

July 24, 2019

THE MAYOR'S UPDATE

Mayor@gardencityny.net

The Board of Trustees and staff continue to work on numerous projects, including the Nassau Boulevard railroad station parking lot, upgrades to the Garden City Pool, rehabilitation of Village water wells, a stabilization 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.

RULES AND PROCEDURES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Every governmental body has the fundamental right to adopt its own rules of procedure, subject to such limitations as may be imposed upon it by the controlling laws of a higher authority. The Board of Trustees has the authority and the responsibility to establish policies for the management of the affairs of the Village. The Board shall take all measures and do all acts for the good of government of the Village, its management and business, the protection of its property, the safety, health, comfort and general welfare of its inhabitants, the preservation of peace and good order and for such other purposes as are consistent with the powers delegated to the Board by the Village law. As a convenience to members of the Board of Trustees and any interested Village residents, the procedural rules have been posted to the Village website for ease of reference. Visit www.gardencityny.net and click the "Rules and Procedures of the Board of Trustees" tab from the drop-down menu under "Board of Trustees" at the top of the homepage.

POOL MEMBERSHIPS

As of July 24, we are well ahead of last year's numbers. Total memberships to date are at 2,542, while at this time last year, we had 2,381 memberships. The reduction in membership fees certainly played a large part in this increase, but so did the summery hot weather; since July 1 alone we have sold 233 memberships! Last year, during the same period, we sold only 110 memberships.

While overall Pool revenue trail full year budget projections, the numbers are encouraging especially with seven weeks left to go in the Pool season. Total revenue includes not just membership revenue, but guest fees, sales of Good Humor, movie admissions, sale of merchandise, party rentals, sponsorships and more.

As a reminder, this year's membership rates have been reduced by 18 percent across ALL categories. Residents can save \$110 for a family pass to the Pool this season, for example. Enjoy more events this year too, including Fun and Games Night on Saturday, July 27th, Halloween Night on Tuesday, July 30th and Epic 80s Day on Saturday, August 24th. Details can be found in your Pool Brochure, which was mailed to every household, or by visiting www.gardencityrecreation.org. Look for Goggles, our Pool mascot, who is around town spreading the good news about reduced rates this season. Be sure to stop and say hello!

SEARCH FOR NEW RECREATION COMMISSIONER

Kevin Ocker, longtime chairman of the Board of Commissioners of Cultural and Recreational Affairs, resigned in May. The search for his replacement continues as the Village received more than 122 resumes from candidates around the country. According to Village Administrator Ralph Suozzi, the list was narrowed down to 45 candidates. Interviews were conducted last week with the “best-fitting” candidates and Mr. Suozzi expects a final field of candidates will be presented to the Board of Trustees post-Labor Day. The Board of Trustees will be participating in the final interviews and selection process.

STATE GRANTS TO HELP COMBAT EMERGING CONTAMINANTS

To help further combat the threat of emerging contaminants in the Village’s water system, including PFOA, PFOS and 1,4-dioxane, the Village applied for a New York State grant. The first round of recipients of grants for water treatment was recently announced. The State has made \$350 million available in this program. The State Environmental Facilities Corporation, in collaboration with the State Department of Health, has awarded \$27 million in this first round, divided between nine Long Island water districts including the nearby Garden City Park, Franklin Square and West Hempstead Water Districts. Applicants may receive funding for up to 60 percent of net eligible project costs, or \$3 million, whichever is less. Garden City was not approved as part of this first group of recipients. “We will continue to inquire about our eligibility for the grant and continue to apply when they become available,” Public Works Superintendent Joseph DiFrancisco said.

PEDESTRIAN SAFETY

Pedestrian safety is a priority for the Garden City Police Department. Following four safe pedestrian details on Seventh Street this month, 13 motorists were cited for failing to yield to pedestrians attempting to cross at the crosswalks while one was cited for an illegal U-turn and another for parking in a crosswalk. One driver was charged with driving with a suspended license.

LAND SURVEYS TO DETERMINE BOUNDARIES

The Board of Trustees has engaged the professional services of Carman-Dunne, P.C. Consulting Engineers and Surveyors to survey the boundaries of 26 lots from New Hyde Park Road to Brompton Road. Carman-Dunne will assist the Village with analyzing LIRR Third Track surveys and LIRR property right-of-way boundaries and provide such analysis to the Village during the course of the LIRR Third Track Project within the boundaries of the Village. The cost, \$39,500, will be submitted to the Third Track Community Reimbursement Fund, which was set up by the LIRR for reimbursement to local communities impacted by the expansion project.

SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

Once again, compliments are due to the Recreation Department for arranging the 2019 season's outstanding Concert Series at the Village Gazebo, located on the Village Green at the corner of Stewart and Hilton Avenues. The concert schedule kicks off this week. Here’s the lineup:

- July 25: Shirley Alston Reeves - original lead singer of the Shirelles who had hits such as “Soldier Boy,” “Will You Love Me Tomorrow” and “Mama Said”
- August 1: The Devotions - Songs from the 50s and 60s
- August 8: Manhattan Skyline - Contemporary mix of music from the 60s through the 80s

The program will begin at 7:15 p.m. Admission is free. Please bring your lawn chair or blanket and enjoy a very pleasant evening. Concerts are held rain or shine. In the event of inclement weather, the concert will be held at the Cultural and Performing Arts Center in Cluett Hall at St. Paul’s. Please call the Recreation Office at 465-4075 if you have any questions pertaining to the concert.

FRIDAY NIGHT PROMENADES

Enjoy hospitality Garden City style every week this summer as the Village of Garden City and the Garden City Chamber of Commerce once again present “Friday Night Promenades” on Seventh Street. Festivities kick off at 6 p.m. Seventh Street is closed to all vehicular traffic and parking beginning at 5:45 p.m. Enjoy musical entertainment and plenty of activities for the kids, including balloon art and face painting. Tables and chairs will be set up in the street for additional seating and outdoor dining along Seventh Street.

Promenade dates (and themes) are as follows:

- July 26: Christmas in July
- August 2: Back to the 80’s
- August 9: Motown
- August 16: Mardi Gras
- August 23: Frank Sinatra
- August 30: Peace Love & Music
- September 6: St. Patrick’s Day
- September 13: The Big Pineapple Circus