

January 29, 2020

MAYOR'S UPDATE

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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.

PEDESTRIAN SAFETY ON SEVENTH STREET

A committee comprised of Executive staff, Supervisors, Police, Engineering and the Street Department recently met to discuss safety improvements for pedestrians on Seventh Street. The Committee came up with a number of different scenarios and is prepared to make recommendations to the Board of Trustees on how to proceed with not only bollards but also crosswalks, signage and lighting. Superintendent of Public Works Joseph DiFrancisco said these recommendations would be made to the Board of Trustees at the February 6, 2020 meeting, which begins at 8:00 p.m. in the Village Hall Board Room.

BUSY START TO 2020 FOR FIRE DEPARTMENT

During the 2019 calendar year, the Garden City Fire Department responded to 1,137 calls for assistance. Chief Thomas Stryko thanks members of the Department for their dedicated and faithful service. Mayor Theresa Trouvé added, "I am proud of our firefighters, and I know that we all are, for their complete dedication to the challenging tasks that they face on a daily basis. We are fortunate to have them."

The year 2020 is keeping members just as busy, as the Department has already responded to several mutual aid calls in neighboring towns and auto accidents in the Village.

On January 2, the Department assisted the Mineola Volunteer Fire Department at the scene of a house fire. Then, on January 9, members responded to an auto accident with an overturn on Cathedral Avenue. Under the direction of Chief Moody and Captain Taunton, the crew stabilized the vehicle using the Res-Q-Jack stabilization system and extricated one victim using Holmatro rescue tools and extrication equipment. One victim was taken to NYU Winthrop Hospital with non-life threatening injuries.

On Saturday, January 11, the Department assisted the Franklin Square Munson Fire Department at the scene of a house fire. Later that same day, the Department was alerted for a motor vehicle accident at the intersection of Franklin and Stewart avenues. On January 13, members responded to another motor vehicle accident at Washington Avenue and Meadow Street. Members used the Res-Q-Jack stabilization system and Holmatro rescue tools and extrication equipment to stabilize and extricate the trapped victim.

On January 12, the Department responded to another motor vehicle accident in which a car drove into a home in the Eastern section of the Village, causing significant damage to the home.

Residents interested in joining the fire department can email membership@gcfdny.com or visit www.gcfdny.com/recruitment for more information.

PUBLIC HEARING: WATER RESTRICTIONS

The Board will hold a public hearing on February 6, 2020 beginning at 8:00 p.m. in the Village Hall Board Room on a proposed Local Law to amend Chapter 197, Article II (Water Conservation) of the Village Code so as to enable the Superintendent of Public Works to declare a “water shortage” and further restrict water usage in Garden City.

This hearing was rescheduled from January 9, 2020 due to an inadvertent emailing error. The Village Clerk was sent an earlier version of the proposed law, which was subsequently amended. Due to posting requirements for local laws, it is necessary to now post the correct version and hold a hearing on the proper draft.

PUBLIC HEARING: CODE OF ETHICS

The Board will hold a public hearing on February 6, 2020 beginning at 8:00 p.m. in the Village Hall Board Room on a proposed Local Law to repeal Chapter 12 of the Village Code in order to amend the Code of Ethics. Trustees asked the Board of Ethics to update the Code, which began with a “state” model. The Code has been tweaked to better serve the Village. Trustees thanked Board of Ethics members Richard Silver, Valerie Rothschild and Justice Allen Mathers for their input.

PUBLIC HEARING: OVERNIGHT PARKING PERMITS

The Board will hold a public hearing on February 6, 2020 beginning at 8:00 p.m. in the Village Hall Board Room on a proposed Local Law to amend overnight parking permit limitations. This proposed Local Law will directly authorize the Police Commissioner, as chairman of the Board of Police Commissioners, to establish rules and regulations governing overnight parking permits and limiting how long such permits can exist.

NEW HYDE PARK ROAD GRADE CROSSING ELIMINATION

The closure of New Hyde Park Road, from Plaza Avenue to 4th Avenue, is anticipated to begin on February 3, 2020. The road closure is expected to last approximately seven months. The reconstructed roadway will feature a new, five-lane underpass with pedestrian sidewalks on the east and west sides of the road and a dedicated left-turn lane onto Clinch Avenue. After extensive traffic impact studies, and with input from local officials, the LIRR designed a vehicular detour plan to make navigating around the closure as easy as possible. Visit our website, www.gardencityny.net, and click on the

“LIRR 3rd Track Information” tab in the left side menu of the homepage.

2020/21 BUDGET MEETINGS

The Board of Trustees has set the following dates for 2020/21 budget meetings. The meetings will take place in the Village Hall Board Room, 7:30 to 9:30 p.m., unless otherwise noted:

- Work Session 1 – March 10, 2020
- Work Session 2 – March 12, 2020
- Work Session 3 – March 19, 2020 (6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. to accommodate Board meeting)
- Work Session 4 – March 26, 2020