

Garden City Board of Trustees Action: November 19, 2015

The Garden City Board of Trustees, with the exception of Deputy Mayor Brian Daughney, who was absent, convened at a regularly scheduled meeting on Thursday, November 19, 2015 at 8:00 p.m. and took the following action:

Oath of Office – Special Police Officer:

Garden City resident Trevor Aquino took his oath of office as a new member of Garden City's Special Police Force. Trevor has served three years as a Junior Firefighter and also as a lifeguard at the Garden City Pool. He also serves as a Western Property Owners' Association director.

Approval of Minutes:

The Board approved minutes for the following meeting: November 5, 2015.

Treasurer's Report:

Village Treasurer Irene Woo provided the Treasurer's Report, which the Board approved. Report highlights include:

As of October 31, 2015, the Village's total cash balance totaled \$28,074,132. Money market accounts have a balance of \$11,289,905.

As of October 31, 2015, operating expenses were 2 percent unfavorable to the Adopted Budget and operating revenues were 4 percent favorable to the Adopted Budget.

Consent Calendar

The Board approved the following items on the Consent Calendar:

Finance:

Invoice Payment:

\$7,870 to Reynolds, Caronia, Gianelli & LaPinta, P.C. (Anthony LaPinta, Fair Housing Compliance Officer) for professional services rendered October 1-31, 2015 with respect to legal issues as the Fair Housing Compliance Officer, including professional services rendered by Professor John Nolon with regard to MHANY Management Inc. and the ACORN litigation.

Law Firm Retention:

The Board voted to retain the legal services of the Bonventre Law Group to represent the Village in three tax certiorari cases at the rate of \$200 per hour. Cullen and Dykman ordinarily represents Garden City in tax certiorari matters, however, from time to time, specific matters have been reassigned based on potential conflicts with the Cullen and Dykman firm. This retainer is for three such matters: NYCB v. Garden City (110 Seventh Street); JP Morgan Chase v. Garden City (82 Seventh Street); and JP Morgan Chase v. Garden City (71 Clinton Road).

Audit Reports:

The Village has received and reviewed the final audit reports for the fiscal year ended May 31, 2015. The Village's Basic Financial Statements and the Garden City Justice Audit Reports were reviewed by the Village's Finance and Audit Committee.

Tax Correction:

The Board voted to authorize the Mayor to sign an Application for Refund and Credit of Real Property Taxes for the Year 2015 and an application for Correction of Real Property Taxes for Year 2015, necessitated by a clerical error in transposing numbers on the Village Tax Map incorrectly. The correct businesses will be billed for these taxes.

Release Letter of Credit:

The Board voted to authorize the Mayor to sign the Release of Letter of Credit issued by Signature Bank for the property at 301 Franklin Avenue, Garden City. The Certificate of Occupancy has been properly issued for this property, therefore, the Letter of Credit originally set up in 2013 can be released.

Tax Certiorari Settlement:

New York Community Bank, with regard to property located at 108-110 Seventh Street, a bank, which results in a refund of \$70,000 and a new assessment of \$22,500. This is for tax years 2008/09 through 2015/16.

Transfer of Funds:

\$1,750 from Contingent to St. Paul's Maintenance of Plant to repair broken windows in the Main Building of St. Paul's. *(See Recreation item on Consent Calendar)*

\$82,000 from Contingent to Technology-Police to provide funds for cameras and controlled access to doors to improve security at Village Hall and Water Department Well Sites and to purchase servers and software to monitor new systems being planned for remote and/or satellite Village facilities. The Police Department applied for a \$40,250 Homeland Security Grant that will partially reimburse the Village for these expenses. *(See Police item on Consent Calendar)*

\$5,500 from Equipment and Capital-Sewer Repairs to Equipment and Capital DPW-Equipment to provide funds to renew the Skid Steer Loader off of the Suffolk County Bid which expires on November 23, 2015.

Recreation

St. Paul's Window Repairs:

The Board approved \$1,750 worth of repair work to seven broken windows at the St. Paul's Main Building. Mike the Glazier of Mineola performed the work. The product installed is called Lexan plastic glass. Its durability will reduce the building's exposure to the natural elements.

Police

Security:

The Board approved an \$82,000 request (\$40,250 of that will be reimbursed by a New York State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services Critical Infrastructure Grant) to provide a network in Village Hall incorporating all future Village camera and security projects in Garden City and other entities such as the Garden City Public Library, Garden City schools, etc. This program will assess vulnerability and/or harden/protect critical infrastructure and key assets. *(See item under Transfer of Funds)*

Sick Leave

The Board approved sick leave for four employees in the Police (2), Recreation (1) and Public Works (1) Departments.

Clerk's Office

Filming/Photography Permit:

This resolution standardizes the form of a filming/photography permit for Garden City and authorizes the Mayor to approve same (with such conditions as he/she and Village Counsel may deem appropriate in individual circumstances) when there is insufficient time to obtain advance approval of the Board of Trustees.

Filming Request:

The Board granted a filming request by David Velasco, Location Manager, "The Family," to film at Hemlock Park on Saturday, November 21, 2015 between the hours of 2:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m. The required insurance certificate had been received as well as the \$1,000 fee and \$4,000 donation to Hemlock Park. All Police and Village Personnel expenses will be reimbursed.

Fire

Agreement:

The Board approved an agreement with the M. J. Barney Corporation, d/b/a, Long Island Fire Technology for \$18,000 to provide commercial building inspection services for the Garden City Fire Department through May 31, 2016.

Public Works

The Board approved the renewal of professional services provided by Swiftreach Networks at a cost of \$350 per month, plus an additional \$0.07 per minute usage charge (the same fee as last year) to allow residents to receive notifications to home, cell or work phones when there are water alerts, natural disasters, terrorist threats, industrial disasters or police emergencies.

Executive Session:

The Board entered into an executive session to discuss a matter of personnel, a matter of collective bargaining and a labor relations matter.

The next regularly scheduled Board of Trustees meeting is Thursday, December 3, 2015 at 8 p.m. at Village Hall.