



EAST HAMPTON VILLAGE BOARD
3 CANDIDATES FOR MAYOR
Zoom Debate – Wednesday, August 19, 2020
View it live on LTV's YouTube Page

Table of Contents

| | <u>Page</u> |
|---|-------------|
| A. <u>Debate Procedures</u> | 2 |
| B. <u>Voting in Person or by Absentee Ballot</u> | 3 |
| C. <u>Candidate Statements (supplied by candidates-unedited)</u> | |
| 1. Barbara Borsack | 5 |
| 2. Arthur "Tiger" Graham..... | 7 |
| 3. Jerry Larsen | 9 |
| D. <u>Vision Statement currently appearing on the Village's website</u> | 11 |

The **East Hampton Group for Good Government** is a local nonpartisan organization promoting awareness of town and other local issues through spirited public discussions of ideas in a civil and respectful manner. The GGG sponsors "GGG Insights" on LTV and holds public forums and member meetings on local matters, encouraging its members to become involved with local government, school, quality of life and environmental issues. Learn more about the GGG at ehggg.org and watch "GGG Insights" presented on LTV, Channel 20 with direct links to our shows available on ehggg.org

VOTE on SEPTEMBER 15 in Person or by Absentee Ballot But VOTE

AN APPLICATION FOR AN ABSENTEE BALLOT IS AVAILABLE FROM THE VILLAGE CLERK

Voting is from noon to 9 PM on SEPTEMBER 15 at the Emergency Services Building on Cedar Street

As part of their outreach and education program, our friends at the Village Preservation Society of East Hampton (VPS), a local not-for-profit, which maintains a strictly neutral position on candidates in any election, prepared a questionnaire which has been submitted to all candidates running for office this election cycle. Each candidate completed the questionnaire. Responses can be viewed at: <http://villagepreservationsociety.org/election.html>

Village Board Candidates Debate Procedures—Candidates for Mayor

The purpose of the Debate is to give the public the opportunity to evaluate the candidates and to give the candidates the opportunity to share their views with the voters. We want to thank each candidate for participating in our debate.

The GGG moderator will introduce the candidates and describe the procedures. The audience has been given the opportunity to suggest questions in advance but, because of the practical limitations of a large group using LTV's version of Zoom (Zoom plus Vmix), only the GGG hosts and the Candidates will have live audio

You can view the debate live on LTV's YouTube page. A recording of the Debate will be available as a direct link on ehggg.org and will be supplied to LTV for future showings

Prior to the Debate, each candidate was asked to submit two pages including a resume and ideas for the Village and the board by email to the GGG. These materials, unedited, are included in this debate brochure.

The format of the forum is designed to give all candidates equal time to express their ideas, by setting one-minute time limits on each candidate response — with a 15 second warning card as time is running out.

The first segment is a one-minute presentation by each candidate of his or her qualifications and main ideas for the Village and the board.

There follows the main part of the forum where the chairpersons will present a series of prepared questions to the candidates. All candidates will be given up to one minute to answer each question. The candidate asked to answer first will rotate so all candidates will be given a chance to be the first and last to answer some question(s). If candidates agree with an answer previously given, they are encouraged to simply say so, saving time and allowing more questions to be asked.

The GGG chairpersons will have reviewed members' questions submitted prior to the debate and will have tried to incorporate their ideas into the debate questions. It is unlikely that there will be enough time to answer all the members' questions and within a day or so after the debate the GGG expects to email them to all candidates. The individual candidates may choose to answer directly some, all or none as they each determine -- this is why we ask questioners for their email addresses. The question sets should also give all candidates a sense of the concerns of the community.

In the last segment of the debate, each candidate will be afforded one minute to sum up his or her views.

Except for the first four questions below, we do not distribute questions to candidates prior to a debate but suggest that candidates become familiar with village government issues: including septic issues, parks, parking, outdoor restaurant seating; affordable housing; upgrading telecommunications; wind and solar energy; facilitating local business operations; improving year round job opportunities; attracting new year round business; deer management; the functioning of a village board; the village budget, bonding and choices; union and collective bargaining issues; incentivizing outstanding village employees and improving the performance of low achievers; implementing information technology in village departments; Police Department and Code enforcement — housing, drinking, safety; wastewater management; uses and limits on the CPF; increasing the involvement of all communities in civic affairs; beach access and cleanliness; senior and youth services; increasing non tax revenues;

We have shared with the candidates the first four questions below:

*1. **Septic system** Almost everyone agrees that the Village should build a neighborhood sewer system to cover Main Street and New Town Lane and some adjoining areas. This would reduce pollution from private septic systems and could allow more dense affordable housing, more apartments on the second floor of commercial buildings, and/or expansion of restaurants. However, the placement of the sewage*

treatment plant is always a problem. Let's assume that the first choice is a parcel acquired by the village just outside the northern edge of the village. As soon as the plan is made public, the nearby neighbors--whose homes and business are not in the Village but are close to the proposed site--scream that the fancy Village is dumping its sewage in their neighborhood. What do you do?

*2. **Hotel Overlay District.** The Village's hotels and inns are non-conforming uses in residentially zoned areas which makes it difficult for them to modernize and expand. A proposal has been made to create a special hotel overlay district which could bring them into conforming use and encourage septic improvements but also allow more outdoor dining, music and special events in tents. Some people have noticed that the proposed district not only covers existing structures but would also allow expansion on to adjoining presently residential properties and residents nearby claim that the peace and quiet of their neighborhoods would be destroyed for the sake of a few business owners. What would you do?*

*3. **Code Enforcement.** Residents watch the Village zoning board meetings on LTV where people face hurdles when they want to add space above a garage for gym equipment or want to have a planter on the edge of wetlands. Meanwhile they see that someone, who did not bother to get a building permit, has built several non-conforming structures on her property--greatly exceeding coverage limits or in a wetland setback-- hires a lawyer, starts or threatens a law suit and enters into a settlement allowing her them to keep at least some of the grossly non-conforming items--an outcome which seems improbable had they followed the rules and applied for a permit in the first place. What would you do?*

*4. **Vision Statement.** Attached on the last page of this brochure is the vision statement that appears on the Village's website. You have been asked to update it--what changes, if any, would you make?*

The rest of the questions will reflect the consolidation of questions submitted by GGG members.

All voters registered at a Village address with the Suffolk County Board of Elections may vote for any candidate of any party on **Election Day Tuesday, September 15, 2020** See below for important information on applying for an absentee ballot and voting.

REGISTERING AND VOTING 2020—ABSENTEE BALLOTS

Registration September 4 is the last day individuals may register with the Suffolk County Board of Elections to be eligible to vote in the Village election on **September 15** (registration covers all subsequent local, state and federal elections). For any questions regarding registering call the Suffolk County Board of Elections at 631 852-4500.

It's your choice where to vote.

New York State law allows second homeowners to choose where they want to vote—the place of their second or first home. You may vote in only one location in an election cycle.

This means that if—for example—you have a home in New York City and a home in East Hampton, you may register and vote in East Hampton even if New York City is your primary residence, as

long as you have legitimate, significant and continuing attachments to East Hampton. You may vote in East Hampton by absentee ballot, if necessary. **For full details visit ehggg.org**

Voting and Absentee Ballots in this Village Election

The procedures to vote in the Village elections are different from the town and federal elections.

1. The only place to vote in person is at the Emergency Services Building on Cedar Street which will be open from noon to 9 PM on **Village Election Day, Tuesday SEPTEMBER 15.**
2. If you want to vote by absentee ballot, you must deliver to the Village Clerk's office at 86 Main Street, your completed New York Village Absentee Ballot Application (**a copy of the Application is another attachment to the email which delivered this Brochure to you** --- additional copies of the Application can be picked up at the Village Hall on Main Street)
 - a. If you deliver the Application in person yourself or by your agent, it must be received by the Village Clerk by **SEPTEMBER 14**
 - b. If you mail your Application it must be **received by the Village Clerk by SEPTEMBER 8**, the day before September 9, when the Village Clerk will mail the Absentee Ballots.
 - c. The Village Clerk mails the actual Absentee Ballots on **SEPTEMBER 9** but will give you or your agent an Absentee Ballot for you after that if your Application is hand delivered by you or your agent to the Clerk by **SEPTEMBER 14.**

REMEMBER THAT DURING THE CORONA VIRUS EMERGENCY ALL DELIVERIES MAY TAKE LONGER THAN USUAL

3. The completed Absentee Ballot must be RECEIVED by the close of business on **SEPTEMBER 15** [4 PM if delivered to the Clerk at the Village Hall and 9 PM at the polling place in the Emergency Services Building]. For this purpose, the date of the postmark or mailing is irrelevant, and a Ballot received after the close of business on September 15 will not be counted.
4. Please remember only people registered at a Village address with the Suffolk County Board of Elections to vote in the general election may vote in the Village Election. If you are unsure whether you are registered at an address in the Village, you should call the **Suffolk County Board of Elections at (631) 852-4500.**
5. If you have any questions on voting procedures in the Village Election, the Village Clerk, Pam Bennet, can be reached at (631) 324 4150.

BARBARA BORSACK: Barbara Borsack comes from a family with roots going back to the earliest days of East Hampton’s history. She was born and raised in the village and lives in the house next door to the house where she grew up, which is part of a compound of homes built adjacent to the original family business. She raised four children with her husband, three of which continue to live, work, and raise their families in East Hampton.

Barbara has devoted her life to public service. She was a founding member of the East Hampton Healthcare Foundation and still serves on its board. She is also a long-time member of the board of trustees at the East Hampton Historical Society and has served multiple terms on the board of the Southampton Hospital.

Barbara is a 30 year volunteer with the East Hampton Village Ambulance Association where she served two terms as its first female chief. She has personally answered over 3500 ambulance calls as a volunteer EMT.

In the early 1990s Barbara began her government service to the residents of the village when she was appointed to the East Hampton Zoning Board of Appeals. She was in her second term when she was tapped to chair the Comprehensive Plan Committee, and then was elected as the first woman on the Village Board of Trustees.

Barbara has been a strong voice for residents of the village, always being responsive to their needs. She believes in encouraging a strong business center while maintaining the boundaries of the commercial district and always looks for the balance between commercial interests and residents’ desire for the peaceful enjoyment of their homes and neighborhoods. She worked hard to develop consensus on leaf blower legislation and other noise issues such as hours for construction work.

Barbara has been a strong supporter of the Community Preservation Program and is acutely aware of the need to protect the historic buildings and vistas of our beautiful village. During her tenure the board has used Community Preservation Funds to obtain a scenic easement on the Thomas and Mary Nimmo Moran Studio, purchased properties for open space on Toilsome Lane, Pantigo Road, Ocean Avenue, and most recently secured two parcels adjacent to Herrick Park. The board also purchased the Isaac Osborne home on Newtown Lane with village funds and restored it for office use and is now recreating the Dominy house with the two restored shop structures in its original position on North Main Street with both public and private funds.

Other accomplishments during Barbara’s tenure on the board include:

- water improvement projects to reduce runoff into our ponds
- septic mandates for low nitrogen systems on all new construction
- installation of solar panels on the Emergency Services and Department of Public Works buildings, significantly reducing electric costs for taxpayers.
- replacing gas vehicles with hybrid and electric ones in village fleet
- conservative budgeting and careful use of public funds resulting in a rating of Aa1 and strong fund balances
- Strong capital plan to address infrastructure and other needs
- digitalization of records for easy access by staff and public
- use of community members on various boards and committees to increase input from stakeholders
- creation of village website and Facebook page for access by residents to notices and to allow inquiries
- upgraded Emergency Communications system
- additional ambulance to fleet, and full time paid medic program as well as retirement benefits for volunteer ambulance workers
- additional code enforcement officer
- addition of full time planner and full time historic consultant to staff

Among the many ideas Barbara has for the village going forward are the streamlining of the Village Zoning Board process, improving the parking system in a user friendly way for residents and visitors alike, and more coordinated efforts with the town. Most recently she has been in the process of forming a Joint Town-Village Traffic Task Force to address regional traffic issues and public transportation.

Barbara believes that it is necessary to upgrade the Comprehensive Plan as well as always look ahead to consider how our code may need to change to adjust to the needs of our constituents.

ARTHUR “TIGER” GRAHAM: I am a proven leader with a 30+ year career in finance. I have managed a national sales force, and I have managed bond trading operations. My management experience has informed the way that I work with people – collaboratively setting policies so that people buy in to the task at hand. I have served on the Village Board for just three years and during that time, we have brought forth important initiatives like a wastewater treatment plan, a revitalization plan for Herrick Park, and many other initiatives to support water quality and small businesses. I led the initiative on restricting leaf blowers during the summer months to keep our neighborhoods peaceful. Your choice for Mayor is important. With three candidates in the race for Mayor, I’d like to describe how I differ from the others. I believe that my career management experience coupled with my local community service work, leading both the East Hampton Historical Society and the Thomas Moran Trust sets the table for me to govern the Village in a professional and respectful manner.

- We engaged a consultant to come up with a plan for **wastewater treatment**, affordable housing, and parking. This plan will be presented to us in the weeks ahead, and the committee will present the findings to the Village Board.
- You all know that our consultant for the **Herrick Park renovation** has presented their preliminary plan to the committee and to the Village, and will soon be making their final presentation to the Village Board and public. We are committed to ensuring that our families, youth and community has a beautiful park to enjoy.
- We have recently voted for a change to our code that will allow **“Take Out” restaurants to have up to 16 seats**, subject to Suffolk County Health Department approval, allowing a more “user friendly” environment for those stores. This is one step of many that we think will add vibrancy to the village and small businesses.
- We have agreed to adopt an innovative **parking enforcement system** for the lots and on street parking that will give us flexibility to allow for visitors to purchase a third hour so they can enjoy lunch and shopping or take in a movie without being subject to the tyranny of a hard two hour limit.
- Collaborating with the LVIS, we have placed **attractive flower planters** on the sidewalks of the Village Core as part of our beautification efforts.
- We adopted **I/A septic system** requirements for new residential properties to protect our ponds and groundwater.
- We are heading up a working group, comprised of various stakeholders and officials, which is committed to finding an agreeable solution to the **PSEG poles on King and McGuirk Streets** and getting it done.
- We are now keeping the **Main Beach bathrooms** open until 8PM during the Summer season for the convenience of the public.
- We enacted legislation **curtailing magazine litter**. Recognizing the detrimental effect of plastic straws and balloons on our environment, we banned plastic straws and the intentional release of balloons.
- We removed the **garbage cans from the beaches to the beach heads**, in the parking lots at the end of the roads. We also have scheduled an additional evening garbage pickup at the beaches this summer to reduce the occurrence of overflow onto our precious beaches. We will not allow this to become a problem.
- We installed **water hydration stations** within the village at Herrick Park and Main Beach to reduce single use plastics.

- We installed **WiFi at Main Beach** for the convenience of the public and foremost public safety as it enables 911 calls to be made. WiFi at Georgia Beach will be installed this summer.
- We have instituted a **Deer Management program**.
- We negotiated and approved a **5-year police contract**.
- We supported **CPF open space purchase** of 81 Ocean Avenue.
- We are supporting the ongoing reconstruction of the **Dominy Clock Shop** on North Main St.
- We enacted **landscaping and leaf blowing restrictions** for noise abatement.
- We are in the process of soliciting bids for the **dredging of Town Pond** this Fall.
- We purchased **two new Ambulances, a new Tanker and Air Packs for the Fire Department** to ensure our First Responders are properly equipped.
- We are in the process of building the new **Fire Department substation** in Northwest.

What we plan to do:

- Discuss having **music in Herrick Park** on several weekends during the Spring, Summer, & Fall afternoons.
- Consider **allowing restaurants to have music** as long as it is inaudible outside the building.
- We need to bring **rational rental regulation to homestays** such as AIRBNB.
- We need to institute **Traffic Calming measures** to the Village streets.
- We need to work with **Village Shop Owners** to find a way to have reasonable outdoor displays.
- We should consider designating the **Osborne Lane parking lot as a “permit lot”** where people in the Village may purchase a monthly permit for all day parking.
- We must re-evaluate the **Village Code and Comprehensive Plan** and make updates that reflect the issues and goals of today.

Governing Principles that I will follow as Mayor of the Village:

- I pledge to make the “Village of No” into the “Village of We Hear You”. Let’s work together to get to “Yes.”
- I believe that reasonable people can make reasonable accommodations to any problem, and I will work very hard to get to that reasonable conclusion.
- I believe that the Mayor is the leader, but not the King of the Village, just one voice of five on the Village Board.
- I believe that while residents of the Town cannot vote in Village Elections, that does not mean that they don’t have good ideas that should be considered by the Village Board. They are all part of the fabric of the Village

JERRY LARSEN: I am a lifelong resident of East Hampton. As a child I lived on Buell Lane, after high school I lived on Conklin Terrace. I have devoted most of my life to the Village of East Hampton, serving 34 years with the Village Police, retiring as chief of police in 2016. My wife, Lisa Mulhern Larsen and I have six children together, Robert Wood, Christopher Wood, Kathryn Wood, Chelsea Larsen, Evan Larsen and Tristan Larsen. All our children are now adults and live on their own.

My Career with the Village of East Hampton: 1983 Traffic Control Officer 1984 Part Time Police Officer 1986 Full Time Police Officer 1990 Detective 1995 Patrol Sergeant 1997 Detective Sergeant 2001 Lieutenant (executive officer) 2003 Chief of Police/Emergency Manager 2011 Chief of Police/Emergency Manager/Town wide 911-Dispatch Department Head 2013 Chief of Police/Emergency Manager/Town wide 911-Dispatch Department Head/Paid Paramedic oversight. 2016 Retired

Family Security Business 2005 Established Protec Services Inc (Security Guard Business-construction sites) 2007 Expanded to provide Burglary/Fire Alarm and Camera Installations 2008 Expanded to provide property management services 2017 Expanded to provide Fire Extinguisher installations and Service

Current Employment MacAndrews & Forbes-Director of Security, The Creeks, East Hampton 2016-present

Service to the Community and Organizations Past President, East Hampton Little League Past President, Police Association of Suffolk County Member of the New York State Association of Chiefs of Police Retired member, Suffolk County Police Chiefs Member, East Hampton Chamber of Commerce Member, East Hampton Kiwanis Club, Board Member of LTV

Education and Licenses BA Public Affairs, Empire State College, SUNY NYS Licensed Private Investigator NYS Licensed Alarm Installer NYS Licensed Security Guard Instructor NYS Licensed Alarm Installer Instructor I am seeking election for Mayor of the Village of East Hampton. I will bring energy, fair and meaningful leadership, new and creative ideas to the Village that I was raised in and have devoted most of my life to. My 34 years of experience with the Village of East Hampton along with, managing the two largest union-based Departments in Village government, I believe, makes me the best candidate to lead the Village into the future. To learn more about me:

www.jerrylarsenformayor.com

My Platform:

Term Limits.

Regenerate our Business District.

We need to increase parking.

Bury the power lines.

Improve our Beaches and Beach Services.

Update the Village Code and Comprehensive Plan.

**Reverse the reputation the current Village Board has earned,
“The Village of No.” (www.thevillageofno.org)**

Review all legislation that this Village Board has enacted during the last 5 Years..

VISION STATEMENT CURRENTLY ON THE VILLAGE'S WEBSITE

The Village of East Hampton treasures its extraordinary natural beauty and the architectural styles added by generations of residents who sought to enhance the natural beauty of the area rather than to overwhelm such rare splendor.

This generation of residents seeks to reaffirm the wisdom of the founders and protect and preserve the character of this village. It seeks, as did its predecessors, to secure "a continuance of its convenient and attractive features by circumscribing the limits of the area occupied by industrial and commercial enterprises as related to the area reserved for residential."(1) Preservation and stabilization are required in order to maintain green open spaces, natural vegetation, historic structures, and the continuation of our quality of life.

In a residential enclave one's quality of life is affected by the other residents. We appreciate the diversity of our population as well as the variety of aesthetics, topography, landscape and architecture of the village. The character of our neighborhoods benefits from dwellings and accessory facilities that are compatible with one another, with space and screening to protect neighboring properties.

The right to peaceful enjoyment of residential property and protection against the threat of impinging non-residential activity and traffic are of paramount concern. We foresee no need to expand the commercial areas; the size and scale of commercial development should be limited. Also, we would like to encourage a variety of goods and services that meet the needs of residents.

"The Village of East Hampton is famed as one of America's most beautiful and uniquely situated villages. Residents of the Village of East Hampton derive considerable peace of mind from their congenial surroundings. The character and charm of the village also attracts many visitors. The ever-increasing number of people drawn to the village poses the greatest threat at this time."(2) This generation of residents seeks to minimize the effects of ever-increasing tourism.

While traffic is a continuing problem in the village, we do not seek radical solutions that will affect the nature, physical design or charm of the village. Instead, we should alleviate seasonal traffic congestion and improve traffic flow only through less dramatic means. The village should maintain the current configuration of its road system, and should discourage the use of residential streets for through traffic while encouraging pedestrian enjoyment of the village. Furthermore, the village should not provide any additional parking but should maximize the use of existing parking resources.

The village and the town share a common history and the desire to preserve their heritage. The town anticipates an expanding population that inevitably will interact with the village. The

village and the town need to appreciate and respond to their mutual interests by cooperating in planning for the future.

In order to protect and secure this extraordinary village for future generations, this generation of residents reaffirms and reasserts: "the Village of East Hampton is committed to the avoidance of assaults on the senses which in the case of this village are especially dependent on the aesthetic quality and physical attributes of the community. Among these are the general form of the land before and after development, the spatial relationships of structures and open spaces and the retention of the unique aesthetic quality that is part of the character of the Village of East Hampton."(3)

Details

1 excerpted and edited from minutes of special meeting of the village board, April 27, 1926. 2,3 excerpted and edited from East Hampton village code, section 13.1, April 20, 1979, Village of East Hampton Comprehensive Plan.