

Garden City Board of Trustees Action: October 15, 2015

The Garden City Board of Trustees, with the exception of Trustees Stephen Makrinos and John DeMaro who were absent, convened at a regularly scheduled meeting on Thursday, October 15, 2015 at 8 p.m. and took the following action:

Approval of Minutes

The Board approved minutes for the following meeting: October 1, 2015

Treasurer's Report

Village Treasurer Irene Woo provided the Treasurer's Report. Report highlights include:

As of September 30, 2015, the Village's total cash balance totaled \$31,982,000. Money market accounts have a balance of \$11,290,000.

As of September 30, 2015, operating expenses were 1 percent favorable to the adopted budget and operating revenues were 2 percent favorable to the adopted budget.

Consent Calendar

The Board approved the following items on the Consent Calendar:

Finance

Bond Resolution: The Board approved a \$750,000 bond resolution for the Community Park Pool Bathhouse Renovation. A complete renovation to the existing ladies and men's shower and restroom facilities is required. Robert de Bruin, president of de Bruin Engineering, P.C., provided a brief overview of the renovation project.

Transfer of Funds

The Board approved the following fund transfers:

-\$480 from Street Maintenance-Overtime to Street Lighting-Overtime due to Parking Field painting done on the weekend, which overspent money allocated.

-\$45,000 from Contingent to Litigation-Fair Housing to assist the Federal Housing Compliance Officer in his duties. (*See Village Counsel*)

Sick Leave

The Board approved sick leave for two employees in the Police (1) and Recreation (1) Departments.

Village Counsel

The Board granted authorization to incur costs of a consultant, Professor John Nolon, at the rate of up to \$325 per hour, to an initial maximum of \$45,000, to assist Federal Housing Compliance Officer Anthony LaPinta in his duties, particularly in connection with his review of the pending application for a development at 550 Stewart Avenue and related zoning change request.

Public Works

Well #14 Rehabilitation: The Board engaged the services of the H2M Group for \$20,000 to provide design (\$11,000), construction administration (\$3,000) and construction observation (\$6,000) for the rehabilitation of Well #14 at the Garden City Country Club.

Police

Grant Award: The Board accepted an \$8,345 grant award for the period of October 1, 2015 through September 30, 2016. Garden City was one of only two villages on Long Island awarded funding for a Live-Scan Fingerprinting Scanner. One unit costs approximately \$16,700 and the New York State Department of Criminal Justice Services Division will reimburse the Village half the cost, up to \$8,345. The Police Department will totally fund the project by using asset forfeiture funds as well as the grant.

Bid Award

Fire Hydrants and Repair Kits: The Board awarded the bid to Ferguson Enterprise, low bidder, for fire hydrants and repair kits at a cost of \$34,310. Seven vendors were invited to bid; two bids were received. The last bid for hydrants and repair kits was awarded in 2013 for \$30,411.46.

Zoning Change Applications

After suspending the rules, the Board approved the hiring of the law firm Meyer, Suozzi, English & Klein, P.C. to assist the Village with zoning change applications for a retainer amount up to \$30,000.

Mayor's Committee on Building Code Changes

Mayor Nicholas Episcopia appointed members to a Mayor's Committee on Building Code Changes, which was formed in response to the concern expressed by many residents from different areas of Garden City regarding the proliferation of residential extensions and new construction that is out of character with the surrounding area.

The mission of the Committee is to enter into full review and discussion of the Zoning Code to include, but not be limited to, the charge to the Architectural Design Review Board contained therein, as well as the existing allowable height, width, overall bulk and set-backs of residential structures within the respective residential zones; and thereafter, to propose amendments that will preserve the unique character of the Village's neighborhoods without denying an owner the right to improve his or her property while ensuring the right of neighboring property owners to continue to enjoy the character and curb appeal of theirs. Robert Cunningham, chair of the Board of Zoning Appeals, was very supportive of the effort and helped craft the Mission Statement.

Members of the Committee are as follows: *From the POAs:* Charles Debeneditis (Central); Hugh Lacy (Estates); Richard Vallely (West); James Bauer (East); *From The Board of Zoning Appeals:* Robert Cunningham (Central); Michael Schroder (Estates); Brian Paradine (East); John Ardito (West); Temporary Building Superintendent Michael Fillipon and newly appointed Building Superintendent Ausberto "Ozzie" Huertas, Jr.

Non-Resident Parking Permits

The Board of Trustees directed Village Clerk Brian Ridgway to issue 18 non-resident parking permits for the Nassau Boulevard Railroad Station at a fee of \$300.

Permit

The Board granted a permit request for St. Joseph's School to hold a 5K and Fun Run on Saturday, March 19, 2016 beginning at 8:30 a.m. The race route will be Fourth Street to Rockaway Avenue, to First Street to Cambridge Avenue. The route will be reviewed by the Police Department.

Solicitation

The Board granted the Garden City Fire Department's request to solicit throughout the Village for their annual house-to-house fund drive November 1-30, 2015, Mondays - Fridays from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. and on Saturdays from 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Block Party

The Board approved a block party on Ash Street, between Magnolia Street and St. James St. South, on Saturday, October 24, 2015 from 11:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. (Rain date is November 7, 2015)

On-Street Parking

The Board approved on-street parking for residents on Franklin Court.

Trustees Discussion

Trustees discussed the use of and implementation of a plan for the use of cameras in Village parks, parking lots and Village-wide facilities in order to increase security and reduce mischief and vandalism and related issues. No action was taken at this time.

Accolades

Michael Filippon: The Board of Trustees, as well as members of the Village's executive staff, bid a fond farewell to retiring Building Superintendent Michael Filippon. This was his final Board meeting; his final day of work is Friday, Oct. 23.

The next regularly scheduled Board of Trustees meeting is Thursday, Nov. 5, 2015 at 8 p.m. at Village Hall.