

March 6, 2019

## **GARDEN CITY UPDATE - NEWS AND INFORMATION**

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

The Board of Trustees and staff continue to work on numerous projects, including plans for the upcoming budget, the LIRR Third Track and its impact on Garden City, the water tank replacement project, water quality issues, personnel matters, zoning matters, the concept plan for the former St. Paul's School building and the upcoming budget and other matters. We encourage you to attend Village Board of Trustees meetings and meetings of your Property Owners' Associations. Meetings of the Property Owners' Associations are held almost every month – please check their respective websites.

### **PROPOSED 2019-20 VILLAGE BUDGET**

The Village kicked off budget work sessions Thursday, March 7, 2019 with an overview of the proposed Fiscal Year 2019-20 budget by Village Treasurer Irene Woo. Building Superintendent Giuseppe Giovanniello, Police Commissioner Kenneth Jackson and Fire Chiefs Brian Gallo and Thomas Stryko will also present their proposed operating and capital budgets.

The 2019-20 proposed budget totals \$65.521 million, offset by \$2.722 million in business district paving reimbursements for a net proposed budget of \$62.799 million. The proposed budget is again tax cap compliant in that the Village did not exceed the 3.37 percent Tax Levy Limit. The proposed tax levy increase for the Tentative Budget is 2 percent, as it was last Fiscal Year. In fact, over the last four years, the actual property tax levy increase was equal to or less than the Inflation Factor.

To view the Tentative Budget and the March 7, 2019 PowerPoint presentation in full, visit [www.gardencityny.net](http://www.gardencityny.net). Remaining budget sessions are scheduled to take place Tuesday, March 12; Thursday, March 21; and Wednesday, March 27 (if needed), beginning at 7:30 p.m. in the Village Hall Board Room.

### **STORM CLEANUP**

The Department of Public Works had a very busy weekend as we had two snow events to tackle: the first early morning on Saturday, March 2, and later on March 3.

Saturday's event was the smaller of the two. Crews were called in at approximately 3:00 a.m. and at the peak of the storm had 22 salters on the road. We spread approximately 200 tons of salt during the early morning hours into the early afternoon.

Sunday evening's storm was larger and longer in duration. Crews were notified starting around 4:00 p.m. and salting operations commenced between 6:00 and 6:30 p.m. Approximately 180 tons of salt were put down. The operation switched to plowing around 7:30 p.m. At the peak of the storm 35 trucks were on the road, as were employees from the Street, Sanitation, Recycling,

Recreation and Parks and Engineering Departments. As always the Mechanic Shop had a crew on hand to keep the trucks functioning at full capacity and on the road throughout the storm.

### **CODE PROCESS FOR POOL APPLICATIONS**

The Garden City Board of Trustees held a public work session Tuesday, February 26 to discuss the current code process for the approval and installation of pools and whether current rules need to be updated and/or changed. Several members of the Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) and the Architectural Design Review Board (ADRB) were also in attendance.

There are approximately 40 pools in the Village. As per current code, applications go before the ZBA. Members visit each property to look at things like lighting, privacy aspects as well as placement of equipment. “We look at it from every angle. We consider what’s best for the Village. We take testimony at the hearings. We make our decisions,” ZBA chairman John Villanella said.

Michael Schroder, fellow ZBA member, added, “We’re not in the land of ‘no’ for pools ... I don’t think we’ve stopped people. I think we’ve been reasonable.”

The Board agrees that more definitive standards are needed and has asked the ZBA and ADRB to digest more applications over the next few months and return to the Board for another work session in late spring with suggestions to help identify and alleviate pain points in the process.

### **ST. PAUL’S COMFORT STATION**

During the demolition phase of the St. Paul’s comfort station renovation project, crews discovered some deterioration of the wall studs which required remedial carpentry work, according to Kevin Ocker, chairman of the Board of Commissioners of Cultural and Recreational Affairs. In addition, existing ceiling heaters are to be removed and wall heaters recessed and installed. Two corrugate waste lines that service the water fountains will also be removed and relocated in the pipe chase.

### **EMERGING CONTAMINANT PLANNING REPORT**

The Village has engaged H2M Architects and Engineers to perform a Village-wide evaluation of emerging contaminants as part of the Water Department’s Emerging Contaminant Action Plan for Garden City’s drinking water supply wells. This action plan was introduced at the October 18, 2019 Board meeting. At that time, the Village engaged leading experts, Langan Engineering & Environmental Services, Inc. to create an action plan to address these issues. Part of that plan included work that H2M, the Village’s water consultants, needs to undertake to further the plan.

### **VILLAGE SEEKS RESIDENTS FOR BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS**

The Village depends upon its residents to function and perform many valuable services. We have several openings with respect to Boards and Commissions that we need your help filling. Please visit our website, [www.gardencityny.net](http://www.gardencityny.net), to review the nature of each Board or Commission. Selections will be made in Spring 2019.

The four Property Owners' Associations help us identify candidates and positions are allocated among residents from the four sections of the Village, with additional positions at large. If you are interested, please follow this procedure:

- a. Contact your POA official for your section of the Village or contact us directly via Village Clerk Karen Altman at kaltman@gardencityny.net
- b. Submit a resume or similar information describing your interest and qualifications for a particular Board or Commission
- c. Provide the information by March 15

Below is a list of the various Boards and Commissions that have members with expiring terms in April 2019 and December 2019. Existing members are, of course, welcome to submit their names for continued service.

**Planning Commission**

There is one at-large seat open for a term beginning in April 2019. This is a three-year term.

**Environmental Advisory Board**

There are two at-large seats, one seat from the East and one seat from the Estates open for a term beginning in April 2019. This is a four-year term.

**Architectural Design Review Board**

There are three at-large seats open for a term beginning in April 2019. This is a three-year term.

**Zoning Board of Appeals**

There are two seats from Estates and Central open for a term beginning in April 2019. This is a five-year term.

**Board of Commissioners of Cultural and Recreational Affairs**

There is one seat from the Estates open for a term beginning in April 2019. This is a four-year term.

**Library Board**

There is one seat from Central open for a term beginning January 1, 2020. This is a five-year term.

**VILLAGE ELECTION - TUESDAY, MARCH 19, 2019**

The annual Village Election will be held on Tuesday, March 19, 2019 from 12 Noon until 9:00 p.m. at Village Hall, 351 Stewart Avenue. Registered Village residents will be voting for the following candidates:

<b><u>TITLE OF OFFICE</u></b>	<b><u>TERM OF OFFICE</u></b>	<b><u>NAME OF OF NOMINEES</u></b>
Mayor	2 Years	Theresa A. Trouvé
Trustee	2 Years	Brian C. Daughney
Trustee	2 Years	Mark A. Hyer
Trustee	2 Years	Stephen S. Makrinos
Trustee	1 Year	Louis M. Minuto

## **ABSENTEE BALLOTS**

Absentee Ballot applications to be used in conjunction with the General Village Election on March 19, 2019 are available at Village Hall, 351 Stewart Avenue. The Village Clerk must receive applications by March 12, 2019 if the ballot is to be mailed. For personal application, the deadline is March 18, 2019.

## **GARDEN CITY AGAIN NAMED “TREE CITY, USA”**

Garden City has once again been awarded the designation TREE CITY, USA. This award, granted by the National Arbor Day Foundation, in cooperation with the USDA Forest Service with the National Association of State Foresters, recognizes communities which meet detailed, objective standards applied to trees on public property.

Garden City achieved the recognition by meeting the program’s four requirements: a tree board or department; a tree care ordinance; an annual community forestry budget of at least \$2 per capita; and an Arbor Day observance and proclamation.

“Tree City USA communities see the impact an urban forest has in a community first hand,” Dan Lambe, president of the Arbor Day Foundation, said. “Additionally, recognition brings residents together and creates a sense of community pride, whether it’s through volunteer engagement or public education.”

More information on the program is available at [www.arborday.org/TreeCityUSA](http://www.arborday.org/TreeCityUSA).