

April 20, 2022

THE MAYOR'S UPDATE

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INCIDENTS OF GRAFFITI

There has been an increase in graffiti incidents in the business district and railroad work sites. In addition to increased patrols, the Police Department requests that anyone who is witnessing this crime in progress to dial 911. Persons who have information regarding a past graffiti incident are requested to call the Garden City Detective Division at 516-465-4108.

MAYORAL APPOINTMENTS

I made the following required appointments (either by Village Code, State Law or other consideration) for the ensuing official year:

Deputy Mayor: Trustee Thomas J. O'Brien

Fire Commissioner: Trustee Bruce A. Torino

Environmental Advisory Board (Chair): Trustee Mary Carter Flanagan

Library Board Liaison: Trustee Lawrence N. Marciano, Jr.

Zoning Change Review Committee: Trustees Charles P. Kelly and Bruce A. Torino; H. Bradford Gustavson, as a representative of the Planning Commission; John G. Villanella as a representative of the Board of Appeals; and William Alisse, as a representative of the Architectural Design Review Board

Village Historian: William Bellmer

Liaison Officer to Public Works: Trustee Bruce J. Chester

Liaison Officer to Board of Commissioners and Cultural and Recreational Affairs: Deputy Mayor Thomas J. O'Brien

Board of Police Commissioners: Deputy Mayor Thomas J. O'Brien, Village Administrator Ralph Suozzi and Police Commissioner Kenneth O. Jackson (Chair)

Traffic Commission: Trustees Charles P. Kelly (Chair), Lawrence N. Marciano, Jr., Terence P. Digan and Mary Carter Flanagan, Police Commissioner Kenneth O. Jackson and a DPW Designee TBD.

Finance and Audit Committee: Trustees Terence P. Digan (Chair), Bruce J. Chester and Lawrence N. Marciano, Jr.

Committee to Fill Vacancies on Boards and Commissions: Mayor Cosmo Veneziale (Chair) and Deputy Mayor Thomas J. O'Brien

Legal Committee: Trustees Charles P. Kelly and Bruce A. Torino

Public Information Committee: Deputy Mayor Thomas J. O'Brien (Chair), Trustee Charles P. Kelly and Mayor Cosmo Veneziale

LIRR Third Track Committee: Bruce J. Chester (Chair), Richard Corrao, Esq., Paul Rothenbiller, James Kumpel, Richard Catalano, Stephen Fereance and Alaine Smith Lawlor

Board of Ethics: Richard Corrao, Esq. (Chair), Ryan Torino and Alison Metzler

2022 SPRING HYDRANT FLUSHING

Each spring the Garden City Water Department opens and flows (flushes) hydrants. This maintenance began Monday, April 18 and will run through Tuesday, May 10. Flyers that specify

when flushing will take place in your neighborhood are being hand delivered to residents by Water Department personnel. This biannual maintenance program is essential to the operation. We receive many questions about this program and why it needs to be done. This is an important benefit to you, our residents, and we'd like to share with you what it entails and how it benefits you. Flushing water mains is a way for us to clean out a build-up of dissolved minerals inside our mains. This build-up is caused by reduced water demands during the winter months. These deposits settle to the bottom of the mains and must be cleaned out so that they don't cause discolored water in the future.

The flushing is done between the hours of 11:30 PM and 7:30 AM in order to keep the disturbance to your water service to a minimum during normal water usage time. While flushing is occurring in your area, you may have some slight fluctuations in water pressure and temporary water discoloration. Here are some recommendations you can follow during flushing dates in your neighborhood:

- Draw water for cooking ahead of time
- Store bottles of water for drinking
- Be sure to check the water quality before using your washing machine or dishwasher

Mark your calendars now to be prepared when we begin flushing the water mains in your neighborhood. Any questions, please contact the Water Department at (516) 465-4020.

WATER INFRASTRUCTURE GRANT AWARDS

New York State's Environmental Facilities Corporation has awarded \$638 million in grants to municipalities and public authorities for 199 water infrastructure projects across the state that protect public health or improve water quality. The Village of Garden City has been awarded nearly \$17 million in Water Infrastructure Improvement Act (WIIA) grants to help offset the costs of installing AOP (Advanced Oxidation Process) and GAC (Granulated Activated Carbon) filter systems at various well sites, it was announced by Governor Kathy Hochul April 19, 2022.

- Well No. 7: \$3.1 million
- Well No. 9: \$3 million
- Well Nos. 13 and 14: \$5.1 million
- Well Nos. 15 and 16: \$5.46 million

Garden City was previously awarded two other WIIA grants of approximately \$9 million for the Clinton Road (Well Nos. 10 and 11) and Rockaway Avenue (Well Nos. 8 and 12) sites. The Clinton Road site grant totals \$5,336,304 while the Rockaway Avenue grant totals \$3,653,794.

NATIONAL PRESCRIPTION DRUG TAKE BACK PROGRAM

The Garden City Police Department will be participating in the Drug Enforcement Agency's (DEA) National Prescription Drug Take Back Day on Saturday, April 30, 2022, between 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. A collection center will be maintained at Garden City Police Department Headquarters at 349 Stewart Avenue. This event provides an opportunity for residents to safely discard unwanted, unused, and expired medications.

As per the United States DEA: Drug overdose deaths are up 16 percent in the last year, claiming

more than 290 lives every day. According to a report published by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, a majority of people who misused a prescription medication obtained the medicine from a family member or friend. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates that in the United States, more than 106,000 people died as the result of a drug overdose in the 12-month period ending November 2021, marking the most drug-related deaths ever recorded, with opioid-related deaths accounting for 75 percent of all overdose deaths.

The Garden City Police Department also advises they accept unused, expired, and unwanted medications every day if someone cannot turn in their medications on April 30th. The Garden City Police Department and DEA Drug Take Back Programs allow for the safe disposal of drugs instead of flushing, burying, or throwing them out in the garbage, which poses significant environmental and health risks.

ARBOR DAY 2022

The Board of Trustees has declared Friday, April 29, 2022 as Arbor Day in Garden City. The Recreation and Parks Department will celebrate Arbor Day by planting a tree on the empty green space on the west side of Rainbow Plaza at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, April 29. This proclamation will also serve as one of the requirements for the Village of Garden City being named “Tree City” by the Arbor Day Foundation.