

**INC. VILLAGE OF OYSTER BAY COVE**

**Mayor**

Charles Goulding

**Deputy Mayor**

Richard MacDougall

**Board of Trustees**

Elizabeth M. Brown

Adam Kimmick

George J. Sheehan

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**Village Clerk**

Joanne A. Casale

**Building Inspector**

CGA Consulting, Inc.

**Winter Newsletter**

**March 2019**

We have been very busy this winter on numerous initiatives.

**E -Government and New Website**

The new website is working beautifully and enabling us to communicate with our entire community much more efficiently. The main objective of the improved website is to help residents access government services. Also, all trustee monthly meeting-agenda items and attachments now go through the portal. This eliminates numerous back and forth emails and paper while also providing remote access to the trustees, regardless of their current location. Other villages have heard about this achievement and are calling us to learn more about what we have accomplished. Joanne Casale, our Village Clerk, and Jean Meehan, our Deputy Clerk, with participation by all village departments, put a lot of effort into this endeavor, which is continuing to improve.

**Award to our Police Officers and Medical Tips**

Our Police Commissioners, trustee George Sheehan and Seth Lublin, are proud to announce that this month three of our officers are being honored in an awards ceremony by Mayor Dan DeVita. The award is being given on behalf of Laurel Hollow for saving a resident's life. Our officers also recently handled the timely transport of an OBC resident with a critical heart problem. Although our officers' quick, thoughtful actions are the main reason for these wonderful results, they also had the equipment and requisite training to do so. Our Police Chief, Kevin Cronin, recommends that every resident who has medical issues maintain an easily available list of their medical conditions and prescriptions. Our officers and EMT personnel need this information to answer the admitting hospital's crucial questions.

**Our Budget**

Once again we have tightly managed the budget and will be staying within the State Property Tax Cap. This is not an easy task to accomplish when police-related expenses are the majority budget-cost category, and the police have a contractual 3% plus annual salary adjustment.

### **Zombie Housing Law**

We have enacted new legislation enabling our Village to permissibly and systematically apply the new New York State zombie housing law at the Village level. During the post subprime crisis, we and all other New York State towns and villages were essentially powerless to force foreclosing banks to properly secure and maintain abandoned houses. In the event of a future economic downturn, we will now be able to act. This is something I learned about in Hofstra Land Use CLE classes, related to maintaining my legal license.

### **Improved Village Telecom Legislation**

We have revised our Village Telecom law so as to better manage prospective 5G installations and other telecom items. I would like to thank trustees Adam Kimmick and Deputy Mayor, Richard MacDougall, who jointly chair our Telecom committee for putting much effort into this project. Telecom is highly regulated, complex and fast changing and our Village is up to date. We are also working in conjunction with other North Shore Mayors on telecom concerns and issues.

### **Land Sanctuaries and Preserves**

Our village has a high percentage of sanctuaries and preserves. Trustee, Liz Brown, has identified each sanctuary location and their boundaries. They are now clearly presented on the Village website so everyone can enjoy these properties, particularly with spring approaching. We are also working on ways to achieve better access to some of these properties.

I have enjoyed my first term as Mayor and have particularly enjoyed meeting residents I hadn't previously known. I have an open-door policy and am glad to meet with any resident.

One of our next agenda items is our annual Village spring clean up of public areas.

Enjoy the approaching spring.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Charles R. Houlton". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Charles" being the most prominent part.