

December 18, 2019

### **THE MAYOR'S UPDATE**

Mayor@gardencityny.net

The Board of Trustees and staff continue to work on numerous projects, including preparation of the 2020/21 Village budget, treatment at Village water wells, the stabilization plan for the former St. Paul's School 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](http://www.gardencityny.net).

### **SEVENTH STREET SAFETY ISSUES**

During a work session at the December 12 Board meeting, Trustees discussed safety issues on Seventh Street, particularly motorists that oftentimes fail to yield to pedestrians in the three crosswalks.

Suggestions were discussed to make the experience safer for pedestrians, such as increasing signage in both directions or placing flashing Stop signs at the crosswalks like the one installed in front of the senior center on Golf Club Lane. Another area of concern is the safety of those enjoying al fresco dining, especially at Leo's and the French Workshop at the east end of Seventh Street as there is no buffer between patrons and an out of control vehicle. It was suggested that the placement of large planters could help. The Board requested Superintendent of Public Works Joseph DiFrancisco research other options and present them at the next Traffic Commission meeting.

Pedestrian safety is also a priority for the Garden City Police Department, which conducts safe pedestrian details on the busy street. As a result, 58 motorists have been cited for failing to yield to pedestrians and for making illegal U-turns.

### **VILLAGE SAVINGS ON ELECTRIC BILLS**

The Village has achieved tremendous savings with its electric bills in recent years. Since the 2014-15 Fiscal Year, the Village's electric bill has decreased from \$1,552,823 to \$1,330,293, a \$225,000 savings.

This 14.3 percent drop can mostly be attributed to the Village's rigorous LED street light conversion project. According to Superintendent of Public Works Joseph DiFrancisco, approximately eight percent of street lights still need to be converted, including Franklin Avenue and Nassau Boulevard and a portion of the west end of Stewart Avenue. Further, Mr. DiFrancisco is methodically working his way through every building to replace lighting in each Department. In fact, the lights in the Village Hall Board Room were converted to LED just last week. Last year, interior lighting at the Village Yard was replaced and this year the exterior will be replaced. The interior lighting at the Water Works building was just completed as well. The building's exterior lighting is next to be converted.

Village Administrator Ralph Suozzi added that sensors are being placed in rooms where there's still incandescent lighting. This is yet another way the Village is conserving power.

### **ONE MINUTE ON THE HOUSE FLOOR**

Congresswoman Kathleen Rice commemorated the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Garden City's founding on the House floor December 12, 2019. "Garden City is a wonderful and historic community that welcomed my family with open arms," Congresswoman Rice tweeted.

As the official kick-off, the Village hosted a Centennial and Sesquicentennial celebration in May on the St. Paul's fields. The family event included live music, dancing, children's activities and food fare brought to you by various food trucks. The St. Paul's Fields also showcased some fascinating examples of Village history. The night was topped off with a fireworks display. In September a flag raising ceremony was held at the Town of Hempstead Building. Then, in October, Nassau County lit the Dome in Mineola in the Village's colors to mark another moment this year that recognized two significant occasions in Garden City's rich history – the 150th anniversary of Alexander T. Stewart's land purchase and the 100th anniversary of Garden City's Community Agreement. To view the full video of Congresswoman Rice, click here:

<https://twitter.com/RepKathleenRice/status/1205244759721349120?s=20>

### **PSEG WESTERN NASSAU TRANSMISSION PROJECT**

A two-week look ahead at the PSEG Long Island Western Nassau Transmission Project in Garden City includes storage of materials and equipment at the 550 Stewart Avenue marshalling yard. The timeframe of work includes an 8:00 a.m. start time on weekdays and a 9:00 a.m. start time on weekends. There are no significant travel impacts associated with this work.

In order to meet the needs of mandatory federal regulations for reliability, PSEG Long Island needs to construct a new, 138 kilovolt underground transmission line between two existing substations in Uniondale and Lynbrook. The new line will make the system more resilient and will improve redundancy, which is vital to the long-term reliability of the energy grid, benefitting customers. The line must be installed by 2020.

### **FIRE DEPARTMENT CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY**

The Garden City Fire Department will install temporary banners on 30 light poles along Franklin Avenue in celebration of its 100th anniversary celebration on June 13, 2020. These banners will promote their Centennial celebration of June 13, 2020. The banners will be on display from January 2020 until July 2020.

The Department's rich heritage is rooted with the Independent Volunteer fire companies that began to form in the Village in 1899 after a devastating fire at the Garden City Hotel.

Then in 1920, in order to be more organized and bring these independent companies together, 31 local residents became “charter” members of the Garden City Fire Department, Inc. formally organizing the volunteer fire department. Soon after, the Department was integrated into the Village government. Since 1920, hundreds of resident men and women have proudly served in the ranks.

### **2018-19 ANNUAL REPORT**

The eighty-sixth published Annual Report, covering the 2018-2019 fiscal year (June 1, 2018 through May 31, 2019), is now posted on the Village website, [www.gardencityny.net](http://www.gardencityny.net), under the “Administration and Organization” tab on the left side of the homepage. It highlights the operations of the municipal government of Garden City. The purpose of the Annual Report is to keep the residents of Garden City informed on the activities of the past year. This is vital in the process of interactive government.

### **HOLIDAY SANITATION COLLECTION SCHEDULE**

There will be NO collection on Wednesday, December 25, Christmas Day. See below for revised schedule:

#### **Garbage Collection:**

Western half – Monday and Friday

Eastern half – Tuesday and Saturday

#### **Rubbish Collection:**

Entire Village – Thursday, December 26, 2019

#### **Recycling Collection:**

Rescheduled to Saturday, December 28, 2019

### **LEAF COLLECTION**

The Street Department will be running through the entire Village to pick up any leaves that remain. This will continue through next week, until all leaf piles have been collected.