

**Message from the Mayor**

**Kenneth C. Riscica**  
 Mayor

**Lynne Aloia**  
**Daniel Cataldo**  
**Lawrence Bourguet**  
**Silva Ferman**  
**Alvin Solomon**  
**Norman Taylor**  
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**Arlene Drucker**  
 Clerk - Treasurer

**Elizabeth Vera**  
 Deputy Clerk, Building

**Maura McMullan**  
 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

**Marion Endrizzi**  
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 Zoning and Appeals  
 Board, Chair

**Trey Harragan**  
 Technology Advisory  
 Board, Chair

**Phyllis Sternemann**  
 Historian

As Spring turns to Summer, it is my pleasure to share with you news of events, activities, progress and plans in our Village.

Over these past months we: (a) battled *relentless* snow, (b) had an election and Annual Meeting, (c) began a Capital Project, (d) had Public Hearings on our 2014-15 Budget and changes to our Building Code.

We had 14 snow events and nearly five feet of total snow. Many were difficult events with extreme cold. We adjusted methods including a new “GPS” capability to direct resources. The cost exceeded our snow budget by more than 60% but we were able to absorb that with contingency funds and higher revenues from non-tax sources.

In the March election, you returned Trustees Aida Ferman, Alvin Solomon and Lynne Aloia, as well as the Mayor to an additional term. There was a strong voter turnout and your support is appreciated.

In April, I gave a brief presentation at our Annual Meeting, “This Year in the Village;” that is contained on our website.

In April we retained engineers for the capital project to resurface The Waterway/The Neck after making progress in March on a potential grant from NY State.

In April, we adopted the 2014 – 15 Budget with a modest 1.6% increase in the tax levy.

In May, we amended our Building Code, based on resident inputs, to add a side yard “sky exposure” measure to reduce the “*look of largeness*” in second story additions.

The Village is in great shape and it can be better; we work toward that every day.

It is a privilege to have the opportunity to serve as your Mayor.

*Kenneth C. Riscica*

Mayor



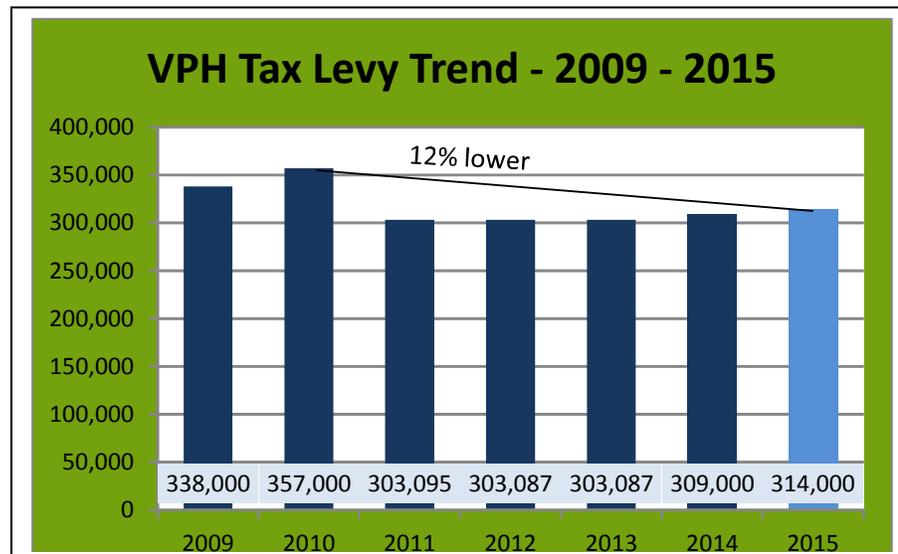
**Village Adopts 2014 – 15 Budget**

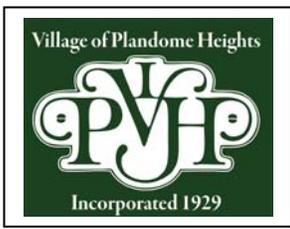
The 2014 - 15 Budget calls for a 1.6% increase in the tax levy. Village taxes are:

- 12% lower today than 5 years ago,
- Up less than 1% per year over 5 years

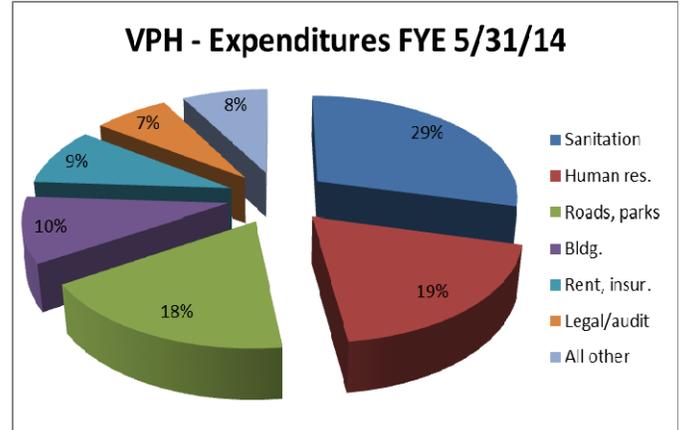
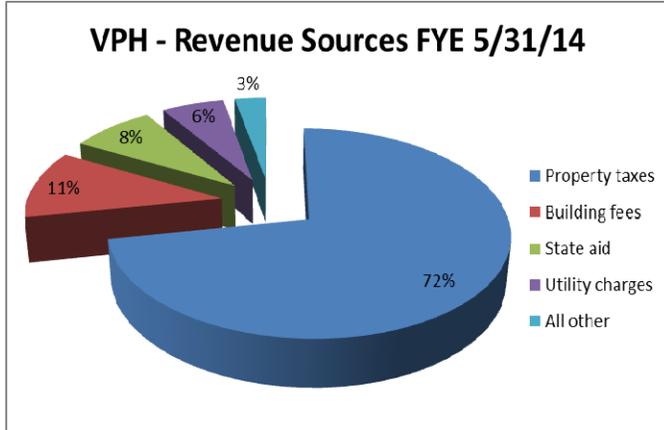
- 25%+ lower than comparable charges you would pay outside the Village,

The trend of our tax levy over time is below.





Our Budget reflects expenditures of \$435,200, an increase of 1.8%, and the portion coming from our tax levy is \$314,000, an increase of 1.6%. Our tax levy is *less* than our Tax Cap. The 2014 – 15 Budget is summarized below:



A complete presentation of our 2014 -15 Budget, as well as details on: (a) our Tax Cap, (b) how our tax levy compares to taxes you would pay outside the Village, (c) the development of the tax rate and (d) additional analysis is at [www.plandomeheights-ny.gov/finances](http://www.plandomeheights-ny.gov/finances)

or call Village Hall for a copy. The Village is in strong financial shape. Our goal is to comply with the tax cap again next year so that residents can be eligible to participate in the 2015 NYS Tax Rebate program.

### Continuous Improvement

Our “continuous improvement” program this spring was largely focused on remediation after the harsh winter. In April, we swept the streets of a large quantity of sand and we filled potholes and patched and sealed cracks in our roads. In May we cleaned out the storm drains of sand and debris and we repainted the white lines in front of our STOP signs with reflective paint to encourage

compliance. In addition, we made repairs to several storm drains.

Smaller projects included adding reflective “hydrant finders” to various fire hydrants, repositioning the light on our Plandome Road flagpole and we are taking steps to replace the light on the Preserve flag pole.

### 2014 Capital Project and Related Grant

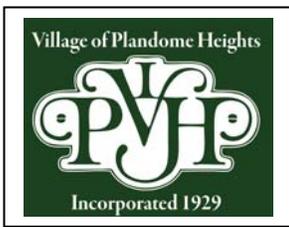
On the Capital Projects front, we have engaged D & B Engineers and Architects, P.C. as project engineers to do the design engineering and “bid package” for a planned resurfacing of The Waterway/The Neck. The engineering work began in May. Our plan is to do this project in 2014. State Senator Jack Martins advised us that he has secured \$50,000 in state funding for this

project. We are currently coordinating with the NYS Department of Transportation to complete the necessary approval process. As such, the timing of the project will need to be coordinated with the availability of the grant. Sometimes this goes quickly, sometimes not; but we have been told to expect to have the grant in place for a Fall 2014 project. We will keep you informed.

### Building Code – New Rule on Side Yard “Sky Exposure Plane”

In response to concerns of residents about the size of building additions in the Village, we advanced discussion of a modification of our building code to include a side yard restriction for “sky exposure plane.” Such provisions are common and are intended to mitigate the “look of largeness” in second story additions. We began a discussion in January and

February based on recommendations from our Building Inspector and Village Attorney. Discussion continued in March and a Public Hearing was called for in April. At the Public Hearing residents were generally supportive of the change. After allowing additional time for discussion, in May the Trustees adopted this proposed change in our Building Code.



## Village Honors Edmund Moores on His 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday

The Board of Trustees honored Village resident Edmund Moores with a Proclamation recognizing his 100<sup>th</sup> birthday on May 24, 2014. Mr. Moores is the father of Village Historian Phyllis Sternemann, a 20 year resident of the Village.

Mr. Moores grew up in Astoria, NY, the son of immigrant parents where he had a spirited youth. He went on to become a Baker, serving proudly in this time honored trade for over 45 years. During World War II, Edmund served with distinction in the Pacific Theater of Operations in the U.S. Navy as a Baker Third Class stationed in Hawaii. There, in his spare time, he made necklaces out of Hawaiian shells that his family proudly wears to this day. After his wife of over 60 years, Rita, passed in 2012 Edmund moved into Plandome Heights to be with his daughter and two grandchildren Nicole and Brian Sternemann.



Edmund Moores with daughter, Phyllis Sternemann, grandchildren Nicole and Brian, Trustees Alvin Solomon & Aida Ferman & Mayor Kenneth C. Riscica

## Tree Trimming and Tree Program

**Tree Trimming:** We encourage residents to examine the condition of the trees on their property. Downed trees and limbs can be a significant threat to life, property and our power lines. We urge you to survey the condition of the trees on your property and call in an expert, if necessary. Any significant changes to trees on the Village right of way (“tagged trees”) need to be discussed with the Village before taking action.

**Tree Program:** The Village continues its program to repopulate the trees in the Village. Under a cooperative program, residents are eligible to purchase a tree at half price for placement in front of their homes at the Village “right of way.” If you would like to participate you can contact Deputy Clerk Elizabeth Vera in Village Hall at (516) 627-1136.

## Village Boy Scouts Present Honor to Village

Plandome Heights Boy Scouts Patrick Sheehan and Daniel Cataldo participated in a time honored ceremony to retire our Village American Flag in April 2014 in a campfire at Alpine Scout camp. When the flag was burned completely, the boys fished out the flag’s grommets from the fire and included them in a plaque with a picture of the event. In May 2014, Troop 71 Scoutmaster Chris Simone and the boys presented the plaque to the Trustees at their May meeting. Mayor Riscica accepted the plaque on behalf of the Village.



## Maureen Kade Honored as “Poppy Queen”

Plandome Heights Maureen Kade served as “Poppy Queen” in the 2014 American Legion Memorial Day Parade. Beaming at the occasion were, Maureen Gaus

Kade, her mom, and grandparents Edward and Agnes Gaus, long-time Plandome Heights residents. Ed Gaus is a long serving member of American Legion Post 304.

## Improving the View at the Shore

Mayor Ralph Kreitzman of the Village of Great Neck advises us that storage tanks on the west shore of Manhasset Bay are going to be removed and a housing development built in its place. The project is only at the

beginning stages and will clearly take time, but it is nice to know that the view across the bay from our Village will improve from industrial to residential.

## Proposed Subdivision in Plandome, Adjacent to Shore Road

We were contacted in March 2014 about a planned subdivision of a 5+ acre, waterfront property in Plandome to build four single family homes. The property is adjacent to our Village at Shore Road. The project has been moving through the Plandome Village

approval process for more than one year. Because the proposed subdivision is adjacent to our Village, our residents have had, and will have, the opportunity to comment on the project at Public Hearings. More information should be available as this goes forward.

## Clerk's Corner

Village tax bills have been mailed and are payable prior to July 1, 2014; penalties accrue thereafter.

We remind residents that overnight parking on Village streets is prohibited. If you need to park overnight on the street temporarily, please contact Village Hall.

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.

A copy of the report of our Stormwater Management Program (MS-4) is available on our website.

The Village Clerk maintains a “non-solicitation” list for residents who don’t wish to be bothered by persons lawfully soliciting in the Village.

Please keep all dogs on their leashes.

Is your emergency contact information up to date? Log on to [www.northshorealert.org](http://www.northshorealert.org) to update your contact information and personal preferences.

This is a good time of year to trim your trees and bushes so they are not obstructing sidewalks, signs or roads.

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### Incorporated Village of Plandome Heights

37 Orchard Street

Manhasset, NY 11030

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[www.plandomeheights-ny.gov](http://www.plandomeheights-ny.gov)

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## NEWSLETTER –SPRING/SUMMER 2014

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Sign up for **Village Emergency Notifications** at [www.northshorealert.org](http://www.northshorealert.org)