MAYOR ADLER’S REPORT

Milestones

The untimely passing of Trustee Marc Silbert in June was a shocking loss for his family, friends and colleagues in Village government; he is and will continue to be missed for a long time to come. I am pleased to report the appointment of Marc’s worthy successor, Jeffrey Moslow, who joins the Board of Trustees from the Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA), just as Marc had 18 years ago. Jeffrey grew up in Port, graduated from Schreiber, and received degrees from Tufts University and Harvard Law School. He and his wife Linda raised three boys here after moving to Sands Point in 2002. After a tenure as a partner at Goldman Sachs, he retired from the firm six years ago and currently oversees private business investments. He serves as a trustee of Tufts University and the Boys Club of New York. Candy Rossettie, a thirteen-year BZA veteran, will replace Jeffrey as Deputy Chair of the BZA. Jeffrey’s vacant seat on the BZA will be filled in the coming months.

Trustee and Deputy Mayor Peter Forman has taken over Marc’s role as Chief Police Commissioner, who is the liaison between the SPPD and the Board of Trustees, all of whom are appointed police commissioners. Peter worked closely with Marc developing and overseeing the Village’s Emergency Management structure as well as the PWM OEM; Larry Balaban, a member of the BZA, has been appointed Assistant Emergency Manager.

Aircraft Noise

Town of North Hempstead Supervisor, Judi Bosworth, convened a meeting of the Town’s mayors earlier this month to discuss aircraft noise. Despite the hurdles of taking on the FAA, she believes that the Town and its villages should work together to explore a possible course of action, given that prior efforts have been unsuccessful.

Water Meter Resident Portal

The resident user portal has been beta-tested by a few residents for several months and is now ready for all to use. Postcards to all residents will be in the mail this month with meter number information and instructions. Please see the message from the Water Department on page 2.

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Solicitation Law Amendment

Villages throughout Long Island were threatened with lawsuits earlier this year by an out-of-state extermination company that obtained a federal court order against another Long Island village. Apparently, certain aspects of the solicitation ordinances on the books of many villages are in conflict with federal law. At our August meeting, the Board had a public hearing on amending our Village ordinance and the new law will be adopted this month. Information will be forthcoming about how to opt out of in-person solicitations and other details of the new law.

Road Work

Roads Commissioner Kay Ullman and Public Works Superintendent Brian Gunderson report that work will begin next month on the Harriman Drive re-paving and drainage work. Meanwhile, Nassau County has begun preparations for Middle Neck Road repaving from the Village Club to Vanderbilt Lane.

Water Department News – The AquaHawk Resident Portal

The new water meters that Sands Point has installed over the past few years give the Water Department real-time status of all water usage throughout the Village. The Department receives reports of excessive water consumption every day; this has allowed the Village to save millions of gallons of water by alerting residents of water leaks within hours of the leak. Leaks used to go on for weeks or even months before high water bills signaled probable leaks. You will now be able to access this data for your home on your computer or smart device.

Later this month, you will be receiving a colorful postcard from the Village and our customer portal vendor AquaHawk with instructions on how to register for access to your water accounts. Your account number will be on the postcard above the address.

The postcard will have detailed information on how to register and some of the highlights and system capabilities. The Water Department strongly suggests that you register so that you can be notified of leaks, excessive water consumption, and other thresholds that you choose to set up. This is especially important for residents who travel and wish to monitor for leaks while away.

Once you are in the on-line system, there is a section on the current billing period. It provides an estimate and projected bills for the period. These numbers change based on actual water consumption, so do not expect the estimate to be your actual billed amount, but it serves as a tool to monitor water consumption. Actual readings and timing may not always be in sync with the AquaHawk system.

Information you will see on-line such as your address and phone numbers were downloaded from the Village database. Many residents have not updated the Village with new phone numbers. Please send an email to Leah@sandspoint.org if any information shown on-line needs to be added or corrected, especially phone numbers. Up-to-date contact information is important if the Village needs to reach you.

Please contact the Water Department at 883-3491 with any questions about the AquaHawk system.
IMPORTANT SAFETY AND SECURITY ADVICE

A Message from Chief Tom Ruehle
Sands Point Police Department

I hope everyone had a safe, happy and enjoyable Summer season. Now that September has begun, the Sands Point Police Department would like to remind all residents of some important safety tips to coincide with the return of school. This time of year brings an increase in vehicle and pedestrian traffic on our roads. All homeowners are required to maintain their property and prevent any overgrowth that can be potentially hazardous for anyone driving, walking, running, bicycling or just enjoying our village roads. All bushes and shrubs should be trimmed back to facilitate a clear line of sight for all on our roadways. Corner properties should especially ensure that cars turning at the corner have clear and distant line of sight for approaching vehicles. All vegetation is required to be cut back far enough that pedestrians can walk, run or bicycle on or along the shoulder without having to enter the lanes designated for motorized traffic. Any properties that are located at intersections should ensure that no tree, shrub or bush blocks the view of any signage on the road including stop signs. Please help us keep our residents safe.

This time of year also marks the return of school buses. Please allot yourself enough time to get to your destination. Do not speed. And please under NO CIRCUMSTANCE should you ever pass a school bus with its lights flashing and Stop Sign engaged. If you are caught you will be summoned, as there will be no warnings for this type of violation. More importantly, we do not want you to endanger the safety of our children and parents.

Finally, some other general safety tips and reminders. As you may have heard, since the beginning of the year we have had a few incidents of vehicles being stolen from residents’ driveways. Let me assure you, the incidents are few and far between. In fact, in comparison to other villages and towns in Nassau County, we are at the bottom in number of car thefts. But I will be the first to agree that even one is too many. Our number should in fact be ZERO, and I will show you how we can accomplish this.

The old days of smashing windows and breaking steering columns are long gone. Cars are super secure. The only real way to steal one now is with the key, and therein lies the problem. We would not have had a SINGLE car theft in the last several years had keys not been left in an unlocked car. So PLEASE, follow these simple tips. REMOVE THE KEYS and LOCK YOUR VEHICLES. REMOVE ALL VALUABLES FROM THE CAR, wallets, phones, computers, handbags, etc. If you put your car in the garage, either make sure the car is locked, or the garage door is locked. Preferably both. I will fill you all in on a little tip that car thieves use. Most of the time they don’t even go car to car. They just drive up and down blocks looking for cars in driveways with one tell-tale sign the keys are in them: extended side view mirrors. Most people don’t know or realize this, but with most new cars and SUV’s, (especially Range Rover, Land Rover and Audi models, but others as well), if the key-fob is left in the vehicle the mirrors remain out. If you remove the key, the mirrors fold in. It is as simple as that to keep from being a victim of car theft.

As always, we ask everyone to utilize all their safety features on their vehicles and homes. Lock your cars and residences. Utilize your home and car alarms. And always, if you see something you deem suspicious or out of place, call us immediately and we will respond to investigate.

Thank you,
Chief Tom Ruehle
Sands Point Police Department
516-883-3100
NorthShoreAlert.org is a mass notification system designed to keep residents and businesses of the Port Washington, NY peninsula, north of Northern Blvd, informed of emergencies and certain community events.

By registering with NorthShoreAlert.org, time sensitive voice messages from the Village of Sands Point, Town of North Hempstead and the PW/Manhasset OEM may be sent to your home, cell or business phone. Text messages may also be sent to cell phones, email accounts and hearing impaired receiving devices. Village Newsletters are also distributed by the NorthShoreAlert.org system before paper copies are printed and mailed.

The NorthShoreAlert service will be used to supplement current communication plans and augment public safety/first responder services. So if you haven’t done so already - **SIGN UP**—go to NorthShoreAlert.org