

March 17, 2021

### **The MAYOR'S UPDATE**

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

Village Hall is open. Office hours are 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.

### **VILLAGE ELECTION**

The Garden City Village Election was held Tuesday, March 16, 2021. A total of 1,877 residents voted at Village Hall. The Board of Elections supplied the Village with a list of disabled voters, which totaled 317. In addition, 2,078 residents applied to the Village Clerk for an absentee ballot. A total of 1,849 were received. As of 4:00 p.m. Wednesday, March 17, 2021, absentee ballots were still being counted, according to Village Clerk Karen Altman.

### **DISCOLORED WATER COMPLAINTS**

The Board has engaged the professional services of H2M Architects and Engineers to investigate discolored water complaints at various residences throughout the Village. The purpose of the study is to review the water distribution system Village-wide and targeted sections of the Village where the issue seems to be more prevalent in order to ascertain possible causes and mitigation strategies through operations and/or capital improvements.

H2M will map the locations, times and the issues and use this information to evaluate reasons for the decolorization. Potential contributors to discolored water is likely dislodging of tuberculosis in the water mains. The normal flow and velocity in the water mains has been affected by the construction of the new, elevated storage tank and with the periodic shifting of wells in service due to the construction for the emerging contaminant treatment systems. H2M will evaluate this flow shift to determine if this is the cause of the discoloring and will evaluate the potential of such circumstances once the entire distribution system is back up and running.

### **GARDEN CITY CASINO**

Negotiations with members of the Garden City Casino Board continue moving forward in good faith. Members of the Garden City Board of Trustees last met with members of the Casino Board on Friday, March 5, 2021. Negotiations remain amicable as both parties move toward a long-term agreement.

The Village-owned Casino has operated as a Tennis & Social Club since 1895. Members are asking the Board to approve a multi-year extension of the agreement, which expires in January 2022. (The original agreement expired in May 2019. The Board approved two short-term extensions – the first until January 2021 and the second until January 2022.)

### **CONCRETE WORK**

Concrete replacement work began on John and Chestnut Streets on Wednesday, March 17:

**John Street – St. James Street North to Stewart Avenue** - Road Work Ahead (RWA) will begin concrete replacement on John Street. The contractor will resume where they left off on the northeast corner of John Street and St. James Street North. If you are a homeowner that has received a notice and your apron is scheduled to be replaced, please remove your car from your driveway before 8:00 AM and park on the opposite side of the street.

**Chestnut Street – St. James Street South to Clinton Road** - Road Work Ahead (RWA) will begin concrete replacement on Chestnut Street. The contractor will begin on the west end of Chestnut Street, on the north side of the street. Work will progress towards the east, on the north side of the street. If you are a homeowner that has received a notice and your apron is scheduled to be replaced, please remove your car from your driveway before 8:00 AM and park on the opposite side of the street.

Temporary road closures may occur to allow work to be done. Road will be accessible for emergency vehicles. This schedule is subject to change and is weather permitting.

### **ST. PAUL'S EMERGENCY ROOF REPAIR**

Trustees declared an emergency to forego competitive bidding for Westar Construction to make emergency repairs to the flat roof areas of St. Paul's. Portions of the membrane came loose and have blown off the building during recent wind events. Westar Construction stabilized these roof areas for a cost of \$6,000.

### **LIBRARY UPDATES COVID-19 PROTOCOLS**

The Garden City Public Library's most important priority during this ongoing COVID-19 pandemic is to prevent the spread of the virus and to protect the health and safety of Library users and Library employees.

Visits to the Library between the hours of 2:00 PM and 7:00 PM, Monday through Thursday, and 2:00 PM and 5:00 PM, Friday and Saturday, are limited to 60 minutes. Visits outside this time frame are no longer limited. The 60-minute limit also remains in effect during Sunday hours, 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM.

While visiting the Library, masks must be worn over the nose and mouth at all times. Further, all visitors must continue to follow social distancing protocols at all times. Visitors must sit six feet apart from others at Library tables. In conjunction with these rules, patrons also may not rearrange furniture closer together or consume food or beverage during their library visit. Study rooms and computer areas remain closed at this time. Congregating in groups is not allowed.

To reinforce the rule of 60 minutes in the Library, a pass will be given to each person after they arrive, which lists the end time for their library session that day. Security personnel will monitor time in the Library, and the Librarian-in-Charge will

address concerns. The Library reserves the right to require visitors to leave who are not following the above rules and other Library policies.

### **BUDGET WORK SESSIONS**

The Board of Trustees is conducting work sessions to review the Tentative 2021/22 Operating and Capital Budgets. Remaining sessions are scheduled to take place via Zoom on the following dates:

#### **Budget Work Session 2**

Thursday, March 18, 2021

7:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.

- Fire Department
- Department of Public Works and Water Fund

#### **Budget Work Session 3**

Wednesday, March 24, 2021

7:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.

- Library
- Police Department
- Administration
- Finance & Other Unallocated

#### **Budget Work Session 4**

Tuesday, March 30, 2021

7:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.

- **Presentation of Changes/Final Budget**

#### **Budget Hearing and Adoption of Budget**

Monday, April 5, 2021

8:00 p.m.

- **Budget Hearing**
- **Adoption of Budget**

If you wish to attend any of these sessions, email Karen Altman, Village Clerk ([kaltman@gardencityny.net](mailto:kaltman@gardencityny.net)) before 3:00 p.m. on the day of the meeting and she will send you the link.