

March 18, 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, 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.

VILLAGE HALL CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC

Due to precautionary measures in relation to the Coronavirus pandemic, Village Hall is closed to the public through March 31, 2020. Payments can be made online, through the Village website at www.gardencityny.net or placed in the "letter" drop slot to the right of the front door to Village Hall, 351 Stewart Avenue. In addition, applications and other forms can also be placed in this slot. If your items do not fit in this slot, please bring them to the Police Department, 349 Stewart Avenue, for their attention.

For further assistance, please call the Village Clerk at 465-4051 or visit the Village website at www.gardencityny.net for more information and additional updates. This information is subject to change as things continue to evolve. Any subsequent changes will be communicated. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation during this unprecedented time.

VILLAGE ELECTION RESCHEDULED

The Village Election originally scheduled for Wednesday, March 18, 2020 has been canceled. It will be held on Tuesday, April 28, 2020.

REC PROGRAMS SUSPENDED, INDOOR FACILITIES CLOSED

Garden City Department of Recreation and Parks programs remain suspended and all indoor facilities closed, including the Senior Center, until further notice. The Parks will be open each day in accordance with hours of operation for this time of year. However, please adhere to the CDC and Department of Health recommendations regarding social interactions and distancing with one another: avoid close contact, wash your hands thoroughly and frequently; stay at home if you feel sick; and avoid hand shaking.

LIBRARY CLOSED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

Due to the evolving COVID-19 coronavirus pandemic, and Nassau County Executive Laura Curran's directive to close all public and private K-12 schools in Nassau County, the Garden City Public Library is closed to the public until further notice. Due dates will be extended and all fines suspended during this time.

COURT SESSIONS CANCELED

As the result of the declaration of a Health Emergency by the President, Governor, and Nassau and Suffolk County Executives, all Village Court sessions have been canceled, re-opening April 13, 2020 subject to revision (shortening or extension) as circumstances warrant. In addition, Village Justice Court is closed. All matters will be given adjourned dates with no penalty imposed. Payments for Parking Violations can be made online via the Justice Court tab

<https://www.gardencityny.net/index.asp?Type=NONE&SEC={861340DE-93A3-47DB-8494-ACD036FC720D}>, in addition to being dropped off. If you have any questions, can call Justice Court at 465-4085.

NASSAU BOULEVARD BRICK WORK

The Village is considering a renovation of the Nassau Boulevard railroad station parking lot this year. With additional demands being placed on the station due to the third track project, and with continued deterioration of the bricks, the Village feels the station parking lot and retaining walls need to be repaired and/or replaced.

The project is expected to go out for public bid this week, according to Public Works Superintendent Joseph DiFrancisco. “The biggest challenge that’s faced with this work is the condition of the existing bricks. With any project that is undertaken within this parking field, every effort will be made to retain and reuse as many original bricks as possible, but until the job is awarded and crews can be brought in to evaluate their condition we won’t know how much can be retained,” he said. “Specifications for the job will reflect this and it will contain different options based off of the amount of bricks that can be reused.”

The bricks are original to the station, which was built in 1907, according to Village Historian William Bellmer. The only changes that have been made are the elimination of a center island, which was replaced by asphalt, and a slight extension to the north, he noted. The Village intends on also repairing the surrounding walls, which once had terra cotta vases atop them at each station entrance.

The Long Island Rail Road has pre-approved \$1.6 million to fund the paving project through a Community Fund, which was established for each Village that is affected by the third track project. Of the \$1.6 million, \$765,000 was earmarked for this work in the 2019-20 Capital Plan, and additional funding is being requested in the proposed 2020-21 Capital Budget.

AMENDED FEE SCHEDULE FOR NEW CONSTRUCTION

Trustees approved three amendments to the fee schedule: the Zoning Board of Appeals will charge \$1,625 for new dwelling permits; the Zoning Board of Appeals did not have a fee for certain areas unique to new construction. The Planning Commission will charge

\$1,000 per parcel for a minor subdivision; and the Building Department fee for a temporary residential certificate increased from \$100 to \$150.

VILLAGE SEWER MAINS

Following sewer main breaks on Whitehall Boulevard last year, and an additional collapse on Cambridge Avenue, near Kilburn Road, the Department of Public Works purchased a new sewer vision van to enable Village staff to camera-inspect the Village's sewer system. The Department took receipt of that van last month. Engineering, Street and Sewer Department personnel were trained on how to operate the camera and properly record the information. According to Public Works Superintendent Joseph DiFrancisco, there's a plan in place to comprehensively survey the entire Village and be proactive in terms of either repairing sewer mains or lining mains to prevent further breaks, a 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.