

October 11, 2023

Next Saturday, all residents of Garden City will have an opportunity to participate in the St. Paul's Public Opinion Poll. The purpose of this Opinion Poll is to hear from residents about their support for a preservation project or a demolition project at St. Paul's. The presentation on cost estimates makes it clear that there is much more work to be done, as no plans were priced for any particular project at St. Paul's. The Village does not have plans for either a community center or a recreation center at this time, and significant expenditures of both time and money are needed to move forward in either direction. Before spending more money to fully evaluate community needs, uses and the affordability of different projects, your opinion is being sought to gauge community interest in two different paths, one that includes preservation of part or all of the building and the other that includes demolition of the building.

The Public Opinion Poll will be held from 7:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m. on Saturday, October 21st at the St. Paul's Field House. With many activities in the Village on that day, residents are encouraged to check the Village website for updates on the parking plan for the Public Opinion Poll. While spots close to the Field House will be designated for residents participating in the Opinion Poll, we do know that before 8:30 a.m., no other activities are planned at the fields which would make parking more available, and based on the field schedules we know that more parking will again be available for the Opinion Poll participants later in the day. The Homecoming Parade is scheduled to leave GC Middle School and proceed to the High School before the 2:00 p.m. game. Residents may wish to avoid the area between noon and 2:00 p.m. If a resident is unable to participate in person, absentee ballots are available at Village Hall, and residents can get an absentee ballot by filling out the absentee ballot application. (<https://www.gardencityny.net/DocumentCenter/View/255/Absentee-Ballot-Application---English-PDF>). The ballots must be received by the time the polls close on October 21, 2023, and they can be delivered to the St. Paul's Field House on that day. A box is now set up at Village Hall for residents to submit their absentee ballots.

All the information available to prepare for the vote is available on the Village website, and information packets are also available at Village Hall, the Senior Center and the Garden City Library. The cost estimate information has been summarized for residents, as well as the financing options so residents understand the impact of different alternatives on their Village taxes. Thank you for participating in this important St. Paul's Public Opinion Poll!

7TH STREET CROSSWALK IMPROVEMENTS

Improvements continue to be made to the 7th Street crosswalks this month. J. Anthony Enterprises began construction October 10. Next week, October 17 - 20 and again on Monday, October 23, 7th Street will be closed westbound from Franklin Avenue to the Parking Field 7N entrance between Key Food Marketplace (153-157 7th Street) and Dunkin' (165 7th Street) to allow work to be done. Roads will be accessible for emergency vehicles in case of emergency. However, emergency vehicles should plan to detour around the street if the emergency is not on the street affected by the construction. This schedule is subject to change and is weather permitting.

JOB OPPORTUNITIES IN THE VILLAGE

The Village of Garden City is currently accepting candidates for several positions, including Assistant Superintendent of the Building Department, Horticulturist, Code Enforcement Inspector and Recreation Assistant Superintendent, to name a few. You can read the full job descriptions on our website via the Career Opportunities button. All interested candidates should email resumes to humanresources@gardencityny.net.

FIRE DEPT ACTIVITY

Chief Matthew Pearn reported that during September the Department responded to 118 total calls:

- 112 "Signal 8" calls or non-emergency automatic alarms
- 3 general alarms, including one house fire
- 1 extrication
- 2 mutual aid calls to assist neighboring Fire Departments

RULES ON PICKING UP AFTER YOUR DOG AND KEEPING DOGS LEASHED

We love our dogs here in the Village, and to make sure our neighbors and fellow residents love them too, and to keep our community safe, we have a number of rules in the Village Code relating to dogs. Village Code mandates that you remove dog waste from public streets and public areas. These areas include median strips, curbs, gutters, park areas, streets, etc. Regulations require that dog waste be placed with the rubbish for curbside collection on Wednesdays and be containerized or placed in a properly secured plastic bag. It must NOT be placed in storm drains for obvious health reasons. This regulation included in the Village Code is important in helping the community maintain the quality of life for everyone. Owners are also responsible for keeping dogs on leash or on their property. According to Section 55-3 of the Village Code, "No owner shall suffer or allow an animal to run at large in the Village elsewhere than on the premises of the owner or on the premises of another person with the knowledge and consent of such other person. Any owner who fails to exercise due care in preventing such animal from running loose or at large shall be guilty of a violation." The Code defines "at large" or "running loose" as "not under the control of the owner either by leash, cord, chain or similar device not over six feet in length." Residents are reminded that dogs are not permitted in any of the Village parks, including the St. Paul's fields. Recently, we've seen an increasing number of people walking their pooches, or worse, letting them run off leash, in our facilities. Some residents have become aggressive towards our employees when they are approached and informed that their dogs are not permitted. We don't permit dogs due to the possibility that a child may be bitten or nipped by a dog, and also the dogs may be injured by a rogue baseball or other object.

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY TEMPORARILY SUSPEND BOOK DONATIONS

The Friends of the Garden City Public Library has temporarily suspended book donations in order to conduct inventory on the books that have already been received and prepare for the upcoming book sale on Saturday, November 4 and Sunday, November 5. Thank you to all the recent donors who shared so many books, to generously support the Library. The Friends will resume ongoing book collection after the sale, at a future date to be determined, to stock the ongoing book sale shelves. The mission of the Friends of the Garden City Public Library is to help fund services and resources not provided by tax dollars and to promote the Library as a vital community education and information center. For more information about the work of the Friends, please contact the Library at 516-742-8405 or visit the website www.gardencitypl.org.