



Board of Trustees

Lawrence Schmidlapp, Mayor
Michael Chalos, Deputy Mayor
Grace Haggerty, Trustee
Peter Furniss, Trustee
Victor Ort, Trustee

NEWS LETTER

June 2019

Centre Island was incorporated in 1926 and at the turn of the century was originally known as Hog Island. At the time there were 23 homes; today there are 187 and roughly 440 residents. While life in the Village has progressed over the decades, its scenic beauty, tranquility and its rural characteristics have not.

Thoughtful land use control measures through local ordinances and regulations at the direction of committed, responsible board members from the Board of Trustees to the Zoning, Planning, Architectural Review boards ensure that Centre Island remains an attractive place to live and raise families.

BUDGET

The Board continues to strive for the lowest possible tax rate for our residents. Our current budget reflects Governor Cuomo's property tax freeze, a cap based on the rate of inflation OR 2% whichever is lower. This year the state capped the tax rate to 1.020%.

We are pleased to report our 2019-2020 tax rate is virtually unchanged for the coming fiscal year. The rate this year is .5635 per \$100 of assessed valuation versus .5626 last year. This equates to a difference of \$9 per million dollars of AV.

Significant Increases in Income:

- Building Permit Fees: Several new homes and many major renovations.
- Interest Rate Increase by switching accounts to First National Bank of Long Island.
- Filming: Full-length feature film and several TV shows.

Expenses Beyond our Control:

- New Garbage Truck \$122,000 – Money is set aside each year for these type of purchases, so a majority of the cost was covered.
- Outsourcing Garbage pick-up: \$32,000

Expenses beyond our control *(cont.)*:

- Property Tax refunds - \$86,000
- Police contractual obligations - Longevity, Night differential, salaries, retirement
- Litigation

VILLAGE TAXES

Tax bills were mailed May 29th. Taxes must be paid or postmarked by Monday, July 1, 2019 or a 5% interest penalty will be added in July and 1% every month thereafter as prescribed by law until taxes are paid.

PENDING VILLAGE ORDINANCES

Helicopters

As many of you are aware, private helicopter use has been a village-wide discussion item for some time. As in all significant matters, there are individuals in favor of the use and others who are against it.

After listening to resident concerns, the Board of Trustees sought outside professional guidance and engaged the services of an aeronautical consultant to find appropriate solutions. The proposed legislation can be found on our website www.centreisland.org.

There will be a public hearing on the proposed legislation at the next Board of Trustees meeting on Wednesday, June 12, 2019.

Leaf Blowers

The Board is considering banning gas powered leaf blowers in the summer months because of the nuisance and noise factor. Many villages and towns have already passed such legislation.

Short-Term Rentals

Due to the popularity of AirBnB rentals and bad experiences neighbors have had with them, the Board will be passing legislation that will limit the length of time and the number of times a person can rent their home.

GRANTS

At the end of last year, Centre Island received a grant from the State through Assemblyman Chuck Lavine's office for \$100,000. The grant money will be used for raising the road at the beginning of the Island so storm tides won't close the Island to traffic.

We have spent a portion of the \$50,000 NYSEDA grant we received from the State to make our village a green community.

There are electric car chargers located at Village Hall and the Police Station. The Chief now drives a Ford Focus Electric Hybrid vehicle which has increased his mileage from about 15 mpg in his old car to 72 mpg.

We had insulated garage doors installed at the Village Hall to reduce heating bills and in the near future will re-roof the Village Hall with Tesla roof solar tiles.

Of Note...

Deer Population

There have been many deer sightings in recent months. Please be careful when driving especially near the Seawanhaka intersection. There have been two accidents recently and a near miss.

Village Ordinances

There are several ordinances that residents should be mindful of - some of which carry heavy fines for violation. Please go to the village website and search under the tab 'Code' for more information or call Joe Richardson, the Building Inspector at 922-2408 with questions.

Bayville Fire Dept.

The Bayville Fire Company has requested all house numbers be visible with reflective placards placed at least 24" above ground. Two fires and one call for an electrical fire resulted in trucks unable to locate the property.

Garbage Schedule and Recycling

Garbage pick-up for the entire Island will continue to be Tuesdays and Fridays. If you have a large item please call or text Steve Mincieli at 516-860-5154 to arrange for a pick-up. There is a fee for this service.

Recycling will be the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month beginning June 19th.

Bayville Bridge Repairs

Bids on the repair will be awarded in September with construction beginning in February 2020. One lane traffic will be the norm, but we are told there will also be periodic total closures. We will provide updates as we receive them.

CIA

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The Centre Island Association (CIA) is the Island's civic association. We thank the association for all the work they do. Recently they were able to enlist Dodds and Eder to donate their time and materials to maintain the Village's entrance. The CIA also had the new sign at the beginning of the Island made, produced the CIA directory and the garbage and recycling schedule. This spring a ladies' luncheon was held and plans for more events are in the works.

If you would like to join the CIA or volunteer your time, please contact Grace Haggerty or Mary Selover.

Village Election
Tuesday, June 18, 2019 @ Village Hall
Polls Open 12-9pm

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In order to vote in the election, you must be a U.S. citizen, a resident of Centre Island and registered to vote in Nassau County.

If you are not registered or recently moved to Centre Island, go to nassauvotes.com and complete the voter registration form.

Meet the Mayor

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We value resident participation at meetings and ask you to take time to get involved.

If you have any questions or suggestions and would like to meet with the Mayor personally, please call the village office at 922-0606 to set up a mutually agreeable time.

Email

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Email is an efficient and economic way for the Village to communicate with you while saving significant mailing costs. If you haven't been receiving notifications, please email centreislandvillage@centreisland.org using your preferred email address with your name, address and telephone number. The information is kept completely confidential.

Village Staff

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Full-time employees

Police - Chief Capobianco, Sgt. Arnold;
Officers: Bauers, Fernandez, Keegan, Saikaly, Schmidt
Station House: 922-6466
Car on duty: 322-5046
Clerk/Treasurer - Carol Schmidlapp
Sanitation/Road - Steve Mincieli

Part-time employees

Building Inspector - Joe Richardson
Sanitation helper - Segundo Gamboa
Court Clerk - Roseanna Prisco