

WORK SESSION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Monday, August 15, 2022
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, August 15, 2022.

Present: Mayor Ralph Ekstrand
Deputy Mayor William Barrett
Trustee Cheryl Parisi
Trustee Walter Priestley (arrived at 7:42)
Trustee Craig Rosasco
Administrator/Clerk/Treasurer Brian Harty
Deputy Clerk Daniel Ruckdeschel
Village Attorney Claudio DeBellis

Mayor Ekstrand opened the meeting at 7:00 PM.

WORK SESSION & PUBLIC HEARING POSTPONEMENT – Upon a motion made by Trustee Parisi and seconded by Deputy Mayor Barrett, it was,

RESOLVED (#2023-08-16), to postpone the Work Session & Public Hearing, currently scheduled for Monday, October 3, 2022 to Tuesday, October 11, 2022 beginning at 7:00 p.m. The Work Session scheduled for Monday, October 17, 2022 will be cancelled.

NEW HIRES (CODE) – Upon a motion made by Deputy Mayor Barrett and seconded by Trustee Parisi, it was,

RESOLVED (#2023-08-17), to hire the following people as Part-Time Parking Meter Attendants at an hourly rate of \$18.00:

- Louis Oswald
- Marcos Cotto
- Jake Amato

NEW HIRE (BUILDING) – Upon a motion made by Trustee Parisi and seconded by Deputy Mayor Barrett, it was,

RESOLVED (#2023-08-18), to hire Reilly Fellman as a Part-Time Temporary Administrative Intern at an hourly rate of \$15.00.

NEW HIRES (FD MAINTAINER) – Upon a motion made by Deputy Mayor Barrett and seconded by Trustee Rosasco, it was,

RESOLVED (#2023-08-19), to hire the following people as Part-Time Substitute Firehouse Maintainers at an hourly rate of \$18.00:

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- Kenneth Amato
- Jake Pitcher
- James Russo

NEW HIRE (FD CLEANER) – Upon a motion made by Deputy Mayor Barrett and seconded by Trustee Parisi, it was,

RESOLVED (#2023-08-20), to hire Robert Leone as a Part-Time Cleaner at an hourly rate of \$18.00.

STREET PAVING – Upon a motion made by Deputy Mayor Barrett and seconded by Trustee Rosasco, it was,

RESOLVED (#2023-08-21), to approve paving of Van Cott Avenue – Grant Avenue at a cost of \$55,000.

Trustee Priestley arrived.

PARKING METERS – Upon a motion made by Deputy Mayor Barrett and seconded by Trustee Priestley, it was unanimously,

RESOLVED (#2023-08-22), to approve the purchase of 24 Parking Meters from McKay Meters at a cost of \$163,635 and to finance the purchase through Government Capital Corp. off of BCPA contract #05-37 for five years at 4.05% at an annual cost of \$37,382.25.

USE OF FACILITIES (GLIRC) – Upon a motion made by Trustee Priestley and seconded by Trustee Parisi, it was unanimously,

RESOLVED (#2023-08-23), to approve a request from the Greater Long Island Running Club to have Leg 3 of their annual Ocean to Sound Relay take place within the Village on Sunday, September 25, 2022. Leg 3 passes through the Village along Quaker Meeting House Road between Merritts Road and Round Swamp Road.

USE OF FACILITIES (CULTURAL ARTS) – Upon a motion made by Trustee Parisi and seconded by Trustee Priestley, it was unanimously,

RESOLVED (#2023-08-24), to approve a request from the Cultural Arts Committee for the use of the Gazebo for two Youth Open Mic Nights, on Friday, September 23, 2022 and Friday, October 21, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. In case of inclement weather, it will be held in the Court Room.

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The following topics were discussed:

- Fire Department:
 - Mayor Ekstrand reported that the Town of Oyster Bay is supplying light stands and a showmobile for the Columbus Day Fair at a discounted inter-municipal price.
- Building Department:
 - The Carlyle (formerly Robbie Lee) told Mayor Ekstrand that they have finally closed financing and are getting on track.
 - 7-11 and Sunoco – to redesign the site based on feedback from the recent hearing. The site redesign was presented at hearing. The Planning Board meeting was completed, now proceeding to the ZBA.
 - Peter Florey/D&F Development (Sterling Green):
 - Building permit has been issued
 - Rodent and property maintenance issues are being addressed on Cobb Place, summons has been issued. Awaiting disposition through Village Court.
 - Village Attorney DeBellis to follow up regarding unauthorized signage affixed to poles or lawn signs.
 - Rte. 109 & Conklin St. auto body (Schmeltzer) has restarted construction and stopped. Mr. Schmeltzer was in and said that construction will restart beginning June 27 – he has not but says he will be underway this week. Work has not started. Mr. Schmeltzer’s attorney has been contacted and we are waiting for a status report. Mr. Schmeltzer and his attorney appeared in Village Court and no delay was allowed.
 - Stratford Green rat issues are being addressed solely by Stratford Green, which to date have not been successful. Their vendor has not dealt with the rat issue – their vendor has placed rat traps and the Building Department has verified that the traps are baited. Additionally, the LIRR has been notified that there is a rat issue. The issue is being addressed piecemeal.
 - Meeting held with Arrow Exterminating, told to proceed with summonses and remediation at Pizza Parlor and LIRR contacted for removal of habitat along the LIRR right-of-way.

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- Application for one home on the south side of the Black Course development has been submitted and is going to the Planning Board, waiting for Planning Board application.
- The Post Office site has been cleaned up with only fence and shed issues remaining.
- “Haunted Hamburgers” is coming to the former Friendly’s site on Route 109. Building permit has been issued, need to come to the Board for more than 12 seats.
- Asplundh has done test holes for pole removal and line burial on Main Street.
- Daler Pizza at 331 Main Street has to come to the Board for more than 12 seats. Building permit has been issued.
- Vacant house at 55 Clinton Avenue needs follow up, with lot condition and possible animals inside, along with status report from Prochamps.
- The Board requested an ownership check of certain commercial properties on Eastern Parkway. They also requested that the Building Department address certain illegal housing issues and to investigate the condition of other Eastern Parkway residences.
- Outdoor dining was discussed for Bagel Hut and the gas station at the corner of Heisser Lane. Outdoor dining is allowed with a permit at no charge.
- A discussion took place regarding exterior noise after Music on Main events and Friday and Saturday nights on Main Street.
- Certain residences in need of repair were discussed.
- Rat issues were discussed and course of action.
- New fence has been requested along the LIRR from Melville Road to Secatogue Avenue. It was noted that the LIRR needs a general cleanup of litter along the tracks at various locations.
- Highway Department:
 - Lot maintenance and routine maintenance of Main St.
 - Routine garbage pickup in parks and dog stations
 - Ongoing storm prep/planning and debris removal
 - DPW Garage renovations substantially completed, punch list items only.

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- Stumps are located at 90 Conklin St., 250 Conklin St. (Citibank), Clinton Ave.
- The PO has been issued to Westar for the new DPW garage, waiting for working plans and foundation drawings. Preliminary site work, including retaining wall, will be done by Roadwork Ahead.
- Prepping for Movies and Pop Concerts.
- Mayor Ekstrand reminded Administrator Harty that the southbound turning lane on Main Street at 5 Corners Park needs to be restriped.
- Comments from Foreman Ken Tortoso: List of DPW job assignments for the week of 8/1:
- Flowers and pots are still getting watered every day, center medians of Rte. 109 are also getting watered, hoping for some rain soon.
- Stapleton was in last week doing tree trimming, waiting on a confirmation date for the stumps, was due in Aug. 1st but cancelled due to rain.
- Called in a plumber to fix a major clog on the 2nd floor of the firehouse.
- T&J tank testing coming to do the functionality test for the Village's underground fuel tanks on Monday the 8th.
- The last Village Pops was Wednesday, thanks to all involved, will be moving everything out of the court room next week.
- Island Energy was up at DPW to replace the last 2 heaters. New ones are much more efficient and will save us on heating costs.
- Roadwork Ahead is coming in this Saturday to start the Jackson Ave. extension and to pour some concrete footings at 5 Corners Park for the sign lights.
- Week of 8/8:
- Your DPW has again been very busy during this long stretch of heat, from working the Music on Main to Movie Nights and the Village Pops plus our day to day job tasks. I'd also like to thank our Highway and Water Dept. crews for all of their hard work and dedication. We try and get as much done with a crew of 7 full timers and 3 part timers who are only in 2 ½ days a week. I'd also like to thank the Mayor, Village board, Village administrator and Superintendent Mirando for their leadership and guidance so far this year.

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- Movie night was canceled due to the rain.
 - Next week is the last Music on Main and Movie Night.
 - Wayne Stapleton Tree was supposed to be in last week to grind stumps but his chipper is down. Waiting on parts for his machine, possibly use TOB?
 - Ordered playground mulch from Edgewood, DPW will apply mulch at Gerngras Park next week.
 - TJ tank inspections came in to do the functionality test on the fuel for the County health dept., county was also on scene during the inspection.
 - Patcher truck aka pot hole truck came back from Dependable Hydraulics.
 - Jackson Ave. extension has been paved by Roadwork Ahead.
 - Roadwork Ahead starting on barrier wall for new building up at DPW.
 - Chief/DPW employee M. Tortoso was able to get 2 pallets of free water from the fire service academy.
 - Watering still ongoing, maybe before next summer we can look into getting a 2nd water tank? Watering is an all-day event, DPW is trying their best to keep the flowers as vibrant as possible.
 - DPW personnel go out every morning walking lots and Main St. picking up garbage, this takes up most of our mornings during the busy months.
 - Corner of Franklin and Conklin St. is a hot spot and always a mess, DPW tries to keep up with it, maybe have the Code Dept. make a visit. Trucks are there early every morning to go to the deli and leave the place a mess.
 - John Iaboni has been a great help to the Village and myself during the summer months.
 - TOB lighting has been in again adding and repairing outages. If you see any lights out please let me know.
- Water Department:
 - Water tower construction continues. The tank is now complete. Interior work is underway for the ceiling that will protect the booster pumps. Insulation will be added to the walls of the booster pump room along with covering.
 - Discussion about wireless services move from existing tank to temporary pole is desired, including NCPD microwave.

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- \$3,000,000 has been awarded to the Village in Gov. Hochul's budget for Improvements WIIA grant. Documents have been signed and submitted to the state to receive funding.
- New gas line arranged with National Grid
- Mayor Ekstrand requested a review of the number of cell providers that can be placed on the new water tank.
- Grant Avenue driveway apron needs to be replaced, Roadwork Ahead has this on their repair list.
- New doors and hatch approved for all well locations and are in the process of being installed.
- Mayor Ekstrand, Administrator Harty and Water Superintendent Geary Gerhardt met with Paul Grainger at Hicksville Water to look at 1,4 dioxane treatment installation.
- Meeting scheduled with PWGC to review pollution control measures and approach to solutions. PWGC recommends pre-construction purchase of equipment. WIIA grant money to be used for the purchase of Advanced Oxidation Process and Granulated Activated Carbon Equipment, Peroxide Tank and Computer Interfaces.
- Mayor Ekstrand and Administrator Harty reported on the recent meeting with PWGC and stated that pre-purchasing of pollution control equipment was recommended. Mayor Ekstrand and Administrator Harty had visited Hicksville Water District – they have already installed and are operating the equipment that can be used by Farmingdale to treat for the 1,4 dioxane contaminant.
- A second meeting with Hicksville Water District is planned for 8/18 with Mayor Ekstrand, Trustee Parisi and Administrator Harty to attend with PWGC consultants to review water treatment plant operations.
- Code Department:
 - Working until 10:00 p.m. on Thursday, Friday and Saturday.
- Court fines – FBS has collected \$55,000 in old court fines
- Farmingdale Meat Market – they want to sponsor a free event for the community, “The Farmingdale Family Cookout”. The Board proposed that Saturday, October 22, 2022 would be the most desirable date on the Village Green.

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- Make Uber parking/pickup on Main St. after 10:00 p.m. on east side of street.

SIGNS AND RELATED SERVICES – Upon a motion made by Trustee Parisi and seconded by Trustee Priestley, it was unanimously,

RESOLVED (#2023-08-25), to approve Bullseye Sign Company as the lowest responsible bidder to supply signs and related services for the CDBG Funded Sign, Light and Awning Program. The bid results are attached to these minutes.

AWNINGS AND RELATED SERVICES – Upon a motion made by Trustee Rosasco and seconded by Trustee Parisi, it was unanimously,

RESOLVED (#2023-08-26), to approve Universal Signs and Service as the lowest responsible bidder to supply awnings and related services for the CDBG Funded Sign, Light and Awning Program. The bid results are attached to these minutes.

It was reported that we did not receive bids for the electrical portion of the CDBG funded Sign, Light and Awning Program., so it was decided to continue with the current provider J. D. Faro Electric to provide electric and related services.

WALTER BREM RETIREMENT FUNCTION – Upon a motion made by Trustee Priestley and seconded by Trustee Parisi, it was unanimously,

RESOLVED (#2023-08-27), to purchase four tickets to attend Walter Brem retirement function in the amount of \$320.00 on September 15, 2022.

EPIC FAMILY OF AGENCIES EVENT – Upon a motion made by Trustee Parisi and seconded by Deputy Mayor Barrett, it was unanimously,

RESOLVED (#2023-08-28), to purchase four tickets to attend the EPIC Family of Agencies event honoring Mayor Ralph Ekstrand at a cost of \$1,000 on October 3, 2022.

EXECUTIVE SESSION, upon a motion made by Trustee Parisi and seconded by Trustee Priestley, it was unanimously,

RESOLVED (#2023-08-29), to move to Executive Session to discuss legal matters.

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Upon a motion made by Trustee Rosasco and seconded by Trustee Parisi, it was unanimously,

RESOLVED (#2023-08-30), to reconvene the meeting.

After executive session, the Board unanimously agreed not to proceed with a proposed moratorium proposed by the merchants.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Brian P. Harty, Village Clerk-Treasurer