



Kenneth C. Riscica
Mayor

Daniel Cataldo
Silva Ferman
Gus Panopoulos
Dianne Sheehan
Alvin Solomon
Norman Taylor
Trustees

Arlene Drucker
Clerk - Treasurer

Elizabeth Vera
Deputy Clerk, Building

Lenore "Lee" Regan
Court Clerk

Cye E. Ross, Esq.
Village Justice

Mary Breen Corrigan
Village Prosecutor

Edward P. Butt, AIA
Village Building
Inspector Stormwater
Mgmt. Officer

Bart Giusto
Emergency Mgmt.
Coordinator

Maryann Grieco
Architectural Review
Board, Chair

Eugene O'Connor
Zoning and Appeals
Board, Chair

James Madison
Planning Board, Chair

Trey Harragan
Technology Advisory
Board, Chair

Message from the Mayor



June 14 - It's my pleasure to report to you news of events, activities, progress and plans in our Village.

Our Spring started with the March Village elections. We thank you for voting because a representative election is

critical to good governance. With 110 residents voting, our election was representative. We welcome Dianne Sheehan as Village Trustee.

In April we approved the 2016 – 2017 Village Budget. Our taxes remain 9% lower than 2010 and 36% lower than costs outside the Village for the same services (sanitation, roads, etc.). Our budget contains a modest tax increase of 1.6% and is within our Tax Cap and therefore will make you eligible for the final year of the Tax Freeze and Rebate program from Albany.

Since residents don't often attend our meetings we tried something new; we made a video of my address at the Annual Meeting. The production was available to us without charge from our

local PATV partner and we had some fun doing it. The April video is posted on our website.

The MLWD project to replace water mains on Grandview Circle and Summit Drive started in May and is going well. The excavation will have a period of "settling" before we move to restoration of the road, lawn & sidewalks.

Our fiscal year ended on May 31 and it will take some time to finalize the financials. However, it is clear we will report a surplus. The surplus results from three factors: (1) building activity that is 50+% above the trend-line average, (2) settlement of a dispute and (3) unexpected FEMA payments from 2012 Superstorm Sandy. This will be our seventh year of surplus and the surplus will be applied to fund our capital plan.

We continue to wait patiently for finalization of the remaining road grant for the Waterway/Neck/Cove project. The following pages present details of these and other items.

It is a privilege to serve as your Mayor. You can reach me at Mayor@PlandomeHeights-NY.Gov

Kenneth C. Riscica, Mayor

Plandome Heights Remembers our Vets on Memorial Day



Mayor Ken Riscica, Michael Riscica and Troop 97 Boy Scouts joined Matt Falcone, James Brooks & the Legionnaires from American Legion Post 305 at dawn's early light on May 28, 2016 to "Plant the Flags" on the graves of our Vets at Pinelawn National Cemetery

Pictured at left are Plandome Heights Scouts **John & James DeAngelo** and Manhasset Civic Association President **Richard Bentley**

Comings and Goings

In April 2016, Trustee Lynne Aloia retired from the Village Board and Trustee Dianne Sheehan began service as Trustee.

for four years having been elected twice. During her tenure, Trustee Aloia has taken particular interest in sound financial policies, serving residents' concerns and protecting the environment by representing the Village with the Manhasset Bay Protection Committee. After completing four years, two terms of elected service, Trustee Aloia has retired from the Board of Trustees. Lynne is valued by all who work with her.



Thank you Trustee Lynne Aloia

Welcome Trustee Dianne Sheehan

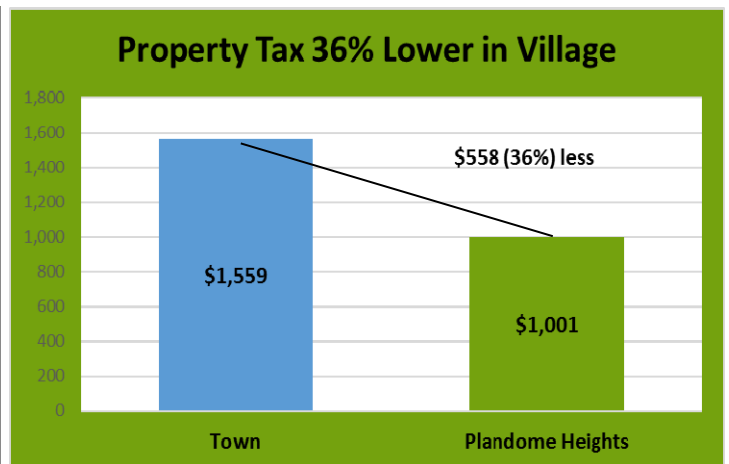
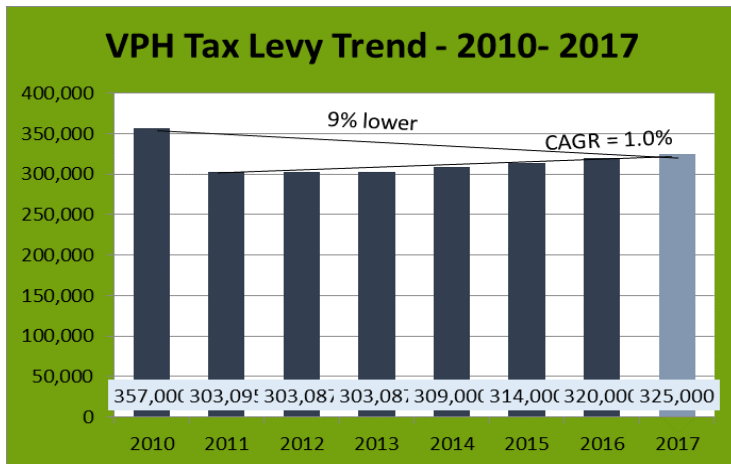
Lynne Aloia – Trustee **Lynne Aloia** moved to Manhasset in 1998 with her family and moved to Plandome Heights in 2003. With her background in both business and the community, Lynne was elected a Trustee of the Village in 2012 and served

Dianne Sheehan – Trustee **Dianne Sheehan** is a registered nurse by profession and moved to Plandome Heights in 1991 with her husband to raise their two children. As such, Trustee Sheehan knows the Village and its residents well. Trustee Sheehan is active on the Board of the homeowner's association for her vacation home and currently works part time in her family's real estate management business. So she is experienced in the business side of a community. Moreover, Trustee Sheehan volunteers her time generously in the community including at St. Mary's, girl scouts, boy scouts and other venues. We welcome Dianne Sheehan's willingness to donate her time and experience to serve as Village Trustee.

2016 – 17 Adopted Budget – Meets Tax Cap and is Freeze and Rebate Eligible

Our Budget reflects expenditures of \$447,500, an increase of \$5,000 (1.1%), and our tax levy is \$325,000, an increase of \$5,000 (1.6%). Our tax cap got more challenging this year with an increase of only 0.12% or \$400. Because we had "unused tax cap" from prior years, we were able to

accommodate our needs and stay within the tax cap. Our tax levy has been below our allowable tax cap each year of the cap. As a result, you will once again be eligible to participate in the NYS Tax Freeze Rebate Program for this year. Further, our property taxes are 9% lower than 2010 (see below left).



Because of our extensive use of volunteers (over 30 people volunteer service to the Village), taxes in the Village are 36% lower than the taxes you would pay outside the Village for the services that we provide (snow, sanitation, roads, etc.) (see above right). This is based on our tax levy at \$45.94 (per \$100 of assessed valuation) compared to the Town tax levy that we

avoid by living in a Village which totals \$71.56. Our average home has a "tax assessed value" of approximately \$2,178.

We have a complete and transparent financial presentation on our website at www.PlandomeHeights-NY.Gov/Finances including 10 pages of detail and analysis of our budget.

Thanks, "Tech Team," for Technology Improvements in Village Hall!

Lower spending from the mild winter provided us with an opportunity. So, working with our volunteer Tech Team, **Trey Harrigan** and **Rich Kraft**, we decided to upgrade our staff's aging computers, monitors, software, back-up power supplies

and our aging phone system. Rich and Trey spent scores of volunteer hours sourcing, receiving, installing, setting-up and de-bugging the equipment. Total project cost for hardware and software, about \$3,500. **Thanks Rich and Trey, Awesome!**

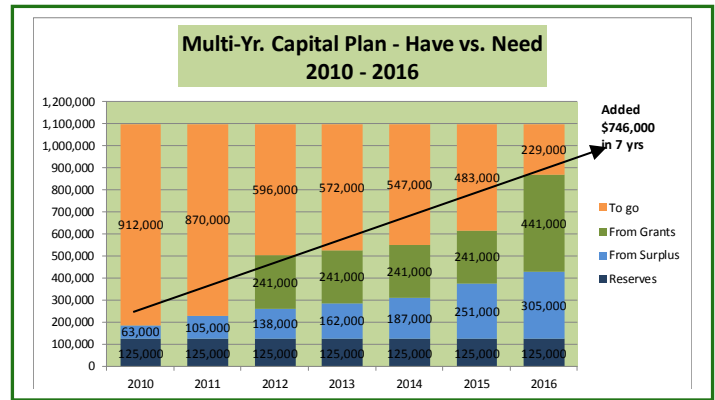
Summit and Grandview Water Main – Project Launched and Going Well

Mayor Riscica and Trustee Taylor met with the leadership of the MLWD in April 2016 to walk the jobsite at Summit and Grandview and review the project plan in detail. The project will replace the 4” water mains with 6” & 8” water mains. Work started in May 2016 and is going well. The final phase will be restoration of road.



Building on our Capital Plan

In 2011, we had our Village Engineer do a survey of our Village roads. In that survey, the Engineer gave us an assessment of the condition of the roads and the need for replacement over time. Using that survey, we estimated and plotted out the cost of our capital needs over a 10-year timeframe. Those needs amounted to approximately \$1.1 million. With a tax levy of only \$325,000 per year, that is a huge commitment that takes “Planning Beyond One Year” to address. Now, six years into the plan, the chart at right shows that we have accumulated approximately \$746,000 toward that \$1.1 million need through grants and accumulated surplus. With those resources in place we will be moving ahead with plans to pave Waterway/Neck/Cove as grants are finalized.



Spring/Summer Shorts

Edmund Moores Turns 102 - Surrounded by the warmth of his extended family, in May 2016 Plandome Heights resident **Edmund Moores** celebrated his 102nd birthday. The event was hosted by his adult children and was held at the residence of



Phyllis and Brian Sterneman, Ed Moores, & Mayor Riscica

his daughter, **Phyllis Sternemann**, and his grandchildren Nicole and Brian.

Manhasset’s Elaine Phillips Runs for Senate - Flower Hill Mayor **Elaine Phillips** was nominated to run for the NY State

Senate Seat being vacated by NY Sen. Jack Martins as he runs for US Congress. Sen. Martins and his predecessor have been good friends to our Village with road grants and support for local and village issues. So this seat is important to our Village. To have an accomplished Manhasset resident, and successful Mayor running for that seat is certainly news of interest. Mayor Elaine Phillips is pictured above with Mayor Riscica at the Flower Hill Substance Abuse event in June.



Mayor on YouTube? - In April, we produced our State of the Village message in video. Pictured is **Erica Bradley** the Executive Director of PATV who



oversaw production in PATV's Lake Success studio. The Mayor's message, about 20 minutes long, discusses events of the past year, including personnel, public safety, finance and capital, with particular emphasis on our capital plan, as well as emerging trends that we are facing. The YouTube style video is on our website at www.PlandomeHeights-NY.gov and you will likely find it informative viewing if you haven't seen it.

“Galleries de Plandome Heights” –

We are completing the last few *street name sign* replacements and so our “Galleries” are open with a few street name signs available. Please call Clerk Arlene Drucker if you're interested in recycling an old sign into garage or dormitory “art.”

Right: “Art” from “Galleries de VPH”



\$250 Tag Sale Signs Available – When residents tape “tag sale” signs to our white decorative street name signs, the glue from the tape leaves a residue that becomes an unsightly black streak over time. This is against Village code and carries a \$250 fine per offense. Since the tag sale signs have your address, we can figure out who to fine. So, please, don't do this.

New Court Clerk – In June **Lee Regan** assumed the responsibilities of Court Clerk. The position requires specialized knowledge which is why we seek experienced personnel willing to work on a per-diem basis. Lee is experienced and will work about 10 hours a month (on average) supporting our Justice Court. We are fortunate to welcome Lee.

Anniversaries - In June Clerk **Arlene Drucker** and Deputy **Elizabeth Vera** celebrated 3 years of service. We appreciate their dedicated service and congratulate them on this milestone. We look forward to their continued service. Thanks!

Clerk's Corner

As a reminder, we pay for side yard pick-up so it is not necessary to put your trash at the curb.

This is a good time of year to “lift” your tree limbs by trimming them away from signs and sidewalks.

We remind residents that overnight parking on Village streets is prohibited. Contact us if you need to park overnight.

Village code restricts contractor work to 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday – Friday and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday. No work is permitted on Sundays or Federal holidays.

Please curb and clean up after your dog.

Trustee Solomon reminds you to sign up for Village notifications at www.NorthShoreAlert.org.



**Incorporated Village of
PLANDOME HEIGHTS**
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NEWSLETTER – SPRING/SUMMER 2016

Village Contacts

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Court Clerk , Lenore “Lee” Regan	CourtClerk@PlandomeHeights-ny.gov
Building Inspector , Edward Butt, AIA	BuildingInspector@PlandomeHeights-ny.gov

Sign up for **Village Emergency Notifications** at www.northshorealert.org