

September 18, 2019

THE MAYOR'S UPDATE

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The Board of Trustees and staff continue to work on numerous projects, including a pilot-testing program at the Clinton Road water well site, rehabilitation of the St. Paul's comfort station, the stabilization plan for the former St. Paul's School, sewer main repairs 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.

PASSING A STOPPED SCHOOL BUS IS ILLEGAL

Motorists are reminded that while approaching a school bus either from the front or behind and its yellow lights are flashing, the bus is preparing to stop. It is illegal - and very dangerous - to pass a stopped school bus when the large red lights located on the top of the bus are flashing. These flashing lights mean the bus is either picking up or discharging students.

If the bus's red lights are flashing, **YOU MUST STOP** and remain stopped until red warning lights are off. This includes school buses that are on the opposite sides of divided highways, on multiple lane roadways, in parking lots and on school grounds.

The first conviction for a person illegally passing a school bus carries a fine of \$250 to \$400, 5 points on your license and/or 30 days in jail. The second conviction, both of which were committed within a period of three years, carries a fine of \$600 to \$750, 5 points on your license and/or 180 days in jail. The third conviction or subsequent convictions, all of which were committed within a period of three years, carries a fine of \$750 to \$1,000, 5 points on your license and/or 180 days in jail.

Garden City Police Officers have been assigned to monitor bus routes and bus stop locations in an effort to detect and enforce passed bus stop violations.

LIBRARY BATHROOM RENOVATION

Renovation of the bathrooms on the first floor of the Village Library will begin on Sunday, September 22. The project will include creation of a handicap accessible bathroom along with renovations to the Children's bathroom. The work is expected to take approximately three weeks to complete. During construction the restrooms will not be available, but the bathrooms on the lower levels will be available.

WATER TOWER UPDATE

Crews will begin prepping and mobilizing the water tower site for the pouring of foundation, which will commence next week.

Demolition of the water tower structure was completed back in May. New York State Department of Environmental Conservation-required soil remediation then took place. The ground has been tested and deemed cleared of any contaminants.

As a reminder, throughout this process the sidewalk in front of the tower on Old Country Road is closed and will remain closed for the duration of the project, which is expected to take approximately 12-14 months to complete. During the duration of the project you might periodically experience traffic on Old Country Road due to the entrance and exit of construction vehicles; continue to exercise caution while driving in the area. If you have any questions or concerns about this project, please contact the Department of Public Works at 516-465-4003.

EMERGING CONTAMINANTS

We have completed our first pilot-testing program at the Clinton Road water well site. The pilot tests are required by the Health Department before we can install the new filtration system. The pilot testing was completed the week of September 6. We are awaiting lab results and Health Department review before we can proceed. The next pilot program is scheduled for the end of September. “The Village is moving forward as quickly as possible with projects at all of our wells sites that need treatment. We are making every effort we can in order to meet the limits New York State is imposing and the deadlines it’s setting,” Public Works Superintendent Joseph DiFrancisco said.

SEWER MAIN REPAIR

The process of camera inspecting the sewer main on Whitehall Blvd. is complete. This is the first step in lining the main to protect it from any further breaks, according to Public Works Superintendent Joseph DiFrancisco. This project entails inspecting the line to uncover any problems and addressing those problems by lining the inside of the main. “This is a much more cost effective method of preventing further collapses and extending the life of the main by treating the line from the inside rather than having to dig up the road to repair,” he said. Unfortunately, the camera inspection noted two additional breaks, which were repaired. In addition, crews discovered an additional collapse on Cambridge Avenue, near Kilburn Road, which was also repaired.

ROOF REPAIRS

Two roof replacement projects - which include four roofs from the Villages Capital Project Plan, are in progress, according to Public Works Superintendent Joseph DiFrancisco. Two roofs at the Clinton Road water well site and two roofs at the Village DPW Yard are all being replaced.

PROPERTY SURVEY ALONG LIRR THIRD TRACK

The Board of Trustees engaged the professional services of Carman-Dunne, P.C. Consulting Engineers and Surveyors during the summer to survey the boundaries of 26

lots from New Hyde Park Road to Brompton Road. The full survey can be viewed on the Village website, www.gardencityny.net, under the “LIRR 3rd Track” tab on the left side of the home page. Public Works Superintendent Joseph DiFrancisco has confirmed that the Third Track Community Reimbursement Fund, which was set up by the LIRR for reimbursement to local communities impacted by the expansion project, reimbursed the Village for the cost of the work (\$39,500).

ST. PAUL’S WORK SESSION ON STABILIZATION

The September 12 special meeting of the Board of Trustees included a work session to discuss the contents of the consultants’ report concerning the current condition of the St Paul's buildings and potential stabilization costs.

In attendance were Carlos J. Cardoso, AIA, partner, director of construction administration at Beyer Blinder Belle Architects & Planners, LLP, who gave a short introduction and introduced the following consultants who each gave a short presentation and answered Trustees’ questions: Courtney Riley, LEED, AP BD+C, director of land development for VHB; Stephen Szycher, P.E., LEED AP, senior principal with Thornton Tomasetti; Charles Van Winckle, senior associate, Thornton Tomasetti; Michelle Dionisio, associate, Thornton Tomasetti; and Walter P. Beal, project executive with CNY Group.

Thornton Tomasetti provided the [Building Envelope and Structural Assessment Report](#), which, in part, states “breaches in the building envelope, leading to years of environmental exposure, have allowed water damage to compromise the building structure by causing deterioration of load bearing elements. This event has already resulted in some localized failure of the structure. Ongoing neglect to repair the building envelope will eventually lead to complete failures and compounding structural issues such as collapses, at which point repairs will be much more costly and complicated. TT is recommending addressing envelope failures and compromises immediately to make the building water-tight.”

VHB provided the [Phase 1 Environmental Site Assessment \(ESA\)](#), which identified several business environmental risks, including the presence/storage of various hazardous materials (paints, varnishes, cleaning agents, solvents, mastics and flashing cements), the presence of an out-of-service fuel oil underground storage tank, potential asbestos containing materials, potential lead-based paint, potential polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), water damage and potential mold/mildew, and bird guano.

VHB provided the [Cultural Resources Due Diligence Memo](#), which pertains to the State Historic Preservation Office and St. Paul’s listing on the historic register. In part the memo states that the concept design “as proposed in July 2018 would be considered to have an adverse impact on the building, however it would not cause the building to be delisted. If State or Federal permits, approvals, or funding are sought for the project, then a mitigation strategy will have to be built into the proposed project as it moves forward to mitigate the adverse impact.”

VHB also piloted the [drone imaging](#). An FAA-approved drone flight took place on May 31, 2019 in order to understand current building conditions. The videos, which can be downloaded from the Village website, highlight various roofs and the extensive vegetation compromising the north elevations.

CNY created the [Budget Study for Immediate Action Plan](#). The budget is based on Priority 1 - Immediate Action Plan as delineated in the Building Envelope and Structural Condition Assessment Report prepared by Thornton Tomasetti dated July 19, 2019. This study does not include any costs for work associated with Priority 2 - Early Action nor Priority 3 – Maintenance. The intent of this phase is limited to sealing up the building from the elements to prevent further deterioration. Further, this Budget Study is based on start of work beginning in the 4th quarter of 2019. It is expected to take three months from commencement to seal the building.

The reports can be viewed in their entirety on the Village website, www.gardencityny.net, along with close-up drone videos and pictures of the Main Building. Click on the “St. Paul’s” tab on the left side of the homepage.

FALL STREET FAIR AND HOMECOMING

This Saturday, September 21st is the 40th Annual Fall Street Fair and Homecoming Parade. Festivities will take place on Seventh Street from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Attractions include pony rides, trackless train, bouncy castle, face painters, balloon artists, vendors, performances by the Bells, Broadway Bound Dancers and much, much more! The Homecoming parade kicks off at 1:00 p.m.