

February 22, 2023

OPPOSITION TO CASINO AT NASSAU HUB

The Board of Trustees adopted a resolution stating that the Board is adamantly opposed to a Casino and proposed ancillary uses at the Nassau Hub site as this will have a negative impact on our quality of life, and would permanently impact the character of the surrounding communities. The Board has received considerable input from residents opposing a Casino and other uses at the Nassau Hub site. The serious security issues that surround Casinos are well known, including crime, human sex trafficking, DWIs, prostitution, drugs and problem gambling, and the impact on our Village roadways, which are already overburdened with traffic, would be significant. Further, the Board urges Nassau County to not authorize the transfer of the license agreement for the Nassau Hub property so as to facilitate a Casino and proposed ancillary uses at that site and implores Nassau County to look towards appropriate uses of this property that will enhance our communities rather than negatively impact them.

MEETING MARCH 7 REGARDING GOVERNOR’S PROPOSED HOUSING PLAN

The Board of Trustees will hold a Special Meeting on Tuesday, March 7, 2023 at 7:30 p.m. in the Village Hall Board Room and via Zoom with leaders and/or their delegates of Garden City civic groups to discuss opposition to Governor Kathy Hochul’s proposed housing plan. Governor Hochul’s announcement to address the state’s “housing crisis” by, among other things, requiring localities with rail stations run by the MTA to undertake a local rezoning or higher density multifamily development within half a mile of the station (unless they already meet the density level), is of major concern to our Village. I have directed Village Administrator Ralph Suozzi, Building Superintendent Giuseppe Giovanniello, Village Counsel Gary Fishberg and Public Works Superintendent John Borroni to identify sites that may be impacted by this proposal. I have directed an inventory be prepared of all Village-owned properties which may be impacted by the Governor’s plan. I oppose state control of our Village zoning and land use, as do the Mayors of our surrounding communities.

EDGEMERE FIREHOUSE UPDATE

Architects and engineers are currently putting together schematic designs of the Edgemere Firehouse. Building Superintendent Giuseppe Giovanniello hopes to receive the interior designs by the end of this week/early next week. Once delivered, the designs can be shared with the Fire Chiefs and the Board of Trustees.

CORROSION CONTROL STUDY

According to H2M, the Village’s water consultant, 610 samples have been requested by residents; 610 sample kits have been delivered. H2M has collected/returned 524 bottles. Pace Analytical completed 511 sample analyses and transmitted results to residents. H2M continues to perform biweekly sampling at entry points for lead and other corrosion parameters. Orthophosphate continues to be injected into the system. The District is taking entry point and distribution sampling to monitor orthophosphate treatment.

NEW POLICE OFFICER

I administered the oath of office to Police Officer Stephen Danisi, who grew up in Garden City and worked as a lifeguard at the Garden City Pool during his high school and college years. He later attended CW Post, where he played collegiate soccer and received a BS degree in Physical Education. Officer Danisi began his career in law enforcement in 2008 when he joined the Garden City Police Department as a Parking Enforcement Aide. In 2010, he became a Police Officer with the NYPD where he received numerous awards, including the Medal of Valor. Officer Danisi transferred to the MTA PD in 2014, where he again received numerous awards, including Cop of the Month, Excellent Police Duty Award, and the Life Saver Award. He is excited to bring his police experience back home to the community of Garden City. Officer Danisi resides in Nassau County with his wife and two children.

WATER AND SEWER SUPERINTENDENT

Stanley Carey has been appointed superintendent of Water and Sewer Operations for the Village, effective February 21, 2023 (or upon Civil Service approval) for the balance of the official year, ending on April 3, 2023. Mr. Carey has been serving as a senior Water Plant consultant for H2M. Prior to that, he served as superintendent of the Massapequa Water District between 2010-2021. The position has been vacant since Frank Koch left Village service in April 2015.

TD BANK ROBBERY SUSPECT ARRESTED

Garden City Police Commissioner Kenneth Jackson reports that on February 10, Nassau County Police Officers arrested a 31-year-old male for committing an attempted robbery at a Bank of America in Baldwin. Upon further investigation, he was also charged with committing the following past bank robberies:

- Jan. 3rd: Chase Bank, Rockville Centre
- Jan. 3rd: TD Bank, Garden City
- Jan. 4th: Bank of America, Westbury
- Jan. 6th: Webster Bank, Rockville Centre

SENIOR CENTER EMERGENCY REPAIRS

The Board declared an emergency so as to avoid competitive bidding for the emergency repairs to the Senior Center on Golf Club Lane, thus ratifying the selection of the vendor for repairs and exempting the selection process from competitive bidding. The Senior Center was damaged due to a burst fire suppression system pipe and repairs to the kitchen, meeting rooms and floors through the building need to be made. The Board accepted the insurance payment of \$252,040.36, with understanding that this amount may increase, and will use an additional \$25,000 to cover the deductible, bringing the total amount available for the repairs to \$277,040.36. Trustees then engaged Belfor Restorations, of Ronkonkoma, to do the repairs/renovations to the Senior Center in the amount of \$284,033.45. There is a credit on the work for the laminate flooring, which has already been awarded to Preferred Construction, so the Village may not have any actual “out of pocket” funds needed.