



2020 - 2021  
**Online Annual Report**

[www.gardencityny.net](http://www.gardencityny.net)

# Incorporated Village of GARDEN CITY

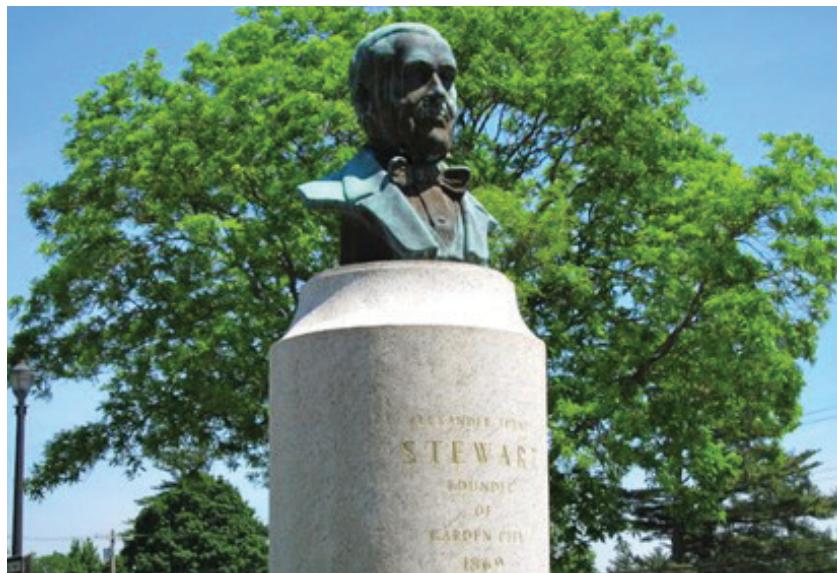
351 Stewart Avenue, Garden City, New York 11530

Village Hall Business Hours: 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. (Monday through Friday)

Telephone Number: (516) 465-4000 • Fax Number: (516) 742-5223

Village Web-Site: [www.gardencityny.net](http://www.gardencityny.net)

Visit our "HOME" page on the Village's website and with one click you can access the Request For Service tab, Bill Payment Center, Department of Public Works (DPW), Recreation and Parks, Visitors Center and Applications and Forms. The Meetings and Events Calendar along with the Notifications and Alerts help residents stay informed on what's happening in Garden City. Keep up to date on non-emergency notifications sent directly to your inbox by subscribing to our email alerts. If you haven't already done so, please add yourself to our **Swift911 Emergency Notifications** so we can contact you with important information and announcements.



## 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

24,454 (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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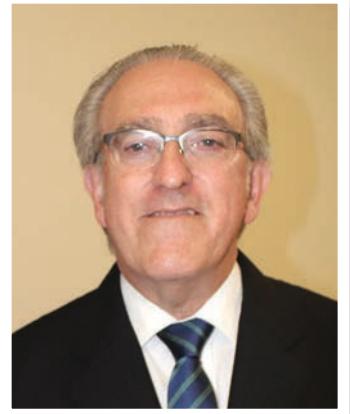
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This is the eighty-eighth published Annual Report, covering the 2020-2021 fiscal year (June 1, 2020 through May 31, 2021). It highlights the operations of the municipal government of Garden City. The purpose of the Annual Report is to keep the residents 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 an honor to present the Annual Report for Fiscal Year June 1, 2020 through May 31, 2021. The primary purpose of this document is to provide you with an account of the stewardship of Village affairs by your Board of Trustees during the past fiscal year. It is a statement of how your tax dollars were spent during the 2020-2021 budget.



The Village continues to benefit from strong fiscal management, evidenced by our Aaa rating with a stable outlook issued in February 2021 by Moody's Investors Service. The bond credit rating company cited in their credit opinion that the Village also benefits from "ample reserves and liquidity, and a manageable debt though its pension and OPEB liabilities are elevated. Strong financial management continues to contribute to annual surplus operations."

For the 2020-2021 Fiscal Year, the Garden City Board of Trustees adopted a \$65.4 million General Fund operating budget following an April 2020 public hearing via Zoom. Careful review of proposed Department spending plans and capital projects led to revisions following six work sessions held in March and April. The result was a spending plan that included a 1.78 percent Tax Levy increase, which was less than the increase allowed per the Tax Levy Limit Law. In fact, over the last five years, the Village has made a concerted effort to raise taxes way below that allowed by the law. This year continued that trend.

Given the uncertainty surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic and the potential impacts to the Village's finances during the 2020-21 Fiscal Year, the budget was closely monitored with the intention to adjust plans at a future date if deemed necessary. Village officials developed the spending plan with several operating principles in mind, including complying with the tax cap, enhancing technology, lowering maintenance costs and improving service delivery, and seeking grants to supplement, replace or reimburse existing funding sources.

The cost of capital projects for 2020-21 totaled \$16.2 million, and \$50.3 million over the five-year Capital Plan. The vast majority of 2020-21 projects fell within investments in infrastructure (\$4.4 million), including the continuation of the Village's aggressive road paving program, equipment purchases for various departments (\$2.1 million) and building improvements (\$7.9 million), including upgrades to the Children's Room at the Library, roof replacements, brick repointing and St. Paul's abatement.

We continue to monitor our water supply closely. This remains a primary focus. The Board continues to pursue its aggressive approach in working to solve the problem and keeping the community well informed. All relevant news and documents regarding expenses and progress are published on the Village website and our social media page on a regular basis.

There's a lot happening in Garden City. I encourage you to sign up for email alerts to immediately begin receiving updates about local meetings and events, road closures and more. Additionally, I encourage you to sign up for Swift911, our emergency notification system, to receive alerts from the Village regarding Police emergencies as well as any other emergency issues. A list of Board of Trustees meetings is available on the Village website, [www.gardencityny.net](http://www.gardencityny.net). All residents are welcome. You can also contact the Village Staff, who will assist you with any questions, at (516) 465-4000.

Garden City is a wonderful place to live, work and raise a family. Our Village not only offers a vibrant downtown shopping district but acres of playing fields, parks and recreational venues as well.

Very truly yours,  
Cosmo Veneziale  
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 24,000 residents.

## The Garden City Archives



William A. Bellmer

The Village Historian is 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 are photographs, maps, correspondence, newspaper articles, scrapbooks, artifacts, and records of community activities.

William A. Bellmer, the Village Historian, is a volunteer appointed by the Mayor.

The Village has an extensive historical collection. Part of it constitutes the Village Archives files, located in the Garden City Public Library and administered by the Historian. Another part is located in the Stewart Room at the Library, administered jointly by the Historian and the Library. The Stewart Room collection contains Garden City-related books, yearbooks, local telephone directories, and many books on Long Island history in general. A third repository is located at the Garden City Historical Society house on Eleventh Street, administered by that organization.

Over 2,200 items in the Village Archives have been digitized and are available to view in the Garden City Public Library collection at [www.NYHeritage.org](http://www.NYHeritage.org). The Garden City News, our Village newspaper, started in 1923, is available in bound copies, microfilm, or DVD form depending on the year; also microfilms of building permits from 1922-1994. A project to digitize the newspapers is ongoing, with some viewable at [www.NYSHistoricNewspapers.org](http://www.NYSHistoricNewspapers.org).

The Village Historian can be contacted at [Historian@GardenCityNY.net](mailto:Historian@GardenCityNY.net) to answer questions related to our history, to access the Stewart Room for research or browsing, or to discuss the acquisition of any items residents may have (or copies of them) that will augment our collection.



Alexander Turney Stewart

# 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, 2020 through May 31, 2021. The Board of Trustees, who were in office at the close of this fiscal year, are shown.



**THOMAS J. O'BRIEN**  
Deputy Mayor  
Eastern Section



**COSMO VENEZIALE**  
Mayor  
Western Section



**MARY CARTER FLANAGAN**  
Trustee  
Western Section



**BRUCE J. CHESTER**  
Trustee  
Estates Section



**JOHN M. DELANY**  
Trustee  
Eastern Section



**TERENCE P. DIGAN**  
Trustee  
Central Section



**COLLEEN E. FOLEY**  
Trustee  
Estates Section



**LOUIS M. MINUTO**  
Trustee  
Central Section

# Administration, Organization and Village Counsel



**RALPH V. SUOZZI**  
Village Administrator



**KAREN M. ALTMAN**  
Village Clerk



**COURTNEY ROSENBLATT**  
Village Auditor,  
Secretary to the  
Board of Trustees

The Village retains two law firms as counsel to the Mayor, Board of Trustees, Village Administrator and their advisory Boards and Commissions. Both firms maintain their own offices and staff independent of Village offices.

Bee Ready Fishbein Hatter & Donovan, 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.

## 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.

## Village Auditor

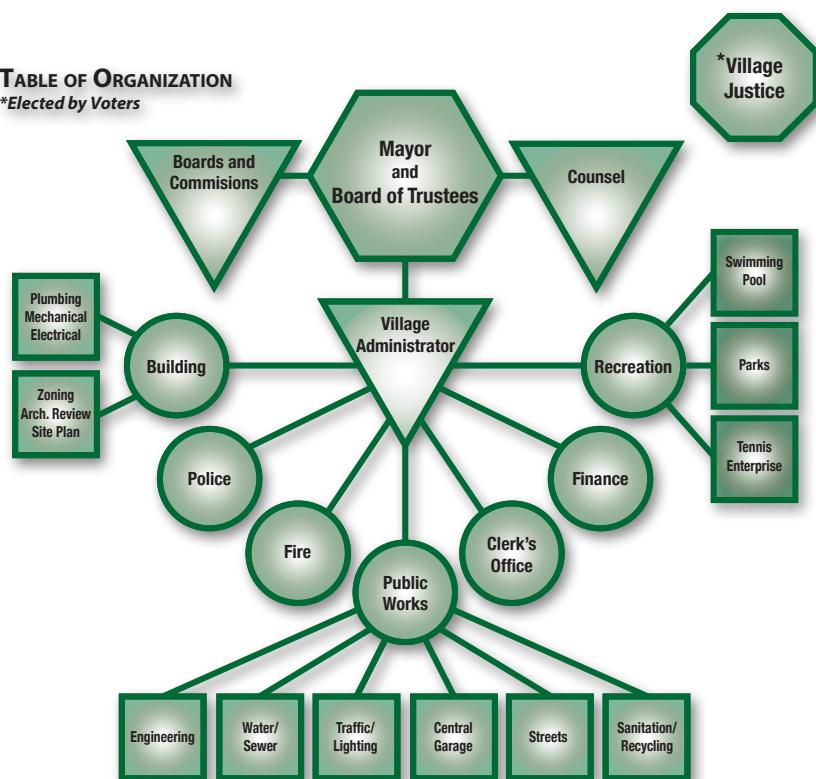
The Village Auditor provides an independent, objective assurance and consulting activity designed to add value and improve the Village's operations. The Village Auditor role has been expanded over the past year to align the goals of the office with those of the Village by bringing a systematic, disciplined approach to evaluate and improve the effectiveness of human resources, risk management, control and governance processes. The reporting structure of the Village Auditor has also been aligned to report to 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

**TABLE OF ORGANIZATION**  
*Elected by Voters*



# Justice Court

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



**BRIAN T. DEVENEY**  
*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.

Donald Hickey, Jr. (2006), *Chairman*  
Celia M. Petersen (2010)  
Cosmo Veneziale (2012)

Phil Santantonio (2015)  
Sean O'Brien (2019)

Rosario Parlanti (2019)  
William Alisse (2014), *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.

Paul Blake (2019), *Chairman*  
Michael Ryder (1997)  
Timothy E. Stapleford (2008)

Kristina Russo (2013)  
Judy Courtney (2013)  
Christian Siragusa (2017)

William P. Garry (2019)  
Grace Li (2021)

## 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.

J. Randolph Colahan (2002), *Chairman*  
Peter L. D'Antonio (2013)

Lola Nouryan (2013)  
Charles J. Murphy (2014)

Germaine Greco (2019)

## 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*

John M. Delany (2015)

Ralph V. Suozzi (2015)

## 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.

Mary Carter Flanagan (2021), *Chairperson*  
Leo Stimmmer (2006)  
Elizabeth M. Bailey (2010)

Laurence J. Quinn (2013)  
Evelyn Fasano (2016)

John Manning (2019)  
John F. Reilly (2019)

## 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.

H. Bradford Gustavson (1999), *Chairman*  
Keith Galanti (2014)  
Craig G. Biscone (2014)

Scott Brandewiede (2016)  
Patrick J. Ward (2018)

Allyson Murray (2018)  
Lauren Fonesca (2019)  
Gregory E. Senken (2016), *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 comprised of one Trustee from each of the four sections of the Village, who are voting members. The Superintendent of Public Works and the Chairman of the Board of Police Commissioners act in a supporting role. 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.

**Louis M. Minuto (2017), Chairman**  
**Colleen E. Foley (2018)**

**Thomas J. O'Brien (2021)**  
**Mary Carter Flanagan (2021)**

**Kenneth O. Jackson (1985)**

## 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.

**John G. Villanella (1989)**  
**Michael T. Schroder (1992)**

**Brian Paradine (2004)**  
**John A. Ardito (2008)**

**James Van Schoick (2019)**  
**Peter E. Gall (2009), 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.

**Maureen Lyons (2019), Chairperson**  
**Patricia Siler (2016)**

**Althea Robinson (1988)**

**Kathleen Auro (2005)**

## 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.

**Charles P. Kelly (2021), Chairman**

**Alison Metzler (2021)**

**Ryan Torino (2021)**

## 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 Bellerose, 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.

**David Osborn (2018)**

## Citizens Budget Review Committee

Representatives from each Property Owners' Association assist the Board of Trustees in the budget process.

**Shane Pomeroy (2020)**  
**Andrea Parlanti (2021)**  
**Yvonne Varano (2019)**

**William McAndrews (2020)**  
**Jeffrey Rathgeber (2020)**

**John Schulz (2021)**  
**Michael Fonseca (2021)**

## Historian

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

**William A. Bellmer (2015)**

# Tropical Storm Isaias Pounded Garden City in August 2020

## Downed Trees Knocked Out Power Across the Village

Tropical Storm Isaias pounded Long Island in August 2020, bringing with it heavy rain and high winds.

The Garden City Volunteer Fire Department responded to more than 41 alarms in a less than a 16-hour period. During the course of the storm, members dealt with downed wires and trees, downed trees on structures, odors of natural gas as well as carbon monoxide alarms. With the influx of alarms throughout Nassau County, the Department began self-dispatching alarms from Fire Headquarters during the height of Isaias.



According to Police Commissioner Kenneth Jackson, there were more than 220 reported incidents. Officers, Firefighters and DPW/Parks Division personnel responded to numerous reports of trees falling on houses, power lines, roads, fences, vehicles, and on the railroad tracks at the Cathedral Avenue crossing where train service was suspended on the Hempstead Line. Several houses suffered severe damage, as did many vehicles. In addition, units responded to numerous reports of house fires, alarms, tree fires, wires down, power line/transformer fires, power outages, traffic light malfunctions, damaged gas lines, auto accidents, property damage reports, medical aided reports and disabled autos.

Paul Blake, Chairman of the Board of Commissioners of Cultural and Recreational Affairs, said the Garden City Pool was spared and Village parks saw minimal damage.

The Village's storm response was a well-coordinated effort by the Garden City Police, Fire, Public Works and Recreation and Park Departments. Members of these Departments supported each other throughout the storm and after in order to clear roads and ensure the safety of the residents of this Village. Crews worked extra hours in order to reopen roads and clear roadways and sidewalks.

The Village incurred approximately \$1.4m in expenditures as a result of the Tropical Storm. These costs include debris removal of leaves, trees and stumps, repairs to sidewalks and street lights, and traffic overtime due to hazardous roads from downed trees and power lines. FEMA declared an emergency for this event and the Finance Department has worked to provide all needed documentation to FEMA to obtain reimbursements. It is expected that the Village will receive 75 percent of these costs in reimbursements from FEMA (a little over \$1.0m) and 12.5 percent from NYS (\$175,000).



# 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, new residential homes and all additions and alterations are ongoing despite the current environment. Also, construction of commercial properties has increased with large projects, which include the redevelopment of the existing Sears Building as well as construction of the two four-story new apartment buildings at 555 Stewart Avenue, which is currently under construction.



*A concrete footing pour at 1111 Franklin Avenue.*



*The future site of a 150-unit residence.*

This Department is also in the process of testing and compiling all the necessary permitting information and data conversion for the new Tyler computer software, which will provide integrated web-based software to assist in the application and permitting process and improve the efficiency of the Department. The new software will assist in managing comprehensive permitting, regulations, reviews and approvals, inspections, and enforcement activities and access to the public online. It will also provide a citizen portal for information services for the public.

# Building Department

The increased demand is collaborated by statistical data shown below, along with large volumes of F.O.I.L. requests and title searches processed by this Department. The Department collected permit fees totaling \$4,375,931. In addition, a total of \$150,798 was collected in 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.

Departmental personnel consist of a Superintendent, three Inspectors, two Administrative Assistants and two Consultants. The technical staff is required to attain 24 hours/credits of 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.



555 Stewart Avenue (Four-story apartment building)



Site work at 555 Stewart Avenue.

## SUMMARY OF ACTIVITY

<b>Building Permits .....</b>	<b>521</b>
<b>Plumbing Permits .....</b>	<b>335</b>
<b>Electrical Permits .....</b>	<b>452</b>
<b>Mechanical Permits .....</b>	<b>381</b>
<b>Approx. No. of Inspections .....</b>	<b>2,878</b>
<b>Certificates of Occupancy .....</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>Certificates of Compliance .....</b>	<b>1,149</b>
<b>Letters in Lieu .....</b>	<b>58</b>
<b>Architectural Design Review Board .....</b>	<b>89</b>
<b>Planning Commission .....</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Zoning Board of Appeals .....</b>	<b>120</b>
<b>Zoning Change Review Committee .....</b>	<b>0</b>

# Recreation and Parks Department

The 2020-2021 fiscal year began under the many COVID-19 related restrictions and guidelines, which provided many challenges for the Recreation and Parks Department as we prepared for our summer programs.

The most visible change to our summer were the restrictions placed on the Garden City Pool. Allowed capacity was limited to just 50% of our normal capacity, and social distancing and masking regulations were also in effect. While many other local facilities opened without giving patrons access to restrooms, showers, and furniture, the Recreation Commission and Department Staff made the bold decision to open the pool fully, making all of the familiar amenities available to our members. To ensure a safe and healthy environment, two separate swim sessions were offered each day, while enhanced cleaning and sanitization procedures were put in place. Offering our members a little bit of “normal” in a very un-normal summer was an important initiative, which was very well received by our members.



**PAUL BLAKE**  
*Chairman,  
Board of Commissioners of  
Cultural and Recreational  
Affairs*



*The Annual Recreation Dance Company Showcase.*

Many of our other programs and facilities were impacted by the COVID-19 restrictions as well, yet for the most part, popular activities went on as scheduled, albeit with slight modifications. Our summer playground program in the five neighborhood parks was again a popular destination for residents, many of whom decided not to travel and who enjoyed a “staycation” here in the Village. Softball games between the parks, arts and crafts, and daily activities organized by Recreation Staff members kept these parks jumping all summer long.

A wide variety of summer programs were held, including popular sports camps, and for those who are not sport inclined, science, moviemaking, and other cultural programs filled the days. Adult softball leagues were again popular, and the Village saw quite a surge in tennis participation as well, both at the indoor tennis center, as well as in the neighborhood parks.

One of the most impacted facilities in the Village was our Senior Center, which, under NYS restrictions, had to remain closed for much of the pandemic. Happily, we were able to safely reopen on a gradual basis, with the requirements for social distancing and masking still in place, until a relatively full schedule of exercise classes, card playing, and socializing resumed. Attendance in the Center grew steadily, and by the time we reached early summer, things were back to normal.

The Parks Division, which tends to the many plantings, monuments, and trees throughout the Village also had a busy year. Starting with the planting of some 45,000 bulbs throughout the Village, this Division also updated and redesigned the plantings at several Village monuments as well as the Gazebo on Village Green. Beautiful hanging baskets again adorned Franklin Avenue and Seventh Street, and seasonal decorations celebrating spring, fall, and the winter holiday season were enjoyed by residents and shopkeepers alike.

Throughout the year, our tree crew performed pruning and removals on Village trees that were determined to



*A beautiful summer night for Music on the Village Green.*

# Recreation and Parks Department



*High fives after a hard fought game during our Parks Softball Tournament!*



*Garden City Recreation mascot "Goggles" making new friends with one of our younger members.*



*Getting some help from the Girls Scouts with our Spring planting.*

be diseased or dead. Our crew also assisted outside contractors who were brought in to take down trees too large for our equipment to handle.

After planting approximately 120 trees in early spring, we saw tropical storm Isaias take down almost the exact same number of trees. Storm clean up kept crews busy during the month of August, with additional pruning and trimming continuing into the fall.

At Community Park, activities continued to rebound from the pandemic, as local youth soccer, baseball, lacrosse and football clubs made good use of these facilities. Roller Hockey continued to be popular, with both spring and fall leagues both culminating in the presentation of our own version of the Stanley Cup.

As we moved into the fall season, our indoor programs at the St. Paul's Fieldhouse resumed with some modifications due to COVID-19. Adult basketball and volleyball programs continued to be popular, and the local youth organizations also made good use of the indoor space for their practices and games.

All in all, in a year filled with both challenges and opportunities, thanks to our dedicated employees, residents again enjoyed a full year of entertaining and enjoyable programs and activities.



*Summer Night at the Garden City Pool.*



*The 2021 Women's Summer Softball League Champions.*

# Police Department



**KENNETH O. JACKSON**  
*Police Commissioner*

The 2020/2021 fiscal year proved to be a challenging time for the Garden City Police Department. Members of the Department responded for duty each day during the COVID Pandemic despite health risks to themselves and their families. Even through these challenging times, the Department remained a modern, innovative, proactive police agency, attentive to the needs of the community, providing protection and support. In addition, the Department participated in Statewide Police Reform Initiatives and conducted several meetings with the community. The Department also monitored many social reform demonstrations throughout the Village to ensure safety of all participants as well as the community.

The enforcement of vehicle and traffic laws has proven to have a direct impact on providing a safer environment for motorists and pedestrians. Therefore, the Department continues its policy of constant and consistent traffic enforcement, which resulted in the issuance of 7,069 traffic citations in 2020. The Department achieved these results despite issues associated with the ongoing Pandemic and the corresponding decrease in motorists utilizing Village roadways. 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 2020, 38 motorists were arrested for D.W.I related offenses.



*Parking Enforcement*

In addition to daily traffic law enforcement, the Department regularly conducts commercial vehicle safety inspections throughout the Village. In 2020, 187 commercial vehicles were inspected of which 97 of them were placed out of service. Further, 842 tickets were issued, including 109 citations for overweight violations and 51 citations for hazardous material violations.

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, in conspicuously marked vehicles, patrol the streets and parking fields within the Village to enforce parking violations; in 2020, 17,729 parking tickets were issued.

In terms of general police service, the Department documented more than 16,000 calls for service and assignments in 2020. These included 1,113 medical assistance calls, 782 vehicle crashes, and 205 arrests. In addition, the Department's proactive efforts resulted in a 9 percent decrease in FBI reportable offenses.

The Police Department, the Garden City School District, and the private schools within the Village worked together to develop and implement safety plans for all students, faculty, staff, and neighbors. This includes lockdown/lockout drills, school patrols, camera accessibility, RAVE Notification Systems, meetings with staff, and security reviews.



*Officer on Foot Patrol*



*School Safety*

# Police Department

To improve the ability to provide exemplary service, the Department continues to incorporate technical advances, training, and equipment. To offset the costs of these necessary items the Department continually seeks grant opportunities and in 2020 those efforts were rewarded with receipt of more than \$33,000 in federal, state and local grants. These grants, along with asset forfeiture funds, were used to obtain equipment, programs, and software that enhanced the investigative and emergency response efforts of the Department. Grants also support the Department's traffic enforcement initiatives, including Aggressive Driving, Pedestrian Safety, Occupant Safety, and D.W.I. campaigns.

NYU Langone Ambulance is the Garden City Police Department's primary ambulance service and continues to provide quality medical service and emergency response to the residents and visitors of the Village.



Truck Stops

Training is always a vital component in providing a safer environment for all members of the community. In addition to a rigorous training program that assists Police personnel in performing their regular duties at optimum levels, Police Officers receive specialized training from various experts and forums to help them prepare for response to serious incidents.

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 the Department of Homeland Security as well as federal, state, county, and local police 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 year 2020 continued to be a challenging time for the Police Department due to COVID-19. The Police Department made many adjustments to protect their officers and staff from the virus so that they could attend to the safety needs of the community. Despite the pandemic, time lost due to illness was kept to a minimum, allowing Officers to be able to respond to all reported incidents, thus providing a safer environment for residents and visitors. In addition, the Department was diligent in equipping their Officers with necessary Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to help them perform their duties in a safe, efficient manner.

## Special Police

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



Special Police

# 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 Volunteer 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 Volunteer Fire Service in Garden City. In 2020, the Department celebrated its 100th year of service to the Village.



Chief Devyn Moody



Auto Accident with person trapped

Under the direction of Volunteer Fire Chief Devyn Moody and three Volunteer 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. 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 pumper, 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.



Mutual Aide to Westbury Fire Department



GCFD Training in a Parking Structure

The Department also incorporates state-of-the-art technology including thermal imaging cameras, hazardous gas monitoring equipment, mobile computers and hydraulic rescue equipment. We utilize full size training props that allow us to prepare for numerous emergencies 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 dwellings and a devotion to public fire safety education through the Department's Fire Prevention and

# Fire Department

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.

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.gcfdnny.com](http://www.gcfdnny.com) or email us: [membership@gcfdnny.com](mailto:membership@gcfdnny.com).



*Santa Visits the Community*



*Girl Scouts Outreach*



*Arch Detail for Middle School Graduation*



*Block Party Detail*

# Department of Public Works



## INTRODUCTION

The Public Works Department manages the infrastructure system of Garden City. This includes maintenance of all roads, curbs and sidewalks including leaf removal and clearing of snow and ice; it maintains the storm drains and the sanitary sewer system. It also operates Garden City Water Works, providing clean, safe water to all residents and businesses within the Village. It collects all garbage and rubbish (residential and commercial) and recycling; designs and installs traffic-control systems and maintains the street lighting system. It also assumes responsibility for the maintenance of all Village facilities. The Superintendent of Public Works heads six divisions that provide these services.

## CENTRAL GARAGE

The Central Garage plays a vital role in the delivery of essential municipal services. This includes managing the Villages fleet of over 175 vehicles, including pay loaders, dump trucks, garbage/recycling trucks and the entire fleet of Garden City Police vehicles, plus all the equipment ranging from lawn mowers and chain saws to conducting annual maintenance of the generators that support our facilities.

The Central Garage has an extensive preventative maintenance program for all equipment that is essential in operating a dependable, trouble-free fleet. Last year all vehicles were serviced according to regular manufacturer recommended schedules, taking into account the vehicle type and operating conditions.

Central Garage Mechanics are also highly skilled at building and fabricating many structures in-house, enabling them to support all Departments in need throughout the Village. In addition, the Central Garage provides critical services during extreme weather events such as snowstorms and nor'easters as they work throughout the duration of these events to keep the fleet of vehicles running and on the road.

## ENGINEERING DIVISION

The Engineering Department contains Licensed Civil Engineers who oversee almost all the Capital projects in the Village. The road paving, curb and sidewalk repair program, the largest reoccurring project in the Village, is wholly managed by this Department. Engineers perform surveys, provide the plans and specifications and perform daily inspection of the work.

In addition, the Engineering Department provides plans and specifications for all water main and sewer main projects and oversees all street lighting and traffic sign installation and maintenance.

Lastly the Engineering Department coordinates all utility and road/sidewalk permits within the Village right-of-way ensuring that Village interests are protected and that anyone working in the Village performs work to our standards. Their work ensures contractors working in the Village are meeting the needs of the Village and abiding by our standards of conduct.



Concrete is placed for the new H2O2 tank pad for Well Nos. 8 and 12.

# Department of Public Works

## SANITATION AND RECYCLING

The Sanitation Division is very familiar to most residents as the service they provide brings them into your yards on a weekly basis. This extra benefit allows them to provide a higher and more personal level of service unlike any other Village.

Last year we collected over 14,840 tons of household garbage, rubbish and bulk waste.

The Recycling Program collected 1,862 tons of bottles, cans, plastics and newspapers from commercial and residential locations. It also recycled 119 tons of metal bulk and collected 23 tons of e-waste. The total weight of all items recycled was 2,004 tons.

We also collected over 348 dumpsters of rubbish and 57 dumpsters of yard waste



*Municipal Service Yard  
parking lot reconstruction.*

## STREET DIVISION

The Street Division is responsible for maintaining the Village's 74 miles of streets and 17 miles of parking lots (260 lane miles), including street sweeping, manholes and road repairs, snow removal and leaf collection

They also perform ongoing maintenance including cleaning, repairing and rebuilding over 700 catch basins throughout the Village. This also includes the construction, repair and maintenance of storm drainage lines,

During the fall, the Street Division joins forces with the Parks Division to remove over 17,300 cubic yards of leaves. The leaves collected are stored at the Village Yard and are turned into mulch which is available free of charge for use by residents.

## TRAFFIC AND STREET LIGHTING

The Traffic and Street Lighting Division, in conjunction with the Engineering Division, is responsible for the maintenance of more than 7,400 traffic signs and 2,300 streetlights in the Village. Each year during spring, summer and fall, Village personnel repaint all the crosswalks, stop lines, arrows and lane markings. In addition, this Division, in conjunction with private contractors, maintains the Village's 2,300 streetlights and its underground wiring. They work in conjunction with our street lighting contractor and directional drilling contractor to ensure that our street lighting system is fully functional.

## WATER AND SEWER

The Water Department maintains 104 miles of mains and 10 wells. There are five above ground storage tanks, including the water tower with 5.5 million gallons of water storage; 21 buildings housing the motors, auxiliary engines, pumps, treatment equipment and system controls, plus over 1,000 fire hydrants. 2019-2020 saw a dramatic change predicated by new regulations enacted by New York State. An emerging contaminant, 1,4-dioxane, drove the New State Department of Health to create new water contaminant limits which resulted in all water purveyors, who have this contaminant in their water supply, needing to develop and install a new form of treatment that didn't currently exist. Garden City was disproportionately affected by this contaminant and thus is investing over \$50 million to ensure our water maintains its high

# Department of Public Works

standards. Some of these projects are nearing completion, others are in progress. We are in full compliance with Health Department directives surrounding 1,4 dioxane, PFOS (Perfluorooctane sulfonic acid) and PFOA (Perfluorooctanoic acid).

## DPW CAPITAL PROJECTS

The Capital Improvement Program is a well-structured plan integral to the upkeep of the Village's infrastructure and a means to enable the continuous improvement of services. The Village continues to make significant investments in the Capital Program with more than \$50 million invested in over 40 improvement projects in the Public Works and Water Departments. Significant projects included:

- \$50 million in new Water Treatment Systems
- \$3 million in Water Main Replacement
- \$1 million in equipment replacement, including a new dump truck with plows and salters and a six-ton asphalt hot box, backhoe loader.
- \$1.1 million to renovate a historic parking lot (the Village was promised reimbursement from the MTA for this expense)
- \$390K to add additional parking for Stewart Field
- \$700,000 for Village facility repair and improvements including installation of a new roof, eight new garage doors and the installation of energy efficient LED lighting



*Decking for first floor and block work for Well Nos. 15 and 16.*

The Village will continue to make investments in its infrastructure and will continue to always look for ways to perform more efficiently and to reduce costs while still providing the services that residents have come to expect from its Department of Public Works.



*Electrical and communication panels for Well No. 10 being wired.*

# The Garden City Public Library



**MARIANNE MALAGON**  
Library Director

The Garden City Public Library Trustees, Administration and Staff are committed to fostering the Library's mission to connect people with information. Programs and services are offered, aimed at instilling a love of reading and satisfying the thirst for knowledge.

The Library offers Adults, Teens and Children expertly curated collections of print, audio-visual media, digital information and streaming content for reading, research and entertainment. 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 museum passes to bring worlds of knowledge into the palms of their hands.

The Library Director and the Library Board of Trustees are dedicated to providing the residents of Garden City with a library that

includes outstanding materials, programs and services. Members of the Library Board are: J. Randolph Colahan, Chair; Peter D'Antonio, Vice Chair; Germaine Greco; Charles J. Murphy; and Lola Nouryan.

During the ongoing COVID-19 Pandemic, Library users found the Virtual Library on the website, with digital materials and services as well as virtual programs, which were expanded or added rapidly to meet the increased need, including new programs created by the staff Librarians for residents at home. Librarians answered reference questions via chat or email and Circulation staff provided contactless delivery of books and media items to serve patrons while the Library was closed, and upon reopening with limited hours. In conjunction with the Nassau Library System, the Library offered new users a digital library card. Due dates on all borrowed materials were extended and most fines were waived through December 2020. Library Board meetings were also held via Zoom during the pandemic.



*Children's Librarian Barbara Grace reads a picture book to children during the fourth session of Project Charlie: Outdoor Storytime, which was held Thursday, April 29, 2021 outside on Library grounds.*

During the COVID-19 Pandemic, the Library offered outdoor storytimes and other programs to keep children engaged and learning. The outdoor storytime shown here was held in April 2021.



*Children's Librarian Barbara Grace sees what Tweens are making during the program Tween Origami Art, which was a joint program between the Young Adult and Children's Departments and was held Thursday, March 25, 2021 outside on Library Grounds. The program was for Grades 4-7 and was sponsored by the Friends of the Garden City Public Library.*

assignments, college preparation, recreational reading, personal enrichment, and social activities. Programs were held via Zoom or outdoors, including cupcake and cookie decorating challenges, bracelet making afternoons, craft creations like snowflake mason jars, DIY masks and decoupage leaf bowls. Pictionary, Bingo, Scattergories and Kahoot Trivia kept Young Adults connected. The Teen Advisory Board helps to suggest and develop programs, and provide hands-on event assistance. This Board and other service activities help students earn volunteer hours for much needed community service credit.

Children's Librarians created and led many interactive, virtual storytimes for infants through children in fifth grade. Outdoor programs included crafts with Librarians, Family Chalk Art and Star Gazing with Chris Buchman. Virtual

The Adult Reference Department offers research assistance and reading recommendations from experienced Librarians. Virtual programs included art, film and sports lectures, gardening, yoga and cooking classes, nutrition and mental health workshops and book discussions and title swaps. Booklovers shared their reading experiences with Adult Reference Librarians through the ever-popular Coffee and Tea by the Book discussions on newly published and popular books via Zoom. In addition, the Librarians provided weekly reading recommendations in their column "Speaking of Books" in the Garden City News.

The Young Adult Department encourages Tweens and Teens to learn, volunteer, and be creative. Library materials, programs and services aid middle and high school students with school

# The Garden City Public Library



Members of the FIRST LEGO League teams from the Garden City Public Library and Garden City Middle School demonstrate the EV3 Robot in action for parents and children during the third annual Robo Expo. The Garden City Friends of STEAM and the Garden City Public Library partnered together to host the Robo Expo on Monday, February 24, 2021 at the Library.

reintroduce Library services gradually, taking safety precautions and establishing procedures to mitigate the risks to staff and the public. When regular hours resumed in September 2020, outdoor programs were offered, including Project Charlie Pop Up programs like Disney Trivia.

offerings included storytimes, book discussions, arts, crafts and cooking. The Library also hosted pre-recorded sessions of Family Zumba and Play Hooray.

Through the generous support of the Friends of the Garden City Public Library, free passes to museums, parks and gardens were also available to Library cardholders, some of which include the 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. The Friends also sponsor many library programs for Adults, Tweens and Teens and children.

The Library Board and Administration developed a phased reopening plan following government guidelines to



Children's Librarians Donna Furey and Barbara Grace host a trivia game for children during the program Project Charlie: Disney Trivia, which was held Thursday, May 6, 2021 outside on Library Grounds.



Children enjoying Project Charlie: Play Hooray held in October 2020 on the Library grounds.

The Library Director and Trustees continue to focus on building projects. Designs are moving forward for a full revamp of the Library's Children's Room and Circulation area budgeted over \$800,000, which will be fun and inviting with dedicated space for programs and updated technology. Librarians contributed to the concept of the new Children's Department with public input, keeping kids of all ages in mind. The Director and Board are working closely with the Village and H2M Architects + Engineers to advance this renovation project.

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



The Library Director and Board of Trustees held virtual Board meetings during the Pandemic. Pictured are: (left to right) top row: Peter D'Antonio, Vice Chair, Marianne Malagon, Library Director; middle row, Charles Murphy, Trustee, Lola Nouryan, Trustee; bottom row, J. Randolph Colahan, Chair, and Germaine Greco, Trustee.



The Library's Jump for Joy program held outside on Library grounds.

# Finance Department



IRENE WOO, CPA CMFO  
Village Treasurer

Garden City's Chief Fiscal Officer is the Village Treasurer Irene Woo, who leads the Finance Department. This year, the Treasurer attained the Credentialed Municipal Finance Officer (CMFO) designation by the NYS Society of Municipal Finance Officers. The Finance Department is responsible for the day-to-day financial operations of the Village, which includes some of the following functions:

- **Annual Budget Process** - The Village Treasurer and the Deputy Treasurer, Darcia Palmer manage the annual Budget Process. With collaboration from the Board of Trustees and the Village's Executive Staff, 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 fiscal year, the Village underwent four budget work sessions, which allowed for detailed review of the budget by the trustees. The Board of Trustees adopted a General Fund Operating Budget in the amount of \$65.1m, and a 2021-22 Capital Plan of \$9.3m. The Tax Levy of 1.95% is once again well below the legal tax cap.*



DARCIA PALMER, CIA  
Deputy Village Treasurer

- **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. The Treasurer prepares the POS (preliminary offering statement) that is provided to the market, and 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.

*This past fiscal year, Moody's Investor Service once again assigned the Village of Garden City a Aaa rating with a Stable outlook, citing in their credit opinion, "the village benefits from strong fiscal management, ample reserves and liquidity, and a manageable debt though its pension and OPEB liabilities are elevated. Strong financial management continues to contribute to annual surplus operations."*



ADAM LIPKE, CPA  
Senior Accountant

The Village successfully sold Bond Anticipation Notes (BANs) and Bonds at very favorable rates. The Village issued \$43.1m in BANs for Water Well Treatment projects on five well sites. The winning bid offered a 1.00 percent coupon rate with a premium of \$373,246. The Village will pay back interest of \$431,000 next year, however, netting out the premium offered, the net interest rate is actually 0.134 percent. The Village issued bonds in the amount of \$6.8m at 1.393 percent True Interest Cost (TIC), which takes into account the time value of money, and received \$542,399.26 in Premium (which can only be used to pay down the debt). In addition, the Village was able to refund the remaining debt on 2010 bonds that were issued at lower interest rates.

- **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 receivables are 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, the Village continued to work on the Tax Billings & Assessments System replacement project. The legacy system will be replaced by Tyler Technologies iasWorld system.*

- **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 Board of Trustees award for purchases requiring bids.

- **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.

- **Reporting and 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

# Finance Department

is responsible for all required NYS reporting: AUD – Annual Update Document, 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; NYS Constitutional Tax Limit and Constitutional Debt Limit Reporting. Provide annual Continuing Disclosure information to the SEC and monitor any activity of outstanding bonds that might require additional SEC disclosures.

- Auditing and 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; 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.

*This past year, the Village engaged the services of Cerini & Associates to perform an independent review of the claims audit function as well as perform ongoing payroll audits.*

- 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.

## Financial Overview:

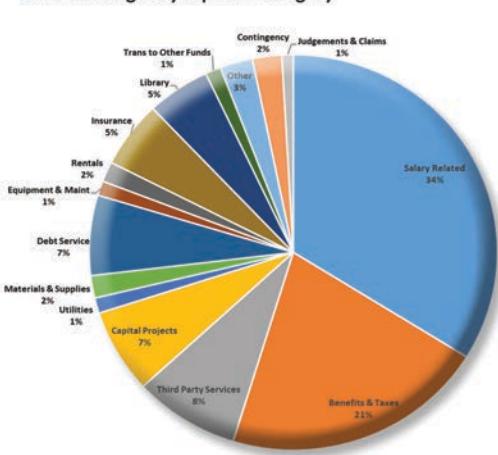
The State of New York requires municipalities to prepare and adopt balanced budgets where applied surplus, anticipated revenues and taxes raised cover all expenditures. The Adopted Village Budget is the culmination of a coordinated effort by the Board of Trustees and the Executive Staff to maintain the 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

	2020-2021	2021-2022	Increase (Decrease)	The 2021-22 Budget was successfully adopted with a tax levy increase of 1.95%, which is well below the tax limit imposed by the tax cap law.
Current Surplus Appropriated	\$ 1,059,346	\$ 2,066,815	\$ 1,007,469	
Estimated Revenues	\$ 12,112,477	\$ 9,715,496	\$ (2,396,981)	
Tax Levy	\$ 52,254,510	\$ 53,273,473	\$ 1,018,963	
Appropriated Reserve	\$ 750,000	\$ 750,000	\$ 0	
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 66,176,333</b>	<b>\$ 65,805,784</b>	<b>\$ (370,549)</b>	

General Fund  
2021-22 Budget by Expense Category



### 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	2021-2022 Expense Budget	2021-2022 Revenue Budget
Swimming Pool	\$ 1,543,578	\$ 1,434,629
Indoor Tennis	\$ 485,572	\$ 496,475
Water Department	\$ 8,012,459	\$ 8,013,170

# Budget Comparison

		<b>2020-2021 BUDGET</b>	<b>2021-2022 BUDGET</b>
<b>ADMINISTRATION</b>	Board of Trustees	\$ 3,875	\$ 24,000
	Village Justice	338,846	342,927
	Administration	447,157	397,425
	Personnel	499,378	515,921
	Elections	4,175	11,400
	Publicity	50,000	52,000
	Historian	5,500	2,500
	Central Data Processing	320,031	334,446
	<b>SUB TOTAL - ADMINISTRATION</b>	<b>\$ 1,668,962</b>	<b>\$ 1,680,619</b>
<b>FINANCE</b>	Finance	889,538	933,156
	Purchasing	205,718	189,282
	Assessment	46,000	50,500
	<b>SUB TOTAL - FINANCE</b>	<b>\$ 1,141,256</b>	<b>\$ 1,172,938</b>
<b>PUBLIC SAFETY</b>	Police	10,110,737	10,128,962
	Fire	2,003,967	2,000,106
	Safety Inspection	916,901	1,064,766
	<b>SUB TOTAL - PUBLIC SAFETY</b>	<b>\$ 13,031,614</b>	<b>\$ 13,193,834</b>
<b>PUBLIC WORKS</b>	Engineering	462,065	463,279
	Building	636,340	668,889
	Central Garage	969,862	931,397
	Streets	2,274,464	2,862,054
	Snow Removal	342,365	342,365
	Street Light & Traffic Control	616,937	643,821
	Sanitary Sewers	432,846	445,112
	Storm Sewers	164,580	165,549
	Refuse and Garbage	3,756,482	3,902,266
	Sanitation Recycling	453,542	482,284
	<b>SUB TOTAL - PUBLIC WORKS</b>	<b>\$ 10,109,483</b>	<b>\$ 10,907,016</b>
<b>RECREATION</b>	Parks	2,017,069	2,847,025
	Recreation	2,835,988	1,986,588
	<b>SUB TOTAL - RECREATION</b>	<b>\$ 4,853,057</b>	<b>\$ 4,833,613</b>
<b>LIBRARY</b>	Contribution to Library	<b>\$ 3,203,534</b>	<b>\$ 3,250,984</b>
<b>GENERAL GOVERNMENT</b>	NYS Employees Retirement System	1,600,000	1,746,000
	NYS Police & Fire Retirement System	2,079,134	2,315,000
	Social Security	1,759,500	1,752,459
	MTA Payroll Tax	78,200	77,964
	Health & Dental Insurance	7,444,000	7,588,000
	Capital Projects	7,479,132	4,482,857
	Unallocated Insurance	3,547,000	3,547,000
	Judgements and Claims	750,000	585,000
	Law	981,000	1,124,500
	Contingent Account	1,170,000	1,500,000
	Debt Service	4,079,462	4,281,516
	Miscellaneous	451,000	1,016,485
	<b>SUB TOTAL - GENERAL</b>	<b>\$ 31,418,427</b>	<b>\$ 30,016,781</b>
<b>APPROPRIATION TO RESERVE</b>		<b>750,000</b>	<b>750,000</b>
	<b>TOTAL GENERAL FUND BUDGET</b>	<b>\$ 66,176,333</b>	<b>\$ 65,805,785</b>

# Directory

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## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

**Cosmo Veneziale** (2021)  
*Mayor*

**Thomas J. O'Brien** (2021)  
*Deputy Mayor*  
*Fire Commissioner*  
*Recreation Commissioner*

**Bruce J. Chester** (2021)  
*Public Works Commissioner*

**John M. Delany** (2015)  
*Police Commissioner*

**Terence P. Digan** (2021)  
*Commissioner of Finance*

**Mary Carter Flanagan** (2021)  
*Environmental Advisory Board*

**Colleen E. Foley** (2018)  
*Library Liaison*

**Louis M. Minuto** (2017)  
*Chairman, Traffic Commission*

## JUSTICE COURT

**Allen S. Mathers** (1988)  
*Village Justice*

**Brian T. Deveney** (1989)  
*Associate Village Justice*

**Merril S. Biscone** (2000)  
*Associate Village Justice*

## VILLAGE COUNSEL

**Peter A. Bee** (2014)  
*Bee Ready Fishbein Hatter & Donovan, LLP*

**Chris Kurtz** (2014)  
*Bond Schoenek & King, PLLC*

## SPECIAL POLICE

**David B. Carpentier**, *Captain* (1994)  
**John Koch**, *Lieutenant* (2004)  
**Trevor Aquino**, *Sergeant* (2015)  
**David Bliss**, *Ex-Captain* (1982)  
**John Morelli**, *Special Police Officer* (2016)

## VILLAGE HISTORIAN

**William A. Bellmer** (2015)

## ADMINISTRATION

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

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

**Karen M. Altman** (1995)  
*Village Clerk*

**Marianne Malagon** (2018)  
*Library Director*

**Irene Woo** (2015)  
*Village Treasurer*

**Darcia Palmer** (2016)  
*Deputy Village Treasurer*

**Giuseppe Giovanniello** (2018)  
*Superintendent of Building*

**Courtney Rosenblatt** (2016)  
*Village Auditor*  
*Secretary to the Board of Trustees*

**Paul Blake** (2019)  
*Chairman, Board of Commissioners of Cultural and Recreational Affairs*

## FIRE DEPARTMENT CHIEFS:

**Devyn F. Moody**, *Chief* (2010)  
**Matthew F. Pearn**, *1st Assistant Chief* (2009)  
**James R. Taunton**, *2nd Assistant Chief* (2012)  
**Jonathan F. Parrella**, *3rd Assistant Chief* (2015)

## LINE OFFICERS:

**Thomas J. Rivera**, *Captain, Engine Co.* (2012)  
**Matthew C. Carroll**, *1st Lieutenant, Engine Co.* (2017)  
**Robert N. Carpentier**, *2nd Lieutenant, Engine Co.*  
**Terrence J. Randell**, *Captain, Truck Co.* (2017)  
**Daniel L. Roeper**, *1st Lieutenant, Truck Co.* (2018)  
**Christopher K. Maier**, *2nd Lieutenant, Truck Co.* (2018)  
**Michael J. Reale**, *Secretary* (2009)  
**Gregory J. Barton**, *Assistant Secretary* (2013)  
**Robert F. Kalb**, *Treasurer* (1987)  
**Gerard F. Whalen**, *Assistant Treasurer* (2002)  
**John P. Casey**, *First Battalion Delegate* (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**

• Business Office:	
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