

Inc. Village of Head of the Harbor



DOUGLAS A. DAHLGARD, MAYOR
DANIEL W. WHITE, DEPUTY MAYOR
WINTER 2022

JUDITH C. OGDEN, TRUSTEE
L. GORDON VAN VECHTEN, TRUSTEE
JEFFREY D. FISCHER, TRUSTEE

HeadoftheHarborNY.gov

Dear Friends,

The village tax rate for the coming fiscal year is **\$20.49** and is **under the NYS Tax Cap**.

Village residents are now members of the **St. James Fire District**. We pay the same tax rate as the residents of St. James, and we have the right to vote in Fire District elections. Tax bills issued by the Town of Smithtown have a line item covering your tax relating to the St. James Fire District.

Village taxes have been reduced vs. last year to reflect this change. Last year's village budget included an expense of \$502,972 for fire and emergency services, the current budget shows zero for this expense.

The change has allowed the Fire District to allocate more of our tax dollars to apparatus and equipment. The iconic Station One firehouse, north of the LIRR tracks, remains manned and equipped. A new 4-wheel drive Sprinter ambulance has been assigned to Station One. The purchase of the ambulance was made possible with a grant from Avalon Nature Preserve. Station One also houses a pumper and a brush truck. Station Two on Woodland Avenue houses two ambulances and the District contracts with Medic 45 for additional ambulances as needed.

Please note the tax bill you receive from the Town does not include police or highway maintenance or snow removal services, these services are provided by the Village. Village tax collection and a monthly report on our Village financial condition are the responsibility of our **Treasurer, Patricia Mulderig**.

Police Chief Charles Lohmann reminds us to **dial 911** to reach his patrol officers for time sensitive matters. 911 is used to dispatch our police and also the St. James Fire Department. You should ensure your central station monitoring company is aware of the proper contacts. Chief Lohmann also reminds us to lock our cars and not to leave packages visible in cars even on driveways. Our proposed budget fully funds and fully equips our police department including a raise for our police officers and a new hybrid police interceptor. Our police officers are EMT trained. They are first on the scene.

Our **Highway Department** continues an initiative started in 2017 to address the severe rainstorms that we believe have become the new normal. **Trustee Judith Ogden** directs the installation of additional drainage and the timely maintenance of existing road drainage systems. This year Fifty Acre Road, Branglebrink Road, Carman Lane and Cordwood Path were resurfaced. In preparation of next season's repaving new drainage has been installed on Saneck Road as well as a drainage project on Harbor Road.

Our **Village Code** includes Zoning Regulations for the purpose of retaining the value and the character of the Village and your property. A link to our code is on the village website www.HeadoftheHarborNY.gov. As a coastal community with hillsides that run down to Stony Brook Harbor the Village has laws aimed at controlling erosion. Our village code restricts removal of natural vegetation and trees and provides for natural buffers and protection of buffs.

Head of the Harbor Village Budget 2022/2022

Code Enforcement Officer and Building Inspector, Robert O'Shea, answers Code related questions, refers matters to village boards and issues building permits. Our **Village Administrator/Clerk, Margaret O'Keefe**, with twenty years of village service, is available to respond to questions about the Village.

Our four boards, **Planning, Architectural Review, Zoning Board of Appeals**, and the **Joint Coastal Commission** are an important part of maintaining our Village. Residents who serve on these boards are appointed in April. If you are interested in serving, please call the Mayor.

Very truly yours,

Doug

Douglas A. Dahlgard, Mayor

Below is a summary of the current (2021/2022) budget and next year's budget (2022/2023). Complete copies are on file at the Village Hall, Village Clerk's Office and may be viewed during regular business hours, or on our website at www.HeadoftheHarborNY.gov.

<u>REVENUES</u>	<u>2021/2022 adopted budget</u>	<u>2022/2023 adopted budget</u>
REAL PROPERTY TAXES	\$1,667,064.96	\$1,194,292.23
GIFTS AND DONATIONS	99,000.00	53,000.00
OTHER REVENUES	487,600.00	724,689.04
APPROPRIATED SURPLUS	<u>150,000.00</u>	<u>150,000.00</u>
TOTAL REVENUES	\$2,403,664.96	\$2,121,981.27
<u>EXPENSES</u>		
GENERAL	\$539,687.83	\$631,772.64
POLICE	664,826.37	719,351.59
FIRE	502,937.00	-0-
SAFETY	43,588.92	46,252.48
HIGHWAY	449,346.10	493,784.58
COMMUNITY SERVICE	34,618.24	73,236.98
DEBT SERVICE	73,860.50	72,583.00
RETIREMENT	<u>94,800.00</u>	<u>85,000.00</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$2,403,664.96	\$2,121,981.27
TAX RATE	<u>\$28.53</u>	<u>\$20.49</u>

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE VISIT THE VILLAGE WEBSITE - HEADOFTHEHARBORNY.GOV