

February 2, 2022

THE MAYOR'S UPDATE

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DISCOLORED WATER INVESTIGATION

H2M is continuing its investigation into discolored "rusty" water. H2M continues mapping discolored water detections and investigating complaints as they are registered. Further, corrosion control study data is being organized after various sampling sessions. H2M will continue sampling protocols during chlorine residual sampling to collect additional data.

WINTER STORM KENAN CLEAN UP

On January 28-29, Winter Storm Kenan dumped 14+ inches of snow on Garden City. Crews began salting as snow began to coat roadways at approximately 9:30 p.m. Friday evening. According to Public Works Deputy Superintendent Domenick Stanco, crews continued salting roads and parking lots until the snow quickly intensified and began accumulating. The plowing operation then followed at approximately 2:00 a.m. Saturday and continued through midnight Saturday evening.

There were approximately 45 pieces of equipment - large/medium and small trucks as well as several payloaders and a backhoe loader - working around the clock during the blizzard. After the plowing operation ended Saturday evening, crews then began salting roads and parking lots again at 8:00 p.m. and continued through the evening.

Employees from all divisions of Public Works worked on the cleanup efforts, including crews from the Street, Sanitation and Water Departments, as well as Parks and Recreation, which works in close cooperation with the Department of Public Works in the task of snow removal. In addition to clearing out Recreation facilities such as St. Paul's School, the Senior Center and Community Park, Parks and Recreation crews also help clear parking lots and sidewalks throughout the Village. During the Nor'easter, Recreation and Parks crews were called in at 10:30 p.m. Friday night and worked throughout Friday into Saturday evening. Crews continued clearing sidewalks on Sunday and Monday, January 30-31.

During the course of the storm, mechanics at the Village Garage were on hand for the duration of the operation in order to keep plows and equipment fully functional. There were miscellaneous breakdowns throughout the day and night that were repaired in the shop. Crews also responded to 10 road calls to keep the fleet up and running.

Officers responded to 30 storm-related calls, including auto accidents, medical aided incidents, alarms, fire calls, disabled autos, hazardous conditions, and a traffic light malfunction. The Fire Department responded to three calls total on Saturday, January 29; one call for a reported house fire on Stewart Avenue deemed to be a burning odor inside the residence from the heating unit, and two automatic alarms.

LANDSCAPERS AND LEAF BLOWERS

During a Special Meeting of the Board of Trustees Tuesday, February 1, Trustee Mary Carter Flanagan, after receiving significant community input about environmental and health impacts, on behalf of the Environmental Advisory Board (EAB), recommended imposing a seasonal ban on gas-powered leaf blowers the Saturday of Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day as well as requiring landscapers that do business within the Village be licensed. “We’re not trailblazers here. Many of you I’m sure have heard of communities in the New York area and across the country who have gone ahead of us and taken this step,” Trustee Flanagan said.

For example, communities like the Town of North Hempstead, as well as Roslyn, East Hampton, Southampton, Sea Cliff, New Rochelle, Rye, Scarsdale, Bronxville, and Summit, New Jersey all have seasonal bans in place.

Mayor Cosmo Veneziale requested the Special BOT Meeting to offer Trustees and residents the opportunity to discuss in public the issues regarding the environmental impact of using gas fueled leaf blowers. “I support the work of the Environmental Advisory Board and the efforts of Trustee Mary Carter Flanagan in presenting their research, findings and recommendations,” Mayor Veneziale said. “I am also in favor of banning and limiting the use of gas fueled leaf blowers to the greatest extent possible to improve our environment. The health, safety and welfare of our residents is paramount.”

The Board did not take any action but is expected to set a date for a public hearing about landscaper licensing and a proposed ban on gas-powered leaf blowers at the next Board of Trustees meeting. For more information and to hear audio of previous EAB meetings where these topics were discussed in more detail, [click here](#).

WATER UPDATE

Water Tower: The electrical subcontractor continues with installations. New electrical service was energized by PSEG last week. All light fixture installations are complete. The electrician is waiting for sampling tap enclosure to be installed by Bancker in order to proceed with remaining work. H2M waiting for submittal/shop drawing to be provided.

Well 7 (Waterworks site): As-builts are under H2M review. The final contractor payment has been sent to the Village. Well No. 7 construction documents are being incorporated into the Well Nos. 8 and 12 permanent structure bid. Well No. 7 rehabilitation is included in the bid package.

Wells 8 and 12 (Rockaway Avenue site): Well No. 7 will be incorporated into the final documents. Bid dates are ready to be set.

Well No 9 (Wilson Street site): Soil boring results indicate the building should be south of the abandoned ground storage tank and west of the existing booster building. H2M electrical performed a site evaluation on January 25, 2022; the summary writeup is currently being developed.

Wells 10 and 11 (Clinton Road site): H2M is preparing a punch list for interim work. Well No. 11 has been cleaned and prepared for installation. The electrical equipment is on site, waiting for PSEG to install the transformer.

Wells 13 and 14 (Garden City Country Club site): H2M is progressing with permanent design, specifically pipe work, building foundation and well rehabilitation. Architectural landscaping (trees) plan is being prepared now.

Wells 15 and 16 (Hilton Park site): Electrical work and interior work continuing. Building

interior cleaned and control work is proceeding. Crews are preparing systems for performance testing by the end of February.

GCPD SCAM WARNING

A resident reported receiving a phone call from a person claiming to be a Garden City Police Officer. The caller advised the victim to provide payment to avoid being arrested for a criminal charge, according to Commissioner Kenneth Jackson. It was determined the call was a scam and did not originate from the Garden City Police Department. However, the suspect's phone number on the victim's phone erroneously came back to the Department. Residents receiving similar calls are advised to hang up and dial 911.