

March 13, 2019

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

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The Board of Trustees and staff continue to work on numerous projects, including 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 proposed 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.

### **WATER MAIN REPLACEMENT**

A water main replacement project began Wednesday, March 13, 2019 on Pine Street (weather permitting). Work began on Grove Street and will move east along Pine Street. The project is expected to take approximately four months to complete. This water main replacement will improve overall water quality and flow in your area.

Garden City Water Department personnel are working in your neighborhood on designated days between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. Residents in the area should be aware of possible water service disruptions and possible discolored water as part of this work. This work may cause “rusty” or “cloudy” water. It is recommended that you draw water for drinking and cooking on these days. We also recommend that you try to avoid doing laundry during these times. We apologize for any inconvenience and will try to keep the interruptions to a minimum.

All residents are being notified prior to any disruptions in service with informational flyers distributed to their homes. We thank you for your cooperation and patience during this project. If you have any questions, please contact Village Engineer Craig T. Bandini at (516) 465-4009 or the Garden City Water Department at (516) 465-4020.

### **LIRR WORK AT MERILLON AVENUE STATION**

With the pending construction at the Merillon Avenue train station related to the third track expansion project, we anticipate possible disruptions in parking and access to the station in that area. We are working with the project managers to try to prevent any issues. We will have more information as this project progresses.

### **BUDGET PRESENTATIONS**

The Board of Trustees, in conjunction with members of the Citizens Budget Review Advisory Committee (CBRAC), held the first of several budget sessions on Thursday, March 7, 2019. Village Treasurer Irene Woo provided an overview of the current Fiscal Year forecast, the proposed Fiscal Year 2019-20 budget and the Village's proposed five-year capital plan. Building Superintendent Giuseppe Giovanniello, Police Commissioner Ken Jackson and Fire Chief Brian

Gallo and 1st Assistant Chief Thomas Stryko also presented their proposed budgets.

Budget Session #2 was held on Tuesday, March 12, 2019. Kevin Ocker, chairman of the Board of Commissioners of Cultural and Recreational Affairs, along with Tim Messner, Ralph Suozzi, Ms. Woo and Darcia Palmer, Garden City's Deputy Village Treasurer, all presented their proposed budgets for Recreation and Parks, Pool and Tennis Enterprise Funds, Administration, Finance and Other General Unallocated Expenses and Revenues.

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 is 2 percent, as it was last Fiscal Year. Further, the 2019-20 proposed budget represents a 1.45 percent increase over the prior year, when adjusted for the \$2.7 million reimbursement for Business District paving. To view the March 7 and March 12, 2019 Budget presentations, please visit the Village's website, [www.gardencityny.net](http://www.gardencityny.net).

Budget Session #3 is scheduled for Thursday, March 21, 2019 in the Village Hall Board Room beginning at 7:30 p.m. The Library, Department of Public Works and Water Department proposed operating and capital budgets will be discussed. All residents are encouraged to attend.

### **NEW PLAYGROUND AT COMMUNITY PARK**

A new playground under construction at Community Park is slated for completion by mid-April. Demolition of the existing playground equipment is already complete and the stone sub-base for the asphalt/safety surfacing system is in place. Work continues this week. This playground has 30 play events, six different ground-level play events and a total of 18 ground-level play events. Elevated play events are accessible by ramp so this is an inclusion design for children ages 2-5 and 5-12 years old. This apparatus does not currently have included adaptive swings but staff is looking into adding them at this location. The swings are currently included at Village parks.

### **BUSINESS DISTRICT SECURITY INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT**

The Garden City Police Department would like to expand the business district security infrastructure project to include the placement of cameras on Seventh Street and in Parking Field 7N. The Department is requesting \$70,000 in its proposed 2019-20 budget.

Currently, cameras are located within Parking Field 7S. In prior years, cameras were also installed in several Village-owned facilities, including the Water Works building, Village Hall, Village Court, the Police and Fire Departments and the Library.

The cameras can be viewed from inside Police Headquarters and inside the mobile command unit. Although not monitored 24/7, the cameras serve as an important tool in aiding the Department in solving crimes. According to Inspector Michael Doyle, who is spearheading the project, the existing cameras have aided Police in solving numerous crimes such as criminal mischief, identity theft and a DWI case in which the subject was three-and-a-half times the legal limit.

### **POLICE DEPARTMENT REVENUE AND STAFFING**

Ninety-nine percent of Police Department revenues are derived from traffic and parking fines. In 2018, the Department issued approximately 32,000 ticket citations - about 19,800 parking violations and 12,000 moving violations. Citations generated \$1.7 million in 2017 and is projected to generate \$1.6 million in 2019-20.

Current staffing includes 52 full-time police officers with three on long-term disability; 13 full-time civilian staff, which includes dispatchers; one part-time civilian staff for weekend traffic enforcement; and 11 part-time crossing guards. Included in the 2019-20 proposed budget is four new full-time positions (three officers and one dispatcher) and two part-time positions (parking meter attendants).

**SOLICITATIONS**

Please note that now through Friday, April 19 2019 the New York Public Interest Research Group (NYPIRG) is conducting a House-to-House Fund Drive Saturdays between the hours of 12 noon and 5:00 p.m. and Mondays through Fridays between the hours of 4:00 and 8:00 p.m. Invited call backs only between the hours of 8:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m.

**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 had to receive applications by March 12, 2019 if the ballot is to be mailed. For personal application, the deadline is March 18, 2019.