

October 14, 2020

## **THE MAYOR'S UPDATE**

[Mayor@gardencityny.net](mailto:Mayor@gardencityny.net)

Village Hall and the administrative offices are open for in-person inquiries and business, and all full-time staff has returned to the on-site workplace. Office hours are between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Visitors are required to wear a face covering, maintain social distancing of six feet and sign in to a Visitor's Log outside of the office they are visiting. Furthermore, while multiple people can enter Village Hall, only one person will be admitted into each office space at a time and are asked to abide by employee instructions. Please don't forget to wear a mask and to practice social distancing.

## **EMERGING CONTAMINANTS**

The Village's emerging contaminant program is progressing rapidly:

### **Well 7 & Wells 10 & 11 (Clinton Road)**

- Installation of the new systems is complete at these Well sites
- The manufacturer of the AOP system has completed their functionality tests
- The Village is now conducting our required samples for submission to the Health Department
- Pending Health Department approval, the new system should be online within two weeks
- Construction of the building to house the new system began this week

### **Wells 13 & 14 (Garden City Country Club)**

- The new AOP systems have been put in place
- Work is progressing on the piping and electrical connections
- We expect to have this system up and running within four to six weeks

### **Wells 8 & 12 (Garden City Golf Club)**

- Plans are in place to have the AOP system in place for both Wells within the next four to six weeks

## **LEAF COLLECTION SCHEDULE**

The Street Department will be picking up random areas in the East section starting at the end of October. The entire Street Department will begin the leaf season pickup the first week of November as follows: West, North, South, Mott and East. As always, Parks and Recreation crews will be picking up the Central section. As a reminder, landscapers are to remove all the leaves from the property that they collect. They are not to leave them for Village collection.

## **SAM GRANTS**

Trustees ratified two grant applications – one offered through Senator Kevin Thomas’ office in the amount of \$150,000 and another offered through Assemblyman Ed Ra’s office in the amount of \$50,000, for the Garden City Public Library Children’s Room renovation project.

The Children’s Room and adjacent Circulation Desk area have not been updated since the Library was built more than 45 years ago. At the July 16, 2020 Board meeting, Trustees unanimously approved the \$845,220 redesign project. A total of \$600,000 has been allocated in the Village’s 2020-21 Capital Budget while another \$105,000 is being transferred from contingency. Library Director Marianne Malagon was able to secure \$200,000 in State and Municipal (SAM) grants. These monies, coupled with \$145,000 Deferred Revenue from Legislative Bullet Aid received over five years from former Senator Kemp Hannon's office, represent 40 percent of project funding. Funds in the Library's special reserve fund for capital improvements will be made available for any cost overrun.

H2M Architects and Engineers presented the redesign via a public Zoom meeting in July. Saverio Belfiore, AIA, CSI, said the open floor plan promotes circulation and collaborative thinking. The floor plan includes construction of a new circulation desk, installation of new carpet flooring in the main lobby, establishing areas specifically designed for different age groups, creation of a collaborative environment in the Workshop/STEAM room to house various functions, creation of a dedicated reading room and a seating area for parents, construction of a new Children’s circulation desk and relocation of the Children’s office.

### **BLOOD DRIVE**

A community blood drive will be held at Garden City Fire Department Headquarters, 347 Stewart Avenue, on Wednesday, October 28, 2020 between 2:00 and 8:00 p.m. Call 1-800-933-BLOOD to schedule an appointment. Walk-ins are also welcome, with social distancing permitting. Please remember to eat, drink and bring your donor ID card or an ID with your name and photo. Donors must be 14 days symptom-free if recovered from COVID-19 and must wear a mask or face covering. Donors will have their temperature taken upon entry.

### **BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETINGS**

Remaining regularly scheduled Board of Trustees meetings for 2020 are as follows:

- Thursday, November 5, 2020
- Thursday, November 19, 2020
- Thursday, December 10, 2020

Trustees will meet in St. Paul’s Cluett Hall, unless otherwise noted. The room will be set up to comply with social distancing rules. Those who wish to attend must wear face masks.

## **SAFETY REMAINS A PRIORITY AT LIBRARY**

During the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the Garden City Public Library's most important priority is to prevent the spread of the virus and protect the health and safety of Library users and employees. Patrons are welcome to come into the Library to browse and borrow items or to check out items using the contactless **EXPRESS Pickup** service seven days a week. The hours are: Monday through Thursday, 9:30 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, 9:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.; and Sunday, 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.. At all times and in all areas of the library, masks worn over the nose and mouth are required and six-foot social distancing is in place for all staff and visitors. Desk partitions and floor markings have been installed for safe checkout and reference assistance.

Following safety procedures for materials handling, library materials may be returned outside the Library in the front book drop (all items except museum passes accepted) or inside the Library lobby on carts marked "RETURN ITEMS; NO DONATIONS." Returned materials will be checked in following a 96-hour quarantine period but will be backdated to the date the item was returned. **All fines will be waived through October 31.**

The Lower-Level Media Center, Step Down Cafe, and rest rooms are open. The Computer Center and computer areas throughout the Library remain closed. Meeting rooms and study rooms are also closed. Consuming food and beverages is not allowed in the Café or elsewhere in the Library. Congregating in groups is not allowed. Occupancy limits for social distancing are enforced. The Library reserves the right to require visitors to leave who are not following these rules.

The Library Board and Director are continuing to review safety procedures based on public-health conditions, building safety, staffing and support service to ensure the safety of the public and the staff.

## **WESTERN NASSAU TRANSMISSION PROJECT**

The Western Nassau Transmission Project consists of the construction, operation and maintenance of a proposed new 138 kilovolt underground transmission line primarily within the public roadway rights-of-way for a total distance of approximately seven miles between the East Garden City substation (located in Uniondale) and the Valley Stream substation (located in Lynbrook).

The project is expected to reinforce LIPA's electric transmission system in the southwest Nassau area and ensure continued reliable service. The underground transmission line will be located wholly within the Town of Hempstead and will traverse the Villages of Garden City, Malverne and Lynbrook, and will be constructed primarily underground. The project is on schedule for a December 2020 completion. The two-week construction schedule in Garden City entails:

### **Project-wide:**

- Beginning Monday, October 19, 2020, restoration crews will be repairing sidewalks and curbs incidentally damaged during construction. The work is planned for daytime hours. Single lane closures for equipment are possible during these activities.

### **MULCH/DEBRIS REMOVAL FROM MUNICIPAL YARD**

To better prepare for the upcoming leaf season, Trustees declared an emergency so as to avoid competitive bidding for the emergency removal of post-Tropical Storm Isaias debris and mulch at the Municipal Yard, as its presence will hinder the storage of leaves during fall pickup. Pratt Brothers, Inc. will remove the debris at an estimated cost of \$300,000 while Vigliotti Landscape Service Center will remove a portion of the mulch at a cost of \$250,000.

### **REMINDER – PICK UP YOUR ORIGINAL PROPERTY FOLDERS**

If you requested your original property folder from the Building Department, please pick it up at the Building Department as soon as possible. According to Superintendent Giuseppe Giovanniello, there is no space in the garages to store them. If residents do not pick up their request it will be discarded. To date, more than 4,000 folders have been returned to residents. Unless extended by the Board of Trustees, the deadline for Village residents to request their property folders is December 31, 2020. After that date, only copies made from the scanned electronic copies will be available. Residents may request “original hard copy” property folders of records maintained by the Department. Please note that this is the only “original” hard copy that the Village maintains, and (for Village record-keeping purposes) is being completely replaced by an electronic “scanned” copy. While the Department has made every effort to make its newly scanned electronic copies as clear and “readable” as the originals, we recognize there are some documents (amongst the thousands already scanned) that may be more easily read in “hard copy original” form. As a courtesy, the Village is offering your original hard copy to you as the current homeowner. If you wish to have the “original file” you must show proof of ownership of the property requested. The Department will notify you when your request is ready for pickup. Folder requests will be held for 30 days after a call back is made. This “folder request project” commenced June 1, 2019. For further information, please contact the Building Department at 465-4040.

### **NATIONAL PRESCRIPTION DRUG TAKE BACK DAY**

The Garden City Police Department will be participating in the Drug Enforcement Agency’s (DEA) National Prescription Drug Take Back Day on Saturday, October 24th, between 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. A collection center will be maintained by the Garden City Police Department at 349 Stewart Avenue. This event provides an opportunity for residents to safely discard unwanted, unused and expired medications.

As per the DEA, “This initiative addresses a vital public safety and public health issue. Medicines that languish in home cabinets are highly susceptible to diversion, misuse and

abuse. Rates of prescription drug abuse in the United States are alarmingly high, as are the number of accidental poisonings and overdoses due to these drugs. The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's National Survey on Drug Use and Health shows year after year that the majority of misused and abused prescription drugs are obtained from family and friends, including someone else's medication being stolen from the home medicine cabinet. In addition, Americans are now advised that their usual methods for disposing of unused medicines—flushing them down the toilet or throwing them in the trash—both pose potential safety and health hazards.”