

March 11, 2020

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, the stabilization plan for the former St. Paul's School, proposed upgrades to Fire Station No. 2 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.

PROPOSED 2020-21 VILLAGE BUDGET

The Village kicked off budget work sessions Tuesday, March 10, 2020 with an overview of the tentative operating budget for Fiscal Year 2020-21 by Village Treasurer Irene Woo. Department Heads presented their proposed capital projects plan for Fiscal Years 2021-2025. In light of the late hour (the March 10 budget session ended at 11:00 p.m.), Joseph DiFrancisco will present his operating budgets for the Department of Public Works and the Water Fund at the Thursday, March 12 budget meeting.

The 2020-21 proposed budget totals \$66.146 million. The proposed budget is again tax cap compliant in that the Village did not exceed the 2.28 percent Tax Levy Limit. In fact, over the last five years, the actual property tax levy increase was equal to or less than the Inflation Factor (one component of the Tax Levy Limit).

Visit www.gardencityny.net to view the 2020-2021 Tentative Budget. Remaining budget sessions are scheduled to take place in the Village Hall Board Room on the following dates:

Budget Work Session #2

Thursday, March 12, 2020

7:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.

- Library
- Fire
- Recreation, Pool and Tennis
- DPW & Water

Budget Work Session #3

Thursday, March 19, 2020

6:30 p.m. – 8:15 p.m. (To accommodate the Board of Trustees meeting)

- Administration
- Finance/Other
- Building
- Police

Final Budget Work Session

Thursday, March 26, 2020

7:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.

- Presentation of Changes/Final Budget

Organizational Meeting

Monday, April 6, 2020

8:00 p.m.

- Adoption of Budget

STABILIZING ST. PAUL'S

Westar Construction Group, Inc., of Syosset, will perform stabilization work at St. Paul's for a total cost of \$708,000. The project includes sealing the roof and stabilizing it from further damage and other structural repairs, including shoring up floor joists, repairs to the brick masonry, terra cotta and brownstone, and repairing drainage in order to control the flow of storm water. The cost of this bid is \$85,000 over the estimate. However, additional funding is available in the St. Paul's Recreation Facility Capital Account. The boarding of broken windows began last week. Talty Construction Inc. is addressing approximately 60 windows, according to Public Works Superintendent Joseph DiFrancisco.

VILLAGE SEEKS RESIDENTS FOR BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

The Village depends upon its residents to function and perform many valuable services. We have several openings with respect to Boards and Commissions that we need your help filling. Please visit our website, www.gardencityny.net, to review the nature of each Board or Commission. Selections will be made in Spring 2020 for all positions, except for the Library Board.

The four Property Owners' Associations help us identify candidates and positions are allocated among residents from the four sections of the Village, with additional positions at large, which are recommended by the Joint Conference Committee. If you are interested, please follow this procedure:

- a. Contact your Property Owners' Association representative for your section of the Village or contact Village Clerk Karen Altman at kaltman@gardencityny.net
- b. Submit a resume or similar information describing your interest and qualifications for a particular Board or Commission
- c. Provide the information by March 15

Below is a list of the various Boards and Commissions that have members with expiring terms in April 2020 and December 2020. Existing members are of course welcome to submit their names for continued service.

Planning Commission

There are three at-large seats open for a term beginning in April 2020. This is a three-year term.

Environmental Advisory Board

There is one seat from the West and one seat from Central open for a term beginning in April 2020. This is a four-year term.

Architectural Design Review Board

There are two at-large seats and one seat from the East (which expired in April 2019) open for a term beginning in April 2020. This is a three-year term.

Zoning Board of Appeals

There is one at-large seat open for a term beginning in April 2020. This is a five-year term.

Board of Commissioners of Cultural and Recreational Affairs

There is one at-large seat and one seat from Central open for a term beginning in April 2020. This is a four-year term.

Board of Library Trustees

There is one seat from Estates open for a term beginning January 1, 2021. This is a five-year term.

VILLAGE ELECTION - WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18

The annual Village Election will be held on Wednesday, March 18, 2020 from 12 Noon until 9:00 p.m. at Village Hall, 351 Stewart Avenue. Registered Village residents will be voting for the following candidates:

TITLE OF OFFICE	TERM OF OFFICE	NAME OF OF NOMINEES
Trustee	2 Years	Robert A. Bolebruch
Trustee	2 Years	John M. Delany
Trustee	2 Years	Colleen E. Foley
Trustee	2 Years	Louis M. Minuto

ABSENTEE BALLOTS

Absentee Ballot applications to be used in conjunction with the General Village Election on March 18, 2020 are available at Village Hall, 351 Stewart Avenue. The Village Clerk had to receive applications by March 10, 2020 if the ballot was to be mailed. For personal application, the deadline is March 16, 2020.

WESTERN NASSAU TRANSMISSION PROJECT

The Western Nassau Transmission Project consists of the construction, operation and maintenance of a proposed new 138 kilovolt underground transmission line primarily within the public roadway rights-of-way for a total distance of approximately seven miles between the East Garden City substation (located in Uniondale) and the Valley Stream substation (located in Lynbrook).

The project is expected to reinforce LIPA's electric transmission system in the southwest Nassau area and ensure continued reliable service. The underground transmission line will be located wholly within the Town of Hempstead and will traverse the Villages of Garden City, Malverne and Lynbrook, and will be constructed primarily underground. The two-week construction schedule entails:

- Trenching continues between splice vaults Nos. 16 and 15, which are located on Rockaway Avenue in Garden City and Westminster Road in West Hempstead. This is from approximately Third Street in Garden City to south of 1st Street in West Hempstead. Trenching is occurring primarily in the southbound lane. Single lane closures should be expected during this work. Work is dependent on the weather. Call 516-780-0665, email info@westernnassautransmission.com or visit www.westernnassautransmission.com for more information.

COVID-19

I know you are concerned about novel coronavirus (COVID-19) and the risk this poses to you, your family and our community. New York State Health Commissioner Dr. Howard Zucker, a longtime practicing physician, sent a letter to local governments with an assurance that the risk from this virus to New Yorkers remains low. People most at risk are those who have traveled internationally in the past 14 days or have been in close contact with an international traveler in the same time frame. We can be successful in combating the spread of the virus by taking small steps to help contain it. Here in the Village, hand sanitizers have been placed in all Village buildings, including every neighborhood park. However, hand washing for at least 20 seconds remains the most effective method in defending against the spread of germs.

Cold and flu viruses are much more prevalent in New York right now. Community members are far more likely to contract one of these viruses than COVID-19. Following the steps below will help to stop the spread of all of these viruses. Please remember to:

- Wash hands with soap and water, and often.
- Avoid touching eyes, nose or mouth with unwashed hands, especially before eating
- Avoid contact with sick people.
- Stay home if they feel sick, or are caring for a sick housemate.

What can residents do to prepare if the virus becomes prevalent in our state? Gather and update home preparedness kits. This kit would ideally contain a thermometer, decongestants, anti-inflammatory drugs and acetaminophen for fevers. The Department of Health has fielded numerous calls from individuals inquiring about the use of facemasks. CDC does not recommend the use of facemasks or N95 respirators among the general public. We need to preserve the use of masks and other personal protective equipment for health care workers and individuals who may be ill. Take the important steps included above and stay home when you feel ill, avoid contact people who are ill,

avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth with unwashed hands, and wash your hands often with soap and water.

Residents can access up-to-date information on the Department of Health's website: www.health.ny.gov/coronavirus. New Yorkers can also call the Department of Health's hotline at 1-888-364-3065. You can also find reliable information and updates about the virus on the website and social media platforms of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: www.cdc.gov/COVID19.