

Incorporated Village of Mill Neck

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May 5, 2011

Dear Village Resident:

I am certain you have been reading the newspapers and hearing from your neighbors about the Village of Muttontown withdrawing from the Old Brookville Police Department (OBPD) as of June 1, 2011. The OBPD has provided our Village with excellent police protection, but like all municipal services at an increasing cost due to State mandated increases and old contractual obligations. The Village of Muttontown has elected to start its own police department. We believe the more prudent approach is to work with the OBPD to maintain the high quality police protection that the OBPD has provided to the Village of Mill Neck for over 20 years. Accordingly, we will remain part of a six Village consortium, comprising of the Villages of Mill Neck, Brookville, Cove Neck, Matinecock, Old Brookville and Upper Brookville, all to be protected by the OBPD.

With this new consortium, the current OBPD will need to be restructured. Although this will be accomplished through retirements and layoffs, the OBPD will continue to maintain an equivalent level of patrol for our Village. The new consortium has retained labor counsel with past experience with municipal negotiations to assist us in the process. The Old Brookville PBA, the union representing the police officers, has agreed to negotiate with us to reach a more favorable and affordable labor contract.

We have examined alternatives to the new consortium, including police service by the Nassau County Police Department (NCPD). In actuality, the NCPD rate for incorporated villages is approximately 15% (on average) higher than the Village's cost for OBPD protection. We currently have a highly professional and competent police force that knows our community, our roads and our residents. We believe the OBPD is the finest police department on Long Island and we owe it to both our residents and the entire department to work through this problem. We intend to work with the OBPD and we expect to receive real value for high quality community based police protection.

Yours truly,

Theodore B. Smith, Jr.
Mayor