

F.A.Q. Beekman Library 2022 Funding Vote

Q. How will this budget affect my taxes?

A. Currently the average household pays \$8.01 a month. If the budget is approved, the average household will pay **\$8.99 a month**. The exact amount you will pay depends on the assessed value of your home. For each \$1,000 of assessed value, you will pay 39 cents per year.

Q. Why does the Library need this increase?

A. Inflation is the simple answer. Specifically, additional funds are needed to meet increased costs for general operating expenses, library materials, and health insurance. For the past three years we have kept increases to a minimum thanks to grants such as NY State Bullet Aid and the Federal Paycheck Protection Program.

Q. How much do other towns pay for library service?

| Dutchess County Average Per Person Library Cost* | | | |
|--|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------|
| | | Town of Beekman | |
| All Dutchess County | Towns Similar Size to Beekman^ | Current | New if Budget Passes |
| \$57 per person | \$42 per person | \$29 per person | \$34 per person |
| * Source: NY State Annual Report | | ^ Towns between 10,000-15,000 people | |

Q. Instead of increasing my taxes, can't the Library seek grants and donations?

A. We explore all possible funding sources. In 2021, Library revenue from grants, donations, fines and fees totaled \$86,648. Of this, \$50,000 was from the Dutchess County Learn, Play, Create grant that was used to enhance children's programming. We are grateful for these funds, however, they are not guaranteed, may be restricted and fluctuate from year to year.

Q. I don't even use the library, why should I pay for it?

A. Good question. We are asking non-users to look at the library as a vital community service. A community-supported library plays a large part in a thriving community. The bottom line for you is a thriving community has a direct effect on your home's value.

Please Vote

Early Voting starts Saturday, October 29, 2022

General Election Day –Tuesday, November 8, 2022

**YOU MUST FLIP OVER THE BALLOT TO VOTE ON THE
LIBRARY BUDGET**