

Inc. Village of Head of the Harbor



DOUGLAS A. DAHLGARD, MAYOR
DANIEL W. WHITE, DEPUTY MAYOR
WINTER 2020

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

HeadoftheHarborNY.gov

Dear Friends,

As an optimist I believe we are headed to the end of the pandemic and the beginning of a return to normal life. I want to mention how your Village has faced the challenges of the pandemic. We protected our employees by allowing non essential work to be performed remotely and continue to practice social distancing, mask wearing, and utilization of virtual Zoom meetings as required. The village offices are cleaned daily, and access to Village Hall is controlled. During the crisis the Village government continued to operate in a safe manner and our employees performed remarkably well.

Our Highway crew is ready to sand and plow through the night as necessary. Earlier this year we resurfaced approximately one mile of Harbor Road from Farm Road to Bacon Road, as well as the installation of new drainage. Our Highway crew cleaned up after storm Isaias and also added drainage to the north end of Fifty Acre Road. This part of Fifty Acre will be resurfaced in the Spring of 2021.

Unfortunately, like other municipalities, we suffered financially due to Covid-19. Our normal share of sales tax was cut in half as the State and the County redirected funds to fight the disease. Revenue from our Village Court was severely reduced as the Court was closed for six months and the overall number of fines for traffic violations fell substantially during the year. Also the NYS pension calculation was made when financial markets were down due to COVID-19. This timing caused an unexpected increase in our required pension contribution. The Village tax rate for next year will reflect a 6.5% increase, far more than we would like, but this is an anomaly caused by the pandemic as well as contractual obligations.

Our Village is a very safe place to live, and for a reason. We do not have a protective dome over us but we do have a police force of highly trained, professional and dedicated officers. During the year there were several incidents where the police made arrests of criminals who were passing through the village. In making these arrests our police put their own safety at risk.

There are two things that you can do as a good neighbor. One is when you spot something, like a car that doesn't seem to belong, dial 911 and ask for a Head of the Harbor police officer. All of the arrests mentioned above were because our police stopped a car that just didn't belong.

The national environment is far more dangerous for our police than it has ever been. Traffic stops occasionally result in confrontations. Please make every effort to support our police and Chief Lohmann, who many of you have come to know. The proposed budget fully funds our village police, as well as fire and emergency services.

Finally, please review our village website at www.HeadoftheHarborNY.gov. It is as comprehensive and up to date as possible. Keep well and take time to check on your neighbors during the cold of winter. Call or text me if you have any questions, 631-338-9651. Happy Holidays from all your Trustees.

Doug

Doug Dahlgard
Village Mayor

Head of the Harbor Village Budget 2021/2022

Below is a summary of the current (2020/2021) budget and next year's budget (2021/2022). 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>2020/2021 adopted budget</u>	<u>2021/2022 adopted budget</u>
REAL PROPERTY TAXES	\$1,562,575.24	\$1,667,064.96
GIFTS AND DONATIONS	-0-	99,000.00
OTHER REVENUES	589,691.00	487,600.00
APPROPRIATED SURPLUS	<u>169,000.00</u>	<u>150,000.00</u>
TOTAL REVENUES	<u>\$2,321,266.24</u>	<u>\$2,403,664.96</u>
<u>EXPENSES</u>		
GENERAL	\$528,595.89	\$539,687.83
POLICE	598,657.64	664,826.37
FIRE	419,114.00	502,937.00
SAFETY	42,574.54	43,588.92
HIGHWAY	520,472.90	449,346.10
COMMUNITY SERVICE	37,740.97	34,618.24
DEBT SERVICE	87,110.30	73,860.50
RETIREMENT	<u>87,000.00</u>	<u>94,800.00</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES	<u>\$2,321,266.24</u>	<u>\$2,403,664.96</u>

TAX RATE	<u>\$26.79</u>	<u>\$28.53</u>
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Residents who do not use an escrow account will receive tax bills in mid-February. Taxes are due March 1st and can be paid without penalty by April 1st. Please have all tax payments postmarked by April 1, 2021 as penalties cannot be excused. Tax bill questions can be asked of the Village Treasurer, at 631-584-5596.

**For All Emergencies
and time sensitive police calls
please call dispatch
"911"**

**Tell the dispatcher you reside in the
Head of the Harbor Police District**

Police Station 631-584-7891

**Village Election Day
Village Hall
Tuesday, March 16, 2021
12 noon – 9 pm**

**Election Law §15-118(2), residents must be regis-
tered with Suffolk County Board of Elections prior
to March 5, 2021. The offices that are vacant at the
end of the current official year are:**

(2) two Trustees 2-year terms