

*******PLANDOME HEIGHTS – NEWS*******

**Plandome Heights Holds Annual Meeting
 Trustees Approve Budget for 2017 -18;
 Approve Clean-Up, Repair and Public Works Projects
 Tax Increase is Below the Tax Cap**

April 3, 2017 – The Trustees of the Village of Plandome Heights gathered at the Manhasset Public Library on April 3, 2017 for the Annual Organization Meeting of the Village. In addition to required business such as swearing-in, professional retentions, service agreements, policy approvals and appointment, the Trustees conducted a Public Hearing on the Tentative Budget for the fiscal year June 1, 2017 – May 31, 2018. The Tentative Budget has been publicly available since it was published on March 6, 2017. The Trustees voted to adopt the Tentative Budget. The Adopted Budget complies with the Tax Cap. Further discussion of the Budget follows below.

In addition to the Budget, the Trustees approved, under its “Continuous Improvement Program,” various spring projects including (a) the addition of new lighting on Chester Drive, (b) various road maintenance matters in the Bournedale section, (c) painting the decorative metal street lamp poles and (d) street sweeping and storm drain cleaning and other matters. In addition, the Village voted to move forward with limited public works projects in Phase II of its Capital Program. The larger road resurfacing project at Cove Drive will move forward once a pending NY State grant becomes available for use.

In addition to the Budget, spring projects and public works matters, Mayor Kenneth C. Riscica gave a presentation, “This Year in the Village – Challenges Met,” summarizing current year progress on challenges identified in the prior year. A summary of Mayor Riscica’s presentation is on the Village website at www.plandomeheights-ny.gov.



Mayor Kenneth Riscica (center) with Trustees (from left) Norman Taylor, Alvin Solomon, Aida Ferman and Daniel Cataldo at the Annual Meeting of the Village

Kenneth C. Riscica
 Mayor

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

Arlene Drucker
 Clerk - Treasurer

Elizabeth Vera Koubi
 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

James Madison
 Planning Board, Chair

Eugene O’Connor
 Zoning and Appeals
 Board, Chair

Trey Harragan
 Technology Advisory
 Board, Chair



INCORPORATED VILLAGE OF
Plandome Heights

37 Orchard Street, Manhasset, New York 11030
Tel: (516) 627-1136 Fax: (516) 627 1393
www.plandomeheights-ny.gov

Kenneth C. Riscica
Mayor

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

Arlene Drucker
Clerk - Treasurer

Elizabeth Vera Koubi
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

James Madison
Planning Board, Chair

Eugene O'Connor
Zoning and Appeals
Board, Chair

Trey Harragan
Technology Advisory
Board, Chair

Commenting on the meeting, Mayor Kenneth C. Riscica said, "We accomplished a lot in a very challenging year. We successfully renegotiated our Sanitation and Snow Removal contracts, launched a \$300,000 Capital Program, completed \$200,000 in Phase I of the Capital Program and maintained a strong budget and capital resources to fund our plans. The Village is in great shape and we remain committed to "continuous improvement" supported by sound financial policies. Our challenges going forward include (a) dealing with increasing space needs in Village Hall and (a) adapting to reduced building activity. The Village is fortunate to have a terrific Board who care deeply about providing current services and planning for our future."

A discussion of the Adopted Budget follows.

Revenues - The Adopted Budget calls for total revenues of \$454,700, a 1.6% increase over \$447,500 which includes: (a) non-property tax revenues of \$124,700, a 1.6% increase over \$122,500 in the prior year budget, and (b) property tax revenues of \$330,000, a 1.5% increase over \$325,000 in the prior year budget. The 2017 - 2018 property tax increase of 1.5% is within our Village Property Tax Cap.

Expenditures - The 2017 - 2018 Adopted Budget calls for expenditures of \$454,700 which is a 1.6% increase in costs compared to the 2016 - 2017 Budget of \$447,500. The Village's sanitation costs decreased modestly in the Tentative Budget as a result of a competitive bid completed in 2017. With this reduction, we were able to limit the overall increase in costs to 1.6% to cover the modest increases in other costs

Commentary - Commenting on the Adopted Budget, Mayor Kenneth C. Riscica said: "Our Adopted Budget continues our practice of *low and stable* property taxes as well as *compliance with the Tax Cap*. Our Adopted Budget also maintains our *cost advantage* as our taxes remain *significantly lower* than the cost for the same services outside our Village. This is largely because more than 30 residents volunteer their time. Further, by "*planning beyond one year*" we maintain the stability to support the long-term capital needs of the Village and to cushion surprises. In fact, in March 2017, NY State Comptroller assigned our Village a fiscal stress score of zero (low stress) on a scale of 0 - 100. The Village is fortunate to have skilled volunteers on our Board who deliver these results."

Further information available - The Adopted Budget, complete with a message from the Mayor and detailed various analyses, is contained on the Village website at www.plandomeheights-ny.gov/finances .

Contact: Mayor Kenneth C. Riscica, Mayor@PlandomeHeights-NY.Gov