

November 3, 2021

THE MAYOR'S UPDATE
cveneziale@gardencityny.net

FIRE SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING

Due to a scheduling conflict, the Special Board of Trustees meeting originally scheduled for Wednesday, November 10, 2021 has been changed to Wednesday, November 17, 2021 beginning at 7:00 p.m. at Garden City Middle School. The Fire Safety Committee will make a presentation regarding the task given to the Committee by the Mayor; which investigation was undertaken by members on those issues, matters and considerations and on which the members of the Committee believe warrant further inquiry and action by the Board of Trustees.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Village Treasurer Irene Woo presented the Treasurer's Report for Fiscal Year 2020-21 and Q1 for Fiscal Year 2021-22 during the October 21, 2021 Board of Trustees meeting. This is a continuation of the summary that began in last week's column. In essence, Ms. Woo confirmed the financial health of village is in good shape.

In the 2020-21 Fiscal Year, the Pool Enterprise Fund saw a significant revenue loss due to summer 2020 COVID-related factors, including a delayed opening and attendance restrictions. As a result, membership revenues were impacted, and numerous programs were cancelled, including swim teams and lessons. Revenues came in \$961,000 less than budgeted. The Tennis Enterprise Fund came in \$43,000 higher than budgeted, mostly due to deferred revenues from the prior Quarter. The Tennis Bubble closed in March 2020 and reopened in mid-July. Water Enterprise Fund revenues increased, mostly because of premiums on securities from the issuance of BANs (approximately \$1.2 million) for Village Water Well Treatment projects.

General Fund expenditures were lower across all Departments due to less activities as a result of COVID; open positions and delayed hiring positions, which resulted in less salaries and benefits paid; less judgements and claims, and less legal fees. Unused contingency was also a factor. The Enterprise Funds saw lower expenditures as well. The Pool, although it had less expenditures than anticipated, ended the year with a net loss of approximately \$400,000 while the Water and Tennis Funds did have favorable overall surpluses at the end of the year.

For the first Quarter of 2021-22, revenues are in line when compared to the same period in the prior year. There are increases in Police/Court revenues from tickets issued, as well as Recreation Department revenues. This past summer, the Pool saw a significant increase in revenues year over year. Although this year's budget is conservative, revenues received this first Quarter have exceeded expectations. According to Ms. Woo, the Pool Fund is expected to recoup losses it saw last year. Both the Tennis and Water Funds continue to do well.

For the first Quarter of 2021-22, expenditures are lower when compared to last year, partially due to the cost of Tropical Storm Isaias cleanup. Further, expenditures for the Pool and Tennis Funds are in line with expectations.

OVERTIME

Trustees track Village-wide overtime and discuss the topic during every annual budget process. Village-wide overtime increased in the 2020-21 Fiscal Year although it was less than budgeted mostly due to Tropical Storm Isaias. That storm generated much overtime in the Public Works and Recreations and Parks Departments. While these Departments saw an increase in overtime year over year, the Police Department accrued less overtime due to cancelled events due to COVID. For the first Quarter of 2021-22, overtime totaled \$450,000, compared to \$535,000 in the prior year.

WATER UPDATE

Water Tower: No work was performed last week. Crews are waiting for the Village's security company to provide details/drawings of what they require from electrical contractor for their work.

Discolored Water Complaints: H2M is mapping discolored water detections and investigating complaints as they are registered.

Well 7 (Waterworks site): Three minor items remain on the punch list. The contractor provided change orders that were requested during construction. H2M is reviewing the same.

Wells 8 and 12 (Rockaway Avenue site): H2M completed performance sampling and is expecting lab results within two weeks. The Department of Health walkthrough video was conducted for Wells 8 and 12.

Well No 9 (Wilson Street site): The Nassau County Health Department endorsed engineering report has been sent to the New York State Department of Health. A soil investigation was conducted. The report is currently under review and will be submitted to the Village.

Wells 10 and 11 (Clinton Road site): H2M is designing the blower and enclosure replacement and is also waiting on the change order for the roadway to the new treatment building.

Wells 13 and 14 (Garden City Country Club site): Received approval from the New York State Department of Health to operate wells with treatment to system. Wells 13 and 14 are able to run to system through treatment. Well 13 is currently running to system without treatment. Design has started on the GAC Building and associated site work. The Village will introduce Well 14 through the treatment system. Once Well 14 is stable, Well 13 will be sent through treatment to system. Looking forward, H2M will prepare a new rendering in order to coordinate with the golf club.

Wells 15 and 16 Hilton Park site): Wells were cleaned, and interior lighting installed. Concrete was also poured for steps. In the coming week, well cleaning will continue, as will electrical work and siding work around the air stripping tower.

EMPLOYEE I.D. BADGES

The Board of Trustees is considering the adoption of a policy in which all Village employees, excluding sworn members of the Police Department, shall be issued an Inc. Village of Garden City identification badge. As a vital part of the Village's security system, the ID badge shall be issued to each employee upon hiring and subsequent time(s) as may be necessary (e.g., transfer to a new department, lost card, etc.), and such badge shall contain the employee's name, photo, and department. Employees are required to always wear badges where visible while working and/or when conducting any official business on behalf of the Village. This will assist the public in identifying a true Village employee in dealings in an office or out on the street. If an individual approaches a resident, the resident should feel confident to request to see their ID if not already visible. If the individual does not produce an ID when requested, please contact the Village at 516-465-4051.

VILLAGE MUNICIPAL SERVICE YARD

The Village Municipal Service Yard was established a number of years ago for the convenience of Village residents. Located just south of the entrance to the Community Park Complex on Cherry Valley Avenue, its use is limited to passenger cars, station wagons and suburban type vehicles, including mini vans with full windows all around. All trucks, vans and commercial vehicles are excluded. Hours of operation have been adjusted due to COVID:

- Weekdays: 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
- Saturdays: 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
- Sundays: CLOSED

Items accepted at the Village Municipal Service Yard include: rubbish, yard waste, as well as bulky items. Residents can also drop off cardboard and cardboard boxes for recycling. No household garbage is accepted. No building construction materials, alterations or repairs - if done by a contractor, is accepted. Contractors are responsible for removal and disposal of their materials. Residents who wish to use the transfer station must obtain a permit. Permits may be obtained in person at the first floor Business Office in Village Hall by presenting a valid registration for their vehicle along with the required fee.

Requirements for using the Village Municipal Service Yard:

1. All vehicles must be registered to a Garden City address.
2. All vehicles must have a permit.
3. All permits must be on front left bumper.
4. No commercial use.
5. No household garbage will be accepted.
6. No construction debris.

Hazardous materials, including oil, gasoline, chemicals, paints and any other highly flammable or volatile liquids are not accepted at the Village Municipal Service Yard. For information on disposal of these items call the Town of Hempstead (S.T.O.P. Program) at [378-4210](tel:378-4210).

LEAF PICK UP

Leaves are falling late this year due to the warmer temperatures. The Department of Public Works does have a truck out collecting spot piles. Crews expect to be at full force in approximately two weeks, depending on what falls. Residents are reminded that they and/or their landscapers must only discard leaves; no sticks, branches, flower pots or flowers. This other debris, when mixed with leaves, does at times damage the machine's impellor, which creates down time for repairs.

VETERANS DAY

William Bradford Turner Post No. 265, American Legion will conduct a Veterans Day ceremony on Veterans Day, Thursday, November 11, 2021, in the area surrounding the Veterans Memorial at the Library on Seventh Street. American Legion Auxiliary, William Bradford Turner Post, Unit No. 265, will distribute Poppies at the Village Memorial Plaza on Seventh Street one hour before and one hour after the 11:00 a.m. service.

CHANGE YOUR CLOCKS, CHANGE YOUR BATTERIES

Sunday, November 7, 2021 marks the end of Daylight Saving Time, and while modern technology has made it such that we don't need to turn back every clock in the house, you should change the batteries in your smoke and carbon monoxide detectors. If you don't have a smoke and carbon monoxide detector, GET ONE!

The Garden City Fire Department recommends you change the batteries in your smoke and carbon monoxide detectors when you change the clocks during "Daylight Saving Time" to ensure they get changed at least twice a year. Smoke and carbon monoxide alarms are life saving devices. Having working smoke and carbon monoxide alarms dramatically increases your chance of survival from a fire or carbon monoxide emergency.

At the end of 2015, Governor Andrew Cuomo signed a bill into law that required all smoke alarms sold in New York State to be equipped with sealed-in, non-removable batteries that last for at least 10 years. The new law took effect in 2019 and marks an important step in improving New York's fire safety. Ten-year smoke alarms require little maintenance, and unlike alarms with removable batteries, they are nearly impossible to deactivate. Regardless of the type of alarm in one's home, the Garden City Fire Department recommends cleaning all alarms to remove any debris that might impede their function and to test the batteries, changing them if necessary.

Fires and carbon monoxide emergencies are real and very scary. A working smoke detector works around the clock and alerts you and your loved ones to a fire or carbon monoxide emergency even while you are asleep. When the alarm sounds, you should "Get Out & Stay Out" then call 911 or 742-3300 and advise the Garden City Fire Department dispatcher of the problem. As a reminder:

Smoke Alarms should be installed:

- Outside each separate sleeping area in the immediate vicinity of the bedrooms
- In each sleeping room
- On each additional story of the dwelling, including basements but not including crawl spaces and uninhabitable attics

Carbon Monoxide Detectors should be installed:

- Within each dwelling unit or sleeping unit, on each story having a sleeping area
- Within each dwelling unit or sleeping unit, on each story where a carbon monoxide source is located

For more information about smoke detectors, visit the National Fire Protection Association at <https://www.nfpa.org/smokealarms>. For more information about the Garden City Volunteer Fire Department, please visit www.gcfdyny.com.