

May 1, 2019

THE MAYOR'S UPDATE

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The Board of Trustees and staff continue to work on numerous projects, including improvements to the Village's infrastructure, the LIRR Third Track and its impact on Garden City, the water tank replacement project, the concept plan for the former St. Paul's School building and other matters. I encourage you to attend Village Board of Trustees meetings; the schedule can be found on the Village's website, www.gardencityny.net.

A REMINDER ABOUT YOUR WATER

As a reminder to residents, anytime there is disruption to the water system such as the shut-offs that have been required for the Pine Street water main replacement or if there is a fire call in your area that requires the Garden City Fire Department to open a hydrant, there is the possibility of sediment being stirred up in the system. This could cause residents to experience cloudy or discolored water. The best way to clear the discoloration is to run the **COLD** water, preferably from a faucet that is closest to where the water service enters the house. It could take a while; it might have to run for 30-40 minutes but it will clear up. The Garden City Water Department, in turn, will do everything it can to minimize it by opening hydrants in the area to draw the sediment away from the houses. One additional note, if you notice discolored water, **don't** run your hot water until it clears. Running the hot water will draw sediment into your hot water heater and it could take a few days for that clear.

PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING PARKING PERMITS IN FIELD 7N

A work session regarding Parking Field 7N and proposals to create segregated parking zones for 67 Hilton Avenue (Hilton Hall) apartment dwellers for an imposed fee continued on Thursday, April 25, 2019.

Police Commissioner Ken Jackson stated his Department sent a questionnaire to 104 residents of 67 Hilton Avenue and received 46 total responses; 26 residents were in favor of the \$275 parking permit, 19 residents were not and one resident returned the survey but did not provide an answer. Two residents requested two permits each.

The pilot program for Field 7N would designate parking spots along the west end of the lot, near Hilton Hall, for permitted resident parking only; 20 spots against the apartment building; seven spots just to the south; and two additional spaces in the southwest corner of the lot. Permits, at a cost of \$275, would be in effect 24 hours a day/seven days a week for a full year beginning on the date of issuance. Signage in the rest of the lot will be adjusted as well.

Trustee Robert Bolebruch took offense to an op-ed in last week's issue of the *GC News* that stated the proposed \$275 fee for a parking permit was a "money grab." Doing the math based on 25 spaces for argument's sake, Trustee Bolebruch said 25 spots at \$275 per spot totals \$6,875 a year on a budget of \$63,500,000 million. That's 75 cents a day; \$5.29 a week; \$23 a month.

“This is not a money grab. This is an attempt for us to work to recognize the needs of the residents that live there. We’re trying to go about this in a step by step way to make this more beneficial for the residents, to make this more beneficial for the businesses and for usage of the lot,” he said.

A public hearing is scheduled for Thursday, May 9, 2019 on a proposed Local Law to revise the existing code to provide for sticker restricted parking in Field 7N. Additional spots may be needed at the discretion of the Village. The hearing will take place during the regular Board of Trustees meeting, which is scheduled to begin at 8:00 p.m. in the Village Hall Board Room.

ST. PAUL’S COMFORT STATION

Subpar work inside the St. Paul’s comfort station has delayed the project. Village officials have been monitoring the work on a daily basis. An inspection was performed on Friday, April 26 which found 30 punch list items. The most concerning item was the unsatisfactory laying of tiles on both the walls and floor. Water was visibly pooling in certain areas, tiles were discolored and many of the floor tiles had sharp edges. Village Administrator Ralph Suozzi sent a letter to the contractor that, in part, advised that Village officials were not accepting the job and that all the tiles must be removed and replaced.

BALANCING THE VILLAGE’S WATER PRESSURE

A variable speed pressure control modification drive will be installed at Well No. 12B to better balance the pressure in the system since the Village’s water tank came offline. “These variable speed drives will give us better control of the system and enable us to vary the speed of the booster pump motor in order to stabilize the pressure better in the water system throughout the Village,” Superintendent of Public Works Joseph DiFrancisco said. The current system is antiquated and non-functioning.

IDENTITY THEFT

Identity theft is a crime when an individual fraudulently steals you personal information, including your name, address and Social Security number, and uses it to apply for credit, file taxes or get different types of services.

While Garden City Police were working on an unrelated case, Detective Kevin Madden discovered other information which prompted a new investigation that resulted in more than 30 felony charges. Commissioner Ken Jackson praised the work of Detective Madden, Detective Sgt. William Grimes and Detective Robert Rothermel. A 40-year-old man and 33-year-old woman, both from Brooklyn, were arrested for numerous cases of identity theft where they attained the personal information of residents, obtained false driver’s licenses using their information and then opened up credit cards used to make fraudulent purchases at various stores across Long Island. The male subject was charged with seven counts of identity theft, seven counts of larceny and one count of forgery. The female subject was charged with eight counts of possession of forged instruments as well as one count each of larceny, forgery and identity theft. On April 15, Detectives arrested a third subject in the case, a 28-year-old woman from Queens, and charged her with two counts of identity theft, one count of larceny and one count of forgery.

The investigation is ongoing and more charges are pending.

Garden City Police want to ensure that everyone in the Village is aware of this growing threat and how to handle it. Here are some helpful tips to avoid becoming a victim:

- Don't respond to unsolicited requests for personal information by phone, mail or online.
- Collect your mail promptly - ask the post office to hold your mail when going away for more than a couple of days.
- Create very complicated logins, passwords and PIN numbers for your accounts so that identity theft thieves cannot easily guess them.
- Review your reports - make note of any account or transactions you don't recognize (this will help you report the theft to the FTC and the Police).
- Secure your Social Security Number - never carry it in your wallet or write it on your checks. Only give out your SSN when absolutely necessary.

If you do become a victim, notify your credit card companies and banks immediately. Call the Fraud Department and ask them to close or freeze your accounts so that no one can add new changes unless you agree. Place a "Fraud Alert" with one of the credit bureaus in order to get a FREE credit report. Report the incident(s) to the FTC by visiting www.identitytheft.gov and include as many details as possible. Here are important numbers and websites to remember:

- Experian.com/fraudalert 1-888-397-3742
- TransUnion.com/fraud 1-800-680-7289
- Equifax.com/CreditReportAssistance 1-888-766-0008
- annualcreditreport.com 1-877-322-8228
- Garden City Police: 465-4100

MAYOR, BOARD PROCLAIM MAY 25 "GARDEN CITY DAY"

Mayor Theresa Trouvé and the Board of Trustees adopted a resolution recognizing the year 2019 as the "year of celebration for the Garden City Centennial and Sesquicentennial" and proclaimed May 25, 2019 as "Garden City Day" in the Village. The proclamation will be framed and hung inside Village Hall.

The Village is celebrating two momentous occasions - the 150th anniversary of Alexander T. Stewart's land purchase and the 100th anniversary of the Community Agreement. As the official kick-off, the Village is hosting "Garden City Day" on Saturday, May 25, 2019 (rain date May 26) on the St. Paul's fields. The family event is open to all Village residents and will include live music, dancing, children's activities and food fare brought to you by various food trucks. The St. Paul's Field House will also showcase some fascinating examples of Village history. The night will be topped off with a fireworks display. Other events will take place throughout the Village in the months following the celebration, including a September Gala hosted by the Historical Society and an interfaith Mass October 20, 2019 at the Cathedral of the Incarnation beginning at 3:00 p.m. Even the Friday Night Promenades will host a special "Salute to Garden City" night. New York State will recognize the Village with a resolution, the Village's milestones will be put into the Congressional record and Nassau County will light the Dome in Mineola in the Village's colors in October.

“It is my good fortune to begin my term of office as Mayor of our historied Village in a year that holds two highly notable anniversaries—the history of our Village from its earliest moments, i.e., the sesquicentennial, and the other, the one hundred years dating from the eve of an era frequently labeled The Roaring Twenties. It gives our Village the opportunity to glance back at an extraordinary past—an Irish immigrant with a wildly imaginative bent to him and an aviator who dared to fly the Atlantic solo and non-stop to Paris, to the strong, level-headed, goal-oriented community we are today,” Mayor Trouvé said.

CONCRETE WORK

This week, Valente Contracting began concrete restoration work at the intersection of Saint James Street South and Clinton Road at the Rainbow Place War Memorial. Temporary road closures on Rainbow Place may occur to allow work to be done. The road will be accessible to emergency vehicles. Valente Contracting also began work on Eleventh Street from Carteret Place to Cherry Valley Avenue.