

WORK SESSION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Monday, January 22, 2024
INC. VILLAGE OF FARMINGDALE

The Work Session of the Board of Trustees of the Incorporated Village of Farmingdale was held at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, January 22, 2024.

Present: Mayor Ralph Ekstrand
Deputy Mayor William Barrett
Trustee Cheryl Parisi
Trustee Walter Priestley
Trustee Craig Rosasco
Administrator/Clerk/Treasurer Brian Harty
Deputy Clerk Daniel Ruckdeschel
Village Attorney Claudio DeBellis

The following topics were discussed:

- H2M presented their findings and comprehensively discussed the drainage system in the Village of Farmingdale. H2M has completed computer modeling of the drainage system that showed all of the drainage exits Village boundaries at the interconnection at Heisser Lane. When there are large sustained storms or intense short term storm events the system only shows pooling in two locations: one on Linwood Avenue and the other on Heisser Lane where the entire system flows through to the positive flow drainage system. H2M spoke about possible solutions but more research needs to be done on the Tulane, Jefferson and the sump south of the LIRR tracks. These sumps are connected by an underground piping system in that order and are recharge basins in the area in question that impacts Linwood Avenue. Soil borings were suggested to be done in the Tulane and Jefferson sumps to determine the infiltration rate and general maintenance of the three sumps was discussed. The County of Nassau is responsible for the maintenance of the sumps. Mayor Ekstrand will be in contact with the NCDPW to suggest that the County survey the sumps and make improvements to improve draining and flow to prevent flooding. H2M will be following up and continuing their work with discussions ongoing.
- Owners of The Coop discussed changes to the façade, sign and interior. The changes to the façade, sign and interior will go before the Planning Board on Tuesday, January 23, 2024 for approval. The Special Use Permit will be adjusted to reflect the changes once adopted. In addition, Court issues need to be resolved with an appearance on February 7th.

2023/2024 TAX ROLL AND WARRANT – Upon a motion made by Deputy Mayor Barrett and seconded by Trustee Parisi, it was,

RESOLVED (#2024-01-14), to acknowledge the return of the 2023/2024 tax roll and warrant and report of unpaid taxes (See attached list) pursuant to §1436 of the Real Property Tax Law of the State of New York.

WORK SESSION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Monday, January 22, 2024
INC. VILLAGE OF FARMINGDALE

The discussion continued on the following topics:

- Linwood Avenue update:
 - H2M has been hired to perform a drainage study of the area and to propose options for corrective measures. A preliminary report is anticipated in mid-January (see above).
 - The Village will continue to monitor weather conditions and anything else that might have an impact in the area while H2M works on solutions.
 - Residents were informed about how to access FEMA/State programs along with contact numbers for Governor Hochul, Senator Rhoads and Assemblyman Blumencranz.
 - Mayor Ekstrand has coordinated with the Town of Oyster Bay for drain maintenance in the area, which is completed as of mid-December.
 - A resident requested tree trimming on Linwood Ave. to assist in limiting debris during storm events.
- Fire Department
- Building Department:
 - Blue and Gold Development at 1 Conklin Street is now under construction.
 - 7-11 and Sunoco – the ZBA has approved the plans and the Board approved the Special Use Permit, awaiting construction drawings in order to issue building permit. Final State DOT comments received by developer.
 - Eastern Parkway derelict garage – framing is done, ready for windows and siding.
 - New parking arrangements on Eastern Parkway under review in front of and behind 4 family houses. Met with Fairfield’s architect and have a tentative agreement for 11 spaces on-site parking in driveways that will be assigned and numbered, and 7 spaces on the street similar to other FF projects (with Board approval). Fairfield has requested contract – a proposed contract was sent to Fairfield.
 - Paver issue on Cherry Street, resident has submitted plan to come into compliance, with removal of hardscape in process, plantings to be done in the spring.
 - Both Sterling Green and Robby Lee projects are proceeding. No issues with either project.

WORK SESSION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Monday, January 22, 2024
INC. VILLAGE OF FARMINGDALE

- Dish Network application has been sent to Dick Comi for review. D&B is coordinating all related issues with Mr. Comi.
- VHB has been contracted to analyze the Master Plan and the developments that have occurred in the last 12 years – ongoing draft completed and will be presented to the Board at a January work session.
- Waiting for Verizon submission of an application to install communication equipment on the clock tower at Palmer’s Shopping Center.
- “The Coop” was issued a temporary C/O and will be going back to the Planning Board for exterior approval. They have requested seating modifications to interior for approval by the Board of Trustees and were asked to attend a mid-January work session.
- Lotus Garden should be ready to open as soon as the natural gas is installed. A permit has just been issued for installation.
- Proposed 2 lot sub-division on Staples Street is in process and will be sent to NCPC when Planning Board review is complete.
- Enterprise Rent-A-Car may be moving into the corner of Route 109 and Route 24. Waiting for application, Superintendent Fellman was asked to contact them.
- Need more information regarding proposed sporting goods store.
- Proposal for apartment at 207 Main St. to the Planning Board for review.
- The clock tower at Palmers Shopping Center has been painted to match the new paint on the building. Verified that they intend to paint the clock tower.
- February 3 – Lotus Garden gas installation
- Valance across from law office
- CVS lot letter to manage/ticket lot – need local law. Announce in February for adoption in March.
- Fading signage on parking lots, contact Scott.
- Highway Department:
 - Lot maintenance and routine maintenance of Main St.
 - Routine garbage pickup in parks and dog stations
 - The new DPW garage is 99% complete: remaining items is final alarm system connections to fans, then Fire Marshal inspection.

WORK SESSION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Monday, January 22, 2024
INC. VILLAGE OF FARMINGDALE

- Main St. pole removal project Phase 1 with PSEGLI & Altice completed. Street widening, sidewalks and paving has been completed, new driveway to Parking Lot 4 sidewalks and drain completed. Verizon has line removals between Prospect Street and Route 109 to complete their work (January 2024).
- Poles for FFD stoplights and traffic “loops” at Rte. 24 are ordered, anticipate delivery by January 2024.
- Magniflood quote for electric GFI type fixture \$325/\$350 per fixture for holiday decorations in parking lots.
- A tree on Prospect St. across from Doud St. needs to be evaluated for possible removal – removal on hold.
- Received plan for new DPW pocket park, approved by the Board. The gazebo is in and stored at the vendor’s facility.
- Village Green Gazebo brick wall needs repointing (Spring 2024).
- The Board requested that the new landscaper weed and mulch certain locations, and that deep root fertilizing for all parking lot trees and trimming of dead branches in all parking lots be accomplished in the spring of 2024.
- Need to move sign for resident parking on Washington Street.
- Need to evaluate lighting at the Melville Road/Secatogue Avenue intersection.
- Administrator Harty contacted Cornell Cooperative Extension regarding Main Street landscape architecture and Village-wide tree assessment, meeting completed with tour awaiting proposal from CCE.
- Mayor Ekstrand contacted National Grid regarding tree grant for Main Street. A meeting is scheduled for the week of December 18 – met with National Grid rep and they need tree plan. Anticipated grant will be between \$5,000 and \$10,000.
- A light is out over the sign in Parking Lot 3, parts have been ordered.
- Potholes in North LIRR parking lot
- CVS Lot 2 stop signs by McDonald’s crosswalk.
- From Ken Tortoso – DPW weekly work assignments:
- Town of Oyster Bay Lighting has been in repairing streetlight outages.

WORK SESSION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Monday, January 22, 2024
INC. VILLAGE OF FARMINGDALE

- Stapleton will be in for the new year for tree stumps and removals.
- DPW crews worked on snow removal and salting walkways.
- Water Department:
 - Water tower construction completed, including training on pumping system in tower base.
 - Dish Network is in engineering design review process.
 - Tank removal is completed and all debris has been removed.
 - AOP installation by Philip Ross is complete and testing to meet health department requirements is complete at Well 1-3. SCADA system design for this new system is underway by Philip Ross Industries coordinating with Eagle Control who will be installing the new system – installation of Well 1-3 anticipated soon.
 - New steel building to cover the GAC tanks at Well 1-3 will be delivered by January 19th. Foundation design and installation contractor is being arranged.
 - \$3,000,000 has been awarded to the Village in Gov. Hochul’s budget for Improvements WIIA grant. This funding will be applied for in the near term, Deputy Clerk Ruckdeschel to follow up. \$4,624,000 in funding has been committed for Phase 2 project at Ridge Road from the New York State WIIA grant for the new GAC installation. PWGC handled the application and narrative for this grant.
 - Plant 2 construction underway with GAC building nearing completion. Pipe installation to connect into the system with cut ins to main trunk lines to be done as arranged by PRI when Well 1-3 is fully operational.
 - PWGC following up on required testing to secure funding from legal settlements.
 - Bans have been sold to pay for Water Department upgrades.
 - Discussed status of various projects with updates coming from PRI on all aspects.
 - Discussions underway with South Farmingdale Water District Inter-Municipal agreement for certain management services.
 - Contact PWGC regarding state grants.

WORK SESSION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Monday, January 22, 2024
INC. VILLAGE OF FARMINGDALE

- From John Falbo:
- ALL AOP work is slow but steady. Something is getting done every day up at Ridge Road. Mostly on electrical end right now.
- A new 2 inch domestic water service was installed at The Carlyle (776 Fulton St.). It also received its Fire Service line.
- Quarterly readings...as usual we assisted.
- General well maintenance and monitoring.
- Our communications for SCADA are being worked on, which will hopefully limit the amount of times we have to come in at night. Monitoring the communication failures is endless and happens a couple of times a night. This can lead to multiple alarms depending on time that a communication failure comes through. Because of these failures a well may not start on time or stop on time which can lead to multiple wells on at once, elevated tank overflow, and it could also lead to chemical spikes. It's part of our job but when SCADA is up and running it will hopefully eliminate part of our response to scene when it is unnecessary.
- Water main break at Clinton Ave. and Dale Drive intersection was done with Merrick Utilities and VOF.
- Code Department:
 - Working until 11:00 p.m. on Thursday, Friday and Saturday and day shift on Sunday until 7:00 p.m.
 - Noise issues regarding outdoor music, types and volume levels to be enforced with Notice of Violation and then summons if needed.
- Make Uber parking/pickup on Main St. after 10:00 p.m. for implementation spring/summer 2024, after pole removal project is completed. All signage and brackets are being ordered for Main Street.

USE OF FACILITIES – KIWANIS CLUB, upon a motion made by Trustee Parisi and seconded by Trustee Priestley, it was,

RESOLVED (#2024-01-15), to approve Kiwanis Club Craft and Gift fairs to be held on the Village Green on Saturday, June 22, 2024 & Sunday, June 23, 2024 and Saturday, September 21, 2024 & Sunday, September 22, 2024. As Sunday, September 22 is a scheduled rain date for Art in the Park, the Kiwanis event will be cancelled on that date if needed.

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Monday, January 22, 2024
INC. VILLAGE OF FARMINGDALE

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Brian P. Harty, Village Clerk-Treasurer