

January 31, 2024

While the Mayor's Advisory Committee and the Board of Trustees continue moving forward on the path to a decision at St. Paul's, I would like to take time to address an important public health issue that will be the topic of this week's Environmental Advisory Board ("EAB") meeting. It was over two years ago that the issue of elevated levels of lead in drinking water associated with lead service lines in our Village first came to the attention of the Board of Trustees.

Since that time, all residents have received mail on this topic, it has been covered extensively in programming by the EAB, the Garden City News has run many stories on the topic, and the Board of Trustees voted to waive permit fees for lead service line replacements in order to help minimize the financial burden of replacing a lead service line. You have probably seen notices on our Village website, posts on social media, and large poster boards at the Library, Village Hall and Senior Center with instructions on how to request a free water test.

So where are we now on the issue of lead testing and lead service lines? Most residents know that water service lines connect their homes and all buildings in the Village to the water main, and that the service lines are the responsibility of the homeowner. How many homeowners know whether their service line is made of lead or another material? How many residents have tested their drinking water for lead, and what have the results been? Come to the EAB meeting on Wednesday, February 7, at 7:30 p.m. at Village Hall and via Zoom to learn the answers to these questions from Stan Cary, Village Superintendent of Water and Sewer. You will also hear about the free lead testing being offered by the Village and about how the Village needs your help in its efforts to complete a lead service line inventory that is mandated by the Federal government.

MOODY'S ASSIGNS VILLAGE Aaa RATING

In anticipation of the Village's upcoming Bond and BAN (Bond Anticipation Notes) sale, Village Treasurer Irene Woo recently held a ratings call with Moody's Investor Services, Inc. where a wide range of topics were discussed, including Village debt, capital needs, finances, budgeting, fund balance and local economy. On January 18th, Moody's once again assigned a Aaa rating with a stable outlook to the Village citing in their credit opinion the Village's financial position is healthy with ample reserves and liquidity. The credit opinion also includes a rating for Environmental, Social and Governance impacts. The Environmental score is Moderately Negative. Moody's deems all issuers in Nassau County to have elevated exposures to storms and water stress. However, under the Social and Governance impacts, the Village's score is positive. Social impacts include strong employment, high resident income, and low violent crimes. Under Governance, the opinion stated, "Government operations are managed by certified and experienced professionals who are responsible for implementing policy objectives." The Village will be issuing \$14,827,800 in bonds for various projects and \$43,827,800 in BANs for the six Water Well Treatment projects. The BANs are one-year notes and once all the New York State grants are received (totaling \$25,670,098), the Village will issue long-term bonds for the difference. The full Moody's credit opinion report can be viewed under the Finance Department tab.

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

The Environmental Protection Agency is requiring the Village Water Dept. to create an inventory of all water service line materials within the Village by October 2024. The Village is asking residents and businesses to fill out a quick survey. You can access the form from your cell phone/tablet by entering the following URL link in a web browser: <https://arcg.is/PnDCn>. We recommend that you use your cell phone or tablet as you will be asked to take a photo of your water service line. The form provides information on where to identify your material as well as material type information. Your participation will help the Village save resources in not having to review additional historical documentation as part of the lead service line identification program.

The Village has waived all permit fees within the DPW and Building Departments related to water service line replacement until May 2024. Residents who have lead service lines are encouraged to take advantage of this and have their lead service lines replaced.

NEW SAFETY SURFACE AT NASSAU HAVEN PARK

The playground area at Nassau Haven Park is closed to allow for the installation of a new safety surface. Work is expected to take approximately two weeks. While this area is closed, please visit the playgrounds at either Tullamore or Edgemere Parks.

BUDGET WORK SESSIONS

The Board of Trustees will conduct work sessions to review the Tentative 2024-25 Operating and Capital Budgets in person in the Village Hall Board Room and via Zoom beginning March 14, 2024, 7:30 - 9:30 p.m. Here is the full schedule:

- Work Session I – Thursday, March 14, 2024
- Work Session II – Wednesday, March 20, 2024
- Work Session III - Thursday, March 28, 2024

SAVE THE DATE: BLOOD DRIVE FEBRUARY 28

New York Blood Services will be holding a blood drive at the Garden City Public Library on Wednesday, February 28, 2024. Donations are critical during the ongoing blood shortage. Each donation can help to save up to three lives. All donors will receive a \$10 gift card (electronically fulfilled). More details to follow. Thank you for your consideration during this critical time.

HAPPENING IN GARDEN CITY

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4 9:30 a.m. Pickleball at the Field House. Nominal fee.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4 2:45 p.m. Family Fun Time at the Field House

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 5 1:30 p.m. Movie Matinée: *An Affair To Remember* at the Library

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 6 4:00 p.m. Teen Advisory Board meeting at the Library. Must register.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 6 6:00 p.m. Planning Commission meeting at Village Hall

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 7 7:00 p.m. Teen Paint Night at the Library. Must register.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 7 7:30 p.m. EAB meeting at Village Hall and via Zoom

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 8 7:30 p.m. Board of Trustees meeting at Village Hall and via Zoom

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 9 9:00 a.m. Adult Art Class at Cluett Hall. Must register.