

Around LI

GLEN COVE

Downtown projects resolution delayed

The Glen Cove City Council on Tuesday unanimously delayed a vote on allowing more density downtown.

Under the resolution, the council would have referred to the planning board a proposal by 115 Glen Street Property Owner LLC to permit higher-density projects downtown if the projects have more units with below-market rents. The resolution calls on the planning board to then make a recommendation to the council.

The LLC wants to build a 34-unit, four-floor apartment building on a half-acre at 115 Glen St. City officials said a change in zoning for the entire downtown, rather than a site-specific variance, is the only way to permit a building with that density.

There was no discussion on the tabling of the resolution. After the meeting, Mayor Timothy Tenke said he proposed delaying a vote because council members “believe this project is a non-starter.”

Under the 115 Glen Street project proposal, 13 of the 34 units would be at below-market rents and targeted toward families making between 80 and 100 percent of Long Island’s median income, said company attorney Kathleen Deegan Dickson.

She said after the meeting that as the council discusses the matter, the company will present a site plan to the planning board.

— DAVID OLSON

Students to rally against gun violence

A group of Glen Cove High School students is organizing a local demonstration March 24 to tie-in to the national March for Our Lives being planned in Washington, D.C.

Eleven of the students attended the Glen Cove City Council meeting Tuesday night to ask the council to approve street closures for the march.

“I’m here with my peers in representation of the district students who demand safety in our schools,” William Casale, 17, told the council. “We are here in solidarity with the



HOWARD SCHNAPP

Lasses of the rings

Naomi, 6, and Shoshana Gordon, 7, toss rings during the Temple Israel of Lawrence Family Purim Carnival on Sunday. The event featured games, obstacle courses, face painting, crafts and food. Purim commemorates the saving of the Jewish people as told in the biblical Book of Esther.

victims and survivors of school mass shootings, especially the students of Parkland, Florida.”

The council voted unanimously to approve the street closures.

A petition on the national March for Our Lives website lists legislative proposals, including banning the sale of assault weapons and high-capacity magazines, and requiring a background check on every gun sale. But the Glen Cove students said their march will be deliberately more general.

“We’re not looking for specific legislation,” said Elijah James, 15. “We’re looking for the direness of the situation to be recognized.”

Morgan Vignali, 17, said the Parkland shooting shook Glen Cove High. Some students “came to school crying, because they were scared to come to school,” Vignali said.

— DAVID OLSON

BROOKHAVEN TOWN

Moody’s upgrades credit to high rating

Moody’s Investors Service has upgraded Brookhaven’s credit rating, citing the town’s cash reserves and large tax base.

The Manhattan credit rating agency on Thursday gave Brookhaven an Aa1 rating — the firm’s second-highest rating — and upgraded the town’s outlook to stable.

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Moody’s said the upgraded rating “reflects improved reserves and liquidity. The Aa1 rating also reflects a large-sized tax base with significant institutional presence and moderate debt and pension burden with above average fixed costs.”

The firm warned that the rating could be downgraded if town officials struggle to recoup financial losses when they close the town landfill in about eight years.

“The stable outlook reflects strong fiscal management leading to ample reserves,” Moody’s said in a news release. “We continue to monitor management’s ability to offset the eventual closing of the town’s landfill and the impact on finances.”

In an email, Brookhaven Supervisor Edward P. Romaine said the upgrade “reaffirms the financial strength of Brookhaven Town, and

reflects the hard work of the town board in providing a structurally balanced budget, keeping the tax rate low and reducing debt.”

— CARL MACGOWAN

EAST WILLISTON NYPIRG to conduct door-to-door polling

The New York Public Interest Research Group will be conducting door-to-door opinion polling in East Williston from Monday to April 30.

Eleven representatives from the nonprofit good government group will have yellow signs that state “Peddling-Soliciting License #2018-1” with the East Williston Village seal on the lower right side to identify themselves. They will conduct their questioning from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and will be driving a gray Dodge Grand Caravan, village officials said.

Village officials encourage residents to call 516-746-0782 if they see any problems or irregularities with the group’s canvassing.

— KRISTOPHER J. BROOKS

ISLIP TOWN

Larger code costs to be picked up by feds

A larger amount of Islip Town’s code enforcement costs will be reimbursed by the federal government, an official said.

The town board voted on Tuesday to accept a \$100,000 community development block grant as reimbursement for some payroll expenses from 2017 code enforcement services, town spokeswoman Caroline Smith said.

The grant helps provide code enforcement in low- to moderate-income areas of Bay Shore, Brentwood and Central Islip, Smith said. The grant is a \$25,000 increase from one received last year, Smith said.

The funding, through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, will be disbursed after the Town of Islip Community Development Agency receives a yearly accomplishment report and signed agreement. Smith estimated the agreement will be received this month.

Last year’s code enforcement expenses were about \$954,000, according to the town’s 2018 adopted budget.

— RACHELLE BLIDNER