

2024 - 2025

ONLINE
ANNUAL
REPORT



www.gardencityny.net

Incorporated Village of GARDEN CITY

351 Stewart Avenue, Garden City, New York 11530
Village Hall Business Hours: 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. (Monday through Friday)
Telephone Number: (516) 465-4000 • Fax Number: (516) 742-5223

Village Web-Site: www.gardencityny.net

Download our new Village app to stay in-the-know! MyGardenCity is the new mobile citizen engagement app that allows residents to have a direct line of communication to access information, submit service requests, get notifications and more! Visit the App store and download MyGardenCity today or scan the QR code to the right!

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Residents can also visit our redesigned website to stay informed on what's happening in your Village. The site helps optimize digital interactions for residents and staff. User-friendly search menus provide faster access to pay your bills, fill out forms, read about the latest Village happenings, review Sanitation schedules and locate Village personnel contact information.

With the MyAccount feature, residents can customize their viewing experience and sign up for notifications. The "Notify Me" feature allows residents to subscribe to an unlimited number of email lists. By creating a free website account, residents can manage their email subscriptions, save fillable form progress, report a concern and a host of other things. [Visit www.gardencityny.net to see more!](http://www.gardencityny.net)

LOCATION

Central Nassau County
20 miles east of midtown Manhattan
5.3 square miles

GOVERNMENT

Founded in 1869 and Incorporated in 1919
Governed by a Mayor and seven Trustees
Village Administrator and Executive Staff

POPULATION

23,272 (2020 United States Census)

SERVICES

Police, Fire, Business Office, Building, Engineering, Street/Highway, Water/Sewer, Sanitation Recycling, Recreation/Parks and Justice Court

RESIDENTIAL HOMES

Homes - 6,486
Condominiums - 513
Apartments/Co-ops - 636

BUSINESS COMMUNITY

Commercial area includes banks, investment firms, office complexes, retail businesses, major department stores, variety of restaurants and food establishments and a four-star hotel

SCHOOLS

Seven public school buildings, eight private/parochial schools and one university (Adelphi University)

HOUSES OF WORSHIP

Eleven houses of worship

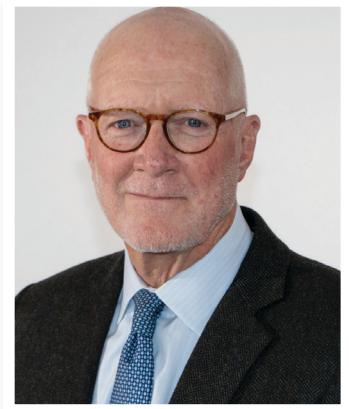
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This is the ninety-second published Annual Report, covering the 2024-2025 fiscal year (June 1, 2024 through May 31, 2025). It highlights the operations of the municipal government of Garden City. The purpose of the Annual Report is to keep the residents of Garden City informed on the activities of the past year. This is vital in the process of interactive government. It should be noted that references are made to State, County, Town and School District; these agencies operate separately and have their own power of taxation.

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To Our Fellow Residents of Garden City,

On behalf of the Garden City Board of Trustees, it is our obligation and my pleasure to present the Annual Report for Fiscal Year June 1, 2024 through May 31, 2025. The primary purpose of this document is to provide you with an account of the stewardship of Village affairs by your Board of Trustees ("BOT") during the past fiscal year. It is a statement of how your tax dollars were spent during the fiscal year 2024-2025. A \$70.9mm budget, substantially underwritten by a \$54.3mm Village tax levy, was approved in April 2024.



Most importantly, our Village continues to be guided by conservative, yet thoughtful fiscal management. It's of primary importance for the BOT to provide you with the required basic services (i.e. police, fire, water, sanitation, etc) while tending to its fiduciary obligation to manage our 60+ buildings, fields, trucks, automobiles and other sundry Village assets.

During fiscal year 2025 we had an eventful 12 months.

Recreation and Parks

- Planned Installation of Turf Field at St. Paul's field to improve athletic facilities.
- Capital Improvements In Progress at Cluett Hall and St. Paul's Field House to enhance community spaces.
- New Slide Ordered for the Garden City Pool complex to upgrade recreational offerings.
- Formal Parkland Designations continued to protect open space used by residents across the Village.

Infrastructure

- Initiated Plans to Rebuild the Western Firehouse to modernize public safety infrastructure.
- Began Full Replacement of the Waste Transfer Station at the Cedar Valley water district (Second St. & Hilton Ave.).
- Repaired and upgraded historic Village facilities including the Toll Lodge and Water Works buildings.
- Traffic Safety Actions initiated in response to widespread resident concerns throughout the Village.

Water and Environment

- Free Lead Testing Kits provided to residents to promote water safety at the tap.
- Noise Pollution Advocacy against excessive airplane noise over the Village.
- Environmental Awareness Efforts strengthened through communication and services.

Community Development and Beautification

- Business District Beautification aggressively pursued, including upgrades to Seventh St. and Franklin Ave.
- Continued Opposition to Casino Development, including both legal challenges and strong vocal opposition.

Communication and Technology

- Village App Launched to improve communication, engagement, and access to services for residents.
- Shared Village-wide Newsletter with all residents, ensuring everyone is updated on the important news of the Village.

Governance and Civic Engagement

- St. Paul's Opinion Poll and Survey Conducted to involve residents in future planning decisions.
- Grants Secured from U.S. Congress, NYS Legislature, and Nassau County Legislature to support key capital projects.

As important as the day-to-day responsibilities and decisions we undertake, members of the Board of Trustees remain deeply committed to leading with integrity, respect, and a focus on what truly matters: doing what's in the best interest of our neighbors. We strive to approach every issue with diligence, civility, and a positive spirit.

Our Village government was uniquely designed to be independent of partisan politics — a foundation that has served us well for generations. In recent years, particularly since 2020, we have experienced a more competitive political environment. I believe this has challenged us to do better, to think more critically, and to remain engaged. At the same time, we must be mindful to keep our public discourse respectful and constructive. Disagreements are natural, but division should never define us.

One of Garden City's greatest strengths has always been the dedication of its residents. Volunteerism is the lifeblood of our Village — from service on boards and committees to the countless hours given by those who help make our community stronger, safer, and more vibrant. Your willingness to get involved continues to define who we are and what we can accomplish together.

Whether you choose to serve as a volunteer or simply stay informed and engaged as a resident, your voice matters. We will always welcome your participation and encourage you to play an active role in the issues that affect you and your family. Together, through civic involvement and respectful dialogue, we continue to move Garden City forward — honoring our past and building a better future.

We are fortunate to live in a community that has a strong school system, beautiful tree-lined streets, a thriving business district, an abundance of volunteers, many places of worship, open green space and a shared community spirit. We appreciate the opportunity to serve you and take seriously our duty to do so forthrightly and honorably.

Very truly yours,

Ed Finneran
Mayor, Incorporated Village of Garden City

A History of Garden City

Alexander Turney Stewart had immigrated as a youth from Ireland in 1818 to eventually become a self-made merchant millionaire in New York City. In 1869 he purchased 7,170 acres of the Hempstead Plains, a treeless expanse in central Long Island, being offered at auction by the Town of Hempstead with a successful bid of \$55 per acre. This land extended from what is now Floral Park to Bethpage and from the Town border at Old Country Road to near Hempstead Turnpike.

Stewart's goal was to create a model Village of country living for those working in the City. He facilitated that by creating a railroad to provide easy transportation between the two locations. The initial development was concentrated just to the north of Hempstead Village in an area of about 750 acres. Under the guidance of John Kellum, his architect, streets were rapidly laid out, trees planted, a municipal water works started, and a hotel constructed opposite the railroad station. Some commercial buildings were erected and houses of various sizes constructed by James L'Hommedieu, which were initially to be rented. By 1874, 40 families lived in the Village.

Upon Stewart's sudden death in 1876, his wife, Cornelia, continued development with the assistance of Judge Henry Hilton, his financial advisor. In memory of her husband she had the Cathedral of the Incarnation built, along with St. Paul's School for boys, St. Mary's School for girls, and a See house for the Bishop of the Episcopal Church, which moved its seat from Brooklyn to Long Island. The land west of the Village was devoted to a profitable farming operation.

When Cornelia Stewart died childless in 1886, the next seven years were spent settling the Stewart estate among cousins and pretenders. In 1893 the heirs formed the Garden City Company to continue orderly development of the Village. In 1906 a tract to the west was sold to become Garden City Estates and in 1910 the Garden City Company started development of the area to the east.

By 1918 Central Garden City and Garden City Estates each had about 160 homes with 50 more located in the east. Consolidation of government of these sections was finally achieved under our Community Agreement, leading to incorporation in 1919 using the boundaries of the existing school district. A fourth section west of the Estates was formed in 1925. Under the capable administration of George Hubbell, initially manager for the Garden City Company and then multi-term mayor, the Village prospered to become the vibrant Village of today with 7,500 homes and 23,000 residents.

The Garden City Archives

The Village Historians are responsible for collecting and preserving material related to the history of the Village, and making this material available to interested residents and those doing research. Included in the collection are photographs, maps, correspondence, newspaper articles, scrapbooks, artifacts, records of community activities, local telephone books, yearbooks, and books on Long Island history in general. William A. Bellmer and Patricia Siler are volunteers appointed by the Mayor.



William A. Bellmer

The Garden City Historical Society Museum on Eleventh Street includes another historical records repository, administered by that organization.



Patricia Siler

Over 2,700 items in the Village Archives have been digitized and are available to view in the online collection at www.NYHeritage.org. *The Garden City News*, our Village newspaper, has had digital reproductions made from the microfilms in the Archives. They are available for review on a Garden City Public Library Reference Department computer for the years 1930 and subsequent.

The Village Historians can be contacted at Historian@GardenCityNY.net to answer questions related to our history or to discuss the acquisition of any items residents may have (or copies of them) that will augment our collection.



Alexander Turney Stewart
painting by Thomas Rossiter



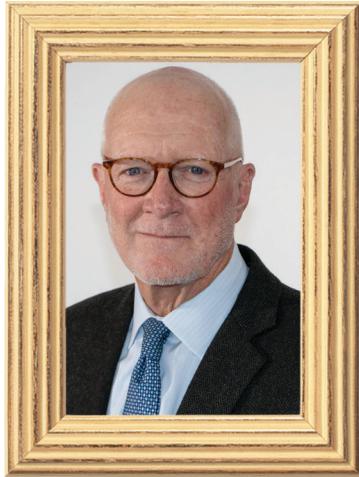
Cornelia Stewart
painting by Susan Bachelder

Board of Trustees

This Annual Report contains information relating to the Village's various Departments as well as budget information for the period of June 1, 2024 through May 31, 2025. The Board of Trustees, who were in office at the close of this fiscal year, are shown.



JUDY COURTNEY
Deputy Mayor
Eastern Section



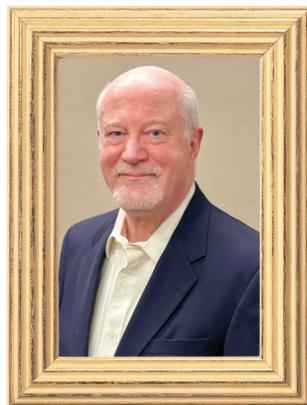
EDWARD T. FINNERAN
Mayor
Eastern Section



MICHELE BEACH HARRINGTON
Trustee
Estates Section



JESSICA TAI
Trustee
Estates Section



BRUCE A. TORINO
Trustee
Central Section



VINCENT MULDOON
Trustee
Eastern Section



YVONNE VARANO
Trustee
Central Section



RICHARD CATALANO
Trustee
Estates Section

Administration, Organization and Village Counsel



RALPH V. SUOZZI
Village Administrator



KELLY GALANEK
Village Clerk

Village Administrator

Garden City's Chief Administrative Officer fills the role of Village Administrator. Responsible to the Mayor and Board of Trustees, he coordinates the activities of the Village Departments to ensure the effective delivery of municipal services.

Duties of the Office include providing the Board with essential information and recommendations that are necessary in formulating policies designed to maintain and enhance Village operations. The Village Administrator also assists the Village Treasurer in coordinating and preparing the Village budget and its implementation after adoption by the Board.

Village Clerk

The Village Clerk serves as the Clerk to the Board of Trustees. Responsible for the recording of all of its proceedings and decisions, the Village Clerk is the Election Officer for Village Elections and the Collector of Taxes. In addition to maintaining all legal notices for the Village of Garden City, the Village Clerk is the custodian of all municipal records and facilitator of other duties as determined by the Board of Trustees and Village Administrator.

Executive Staff

Members of the Executive Staff represent each Department of the Village and report directly to the Village Administrator.

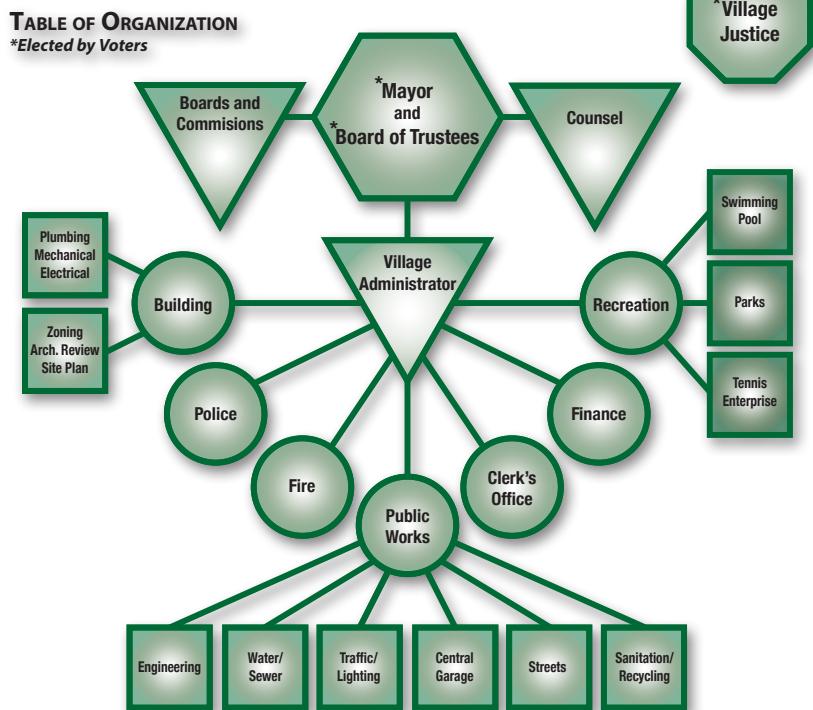
Village Counsel

The Village is represented by many law firms as counsel to the Mayor, Board of Trustees, Village Administrator and their advisory Boards and Commissions. These firms maintain their own offices and staff independent of Village offices.

Cullen and Dykman, LLP, acts as the general Village Attorney and advises on all municipal legal matters, including legislation (local laws), zoning and other ordinances, real estate assessments, public hearings and elections.

Bond, Schoeneck & King, PLLC, provides legal services in connection with collective bargaining agreements and labor matters.

In addition, Hawkins Delafield & Wood, LLP, is engaged as municipal bond counsel for special bond and note issues.



Justice Court



ALLEN S. MATHERS
Village Justice
Elected by the Residents to a 4 year term



PETER MENOUDAKOS
Associate Justice
Appointed by the Mayor to a 1 year term



MERRIL S. BISCOME
Associate Justice
Appointed by the Mayor to a 1 year term

Garden City has one of the busiest village courts in the State. The Court has jurisdiction over the enforcement of our Village Code, including parking tickets and zoning code violations, as well as New York State Vehicle and Traffic Violations and Misdemeanors, Alcoholic Beverage Control Law Matters and Federal Motor Carrier Act Violations.

The Court may impose fines, sentence convicted defendants to imprisonment or enter into agreements with defendants to perform community service in lieu of traditional sentencing, where warranted.

The Village Justice and Associate Justices receive no compensation for their service.

Boards, Commissions and Committees

Residents are appointed by the Mayor and Board of Trustees to serve on various Boards and Commissions and do so without compensation. Those listed below held the noted position during this past fiscal year.

Architectural Design Review Board

This Board examines the exterior design of buildings for the purpose of maintaining appropriate standards of appearance with respect to the specific buildings and their relationship to their surroundings. All plans for new buildings, additions, alterations and signs are required to be submitted, with the exception of additions or alterations to one-family homes. Seven members of the Board are appointed for three-year terms. Amended July 19, 2012 in order to allow alternate members.

James Bauer (2022), *Chairperson*
Diane Geyer (2025)
Mimi Ho (2025)

Lynn Krug (2021)
JeanMarie Madelmeyer (2024)
Allyson Murray (2025)

Russell Vaccaro (2025)
Lauri Goodwyn (2025), *Alternate Member*

Board of Commissioners of Cultural and Recreational Affairs

This Board consists of eight members; one representative from each section of the Village and four at-large members. The Commissioners oversee development of the Village's Recreation Program. Amended November 21, 2013 to allow for two additional members.

Andy Hill (2024), *Acting Chair*
John Cantwell (2023)
William Garry (2019)

Grace Li (2021)
Ray Meyer III (2024)
Mike Ryder (1997)

John Sardelis (2024)
Christian Siragusa (2017)

Board of Library Trustees

Five qualified residents of the Village are appointed to five-year terms on the Board of Library Trustees and are responsible for Library operations.

Colleen Foley (2023), *Chair*
Randolph J. Colahan, (2002)

Linda Ryan (2024)
Mary Maguire (2022)

Paul O'Grady (2025)

Board of Police Commissioners

Members of this Board supervise, control and direct the operations of the Police Department. Each year, members of the Board are appointed by the Mayor and ratified by the Board of Trustees. The Chairman is responsible for the day-to-day operation of the Police Department, its own Police Officers and the civilian staff.

Kenneth O. Jackson (2005), *Chairman*

Ralph V. Suozzi (2015)

Bruce A. Torino (2024)

Environmental Advisory Board

This eight-member Board is appointed for four-year terms. The Chairperson is a Member of the Board of Trustees. This Board is responsible to the Board of Trustees and reports on environmental matters affecting the Village. Additionally, the Superintendent of Public Works acts as Recording Secretary and Garden City High School is represented by up to three students.

Michele B. Harrington, *Co-Chairperson*
Jessica Tai, *Co-Chairperson*
Elizabeth M. Bailey (2010)
Laurence J. Quinn (2013)

Evelyn Fasano (2016)
John F. Reilly (2019)
Kelly Smith (2021)

Alison Parks (2023)
Kurt Ehrig (2023)
Amanda Shore (2024)

Planning Commission

This Commission is appointed for terms of three years. The group reviews plans for the development of vacant areas, streets, parks and other public places and subdivisions of private property to assure consistency with established community standards. With the exception of a one-family dwelling on a single plot, the Planning Commission also performs site plan review for all new buildings, additions to buildings, altered land use activities and projects containing more than one home. The Commission also conducts studies and is advisory to the Board of Trustees on matters relating to zoning, parking and other issues.

John Delany (2024)
Bradford H. Gustavson (2024)

Jack Hartog (2023)
Shepard Poole (2023)

Paul Rothenbiller (2023)
Yvonne Varano (2024), *Alternate Member*

Boards, Commissions and Committees

Traffic Commission

The Traffic Commission is appointed annually by the Mayor and ratified by the Board of Trustees. The Commission is composed of four Trustees who vote, as well as the Superintendent of Public Works and the Chairman of the Board of Police Commissioners, in supporting roles. This Commission is responsible for traffic control operations and devices. Requests for signs by residents related to quality of life issues and review of parking regulations are discussed at monthly meetings and determinations are made as required.

Vincent Muldoon (2024), Chairman
Kenneth O. Jackson (1985)

Judy Courtney (2024)
Richard A. Catalano (2025)

Yvonne Varano (2025)
John Borroni (2015)

Zoning Board of Appeals

The Board of Appeals interprets the Zoning Code and makes decisions on applications for variances and special permits. The Board consists of five members and one alternate member who serve for five-year terms.

Michael T. Schroder (1992), Chairman
Brian Paradine (2004)

James Van Schoick (2019)
Christine Rio (2022)

Richard Williams (2023)
Alex Bachowski (2022), *Alternate Member*

Civic Beautification Committee

Working with the Village Arborist, the Committee assists in selecting the type and placement of flowers and trees on the Village's many public properties and pursuing the long-held goal of making the Village an official arboretum.

Althea Robinson (1988), Co-Chairperson
Monica Kiely (2024), Co-Chairperson
Chris Broder (2024), Co-Chairperson

Kathleen Auro (2005)
Patricia Siler (2016)
Betsy Andromidas (2024)

William Kuhl (2024)
Kate Schmidt (2024)

Board of Ethics

The Board of Ethics recognizes that there are rules of ethical conduct for public officers and employees which must be observed if a high degree of moral conduct is to be obtained and if public confidence is to be maintained in our unit of local government. This Board ensures that all Village Officials and Employees are conducting themselves in such a manner. The Mayor appoints this Board.

Richard F. Carrao (2022), Chairman
Rod Coyne (2023)

Water Authority of Western Nassau County

The Water Authority is governed by a Board of Directors consisting of nine members, two appointed by the Town of Hempstead, one appointed by the Town of North Hempstead and one member each appointed by the village boards of the Villages of Bellmore, Floral Park, Garden City, New Hyde Park, South Floral Park and Stewart Manor. Each member's term is two years. The principal responsibilities of the board are to oversee the operational and financial needs of the Authority including but not limited to the approval of management recommendations as to capital and operational expenditures, acquisitions, monthly invoices, Capital Plans and budgets, bond issuance and water rates, outside vendors and overseeing all personal matters including employee benefits and matters of compensation. These and others matters are the subject of each meeting and corresponding resolutions requiring approval are voted on by the Board.

Historians

The Historians are appointed by the Mayor and are responsible for collecting and preserving material relating to the Village's history. In addition to historic preservation, the Village Historians also provide information to interested residents and those doing research.

William A. Bellmer (2015)
Patricia Siler (2024)

Building Department



GIUSEPPE GIOVANNELLO
Superintendent of Building

The Building Department is responsible for monitoring all construction that takes place on private property within the Village; the purpose of which is to ensure that the work is done in a safe, reliable and energy-efficient manner so as to protect and serve the occupants in both commercial buildings and private homes.

This is accomplished by adhering to various codes and standards including, but not limited to, the Village Zoning Code, the New York State Building, Fire, Plumbing, Mechanical, Electrical and Energy codes, as well as other regulations and reference standards. To achieve that objective, the Department reviews plans, conducts inspections, and guides applicants through pre-approval procedures that may be required. These include the Architectural Design Review Board, the Planning Commission and the Zoning Board of Appeals. The Department also prepares the agendas, publishes notices, attends meetings, and serves in an advisory capacity for these agencies.

This year, extensive residential additions and alterations are ongoing. The continuation of commercial properties includes extensive interior and exterior renovations as well as several new restaurants.



Wayne's Pharmacy in their new home on 7th Street.



Tatte Bakery on Franklin Avenue opened in 2025.

The Department collected permit fees totaling: \$3,399,296.04. In addition, a total of \$143,050.00 was collected in filing fees for review board applications. The review boards consist of the Zoning Board of Appeals, Planning Commission, Architectural Design Review Board and Zoning Change Review Committee.

Department personnel consist of a Superintendent, three inspectors, a Code Enforcement Inspector, two Administrative Assistants and two Consultants. The technical staff are required to attain 24 hours / credits of

Building Department

continuing education training annually in order to maintain their required New York State Code Enforcement certification. We strive to make interaction with our Department as pleasant and professional as possible. To that end, we are available to assist people through the process and offer advice when needed.



Superintendent Giovanniello overlooks the beginning of the Toll House's renovations in late 2024.



The Toll House with new roof and landscaping completed this year.

SUMMARY OF ACTIVITY

Building Permits	475
Plumbing Permits	270
Electrical Permits	409
Mechanical Permits	388
Approx. No. of Inspections	3,189
Certificates of Occupancy	16
Certificates of Compliance	1,420
Letters in Lieu	39
Architectural Design Review Board	82
Planning Commission	1
Zoning Board of Appeals	121
Zoning Change Review Committee	0

Recreation and Parks Department

The 2024-2025 fiscal year continued the trend from the previous year, with a focus on improving facilities and increasing programming.

Work continued on the renovations to the St. Paul's playing fields. The closed area shifted to a new location to allow parts of the field to rest and recover and greater scrutiny was placed on following a set plan for the management of our organic treatment program. Early fall saw continuation of the deep tine treatment and late fall saw the introduction of a new approach as we experimented with dormant seeding. Dormant seeding meant that the seed that was laid was underground before the frost, with the frost acting as a barrier to keep the seed safe until germination in early spring.



The 2024 Women's League Softball champions.

In the spring of 2025, we increased our organic fertilizer application from four to six times a year and we treated the fields with a pre-emergent for crabgrass control. The Recreation Department enforced a much stricter policy of closing the fields during inclement weather and we continue to see improvements in the quality of the grass at St. Paul's.

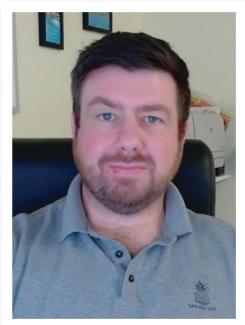
St. Paul's Field House continued to be one of the most coveted facilities in the Village, with evenings and weekends often seeing the courts used to capacity. Village pickleball and basketball programs continued to be well attended and programs including a girls volleyball clinic and a revamped after school program were a roaring success.

Cluett Hall continued to be home to our extremely popular dance program, which once again performed their annual recital to a packed house on multiple nights. Away from dance, the space once again hosted very successful Christmas and New Year shows.

Local groups continued to utilize the recreation cottages for meetings and recreation programming usage increased. The cottages also played host to the Recreation Department's first ever Halloween Trick or Treat event. A new tradition we hope to continue for many years.

The Garden City Pool once again celebrated a successful summer with the return of old favorites like "Party Under The Stars" and "July 4th Family Fun Day." The fall of 2024 saw the approval of a new playground complete with new safety surface to be installed in time for the 2025 Pool season.

Community Park continued to be a hub of activity, hosting baseball, soccer, lacrosse and football events throughout the year. The Recreation Department began to explore options to extensively renovate the tennis bubble, and mini-golf finished its first year as a huge success.



ANDREW HILL
*Acting Chairman,
Board of Commissioners of
Cultural and Recreational
Affairs*



Residents admire the Labor Day fireworks show pool side.

Recreation and Parks Department

Our summer playground program, a long-standing tradition in the Village, continued to give residents free access to arts, sports, table games and other fun-filled activities. There was also a host of special events, including magicians, jugglers and The Bubble Bus, as well as the return of the much-loved trip to Adventureland. Improvements to the parks continued with new safety surface at Tullamore and renovated tennis courts at Grove.



Village Arborist Joe Umana and his crew planted beautiful lilacs along the brick walls at the Nassau Blvd Train Station, after DPW washed the bricks to remove lime wash.

Our Parks Department remained busy taking care of all our official parks, as well as green spaces, hedges, shrubs and trees. Our Tree crew successfully brought plantings in house and implemented new plantings in areas such as Nassau train station, North Ave and Manor Road. The Department also completed significant improvements to New Hyde Park Road, introduced a butterfly garden, and carried out extensive renovation work on 7th Street by replacing trees, adding beds and replenishing tree pits.

The Village was again treated to a beautiful display of colorful spring flowers with over 50,000 bulbs planted in beds throughout the Village and the return of our much-loved hanging baskets that line the shopping district.

This year also saw the Village approve a review of the Recreation Department by consulting firm BCI,

which included the production of a 10 year Master Plan. With the results of that review and the proposed Master Plan forthcoming, the Department is extremely excited with what the future holds as we continue to move forward in increasing and improving what we can offer to the Village.



Past and present residents return to Tullamore Park for "Old Timers Day"!



Families gather at St. Paul's for our annual Easter Egg hunt.



Another successful Adventureland trip in the new Recreation Bus!

Police Department



KENNETH O. JACKSON
Police Commissioner

efforts to address these critical issues.

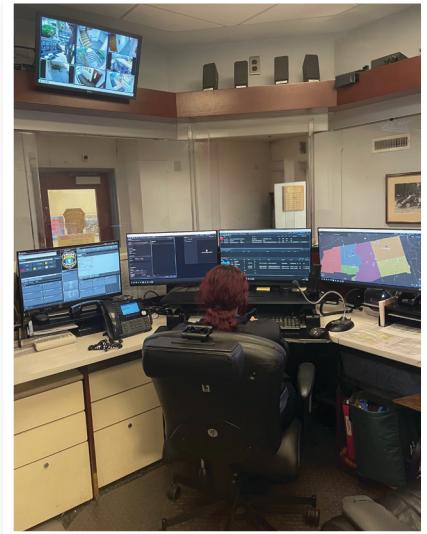
Enforcing vehicle and traffic laws has provided a safer environment for motorists and pedestrians. Therefore, the Department continues its constant and consistent traffic enforcement policy, which resulted in 13,673 traffic citations in 2024, including 2,524 tickets for unsafe speed. The Police Department impounded 156 vehicles in 2024. Another component of a strict traffic enforcement program is the removal of unsafe motorists from the roadways for driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs. In 2024, 35 motorists were arrested for Impaired-Driving offenses. The Department's comprehensive Traffic Enforcement has been instrumental in reducing injury related accidents by 4% compared to the same period in 2023. An essential component of the Department's traffic program is our truck inspection details, which resulted in the issuance of 984 commercial vehicle violations, 105 overweight violations, 24 unsecured load violations, 33 hazmat violations, and 100 vehicles taken out of service.



PMA Ticketing on 7th St.

The Garden City Police Department is proud to be a modern, innovative, proactive agency attentive to the community's needs. We maintain a policy of omnipresence and preventative patrols, which has resulted in Garden City being recognized as one of the safest communities in New York State and the United States.

In 2024, there were significant successes for the Police Department. We achieved a 17% reduction in crimes reported to the FBI compared to 2023, with notable decreases in burglaries (28%) and larcenies (12%). Additionally, we experienced a 7% increase in overall arrests and a 10% rise in DWI arrests, highlighting our proactive



GCPD Operations and Dispatch Center

Our diligent Parking Enforcement Program contributes to the image of omnipresence and provides a safer environment for motorists, bicyclists, and pedestrians, particularly the young, elderly, and disabled. As such, Police Officers and uniformed civilian Parking Enforcement Aides, using conspicuously marked vehicles, patrol the streets and parking fields within the Village to enforce parking violations; 23,305 parking tickets were issued in 2024.

In terms of general police service, the Department documented more than 25,032 calls for service and assignments in 2024. These included 1,700 medical assistance calls, 977 vehicle crashes, and 236 arrests. To improve the ability to provide exemplary service, the Department continues incorporating technical advances, training, and equipment. To offset the costs of these necessary items, the Department continually seeks grant opportunities, and in 2024/2025, those efforts were rewarded with more than \$500,000 in federal, state, and local grants. These grants, along with asset forfeiture funds, were used to obtain 14 License Plate Readers, a Drone, a New Records Management System and Breeching Tools. Grants also support various Department initiatives, including Speeding, Aggressive Driving, Pedestrian Safety, Occupant Safety, and D.W.I. Enforcement.

N.Y.U. Langone Ambulance is the Garden City Police Department's primary ambulance service, and it continues to provide quality medical assistance and emergency response to the Village's residents and visitors.

Training is always a vital component in providing a safer environment for all members of the community, and in 2024, officers attended more than 69 various training programs ranging from Basic Recruit Training to Leadership

Police Department



Advocacy in Action

Village have teamed up to enhance safety for all our students, staff, and community members! Our comprehensive safety plans feature proactive measures like lockdown drills, school patrols, accessible camera systems, and the SHIELD (Supporting Healthy Informed Education Life Decisions) program, all designed to foster a secure and supportive educational environment. Together, we're creating a brighter, safer future for everyone involved!

Training, Emergency Driving, Firearms Training, and other Specialized Training Topics.

Today's law enforcement environment, as well as national security concerns, requires a Police Department to be prepared to respond to numerous types of incidents that may threaten the health and safety of the community. To obtain this goal, the Department maintains close working relationships and intelligence sharing with our Federal, State, County, and local police partner agencies. The Department also appreciates the support, cooperation, and encouragement of the Mayor, Board of Trustees, Village Administrator, and various Village Departments. This cooperation assists the Police Department in providing a high level of service that the Garden City community expects and deserves.

The Police Department, Adelphi University, the Garden City School District, and private schools in the



RMP# 369



Law Enforcement Appreciation

Police Programs

The Garden City Police Department maintains programs promoting residents' safety, including Drug Take Back, National Night Out, No Empty Chair, Back to School as well as online applications such as Vacation Watch, Citizen Reporting, Alarm Registration, Bike Management, Pet Management, Private Camera Registration, Lifesaver Program, and the Safety/Wellness Registration Program.



National Night Out event held at the Pool.

Special Police

The Garden City Special Police, under the Police Commissioner's direction, are community volunteers who provide invaluable assistance to the Garden City Police Department during community events, parades, concerts, street fairs, traffic details, election details, and emergencies such as severe weather events.

Crossing Guards

The Garden City Police Department employs eleven part-time Crossing Guards to assist students walking to and from school. These Crossing Guards play a crucial role in traffic management on neighborhood roads. They remind drivers to be mindful of pedestrians, promote safe walking habits among students and their families, and signal when drivers should yield to those crossing the street.

Fire Department

The Garden City Fire Department is a unique, all volunteer Department within our Village government. Its rich heritage is rooted with the independent volunteer fire companies that began to form and serve the Village in 1899 after a devastating fire at the Garden City Hotel. Then, in 1920, in order to be more organized and bring these independent companies together, 31 Village residents became "charter" members of the Garden City Fire Department, Inc., formally organizing the Fire Department. Soon after, the Department was integrated into Village government. Since 1920, more than 500 resident men and women have proudly served in the ranks of the Fire Service in Garden City. In 2020, the Department celebrated its 100th year of service to the Village. Under the direction of Fire Chief James Taunton and

three Assistant Chiefs, the Department utilizes a three tier approach to providing its vital services: quality training, cutting edge equipment, quick response and a comprehensive fire inspection and prevention program.



JAMES TAUNTON
Chief of Department



Firefighter Todd Glick receives the Law and Order Award. Also pictured is his son, wife and Chief James Taunton.



The Fire Prevention Day event features tours of the fire station and apparatus, demonstrations, fire safety education, kid-friendly activities and giveaways and more

including car fires, forcible entry, ventilation and high rise hose line operations. The Department conducts a continuous comprehensive fire inspection and prevention program for the Village. Program enhancements include computer database pre-plans of area occupancies, rigorous fire inspections of schools, businesses and multifamily

All firefighters in the Department train weekly to ensure their readiness for the various emergencies that may present themselves including fires, motor vehicle accidents, carbon monoxide incidents, hazardous materials incidents, electrical emergencies, severe weather response and more. In addition, throughout the year Firefighters attend various courses and live fire burn training at the Nassau County Fire Service Academy.

In support of response, the Department has a fleet of apparatus that include three certified pumbers, one certified ladder truck, a heavy rescue truck and quint ladder truck that serves dual purposes as both an aerial ladder and a pumper combined. The Department also incorporates state-of-the-art technology including thermal imaging cameras, hazardous gas monitoring equipment, mobile computers and hydraulic rescue equipment.

The Department utilizes full size training props that assists in preparation for numerous emergencies



The Department receives a \$100,000 grant from Nassau County Executive Bruce Blakeman for replacement of a new SCBA air compressor.

Fire Department

dwellings and a devotion to public fire safety education through the Department's Fire Prevention Education Program. Each year, the Department educates thousands of students and residents through in-house safety classes, its annual Fire Prevention Week Program and fire safety lectures throughout the community including Adelphi University, area apartment buildings and local businesses.



Volunteer Firefighter Bob provides fire prevention to elementary school children.

The Department is always looking for new members and has a year-round open enrollment. Some regard being a volunteer firefighter as being one of the highest forms of community service. It is a great opportunity for residents to give back to their fellow neighbors in their time of need. Some of the benefits that come with being a volunteer firefighter include real estate property tax reductions, great camaraderie, lasting friendships and more. If a resident is interested in joining the Department, they may visit www.gcfny.com or email membership@gcfny.com.



Turnout gear ready for members to wear at a moment's notice.



Ex-Captain Thomas Rivera, recipient of the Bronze Medal for his life-saving actions, performed CPR on a civilian who went into cardiac arrest.



Volunteer firefighters respond to Adelphi University for a HazMat incident.



Volunteer Firefighters extinguish a car fire.



The Garden City Fire Department at 2024 Annual Fire Prevention Day.

Department of Public Works



JOHN BORRONI
Superintendent of Public Works

INTRODUCTION

The Public Works Department (DPW) is responsible for the maintenance and management of Garden City's comprehensive infrastructure system. Under the leadership of the Superintendent of Public Works, six departments deliver essential services to ensure the daily operation and reliability of this system. These departments include the Central Garage, Engineering, Sanitation and Recycling, Highway, Traffic and Street Lighting, and Water and Sewer. In addition, DPW oversees the maintenance of all Village facilities.

The mission of the DPW is centered on creating the conditions for residents to live well, thrive, and take pride in their community. This mission reflects our broader commitment: to maintain critical infrastructure, deliver essential services, and plan responsibly for the years ahead, for the benefit of the community we all cherish.

CENTRAL GARAGE

The Central Garage is responsible for maintaining over 175 Village-owned vehicles and plays a critical role in supporting the delivery of essential municipal services. The Village fleet includes everything from compact cars to heavy machinery, such as pay loaders, dump trucks, backhoes, vacuum trucks, and garbage and recycling trucks. In addition, the Central Garage maintains all small equipment, including lawn mowers, chainsaws, and leaf blowers.

A comprehensive preventative maintenance program ensures all vehicles and equipment operate reliably and efficiently. Each unit is serviced annually according to manufacturer-recommended schedules. While occasional breakdowns may occur, the Central Garage remains fully staffed during snowstorms and other severe weather events to maintain fleet operations and ensure uninterrupted service to residents.

The Central Garage provides maintenance and repair services to all Village departments, including the Garden City Police Department. This includes full responsibility for the Police Department fleet, encompassing the installation of lights, sirens, radios, and other specialized equipment essential for public safety. The skilled mechanics are also proficient in trades such as welding and fabrication, enabling them to support various departments with specialized projects that would otherwise require external contractors.



The Central Garage is responsible for maintaining over 175 Village-owned vehicles.

ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

The Engineering Department is responsible for the design and oversight of capital construction projects within the Village and provides engineering support to all Village departments as needed. Staffed with professional engineers, the Department conducts surveying and design work to develop plans and specifications for bidding and construction. It also monitors projects to ensure contractor compliance with all contract requirements.

The Department manages one of the Village's largest recurring projects: the curb, sidewalk, and road improvements contract. In addition, the Engineering Department oversees all street lighting and traffic sign installation and maintenance, as well as the design and implementation of items approved by the Traffic Commission and various traffic calming initiatives.

All construction within the Village right-of-way requires review and approval by the Engineering

Department of Public Works

Department, including utility permits (gas, water, electric, sanitary), sidewalks, aprons, and other road openings. The Department ensures that all permitted work is performed in accordance with Village standards and code requirements.

SANITATION AND RECYCLING

The Sanitation and Recycling Department is recognized for providing a highly personalized level of service, setting it apart from other municipalities. Refuse is collected directly from residential yards on a weekly basis, fostering a strong connection between the Department and the community it serves.

The Department's routine responsibilities include both household and commercial garbage and recycling collection, as well as servicing 127 strategically placed garbage and recycling receptacles throughout the Village. Beyond these core duties, the Department actively participates in numerous Village events, including the Thanksgiving Day Turkey Trot, Belmont Street Fair and 7th Street Promenades, ensuring that event areas remain clean and free of refuse.



Commercial garbage collection.

All full-time employees maintain a Commercial Driver's License (CDL), enabling them to assist the Highway Department with leaf collection, snow removal, and other essential tasks in addition to providing refuse collection services 364 days per year.

Annual Collection Totals:

Sanitation

Garbage	10,467.11 tons
Rubbish	2,334.91 tons
Bulk	888.19 tons
Yard	2,950.80 tons
Total collected:	16,641.01 tons of Garbage collected (33,282,020 lbs.)

Recycling

Commingled	1,314.04 tons
Paper	371.12 tons
Metal	48.33 tons
E-waste	16.42 tons
Total collected:	1,749.91 tons of recyclables collected (3,499,820 lbs.)



The Highway Department is responsible for maintaining the Village's 91-mile street network.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

The Highway Department is responsible for maintaining the Village's 91-mile street network (260 lane-miles), including parking lots. Maintenance includes street sweeping, road repairs, manhole and drainage system repairs, snow removal, leaf collection, and emergency response during severe weather events. The Department maintains over 700 catch basins throughout the Village, performing cleaning, repairs, rebuilding, and replacement as required, including work on interconnecting storm drainage lines.

Highway personnel also support other departments with projects that would typically require outside contractors, including concrete repairs, sidewalk and paver installation, painting, fence repairs, and other tasks. Staff provide ongoing support to the Garden City Police and Fire Departments.

Over the past year, the Highway Department participated in numerous Village events, including

Department of Public Works

the Thanksgiving Day Turkey Trot, Belmont Street Fair, Homecoming Parade, block parties, and 7th Street Promenades.

During the fall, the Department collaborates with the Parks Division to remove over 17,300 cubic yards of leaves. Collected leaves are stored at the Village Yard and processed into mulch, which is made available to residents free of charge.

The Highway Department is also responsible for clearing municipal streets and parking lots of snow and ice. Salt crews are deployed at the onset of snowfall, with plowing operations typically occurring after accumulations of two to three inches or more. Crews work around the clock as needed to maintain safe roadways and ensure access for emergency response vehicles.

TRAFFIC AND STREET LIGHTING

The Traffic and Street Lighting Department, in collaboration with the Engineering Department, is responsible for maintaining over 7,400 traffic signs and 2,300 streetlights throughout the Village. Each year, personnel repaint all crosswalks, stop lines, arrows, and lane markings to ensure safe and efficient traffic flow. The Department engages private contractors as needed and oversees their work to maintain a fully operational street lighting system. Additionally, the department implements all items approved by the Traffic Commission.

DPW CAPITAL PROJECTS

The Capital Improvement Program is a well-structured plan essential to the maintenance and modernization of the Village's infrastructure, as well as the ongoing enhancement of municipal services. For the current fiscal year, approximately \$10 million was approved in the budget to advance these initiatives, supporting critical projects and improvements throughout the community.

Key Projects:

- Cedar Valley Sanitary Lift Station - \$5.0M
- Curb, Sidewalk, and Road Improvements - \$4.2M
- Paving of Parking Lots - \$2.5M
- Street Lighting System Improvements - \$1.1M
- Village Yard Facility Masonry & Structural Repairs - \$300,00
- Village Facilities Bathroom Upgrades - \$200,000

The Department of Public Works remains dedicated to continuous investment in the Village's infrastructure and to pursuing opportunities for enhanced efficiency and cost savings, while consistently delivering the high-quality services residents have come to expect.



DPW Crews during the annual Belmont Festival on 7th Street.



Michael Connolly, Village Yard dispatcher.

Water Department

The Village of Garden City owns and operates its own public water and sewer systems. The water system includes 104 miles of water mains, over 1,000 fire hydrants used and 10 supply wells as its source water. The sewer system is a collection system using two lift stations that discharge into the Nassau County system for treatment. 5 above-ground storage tanks, including the water tower with a total storage capacity of 5.5 million gallons of water storage.

The Village of Garden City provides treatment at all wells to improve the quality of the water pumped prior to distribution to the consumer. This includes advanced treatment facilities to remove any emerging contaminants and forever chemicals. The Village collects thousands of water samples required by the Health Department each year to ensure our water meets all drinking water regulations.



Village Water Department employees are shown with an old gear valve from the 1890's that was recently replaced on Franklin Avenue.



STANLEY CAREY
Superintendent of Water & Sewer

Recently our focus has turned to lead service lines which carry water to each individual home. The USEPA has mandated all lead service lines to be replaced by 2037 due to health risks. These service lines are owned by and the responsibility of each homeowner. The Village urges residents to replace their lead service lines if they have them. Lead contamination does not come from the Village's source water but from lead service lines and old plumbing within homes. Residents can schedule a free lead test by contacting the Village at 465-4003.

Over the past year the Village Water Department has completed several main water replacement projects. This includes Third Street, John St., Kellum Pl., valve replacements on Franklin Ave., Cherry Valley Ave., and the DPW Yard and Pool property.



Village Water Department crews installing new water main on Cherry Valley Ave near the DPW garage.

The Garden City Public Library



learners of all ages in Garden City.

Members of the Library Board during the 2024-25 Fiscal Year were: Colleen Foley, Chair; Mary Maguire, Vice Chair; Randy Colahan, Linda Ryan and Paul O'Grady, who was appointed by the Village in December to replace Lola Nouryan as of December 31, when her term ended. The Library Board of Trustees honored Ms. Nouryan's dedicated service to the Library during a ceremony in December. The 2025 Chair and Vice Chair were elected by the Trustees at the December Organizational meeting.

In December 2024, the Library Board appointed Courtney Rutt Rosenblatt as Secretary to the Library Board, and she started in January 2025, serving as the Operations Director of the Library. This restructuring created a two-person Administrative Team to elevate, balance and drive objectives on both the Library and Operations sides. Directors Malagon and Rosenblatt worked closely during Rosenblatt's nine-year tenure at the Village Human Resources Department, and are working together on new staff positions, developing a new website, and creating efficient and inviting library spaces, among other projects.

They developed the FY26 Budget together with the Board's approval, and oversaw the hiring and onboarding of two full-time Librarians. A space study was performed by Thirdway, Inc, a nationally recognized firm known for developing library spaces around user behavior. This study will help to inform various upcoming projects from collections, to furniture, and perhaps renovations. When students flocked to the Library during the spring, filling tables and study rooms to capacity, the Administration team opened meeting rooms when programs were not in session, to make this space available for them to use. This highlighted the need to adapt the space to the evolving needs of the community. The Library Administration is in discussion with H2M to develop schematic plans for a future proposal, for a lower level renovation to meet today's and future needs.



Teen Gamers hang out at the Library to catch up, enjoy snacks and play all types of games.

Libby and Hoopla. A new program calendar and museum pass reservation system was launched to make it easier to register for these opportunities.

Adult programs were increased and included everything from Psychic entertainment to Pickleball, a "What is Pickleball?" with a demonstration on how to play. Lectures ranged from the Second Amendment to the Constitution, organizing paperwork, The Betty White Story, and Opera featuring *La Boheme*. Chef Rob treated patrons to culinary delights. Popular series of Italian Classes, Yoga and Strength Training and Chairobics were offered, sessions for Mah-Jongg and Bingo. An Irish

The Garden City Public Library Trustees, Administration and staff are committed to the Library's mission to connect people with information. To build curated collections of print, audio-visual media, digital information and streaming content, Library staff carefully chooses materials from patron requests and recommendations, professional sources and peer-reviewed journals. These collections provide reading, research and entertainment for Children, Teens and Adults.

There are a vast array of books and magazines to read, music or audiobooks to listen to, movies and television programs to watch, online courses to study, and research databases, reference books and more than a dozen museum passes to bring worlds of knowledge home to Garden City residents. The Library Director and the Library Board of Trustees are dedicated to fostering inspiration, imagination and ingenuity among



*The Library Board of Trustees, January 2025:
(left to right) J. Randolph Colahan, Mary
Maguire, Vice Chair; Paul O'Grady, Colleen
Foley, Chair; and Linda Ryan.*

This year, the Library worked with the Village to continue implementation of several capital projects. The roofing project was nearing completion just as the HVAC project began. Automatic entrance doors were installed to improve security, safety and user experience, and a new alarm system was installed. New carpeting was installed on the first floor (Adults, study rooms, periodicals, YA Teens & Tweens and Administration offices) and the mezzanine in the fall of 2024.

The Adult Services Department continued to offer research and computer assistance, and added literary resources, training and analytics to grow and enhance the adult collection, and strengthen readers' services. Computer services were offered in the computer lab, while digital ebooks and audiobooks, streaming services, digital magazines and databases were offered, including training classes on



A Time for Kids presented the Baby Start program for infants through 18mos.

The Garden City Public Library

storyteller celebrated St. Patrick's Day, delightful tunes were sung by Rhonda Kay and the Backstage Trio, and the Red Hot Mamas tapped their way into the audience members' hearts. The Adult Department hosted an Adult Summer Reading Club "Adventure Begins at Your Library." Registrants submitted book reviews to the Adult Services Department. The review cards were randomly selected and prizes were awarded, or participants could send postcards from their summer vacation locales, which also counted as review cards. Adults were treated to a world of adventures this past year.

The Young Adult Department encouraged Tweens and Teens to learn, volunteer, and be creative. Library materials, programs and services aid middle and high school students with school assignments, college preparation, recreational reading, personal enrichment, and social activities. Programs included crafts, paint nights, gaming, knitting/crocheting, movie nights, jigsaw puzzle tournaments, babysitting workshops and Dungeons and Dragons, and the return of the Chick Incubation Program. The Department also held the award-winning Locked-in-the-Library Halloween Party, and the Teen Noon Year's Eve Party. New monthly programs included Teen STEAM Workshop, Teen Creative Hour, and Teen LEGO Club.



Kimberly Mercadante led her popular yoga series for Adults!



Kids Grades K-2 in STEAM Fun Club explored color theory in rainbows.

Working with the Long Island Volunteer Center, the Young Adult Department held the Library's first Volunteer Fair for teens and adults alike looking for community service opportunities. The Young Adult Department launched a Teen Calming Corner through a grant awarded by Nassau Library System from the NYS "Love Your Library" fund, and created a Teen Makerspace. The Young Adult Department hosted its first-ever Teen Art and Poetry Showcase with over 150 entries by 60 teens. The Teen service activities help students earn volunteer hours for much-needed community service credit. This year, these activities included writing poetry for a National Poetry Month Display, creating a Summer Art Show and a Tiny Art Show, painting pumpkins and eggs for the Library's Pumpkin and Egg Scavenger Hunts, and "The Great Give Back" creating cards for veterans. The Young Adult Department, working together with the Children's Department and Adult Reference Departments, also held a Star Wars Day for all ages, in which over 200 patrons joined in on over a dozen programs held throughout the day, including Jedi Story Time and Jedi Training with the Sabre Guild.

The Children's Department expanded by adding a full-time Youth Services Librarian in March. This allowed the staff to increase and develop new and exciting programs for Children and Teens. Children's Librarians were hard at work creating and leading many fun, interactive and educational programs for infants through children in fifth grade. In addition to offering storytimes, arts and crafts, BINGO, new programs added included Baby and Toddler Yoga, Long Island Music for Aardvarks, and The Tiny Songbirds. Family programs included Preschool Halloween Parade and Party, the Gingerbread House program and Spring Egg Hunt. Children's Librarians conducted class visits in the Library for children in Kindergarten and First Grade and outreach programs to promote the Summer Reading Club. The Young Adult Department teamed up with the Children's Department to offer Tween programs for Grades 4-7, such as Tween Drama Club, tie dye, knitting and crafts. In addition, Children's and Young Adult Librarians mentored Girl Scouts as they worked on their Gold Award projects and Children's Librarians collaborated with the PTA on their annual Pick A Reading Partner (PARP) program.



Library Staff celebrated the books "that made them a reader" for National Library Week.

The Friends of the Garden City Public Library provides support to the Library, through funds generated by membership and book sales throughout the year. They maintain a book sale area and host Library book sale events that raise funds to support the library, including museum passes. These included the 9/11 Museum and Memorial, Cradle of Aviation Museum, Intrepid Sea, Air & Space Museum, Long Island Children's Museum, MOMA (the Museum of Modern Art), Nassau County Museum of Art, Nassau County Firefighters Museum, New York State Empire Pass, and Old Westbury Gardens and others.

The Garden City Public Library looks forward to serving all members of the community in the upcoming year, in the library or at home.

Finance Department



IRENE WOO, CPA CMFO

Village Treasurer

Garden City's Chief Fiscal Officer is the Village Treasurer Irene Woo, CPA, CMFO who leads the Finance Department.

The Finance Department is responsible for the day-to-day financial operations of the Village, which include some of the following functions:

- **Annual Budget Process** - With collaboration from the Board of Trustees and the Village's Executive Staff, we develop the annual operating budgets and 5-year Capital Plans and ensure that the Village is compliant with the limits set by the tax levy laws. The Finance Department provides detailed analysis on current and future budgetary impacts to the Village, including debt analysis, bonding vs. cash payment for projects, cash flow analysis for Enterprise Funds, and create high level executive presentations for the BOT, which are presented at the public work sessions.

This past year, the Village held four public budget work sessions. The Board of Trustees adopted a General Fund Operating Budget in the amount of \$71.2m, and a 2025-26 Capital Plan of \$16.3m. This resulted in a Tax Levy increase of 2.5 percent year over year (which was below the legal tax cap of 4.09%).

- **Village Financing** - The department works closely with bond counsel to develop bond resolutions on capital projects and with fiscal advisor on analyzing bond terms that are favorable and in the best interest of the Village. We prepare the POS (preliminary offering statement) that is provided to the market, and the Treasurer meets with Moody's investor services to discuss Village finances and operations to help inform the committee in developing a rating for the Village's bond offering.



ADAM LIPKE, CPA
Village Auditor

This past year the Village successfully sold Bonds and Bond Anticipation Notes (BANs) at very favorable rates. The Village issued \$35.9m in bonds for various General Fund and Water Fund capital projects. The winning bid offered a 3.6% true interest cost with a \$1.6m premium. In addition, the Village issued \$6.0m in BANs for a Water Well Treatment project. The winning bid offered a 2.8% net interest cost with a \$70k premium.

- **Tax Billings and Assessments** - The Department is responsible for the maintenance of all real property account information in the tax system. The annual tax bills are issued and posted in the tax system and General Ledger. We schedule and manage the annual tax lien sale and process small claims settlements. The Village Assessor values new construction or physical changes to properties based on building permits, assists the Board of Trustees with decisions regarding grievance requests and prepares the Tentative and Final Assessment Rolls.

This past year we completed implementation of the new Public Access Module available on the Village website which allows the public to access all tax and assessments information on Village properties.

- **Purchasing Department** - ensures the efficient, economical, and legal (per General Municipal Law) Village-wide purchases of supplies, equipment and services by working closely with the various departments on their requests & requirements. They ensure the Village's procurement policy is followed and coordinate the entire bid process from advertising to the final BOT award for purchases requiring bids.

This past year was again an extremely busy one in that the department advertised and opened 36 bids for Capital Projects and operating items. In addition, Purchasing through their extensive research enabled the Village to "piggyback" on existing contracts and issued a few "mini-bids" through NYS Contracts, which resulted in more efficient and timely purchases by not having to do the bids ourselves. The department processed 3,863 Purchase Orders during the fiscal year and was able to successfully meet the high demand required this year.

- **Reporting & Analysis** - The Finance Department supports the Board of Trustees and Department Heads in providing them with ongoing financial analysis and reporting critical for decision making. In addition, the department is responsible for all required NYS reporting: AFR (Annual Financial Report – formerly AUD) and discuss with the Office of the State Comptroller financial results for the Village; annual budget information that is used to monitor compliance with the Tax Cap Laws; and NYS Constitutional Tax Limit and Constitutional Debt Limit Reporting. Provide annual Continuing Disclosure information to the SEC. The department also works closely with any government agency in the reporting of information relating to grants or disaster relief.

This past year our Senior Accountant Kevin Mitchell continued working with FEMA and the NYSDES to obtain reimbursements for COVID and Tropical Storm Isaias expenditures. To date the Village has received \$2.2m of these costs. The Village also received a total of \$2.3m in ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) funding, which is being used to fund capital projects that benefit the community. As of May 31, 2025 the Village has committed the full amount of ARPA funds to capital projects. The Village also obtained reimbursement from NYS EFC for Water Well Treatment project grants. To date the Village has received \$20.3m of these costs. The Village was also approved for additional Water Well Treatment project grants totaling \$4.3m.

Finance Department

- Auditing & Compliance** - The Finance Department works closely with the Village's independent auditors in the completion of the year-end audit and in the preparation of the annual financial statements and with any other required governmental audits, (e.g., Single Audit, DOT Audit, etc.); with our claims auditors with the weekly audit of claims and the ongoing audit of payroll; manage the yearly Deferred Compensation Plan audit; work with the NYS Comptroller's Office on Village audits; successfully manage and lead Audit and Compliance related projects, implement process improvements and document a system of internal controls for all critical functions to ensure compliance with all financial NYS, Federal, and Village laws, regulations, and policies.
- Accounts Receivable** - processes all cash, credit card, check payments to the Village from various departments and from other sources into the General Ledger system.
- Accounts Payable** - reviews and processes all Village invoices for payment; ensures compliance with all payment procedures; prepare IRS 1099 forms. Processed 5,486 checks during the fiscal year.
- Accounting** - Manage the monthly closing process, which includes preparing, reviewing and approving numerous journal entries. Prepare reconciliations of subsidiary ledger accounts to the General Ledger, prepare monthly bank reconciliations, develop and document procedures to ensure accurate books and records are maintained and appropriate accounting policies are being followed.
- Water Billing** - The department is responsible for the billing and collection of water bills. Water bills are calculated and reviewed in the water billing system from actual water meter reads from the Water Department. Payments of water bills are received daily either through our Lockbox, Web Payment Center, or at Village Hall.
- Payroll** - *Since the payroll function has transferred back to the Finance Department, we have continued working with ADP on our Optimization project to ensure we are using the system effectively. We continue to implement process improvements and best practices in the timekeeping function. We process the bi-weekly payroll for 260 full-time and approximately 376 Part Time and Seasonal employees.*

Financial Overview:

The State of New York requires municipalities to prepare and adopt balanced budgets where applied surplus, anticipated revenues and taxes raised cover all expenditures. The Adopted Village Budget is the culmination of a coordinated effort by the Board of Trustees and the Executive Staff to maintain the highest level of affordable municipal services while striving to keep property tax increases under the level imposed by the State Tax Cap.

Manner In Which Budgets Were Balanced:

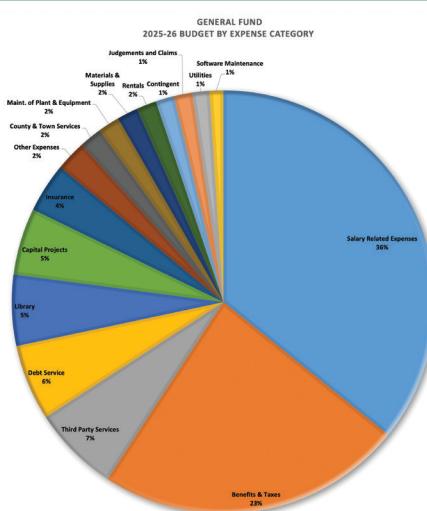
General Fund

	2024-2025	2025-2026	Increase (Decrease)
Current Surplus Appropriated	\$ 2,804,447	\$ 1,749,034	\$ (1,055,413)
Estimated Revenues	\$ 13,052,003	\$ 12,220,208	\$ (831,796)
Tax Levy	\$ 54,338,978	\$ 55,697,448	\$ 1,358,470
Appropriated Reserve	\$ 750,000	\$ 1,562,240	\$ 812,240
Total	\$ 70,945,429	\$ 71,228,930	\$ 283,501

The 2025-26 Budget was adopted with a tax levy increase of 2.5%. The increase allowed per the Tax Levy Limit Law was 4.09% for the Village this year.

Additional Self-Sustaining Budgets:

The Village has three Enterprise Funds that operate like a business in that the revenues generated from services provided are meant to cover all operating expenditures. Residents who benefit from the services provided by the Water Fund, Swimming Pool Fund, and the Tennis Fund pay for the operations via memberships, program services or other fees.



Enterprise Fund	2024-2025 Revenue Budget	2025-2026 Revenue Budget
Swimming Pool	\$1,824,196	\$1,691,500
Indoor Tennis	\$445,900	\$475,800
Water Department	\$8,751,219	\$8,531,131

Budget Comparison

		2024-2025 BUDGET	2025-2026 BUDGET
ADMINISTRATION	Board of Trustees	\$24,500	\$23,000
	Village Justice	608,898	596,220
	Administration	464,436	486,578
	Personnel	396,284	305,787
	Elections	14,200	14,600
	Publicity	93,000	73,000
	Historian	2,500	2,500
	Central Data Processing	430,809	463,981
	SUB TOTAL - ADMINISTRATION	\$ 2,034,627	\$ 1,965,666
FINANCE	Finance	1,270,334	1,352,219
	Purchasing	204,755	219,213
	Assessment	50,300	50,050
	SUB TOTAL - FINANCE	\$ 1,525,389	\$ 1,621,482
PUBLIC SAFETY	Police	11,442,889	11,717,938
	Fire	1,865,317	1,932,992
	Safety Inspection	1,112,051	1,132,070
	SUB TOTAL - PUBLIC SAFETY	\$ 14,420,257	\$ 14,783,000
PUBLIC WORKS	Engineering	555,460	637,133
	Building	717,033	720,989
	Central Garage	1,106,419	1,124,408
	Streets	2,295,508	2,991,271
	Snow Removal	275,000	276,600
	Street Light & Traffic Control	982,600	991,309
	Sanitary Sewers	547,621	530,478
	Storm Sewers	637,558	62,000
	Refuse and Garbage	4,176,203	4,330,744
	Sanitation Recycling	503,564	509,946
	SUB TOTAL - PUBLIC WORKS	\$ 11,796,965	\$ 12,174,878
RECREATION	Parks	3,508,688	3,828,821
	Recreation	2,249,805	2,324,816
	SUB TOTAL - RECREATION	\$ 5,758,492	\$ 6,153,637
LIBRARY	Contribution to Library	\$ 3,789,856	\$ 3,858,551
GENERAL GOVERNMENT	NYS Employees Retirement System	1,815,600	2,148,000
	NYS Police & Fire Retirement System	3,000,000	3,050,000
	Social Security	1,800,000	1,739,575
	MTA Payroll Tax	85,000	90,000
	Health & Dental Insurance	9,793,000	9,659,713
	Capital Projects	3,958,900	3,631,333
	Unallocated Insurance	3,014,950	2,713,455
	Judgements and Claims	500,000	1,000,000
	Law	922,000	1,062,000
	Contingent Account	1,000,000	1,000,000
	Debt Service	4,294,207	4,145,141
	Miscellaneous	686,186	432,500
	SUB TOTAL - GENERAL	\$ 30,869,843	\$ 30,671,717
	TOTAL GENERAL FUND BUDGET	\$ 70,195,429	\$ 71,228,931
APPROPRIATION TO RESERVE		\$ 750,000	-
	TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS	\$ 70,945,429	\$ 71,228,931

Directory

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Edward T. Finneran (2023)

Mayor

Judy Courtney (2024)

Deputy Mayor,

*Commissioner of Building and Planning
Public Information Committee, Chairperson*

Richard A. Catalano (2025)

Commissioner of Finance and Audit

Michele Beach Harrington (2023)

*Environmental Advisory Board, Co-Chairperson
Business District Co-Liaison*

Vinny Muldoon (2024)

Recreation Liaison

Business District Co-Liaison

Fire Commissioner

Commissioner of Public Works

Traffic Commission, Chairperson

Jessica Tai (2024)

Environmental Advisory Board, Co-Chairperson

Bruce A. Torino (2022)

Legal Committee, Chairperson

Police Commissioner

Library Liaison

Yvonne Varano (2025)

Citizens Budget Review Committee

JUSTICE COURT

Allen S. Mathers (1988)

Village Justice

Peter Menoudakos (2023)

Associate Village Justice

Merril S. Biscone (2000)

Associate Village Justice

Greg Cutrone

Clerk to the Justice Court

VILLAGE COUNSEL

Gary Fishberg (2023)

Cullen and Dykman, LLP

VILLAGE HISTORIANS

William A. Bellmer (2015)

Patricia Siler (2024)

ADMINISTRATION

Ralph V. Suozzi (2014), *Village Administrator*

Kenneth O. Jackson (1985), *Police Commissioner*

Kelly Galanek (2023), *Village Clerk*

Denise Ostapow (2017), *Deputy Village Clerk*

Marianne Malagon (2018), *Library Director*

Irene Woo (2015), *Village Treasurer*

Giuseppe Giovanniello (2018),
Superintendent of Building

John Borroni (2015),
Superintendent of Public Works

Stanley Carey (2023),
Superintendent of Water & Sewer Operations

Adam Lipke (2021), *Village Auditor*

SPECIAL POLICE

David B. Carpentier, *Captain* (1994)

John Koch, *Lieutenant* (2004)

David Bliss, *Ex-Captain* (1982)

John Morelli, *Special Police Officer* (2016)

FIRE DEPARTMENT CHIEFS

Chief of Department - James R. Taunton (2012)

1st Assistant Chief - Jonathan F. Parrella (2015)

2nd Assistant Chief - Daniel L. Roeper (2018)

3rd Assistant Chief - Matthew C. Carroll (2017)

ENGINE COMPANY

Captain - Joseph A. Philippas (2018)

1st Lieutenant - Christopher P. Moscatiello (2019)

2nd Lieutenant - Glenn T. Henneberger (2021)

TRUCK COMPANY

Captain - Ryan T. Moody (2021)

1st Lieutenant - Robert G. Horvath (2006)

2nd Lieutenant - Rick C. Ma (2024)

Secretary - Anthony J. Della Ratta (2021)

Assistant Secretary - Leonard R. Rivera (1988)

Treasurer - Robert F Kalb (1987)

Assistant Treasurer - Donald B. Byrne (2018)

1st Battalion Delegate - John P. Casey (1979)

*Note () Date entered into Village Service



Save and Print for future reference

Incorporated Village of Garden City

★ KEY PHONE NUMBERS ★

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY

• POLICE	Emergency	911	Non-Emergency	465-4100
• FIRE	Emergency	742-3300	Non-Emergency	746-1301
• POISON CONTROL				1-800-222-1222

VILLAGE HALL

• Finance Department:		
Main Office		465-4000
Village-Related Tax Questions		465-4156
<i>Town and School Tax Questions</i>		489-5000
Water Billing Questions		465-4160
• Departments:		
Administrator/Mayor / Clerk		465-4051
Building		465-4040
Justice Court		465-4080
Public Works		465-4003
Recreation and Parks (Monday-Friday)		465-4075
Water and Sewer		465-4020
• Library		742-8405
• Municipal Service Yard		465-4031
• Pool (Seasonal)		483-1714

OTHER PHONE NUMBERS OF INTEREST

• Garden City Chamber of Commerce	746-7724
• Garden City School District	478-1000
• Nassau County:	
Department of Health	227-9697
Government Offices	571-3000
• Town of Hempstead	489-5000