 19 and voted unanimously to pass a resolution allowing them to adopt a budget that exceeds the property tax cap of 2%.

City Council President Lakisha Collins-Bellamy said, "This vote tonight is not a vote on the tax increase -it's a vote on whether or not the city council is allowed to break the tax cap which is 2%. We are voting tonight on whether we may, its not that we will break the tax cap. We are not through with our budget process and we still do not know what the state will give us in funding. Without this vote we will not be able to do so if we needed to bail out the schools or whatever, depending on the funding we get from the state."

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YMA Lady Eagles Named to All-State Hoops Team



By Dan Murphy

Congratulations to seven members of the Yonkers Montessori Academy Basketball team, which one the NY State Championship earlier this year, for being named to the All-State team.

YMA Lady Eagle Coach Elle Moise, posted,

Blessed & Honored to announce the following.

- Emilee Doherty 1st Team All State
- Grace Gleeson 2nd Team All State
- Arsela Mustafaj 4th Team All State

Liliana Toro 8th Team All State. Keira Peters & Anisa Mustafaj All State-Honorable mention. After winning Yonkers first state high school sports championship since the 1930's, the YMA Lady Eagles are primed to have another great season in the fall of 2026 with only Arsela Mustafaj graduating next month. That means the rest of the team, with the experience of playing in high pressure, playoff situations, will be back, including Doherty, who will be in her junior year.

Some of the parents we spoke to at the playoff games told us that there are some special young girls, (8th graders), who are hoping to join Coach Elle's squad. We hope to interview Coach Elle to find out how he build a basketball dynasty in Yonkers. And Dare We Say It? Repeat?

With Cannabis Legal in NY for 5 Years, can Local Governments Ban Smoking in Public?



By Dan Murphy

Five years after marijuana was legalized in New York State, some local communities are considering passing laws that ban the smell of Pot smoke on their streets.

The Village

continued on pg 8-



Emergency Meeting Held at St. Joseph's Seminary in Yonkers

What it means for St. Mary's Church in Yonkers

By Dan Murphy

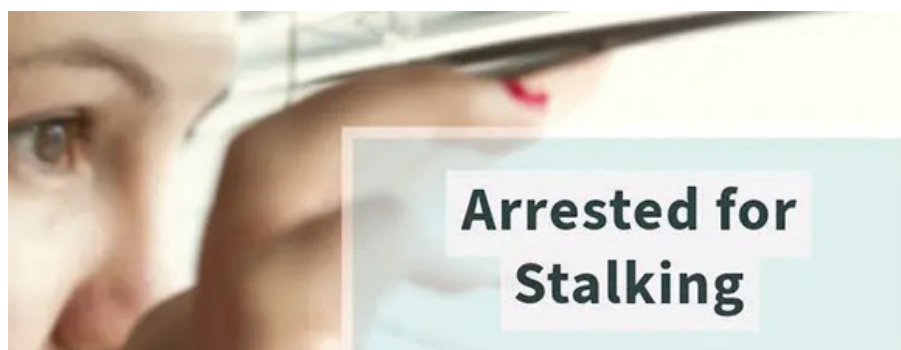
A recent emergency meeting held at St. Joseph's Seminary in Yonkers with Priests across the Archdiocese of NY presented a bleak financial picture for Catholics in Westchester and Yonkers.

While the Arch-

A recent emergency meeting held at St. Joseph's Seminary in Yonkers, pictured above, with Priests across the Archdiocese of NY presented a bleak financial picture for Catholics in Westchester and Yonkers.

continued on pg 7-

"Do you see how easy it is to get into your apartment?"



YONKERS MAN CHARGED WITH STALKING, ASSAULTING FORMER GIRLFRIENDS AND RELATED BURGLARIES

Westchester County District Attorney Susan Cacace announced today that Jaden Ross, 23, of Yonkers, was charged in a 17-count indictment in connection with his alleged stalking, harassment and assault of multiple former intimate partners and related burglary offenses. Ross was arraigned before Judge Susan Capece Tuesday on the following charges:

- Burglary in the First Degree (B felony, 1 count)
- Burglary in the Second Degree (C felony, 3 counts)
- Criminal Obstruction of Breathing of Blood Circulation (A misdemeanor, 1 count)
- Petit Larceny (A misdemeanor, 1 count)
- Stalking in the Third Degree (A misdemeanor, 3 counts)
- Aggravated Harassment in the Second Degree (A misdemeanor, 1 count)
- Assault in the Third Degree (A misdemeanor, 3 counts)
- Unlawful Imprisonment in the Second Degree (A misdemeanor, 1 count)
- Endangering the Welfare of a Child (A mis

continued on pg 10-

What Memorial Day is All About



As we all celebrate the Memorial Day holiday and the coming summer, apthe Armando Rauso AMVETS Post 40 in the 7th Ward continued it tradition or reminding us of what Memorial Day is truly about, honoring the brave men, continued on pg 7-

Community Planning Council of Yonkers Announces New Leadership and Annual Luncheon

Please Pardon Our Appearance: Yonkers City Hall Renovation Project Underway



The Community Planning Council of Yonkers (CPCY) is entering an exciting new chapter with the announcement of new organizational leadership, the launch of its redesigned website, and plans for its upcoming Annual Luncheon on June 12, 2026, celebrating community leadership and service in Yonkers.

Founded in 1920, the Community Planning Council of Yonkers, Inc. has become the premier community organization supporting Yonkers. The CPCY's mission is to ensure the continued development and equitable distribution of effective community services for all people in the City of Yonkers. The organization serves as a communicator, collaborator, and convener, connecting non-profits, city agencies, and community leaders to address critical issues such as affordable housing, food access, and aging services.

As part of this new phase of growth, CPCY has named Sara Brody President of its Board of Directors for a two-year term. In her role as President, Brody will preside over all board meetings, provide strategic oversight of the organization's affairs, and work closely with the Board and staff to advance CPCY's mission.

"The CPYC is in a period of rapid growth, and I am honored to serve as President during this exciting time," said Brody. "The Council has a long history of bringing people and organizations together to strengthen Yonkers, and I look forward to building on that legacy with our dedicated Board and partners."

The announcement coincides with the appointment of Esmeralda Hoscoy as CPCY's new Executive Director. Hoscoy brings a commitment to community engagement and collaborative leadership, focusing on deepening relationships across Yonkers to address the city's most pressing needs.

"I'm excited step into the role of Executive Director of the Community Planning Council of Yonkers and inspired by the opportunities ahead," said Hoscoy. "I'm grateful to the Board for trusting me with this role and eager to learn, listen, and help steward this work, focusing on existing community ties and relationships."

The organization leadership also includes the first Vice President, Jesse Montero, Director of Yonkers Public Libraries; second Vice President, Joseph Cooke, Division Coordinator/Director, Westchester Community College; Secretary, Wilda Mejias, Catholic Charities; and Treasurer, Kelly Chiarella, Director for the Office of the Aging, City of Yonkers.

Alongside its leadership announcements, CPCY has also launched a newly redesigned website, cpcy.org, providing an updated platform for residents, non-profits, and community partners to learn more about the organization's mission,

continued on pg 10-

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Scaffolding is being put in place this week ahead of a renovation project at Yonkers City Hall. Photo by Maurice Mercado/City of Yonkers

Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano announced on May 20 that the City of Yonkers has begun a major restoration project at Yonkers City Hall aimed at preserving the historic building's façade and ensuring the continued safety of employees, residents, and visitors.

"City Hall is one of Yonkers' most recognizable and historic buildings, and these renovations are an important investment in preserving it for future generations," said Mayor Mike Spano. "While residents will notice scaffolding around the building over the coming months, City Hall remains open for business and safe for everyone who works here or visits for services. We appreciate the public's patience as we complete this important restoration project."

Scaffolding and protective mesh will begin going up around City Hall this week and are expected to remain in place through the end of 2026 while restoration work is completed.

Yonkers City Engineer Paul Summerfield said, "After identifying areas of deterioration, our City Engineering Department worked carefully to develop a restoration plan that both protects the public and preserves the historic character of City Hall.

In 2024, the City conducted an inspection of City Hall's parapets after signs of wear and tear were identified. As an initial safety measure, heavy-duty fiberglass netting was installed around the parapet to protect against the possibility of falling masonry. Following the inspection, a comprehensive restoration plan was developed in coordination with the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO). Construction is now underway to restore the parapet and architectural features of the historic façade.

The restoration work is expected to be completed by the end of the year. Yonkers City Hall was designed by H. Lansing Quick of E.A. Quick and Son, the firm responsible for the Carnegie Library, in 1907. Notable construction features include steel trusses and poured concrete beams in the attic. The 164-foot domed tower design features classical Beaux-Arts elements, a commanding clock tower on all four sides, and sweeping views of the Hudson River and Getty Square. The building has been in official use since 1912 and became a Yonkers landmark in 2012.

Save the Date:
May 30, 2026



— for the Grand Re-Opening of —
Senate House State Historic Site

After being closed for an important restoration project in 2025, Senate House will re-open with the debut of two brand-new permanent exhibits, as well as a day of community celebration!

Join us for:

- Ribbon-cutting ceremony at 10:00 a.m.
- Open-house style tours of Senate House
- Food trucks
- Colonial music from Carla and Keyes
- Reenactors from the 1st and 3rd Ulster Militias
- Take-home crafts
- *Revisit the Revolution* traveling exhibit

Saturday, May 30, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Senate House State Historic Site
296 Fair Street, Kingston, NY 12401



Scan the QR code to learn more and save the event to your calendar



City of Yonkers Procurement Administrator Miguel Martinez Named 2026 Procurement Manager of the Year by NY State



City of Yonkers Program Procurement Administrator Miguel Martinez with his SAMPO Award. Photo by Maurice Mercado/City of Yonkers

Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano and City of Yonkers Finance Commissioner John Liszewski congratulate Miguel Martinez on being named the 2026 Procurement Manager of the Year by the New York State Association of Municipal Purchasing Officials (SAMPO).

"Miguel's dedication and expertise have helped strengthen procurement operations for both the City and our schools," said Mayor Mike Spano. "This recognition reflects his commitment to public service, accountability, and excellence, and we are proud to see him honored among procurement professionals across New York State."

Martinez has been with the City of Yonkers since 2023, first as the Associate Director of Purchasing and then as Program Procurement Administrator, focusing on capital improvements. In his role, he manages complex, high-value acquisitions that support essential municipal services and infrastructure while ensuring transparency, compliance, and fiscal responsibility.

The award recognizes Martinez's outstanding leadership, professionalism, and impact in the field of public procurement.

"We are very proud of the professional work ethic and integrity that Miguel brings to the Purchasing team for the City and the Yonkers Board of Education," said Finance Commissioner John Liszewski. "I am very pleased that Miguel is receiving this much-deserved award."

"I'm honored to receive this award and proud to represent the City of Yonkers," said Miguel Martinez. "I love the work I do because it has a real impact on our residents every day. Working with both the City and Yonkers Public Schools has given me valuable experience, and I hope to help more young people see procurement as a rewarding career."

On This Day in Yonkers History...



Sir Henry Clinton the British Commander in Chief Set up headquarters for the British at Philipse Manor Hall

By Mary Hoar, City of Yonkers Municipal Historian, 1977 Recipient of the Key to the City of Yonkers, President Emeritus Yonkers Historical Society, recipient of the 2004 Key to History, Yonkers Landmarks Preservation Board Member, Founder of Revolutionary Yonkers 250 and President Untermyer Performing Arts Council

Monday, May 25th

May 25, 1934: Yonkers Chamber of Commerce Exposition Company President William Katz reported 27,000 tickets to the "Own Your Own Home" exposition at the Yonkers Armory had been sold! The big attraction for ticket sales was they also were chances... the winning ticket holder would win the St. John's Avenue Chamber model house!

May 25, 1940: Assistant Secretary of the US Department of War Louis Johnson announced Yonkers industries were preparing for production of military goods. Although he refused to reveal exact details, he confirmed Yonkers' factories were "militarized on paper." He admitted some factories received what he called "educational orders" giving the companies "needed information, experience, special apparatus and equipment for the Government."

Rumors floated around Yonkers that Otis Elevators already was operating under War Department orders anticipating government contracts; Smith Carpet Company allegedly was primed to make parachutes, blankets and duck for the war.

Tuesday, May 26th

May 26, 1927: Investigation of the February fire that almost destroyed the Yonkers Fur Dressing Company on Elm Street took a turn—they received new evidence! At the request of the fur company's insurance firm, YPD Chief Quirk went to Lansing, Michigan. While there, he spoke to a man who agreed to return to Westchester as a State witness; they believed the man had been a "tool" of the arsonists.

District Attorney Arthur Rowland announced he was recalling the February Grand Jury to review new information brought to light by the witness. Rowland, announcing the investigation would be reopened, indicated he believed indictments would be returned... and men arrested.

The insurance firm insured very expensive furs; it believed he pricy furs were removed, replaced by cheaper furs... and it was those that burned in the fire.

Although the furs were insured for \$167,000, Yonkers Fur Dressing Company agreed to a settlement of \$97,000.

Wednesday, May 27th

May 27, 1942: Yonkers High graduate and cargo ship Captain Edward Richmond arrived safely in Barbados after his ship was destroyed by a torpedo attack. Four lifeboats launched within minutes and searched for survivors. A total of thirty people headed for shore. Three lifeboats went to Barbados; a fourth landed in Trinidad.

May 27, 1954: For the first time in more than thirty years, part of the Saw Mill River forced underground into the flume was exposed! On view were the stone walls built to create a shoulder for the flume beneath the Square.

Construction of an extension to the H. L. Green's store removed an old concrete platform, exposing the river. The river would be recapped when the footings and floor were laid for the extension. There would be a new 65-seat restaurant in Green's.

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CORPORATION NOTICE

CITY OF YONKERS-NEW YORK

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to law, that the Mayor of the City of Yonkers, New York, will hold a Public Hearing on Wednesday, May 27, 2026 at 5:00 pm, Mayor's Reception Room, 2nd floor, 40 South Broadway, Yonkers, New York, to hear all interested parties and citizens regarding the adoption of the following Local Law, to wit:

A LOCAL LAW TO OVERRIDE THE TAX LEVY LIMIT ESTABLISHED IN GENERAL MUNICIPAL LAW SECTION 3-c

Said hearing may be adjourned from time to time as necessary. Further information, including access to a copy of said proposed local law, may be obtained at the City Clerk's office, City Hall, 40 South Broadway, Yonkers, New York, and on the City's Website.

MIKE SPANO
Mayor
Date: May 19, 2026

Yonkers History, continued from pg 3-

Thursday, May 28th

May 28, 1922: Mayor Walter Taussig opened the "Own Your Home" Exposition in the Armory on North Broadway, an exhibition sponsored by the Yonkers Real Estate Board of the Chamber of Commerce.

May 28, 1937: Children at Leake & Watts celebrated the Dionne Quintuplets' third birthday with the help of the "Princess of Song," Jessica Dragonette. Dragonette was a popular radio singer, extremely active in World War II efforts. Not only did she frequently perform for the troops, Dragonette sold a record number of war bonds. She performed so often for charities benefitting the troops, she was awarded an honorary commission as a Colonel. Dragonette was voted the best female singer in the country in 1943.

May 28, 1965: On his way to the airport and home, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., stopped at Temple Emanu-El on Rumsey Road to see their display of African themed painting and sculpture in the Temple's annual art exhibit!

Friday, May 29th

May 29, 1779: Sir Henry Clinton made his headquarters in the (Philipse) Manor House to plan attacks on Verplank and Stony Point.

Saturday, May 30th

May 30, 1872: Thomas Ludlow, opposition leader to Yonkers' incorporation as a city, presented a protest petition to Governor Hoffman. According to Ludlow, the people living outside the boundaries of the Village of Yonkers in 16 square miles of farmland, opposed becoming a city.

Resenting the lack of consultation, they stated it was "against the spirit of our institutions that any portion of the people of this State shall be subjected to an entire change in the form of their municipal government without some authorized expression of the will of the people to be affected thereby on that subject."

Eight people signed Ludlow's petition. Another resident claimed incorporation was the scheme of just three men and did not reflect the opinion of the majority of Yonkers.

Ludlow and Shonnard had led the opposition to creating the Village of Yonkers in 1854; the appeasement? The men who proposing the status change left out the Ludlow and Shonnard estates north and south of the village.

Sunday, May 31st

May 31, 1924: Alan L. Benson of Hawley Terrace sailed to Europe to study labor conditions; after he returning to the States, he planned to write a series of articles on his observations.

Benson was the first Yonkers resident to run for President of the United States; he ran on the Socialist Party ticket.

May 31, 1932: Many offers of vacant land for people to use for "subsistence gardens" poured into the Temporary Emergency Relief Office, 64 Main Street, from dozens of property owners. Boyce Thompson Institute soil experts Doctors Morris McCool and Percy Zimmerman promised to test the soil at each plot to ensure food would grow.

Any questions on this column, email yonkershistory1646@gmail.com.

For information on the Yonkers Historical Society, the Sherwood House Museum on Tuckahoe Road or their upcoming events, please visit their website www.yonkershistoricalsociety.org, call 914-961-8940 or email info@yonkershistoricalsociety.org.

Yonkers Man Admits Murdering Acquaintance in 2025

Westchester County District Attorney Susan Cacace announced today that Fidencio Abreu, 42, of Yonkers, pleaded guilty Tuesday to Murder in the Second Degree, a class A felony, and Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the Second Degree, a class C felony, for shooting his acquaintance to death in July 2025.

The defendant is scheduled to be sentenced on June 25.

DA Cacace said: "Rather than resolve an interpersonal dispute with dialogue, the defendant shot his friend in the head. This kind of behavior is simply unacceptable, and this week's guilty plea on the top count of Murder in the Second Degree will ensure that the defendant spends a significant amount of time in prison for his despicable conduct. My thoughts remain with the victim's family, who should be enjoying their loved one's companionship today, not mourning his loss."

On July 11, 2025, following a dispute, the defendant shot 35-year-old Francisco Vallejo, an acquaintance, in the head with a semi-automatic pistol, causing his death.

This case was investigated by the Yonkers Police Department.

The case was prosecuted by Homicide Bureau Chief Brian Bendish and Cold Case Bureau Chief Daniel Flecha.

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Pinkster Festival at Philipse Manor Hall



For the fourth year the Afro-Dutch holiday of Pinkster, a festival of spring, family, culture, and resistance with live music, dance, was celebrated at Philipse Manor Hall during Yonkers Arts Weekend.

Photos by Donna Davis

Maria Regina High School's National Honor Society Host First Ponytail Drive



Madison Terrizzi, Yonkers (shown in photo above) was among a group comprising five Maria Regina High School students and a parent who participated in the school's first Ponytail Drive, hosted by the National Honor Society.

During hair styling sessions, they donated a portion of their hair to Children With Hair Loss, a nonprofit that provides human hair replacements to children and young adults facing medically-related hair loss due to cancer treatments, burns, alopecia, among other causes.

Joining Madison in the drive were classmates Sophia Smith, Bronx; Calli Kazorck, Yonkers; Leah Croce, Dobbs Ferry and Sofia Kosmangiannis, Yonkers. A parent, Mrs. Shilaku, Shrub Oak, also donated to help the organization fulfill its mission, aptly described in the tagline, "Covering Young Heads to Heal Young Hearts." Held on the campus of the renowned all-female Catholic high school, Hair By Val K provided styling of the participants' hair.

To learn more, visit www.mariaregina.org



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Fashion Show at Untermeyer Gardens for Yonkers Arts Weekend



One of the more popular events at Yonkers Arts Weekend is the Fashion show, which takes place at Untermeyer Gardens every year. This year did not disappoint.

Below: One of the many works of art enjoyed by thousands at Yonkers Arts Weekend. This piece can be found at YOHO studios. We publish with the Knicks on our mind.



William Norman, Yonkers Veterans' Services Department at podium with AMVETS Post 40 Commander Sam Riti, right

women who gave their lives in service to our country.

Mayor Mike Spano said, "It was especially moving to see local children take part in the ceremony, proudly saluting the flag and helping carry on the spirit of remembrance for the next generation. Let us never forget the sacrifices made for our freedoms."

We thank AMVETS Post 40 Commander Sam Riti, for all that he does for our Veterans, and to remind us of the sacrifices made, for so many years.

St. John's Riverside Hospital Golf Classic Celebrates Another Record-Breaking Year

June 16-Ardsley Country Club

On Tuesday, June 16th, 2026, St. John's Riverside Hospital will host The Marty & Iris Walshin Memorial Golf Classic at Ardsley Country Club in Ardsley, NY. As the hospital enters the final weeks leading up to this year's outing, community support has already surpassed last year's record-breaking fundraising total, highlighting the continued generosity and commitment of sponsors, donors and participants throughout the region.

This year's event will also introduce pickleball for the first time, expanding the day's activities and offering guests an exciting new way to participate in support of St. John's Riverside Hospital. Golfers and pickleball participants alike will enjoy a day of friendly competition, including the opportunity for golfers to win a new car in the Hole-in-One contest sponsored by Ray Catena Lexus of Larchmont.

Following the day's activities, attendees will gather for an evening cocktail reception, dinner, silent auction, raffles and an awards presentation recognizing tournament winners. Proceeds from this year's Golf Classic will benefit St. John's Riverside Hospital's cardiac services, helping to advance lifesaving cardiovascular care and enhance services for patients throughout the community.

Location/Date/Time:

Ardsley Country Club; 100 North Mountain Drive, Ardsley, NY

Tuesday, June 16th, 2026

Golfer Registration/Brunch: 11:00AM | Shotgun: 12:30PM

Pickleball Registration: 1:00PM | Pickleball Round Robin: 1:30PM

Cocktail Hour: 5:30PM

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914-964-4648 | Development@RiversideHealth.org

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Pot Smoking, continued from pg 1-

of Mamaroneck considered a law

The proposed law sought to criminalize “the possession and inhaling of any heated cannabis or marijuana...” with penalties up to a \$250 fine and 15 days imprisonment. According to the Larchmont Loop, the item was under consideration by the Mamaroneck Village Board, but was withdrawn after it was reported on by media outlets. Mamaroneck would have been the first Westchester community to consider such a law. Some Westchester residents have complained about the smell, or odors, from pot smoke along many streets.

The Town of Glen Cove on Long Island passed a ban on smoking in public spaces in December 2025. The law prohibits marijuana smoking on sidewalks, in parks, public squares, beaches and any other public area. Fines for the first offense in Glen Cove \$100 and increases to \$250 for subsequent violations.

Others believe that “people should be able to have the freedom of doing what they want without hurting others,” she said. In New York State, you can generally smoke or vape cannabis anywhere it is legal to smoke tobacco. However, state and local regulations strictly prohibit smoking pot in motor vehicles, on federal property, in schools, and in most indoor or outdoor public spaces like restaurants, building lobbies, and public parks.

You can smoke in private homes, in your backyard, and on public sidewalks (unlike alcohol, open consumption on the street is typically permitted unless specifically banned by your local municipality)

Landlords have the right to ban smoking (both tobacco and cannabis) inside apartments and common areas. Tenants should check their leases to understand the building’s policy

On March 31, 2021, New York legalized the possession of up to 3 ounces of marijuana and up to 24 grams of marijuana concentrate for adults who are at least 21 years

LEGAL NOTICE

**CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YONKERS
PUBLIC HEARINGS
2026/2027 PROPOSED BUDGET**

I, Lakisha Collins-Bellamy, City Council President of the City of Yonkers, do hereby call a public hearing on the proposed 2026/2027 City of Yonkers Operating Budget and Capital Budget as follows:

*Thursday, May 28, 2026
Auditorium
Saunders High School
183 Palmer Road
Yonkers, NY 10701
7:00 p.m.*

Anyone wishing to speak may sign up on the day of the hearing at the hearing site. Each speaker shall be permitted three minutes and speakers shall be called in the order in which they have signed up.

**LAKISHA COLLINS-BELLAMY
CITY COUNCIL PRESIDENT**

May 20, 2026

	FY27 Executive
Property Taxes:	\$ 477,735,242
Special Taxes:	250,262,418
State and Federal Funding:	123,607,219
City Departments:	57,393,780
Other Revenues:	59,058,318
Appropriated Fund Balance (General):	39,500,000

Total Revenues Sub-Total: \$ 1,007,556,977

Library Fund:	\$ 599,487
Water Fund:	52,800,322
Sewer Fund:	12,468,445
Board of Education:	494,692,698

\$1,568,117,929

City Departments:	\$412,404,457
Fringe Benefits:	235,416,855
Special Items:	58,151,732
Board of Education:	757,960,968
Total Operating Expenditures:	1,463,934,012
Debt Service:	104,183,917

\$1,568,117,929

Revenues vs. Expenditures \$ -

Property Tax Levy	
Board of Education Property Tax Levy	\$276,819,985
City Property Tax Levy	200,915,257

Total Property Tax Levy \$477,735,242

Property Tax Rate per \$1000 of Assessed Valuation (AV)	
Board of Education Tax Rate per \$1,000 AV	587.25
City Tax Rate: per \$1,000 AV	426.44
Tax Rate: per \$1,000 AV	1,013.69

Capital Budget	
Executive Budget City Total:	\$ 63,932,738
Additional City Project Costs for Resurfacing (\$3m), Streetscapes (\$5m), General Park Improvements (\$10m) and Tree Remediation/Tree Planting (\$50k).	18,050,000
Amended Budget City Total:	\$ 81,982,738

Executive Board of Education Total: \$53,800,000

Capital Budget Total: \$135,782,738

The FY27 Executive Budget is available for review by the public at: <https://www.yonkersny.gov/1273/City-Budget-2027-Executive>

Archdiocese of NY, continued from pg 1-

While the Archdiocese of New York is not currently in bankruptcy, priests were warned at the meeting that if a proposed \$800 MILLION settlement is not agreed to by 1,300 survivors of sexual abuse from Priests from ONLY the Archdiocese of NY, then the archdiocese may have to file for Chapter 11 Bankruptcy protection.

A tentative agreement has been reached between the victims and the archdiocese to settle the claims under the Child Victims Act to reach the proposed settlement figure, church leaders slashed budgets, laid off staff, and raised funds by selling off the vast majority of its real estate holdings, including its former Manhattan headquarters.

But despite the cost cutting and sell off, a \$300 Million fund raised is well short, and priests were told that local parishes may be asked or forced to pay for the remain HALF A BILLION dollars.

And which parishes will pay for the sex abuse settlements? According to Our Town, one priest at the meeting said, "It is not going to be totally democratic," "They will try to look at the books of each parish," said one source. "It will be a case of 'let us see how much you have in the bank, and we'll tell you how much you have to pay.'"

<https://www.ourtownny.com/news/archdiocese-to-pastors-raise-millions-for-sexual-abuse-victims-or-go-bankrupt-LF5788692>

Archbishop Ronald Hicks, who recently replaced Cardinal Timothy Dolan, was not at the emergency meeting.

Another problem in raising the funds needed to settle the claims is the ongoing legal battle between the Archdiocese and Chubb insurance. Chubb, who covered the archdiocese for decades, claims in legal filings that it should not have to pay for the sex abuse settlements because the archdiocese knew of the widespread abuse for years and covered up the crimes.

Parishioners in Yonkers and Westchester may not hear about the financial troubles when they go to mass. Instead, Pastors will meet with Archdiocese representatives to determine what if anything, each parish can afford to pay.

The bleak financial picture is also bad news for those attempting to save St. Mary's Church in Yonkers, the oldest Catholic church in Westchester's largest City.

In a decision dated March 6, Westchester County Court Judge Melissa Loehr issued an order approving a settlement between the Archdiocese of New York, the City of Yonkers, the Yonkers City Council, and the Yonkers Landmarks Board, which removes the Landmark status of the interiors of St. Mary's Church on South Broadway.

The decision is bad news for those of us who wanted The Friends of St. Mary's to have the opportunity to raise the funds needed to repair the church, which the archdiocese has wanted to close for at least 4 years.

St. Mary's Church (Parish of the Immaculate Conception) was founded in Yonkers in 1848 as the city's first Catholic parish. Mass is presently celebrated in St. Mary's Church for English-speaking and Arabic-speaking Catholics.

On July 16, 2024, when the City Council of Yonkers unanimously approved landmark status. While it did not restore St. Mary's as a parish, it offered hope for the future, as the building would continue to stand.

In 2025, the Archdiocese of NY sued the City of Yonkers to remove St. Mary's from the Landmark Protection status. The archdiocese estimated that \$10 Million in repairs were needed to keep St. Mary's safe and operational.

A group, Friends of St. Mary's (<https://stmarysfriends.org/>), is raising funds and awareness to save the historic church. Some former Parishioners have come forward to offer their expertise in construction and have proposed breaking the \$10 million price tag into separate parts to save the church.

Cardinal Dolan, before stepping down, ordered the consolidation of St. Mary's Church with St. Dennis in Yonkers, but parishioners have complained that the masses are too crowded.

While we disagree with some of our friends of St. Mary's on the ongoing financial troubles in the Archdiocese of NY and its connection to St. Mary's, we believe that the powers that be in NYC want St. Mary's torn down and sold to raise funds to pay for the sex abuse settlements. Or the Archdiocese of NY cannot afford to pay for ONE PENNY of the cost of repairs required to keep this great church open.

Once again, the time for an ANGEL to come forward with the money so that outside lovers of St. Mary's can try to repair and rebuild before it is too late, is NOW.

Between \$5-\$10 Million in repairs is needed for this Yonkers Landmark.

May 27th Zoom Meeting About St. Mary's Future

"At this point St. Mary's can only be saved by the people who care." These are the words of Brody Hale, the attorney who is guiding St. Mary's through the intricacies of Canon Law. Brody will be holding a Zoom meeting at 7:00 PM on May 27, 2026. If you care, please attend. The more who are there, the better the chance that things go well for the church in the future.

Points addressed:

What needs to be done to save St. Mary's from permanent closure.

The canonical appeal.

Actions the Archdiocese of New York may choose to take in the coming weeks.

What parishioners can do to avert the loss of the church if they choose to act.

We know that you have questions about many things. This will be a forum in which all of those questions can be answered.

Here are the particulars:

Topic: *The Future of St. Mary's Church, Yonkers*

Time: *May 27, 2026 07:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)*

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82691309618?pwd=Io0I21ZTCrUGmeKXrEdmvV71MAR2Q.1>

Meeting chat link

<https://us02web.zoom.us/launch/jc/82691309618>

Meeting ID: 826 9130 9618

Passcode: 038443

Join instructions

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meetings/82691309618/invitations?signature=BdSmzD3jxVSfXIdy0C1FDpXBXH32lv6OkIEKgsuiJb4>

Letters to the Editor:

To the editor: Yonkers Budget

Mayor Spano's budget calling for a tax increase of over 5%, averaging \$551 for homeowners, is a significant amount for many. And a big chunk of this is to pay for rising health insurance costs. Nowhere in the story is there any indication that workers are contributing more. If not, then they should be. And if not this year, then make increasing health care costs part of future contract negotiations. Whether one has insurance through an employer, through Medicare, or is paying out of pocket, the costs go up for individuals each year. Yonkers residents should not also have to pay the 9% health insurance increase for city workers on top of what they already pay for themselves.

John Farrell, Yonkers

To the Editor,

In the Democratic primary to challenge Mike Lawler, the candidates have made two pledges: they will not attack fellow Democrats and will support whoever wins. This is the principled race NY17 deserves.

But it didn't last.

A false accusation began when Mike Lawler targeted Cait Conley and misrepresented her work, claiming with no proof that Cait worked for Palantir. Then Beth Davidson took that accusation and ran with it in mailers and emails, straight to voters. We can assume she broke her pledge because she doesn't think she can win with her own positive message without tearing down other Democrats.

Meanwhile, Cait has run her campaign the way she's spent her life, with integrity and service, focused on the issues that matter most to voters. NY-17 doesn't just need someone with a different party label than Mike Lawler. It needs someone who actually leads differently. Cait Conley has the fight to meet this moment, and the integrity to lead us to a better future.

That's why I'll be voting for Cait Conley in the Democratic Primary on June 23rd.

*Maria Modica-Snow
Peekskill, NY*

Letter to the Editor: Compassionate Language for Animals

I applaud the recent letter from Kiley Blackman, founder of Animal Defenders of Westchester. As a longtime animal advocate, I often cringe when hearing phrases routinely used in the vernacular, usually at the expense of animals - "killing two birds with one stone", "more than one way to skin a cat", "breaking a camel's back" to name just a few. These words are hurtful and hateful and make light of inflicting harm on innocent creatures.

Also, in this age of pronouns, no animal should be referred to as "it" - he, she or they work just as well for non-human animals as well as human. Using "it" is a deliberate attempt to objectify animals as things to be used, abused, and exploited.

Finally, organizations that claim to rescue but then euthanize for arbitrary reasons are slaughterhouses and do not deserve to be called shelters. No Kill shelters are safe havens and all animals deserve to be safe.

Christina De Respiris New Rochelle



2026 YONKERS ALL CITY MUSIC FESTIVAL

featuring STUDENT ENSEMBLES

JUNE 4, 2026 • 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM

LINCOLN HIGH SCHOOL

JOSEPHINE CARUSO AUDITORIUM

375 KNEELAND AVENUE, YONKERS, NEW YORK 10704

Performances Include:

- | | |
|---|---------------------------------|
| ▶ ALL CITY STRING ENSEMBLE | JENNIE DAVIS, CONDUCTOR |
| ▶ YONKERS MIDDLE HIGH SCHOOL MADRIGAL SINGERS | MICHIKO PEREIRA, CONDUCTOR |
| ▶ YONKERS MIDDLE HIGH SCHOOL 7 th GRADE CHOIR CLUB | MICHIKO PEREIRA, CONDUCTOR |
| ▶ SAUNDERS TRADES & TECHNICAL HS CHOIR | LEWIS ANDERSON, CONDUCTOR |
| ▶ JUSTICE SONIA SOTOMAYOR COMMUNITY SCHOOL CHOIR | KRISTENTINEO, CONDUCTOR |
| ▶ ENRICO FERMI SCHOOL & AAA -ALL-STARS CHOIR | LAURA OLIVIERI-REYES, CONDUCTOR |
| ▶ MONTESSORI SCHOOL 27 CHOIR | WENDY ZAROS, CONDUCTOR |
| ▶ MONTESSORI SCHOOL 31 CHOIR | JOAN LIVANIS, CONDUCTOR |
| ▶ THE LINCOLN HIGH SCHOOL CHOIR | ROBERT ZION, CONDUCTOR |
| ▶ ALL CITY BAND | |

FREE ADMISSION!





please join the

LWV LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS' OF THE RIVERTOWNS

Tuesday, June 2nd
7:00 - 8:00 pm

for a virtual moderated candidates forum

Hear Democratic Candidates for Westchester County Legislative District 15
Discuss the Issues Affecting Our Community

Kisha Skipper **Anthony Nicodemo**

QUESTIONS ARE WELCOME (see below)

Please register to view the event live by going to:
<https://bit.ly/CountyLD15>

Your questions are important and are welcome. Questions must be submitted by 5:00 pm on Saturday, May 30 and can be submitted either with registration or by email to info@lww-rivertowns.org.

This event will be recorded and posted on our YouTube channel: LWV Rivertowns and our website: lww-rivertowns.org.

LOCAL ELECTIONS MATTER! YOUR VOTE IS YOUR VOICE!

Don't You See, continued from pg 1-

demeanor, 1 count)Resisting Arrest (A misdemeanor, 1 count)Obstruction of Governmental Administration in the Second Degree (A misdemeanor, 1 count)

Judge Capeci set bail in the amount of \$30,000 cash/\$100,000 bond/\$200,000 partially secured bond. The defendant pleaded not guilty to the charges.

Ross is due back in court on June 2. Temporary orders of protection were issued on behalf of both victims.

DA Cacace said: "The serial nature of the defendant's alleged predation is deeply disturbing and is reflected in the breadth of Tuesday's 17-count indictment. My office will continue to advocate for each of the defendant's victims throughout the course of this prosecution and beyond, as we do for all survivors of domestic abuse in this county. With these extremely serious charges, we will seek to ensure this defendant's alleged spree of domestic violence is finally put to an end."

In August 2025, the defendant accosted a former intimate partner (Victim 1) inside the stairwell of her cousin's apartment building, according to a felony complaint filed in the case. Victim 1 told the defendant she didn't want to be in a relationship with the defendant because he had hurt another woman that same day, the felony complaint alleges. Then the defendant is accused of placing his hands around Victim 1's throat, applying pressure until she fell to the ground. He is then accused of stealing her iPhone and running away.

In November 2025, the defendant approached another former intimate partner (Victim 2) inside her apartment building's hallway, according to a felony complaint. The defendant got into a verbal argument with Victim 2 whereupon he pulled her hair and struck her multiple times with a closed fist, the felony complaint alleges. The defendant is then accused of fleeing the scene, returning to cut the screen of Victim 2's bedroom window, forcing his way in and striking Victim 2 multiple times with a closed fist again.

This same month, the defendant allegedly called and sent harassing messages to Victim 2, threatening her life.

In December 2025, the defendant opened Victim 2's bedroom window while standing on the building's fire escape, according to a felony complaint. The defendant refused to leave, stating, in sum and substance, "Do you see how easy it is to get into your apartment" and threatening to hit her, according to the complaint. Victim 2's son was present during this incident.

This case was investigated by the Yonkers Police Department. The case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Paige Pirtle, of the Special Prosecutions Division.

Notice of formation of Digital Infrastructure Services LLC, Arts. of Org. filed with NY Dept. of State on 10/22/25. Office: Westchester County. NY DOS designated as agent for service of process; DOS shall mail copy of process to 7 Ridgeway Cir White Plains, NY 10605. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

Notice of formation of Monte Builders Group, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 02/18/2026. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 23 Bronxville Ln Yonkers, NY 10708. Purpose: Any lawful activity

Notice of formation of Senara & Co, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 01/29/2026. NY office location: Westchester County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. The address to which the SSNY shall mail a copy of any process against the LLC served is 455 Tarrytown Road, Suite 1307, White Plains, NY 10607. Purpose/character of LLC: Any lawful purpose.

yonkersny.gov

MAYOR SPANO'S SUMMER FILM & CONCERT SERIES

MOVIE & CONCERT SCHEDULE

MOVIES AT DUSK			
DATE	MOVIE	RATING	LOCATION
July 10	Johnny Tremain	PG	Untermeyer Park-North Broadway
July 17	Zootopia 2	PG	Schultze Park-St. Eleanoras Lane
July 24	Lilo and Stitch	PG	Coyne Park-McLean Avenue
July 31	Hoppers	PG	Bregano Park-Rigby Street
August 7	Smurfs	PG	Kinsley Park-Chase Avenue
August 14	Coco	PG	Unity Park-Post Street and Elliot Ave.
August 21	Super Mario Galaxy	PG	Wasicsko Park- Agar Street

MUSIC 7:00 - 8:30 PM			
DATE	BAND	MUSIC GENRE	LOCATION
July 9	Harold Melvin's Blue Notes & Musique	Disco	E.J. Murray Memorial Skating Center Tuckahoe Road
July 16	Sammulous	Jazz/R&B/Soul	Trevor Park - Warburton Avenue
July 23	Soul Machine	Soul/R&B/Dance Band	H.Boo Wilson Park - Runyon Avenue at Tuckahoe Road
July 30	Ashley Wineland	Country	Coyne Park-McLean Avenue
August 6	3D Rhythm of Life	Salsa/Latin Jazz	Lincoln Park-So. Broadway-McLean Ave.
August 13	McLean Avenue Band	Music & Dance Show Band	Redmond Park-Cook Avenue
August 20	FDR Drive Band	Motown/R&B/Pop	Cerrato Park-Riverdale Avenue
August 27	BonJourneyNY	Rock Tribute Band	Untermeyer Park-North Broadway
August 28	TKA & Betty Dee of Sweet Sensation	Freestyle	E.J. Murray Memorial Skating Center Tuckahoe Road

Rain Site for all Music is at E.J. Murray Memorial Skating Center at 348 Tuckahoe Road.

YONKERS PARKS

For additional information call (914) 377-6450.
Bring your own seating and blankets
Music & Movies subject to change

YONKERS 250
1776-2026

Jake's Rockin' Country Band
July 3rd at 6 PM | Country/Rock
Yonkers Waterfront Amphitheatre

The Belle Tones
July 3rd at 6:30 PM | 20's thru 80's Americana
Untermeyer Park

Community Planning Council, continued from pg 2-

initiatives, events, and resources.

CPCY is also preparing for its upcoming Annual Luncheon 2026, taking place on Friday, June 12, 2026, at Sea Fire Grill Restaurant. The event will feature keynote remarks from U.S. Congressman George Latimer and bring together nonprofit leaders, educators, public officials, business leaders, and residents to celebrate the people and partnerships that make Yonkers thrive.

The luncheon will honor Yonkers valedictorians for their academic excellence and present the Mary Hotte Volunteer Service Award to a resident who has made a lasting impact through volunteerism. Additionally, Assemblyman Nader Sayegh and the former Executive Director, Greg Acaro, will both be honored for their outstanding years of service. Attendees will also have the opportunity to network and connect with leaders from across the civic and nonprofit communities while supporting CPCY's mission to unite and uplift Yonkers. To attend, register at www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/annual-luncheon-7

YONKERS Downtown

Yonkers Waterfront Live!

FRIDAY NIGHTS 6:30-8PM

WATERFRONT AMPHITHEATER
71 WATER GRANT ST | YONKERS NY 10701

- JUNE 5 JULISSA & RAYNIEL**
TRIBUTE TO LATIN GRAMMYS- BAD BUNNY, SHAKIRA, KAROL G, EDDIE PALMERI AND MORE
- JUNE 12 MELO GREEN**
SAY IT LOUD - JAMES BROWN, PHARRELL WILLIAMS, CHILDISH GAMBINO, DE'ANGELO, NINA SIMONE
- JUNE 19 THE JERMAINE JONES & JARENA BROWN BAND**
SOUL MIXTAPES-MARIAH CARY, K-CI & JOJO, BLACK STREET, LAUREN HILL
- JUNE 26 GRUPO REBOLU**
INTERNATIONAL FLAVA-WITH AFRO-COLOMBIAN RHYTHMS LIKE GAITA, TAMBORA, CHALUPA AND BULLERENGUE
- JULY 10 JOY BROWN ENSEMBLE**
JAZZ & SWING-ELLA, DUKE ELLINGTON, COUNT BASE, SAM COOKE, BENNE GOODMAN
- JULY 17 THAT DIVA BAND**
PUNK AND PINK - DEBBIE HARRY, JOAN JETT, BANSHES, PATTI SMITH, THE SLITS
- JULY 24 DEVONE ALLISON, BSKI, SUZY Q**
DISCO & DANCE - DONNA SUMMER, LA FREAK, KOOL AND THE GANG, THE BEE GEES, SISTER SLEDGE
- JULY 31 STEW CUTLER BAND FEAT SEYDURAH AVEC MOI**
HUDSON BLUES- FROM BACKWATER, DELTA, CHICAGO, BOOGIE-WOOGIE, NEW ORLEANS, BRITISH BLUES
- AUGUST 7 TL4 BAND**
MOVIES & MUSIC - FEAT SONGS FROM: BODYGUARD, SHAFT, CAR WASH, GREASE, THE BLUES BROTHERS, PHENOMENON, PURPLE RAIN, SPACE JAM, TROLLS, ENCHANTO, WICKED
- AUGUST 14 CHANIQUE & D MAGMA BAND**
VIVA CARNIVALE! - MUSIC OF THE CARIBBEAN, LATIN POP, REGGAETON, AND GLOBAL AFROBEATS

Logos: YEDC, MHACY, TD Bank, MACQUESTEN DEVELOPMENT, LLC, NewYork-Presbyterian Westchester, Yonkers Honda, HUDSON PARK, APEX, VIVA, etc.

QR code and website: WWW.YONKERSDOWNTOWN.COM

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS (RFQ) # 2026 – 01A
REQUEST FOR STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS AND PROPOSALS FOR

Tax Cap budget, continued from pg 1

CO-DEVELOPMENT PARTNER FOR THE MHACY
HOMEOWNERSHIP DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE

The Municipal Housing Authority for the City of Yonkers, NY (the Authority) is soliciting Statements of Qualifications and Proposals from development firms interested in partnering with the MHACY for a Homeownership Development Initiative for work under a single award contract with the Authority for a five (5)-year term.

This RFQ is the only information provided to prospective respondents and contains submission requirements, terms, conditions, and other pertinent information for submitting a responsive proposal. The RFQ will be available online starting May 28, 2026, at www.mhacy.org.

The deadline for questions prospective respondents may have is June 11, 2026, at 3:00 PM Eastern Standard Time (EST). All questions must be emailed to procurement@mhacy.org prior to the questions deadline. No telephone calls and/or written communication sent via mail will be accepted.

Proposals must reach the Authority no later than 3:00 PM (EST) on June 30, 2026. Late submissions will be handled in accordance with the provisions in Form HUD-5369B.

The Authority is an Equal Opportunity Employer and does not discriminate based on race, sexual orientation, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, or family status. The Authority solicits and encourages the participation of minorities and small businesses in procurement.

Contact, related to this procurement, with members of the Authority's Board of Commissioners, or Authority's officers and/or employees other than the contact person show below, during the procurement process could result in disqualification of a proposal.

Wilson Kimball
President & CEO
Municipal Housing Authority for the City of Yonkers
1511 Central Park Avenue
Yonkers, New York 10710
Project No. RFQ 2026-01A

**TOWN OF EASTCHESTER
LEGAL NOTICE**

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Supervisor and the Town Board of the Town of Eastchester, will hold a public hearing at the Town Hall, 40 Mill Road, Eastchester, New York on **TUESDAY, JUNE 2, 2026 at 7:30 o'clock p.m.**, of a proposed local law providing for the amendment to Local Law No. 3 - 2000, a local law known as "The Vehicle and Traffic Code of the Town of Eastchester, Article VII: Miscellaneous Provisions §7-2. Parking Fines" within the unincorporated Town of Eastchester. A copy of the proposed local law is available in the Town Clerk's Office.

All interested parties are urged to attend this hearing, at which time, they will be given an opportunity to express their opinion for or against the above proposed local law.

**BY THE ORDER OF THE SUPERVISOR AND
THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF
EASTCHESTER, NEW YORK
JOSEPH D. DOOLEY
TOWN CLERK**

**TOWN OF EASTCHESTER
LEGAL NOTICE**

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Supervisor and the Town Board of the Town of Eastchester, will hold a public hearing at the Town Hall at 40 Mill Road, Eastchester, New York on **TUESDAY, JUNE 2, 2026, at 7:30 o'clock p.m.**, to consider the adoption of a local law providing for the amendment of LOCAL LAW NO. 3 – 2000, The Vehicle And Traffic Code of The Town Of Eastchester, Article III, PARKING, STANDING AND STOPPING, §3-9, SubSection 8-18, Schedule XVIII: TIME LIMIT PARKING within the unincorporated town of the Town of Eastchester. A copy of the proposed local law is available in the Town Clerk's office at Eastchester Town Hall, 40 Mill Road, Eastchester, New York 10709.

All interested parties are urged to attend this hearing, at which time, they will be given an opportunity to express their opinion for or against the above proposed local law.

**BY THE ORDER OF THE SUPERVISOR AND
THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF
EASTCHESTER, NEW YORK
JOSEPH D. DOOLEY
TOWN CLERK**

Notice of formation of W4J9R1 Holdings, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 04/23/2026. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 2 Gedney Park Drive, White Plains, NY 10605. Purpose: Any lawful activity

Notice of formation of Rat Attack Snacks, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 3/2/2026. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 516 Park Avenue Yonkers NY 10703. Purpose: Any lawful activity

Notice of formation of Hardcore In The 914 LLC Arts. Of Org. filed with SSNY on 1/5/2026. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to Hardcore In The 914 8 Arden Drive, Hartsdale New York 10530. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

After no comments from councilmembers the items passed 6-0 with Councilwoman Tasha Diaz absent.

Mayor Mike Spano has proposed a budget with a 5.25% property tax increase. Prior to the vote at 7pm, the council heard comments from the public at 6pm. Only five speakers were present and made comments.

There are some efforts to stop the tax increase from the public, including a petition on change.org which Urge Yonkers City Council to reject increasing property taxes 5.25%. That petition has only 128 signatures.

A City Council budget hearing on May 28 at Saunders High School at 7pm will afford the public the chance to let their voice be heard.

Yonkers resident Frank Spotorno submitted his opposition to the budget and tax increase in writing.

**"MTA PILOTS"— YONKERS CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING
-TAX CAP OVERRIDE**

Good evening, President Collins-Bellamy and members of the Council. My name is Frank Spotorno. I'm a 64-year old resident of Yonkers, a taxpayer, and a proud member of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America.

I see you called a special meeting to override the tax levy limit. That means you want the ability to raise my property taxes beyond the 2% cap. Before you vote, I want us to ask a better question: Instead of overriding the cap on my taxes, why don't we override the loopholes for developers first?

Right now, the Yonkers IDA hands out millions in tax breaks. Then those developers hire non-union, out-of-state contractors. Our tax dollars fund scab jobs. Our UBC members sit on the bench. And too often, I-9 and E-Verify get ignored while undocumented workers take jobs our kids should have.

If we need revenue, let's generate it the Square Deal way:

1. Close the IDA giveaways. Require every tax-break project to use registered apprenticeship, pay area standard wages, and use E-Verify. No more subsidies for poverty jobs. That keeps tax dollars here and puts Yonkers residents to work.

2. Collect from the MTA. Yonkers taxpayers subsidize Metro-North, but the MTA pays no property tax on stations or rail yards. Albany should pass a law making the MTA pay PILOTS to host cities. That's millions back to Yonkers without touching a homeowner.

3. Enforce what's on the books. New York Labor Law Article 8, Section 224-a, and Section 816-b already give you the power to demand prevailing wage and apprenticeship on subsidized jobs. Use the tools.

Every dollar recovered in wage theft is a dollar you don't have to tax. The MTA CEO gets a penthouse deal. The board gets a kickback deal. The commuter gets the rogue deal. The UBC carpenter gets the bench. And the homeowner gets the bill. That's not Teddy Roosevelt's Square Deal. That's a raw deal.

Don't raise my taxes until you raise the standards. Pass a responsible bidder law tonight. Get revenue from the developers, from the MTA, and from enforcement — not just from our homes. If you want a Square Deal for Yonkers, it starts with a square deal for labor and the taxpayer. Thank you," wrote Spotorno.

Five votes on the City Council will be required to adopt a budget that exceeds the tax cap.

Also unknown is what additional funding the City will get from NY State. Included in the Mayor's budget proposal is an estimated \$40 Million in additional state aid for the Yonkers Public Schools.

If the city does not get that \$40 Million, then cuts will have to be made in the Yonkers Public Schools to address the shortfall. The proposed 5.25% tax increase includes the +\$40 Million from the state.

If the public outcry is so great against the tax increase, then the Mayor and Council could revisit the budget plan, perhaps to bring the tax increase below 5%.

Budgets for 2027 have been difficult for local governments across the state and in Westchester.

Notice of formation of Pure Body Lab, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 05/06/2026. With an existence date of 03/27/2026. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 2040 White Plains Rd #1082, Bronx NY 10462 USA. Purpose: Any lawful activity

Notice of formation of M.C.K. VENTURES LLC of Org. filed with the SSNY on 03/31/2026. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to MCK VENTURES LLC 465 TUCKAHOE ROAD, #1304 YONKERS, NY, 10710. Purpose: Any lawful activity

Notice of Formation of Infinity Strategies Group LLC. Arts of Org. Filed with SSNY on September 1, 2025. Office location: Westchester County, New York. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 255 Huguenot Street, Apt 913, New Rochelle, NY 10801. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

Notice of formation of Digital Infrastructure Services LLC, Arts. of Org. filed with NY Dept. of State on 10/22/25. Office: Westchester County. NY DOS designated as agent for service of process; DOS shall mail copy of process to 7 Ridgeway Cir White Plains, NY 10605. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

Notice of formation of 660 SAW MILL LCC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 03/20/2026. Office: 4 Amawalk Point Road, Amawalk NY 10501 Westchester County. SSNY designated Brian O'Neill as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 4 Amawalk Point Rd, Amawalk NY 10501. Purpose: Real Estate

Notice of formation of METROMEN MUSIC LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 01/26/2026. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to Entity Protect Registered Agent Services LLC. 447 Broadway, 2nd Fl. - #3000, New York, NY 10013, the designated registered agent of METROMEN MUSIC LLC. Purpose: Any lawful activity.



DEMOCRAT

FRANK JEREIS

IS READY TO DELIVER FOR YONKERS

Day One

THE LEADERS WE TRUST ARE STANDING STRONG WITH FRANK!



Ken Jenkins
Westchester County Executive



Mike Spano
Yonkers Mayor



Shelley Mayer
State Senator



Nader Sayegh
Assembly Member



Jose Alvarado
County Legislator



Shanae Williams
County Legislator



David Tubiolo
County Legislator



32BJ



1199



Yonkers
Democratic Party



Teamsters
Local 456



Westchester
County PBA



Yonkers PBA



Westchester County
Corrections



Yonkers UFOA



Yonkers Firefighters
Local 628



AFSCME Local
1897

VOTE *by* JUNE 23RD

SCAN HERE TO REQUEST YOUR VOTE-BY-MAIL BALLOT!



FRANK
JEREIS
for NYS Assembly