

In the Matter Of:

INCORPORATED VILLAGE OF FARMINGDALE

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

February 01, 2021



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INCORPORATED VILLAGE OF FARMINGDALE

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BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

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FARMINGDALE, NEW YORK

7

February 1, 2021

8

8:00 p.m.

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13 Due to the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic and
14 recent Executive Orders issued by the Governor, the
15 Village of Farmingdale, Board of Trustees Meeting
16 was held electronically via Zoom Webinar.

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866-388-2277 info@accuratecorp.com 631-331-3753

- 2 A P P E A R A N C E S :
- 3 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND
- 4 DEPUTY MAYOR WILLIAM BARRETT
- 5 CHERYL PARISI, Trustee
- 6 WALTER PRIESTLEY, Trustee
- 7 ANTHONY ADDEO, Trustee
- 8 BRIAN HARTY, Administrator
- 9 BARBARA KELLY, Deputy Clerk
- 10 CLAUDIO DEBELLIS, ESQ., Village Attorney
- 11 STEVE FELLMAN, Building Superintendent
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1 2-1-21 BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

2 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Good
3 evening, everyone, and welcome to the
4 Monday, February 1st, 2021, Board of
5 Trustees monthly meeting.

6 As always, we start with off with
7 the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, and
8 a moment of silence.

9 So if everybody could put their
10 hand over their heart, and repeat with me
11 the Pledge of Allegiance.

12 (WHEREUPON, the assemblage recited
13 the Pledge of Allegiance, after which the
14 following transpired:)

15 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: We normally
16 have a moment of silence for our military
17 personnel defending our freedom throughout
18 the globe, and of course, for our first
19 responders who always put themselves in
20 harm's way.

21 (WHEREUPON, the assemblage observed
22 a moment of silence, after which the
23 following transpired:)

24 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Tonight, we
25 bring you some sad news. We are having a

1 2-1-21 BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
2 moment silence also for our dear friend
3 and Village Justice Sal Nicosia. We miss
4 him dearly.

5 (WHEREUPON, the assemblage observed
6 a moment of silence, after which the
7 following transpired:)

8 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Thank you.
9 Thank you, very much.

10 Okay, some announcements. The next
11 Board Meeting with public comment period
12 will be held on Monday, March 1st, 2021,
13 at 8:00 p.m.

14 The Board of Trustees work session
15 and tax grievance night will be held on
16 Tuesday, February 16th, from 5:00 to 9:00
17 p.m., and regular work sessions will be
18 held on Monday, February 22nd, and Monday,
19 March 1st, 2021, at 7:00 p.m.

20 All meetings will be held
21 virtually. Look at the Village website
22 page. We will send it out on Constant
23 Contact, and the Village website page is
24 www.farmingdalevillage.com, for further
25 details of how you can get in and ask

1 2-1-21 BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

2 questions about your tax grievances.

3 Also, we have to announce that the
4 Village Board is not having a St. Patty's
5 Day parade in March this year.

6 We are hoping that as time goes by,
7 maybe we can have a St. Patty's Day parade
8 on September 17th as opposed to
9 March 17th. Hopefully, we'll be rid of
10 this horrible COVID situation by then.
11 Farmingdale -- I'm sorry, Brian?

12 BRIAN HARTY: You wanted to mention
13 about Best Downtown, Mayor?

14 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Yeah, that's
15 -- I was trying to read my handwriting. I
16 thought it said donation village. It's
17 downtown Village.

18 The Farmingdale Village has won
19 Best of Long Island Downtown for the
20 seventh out of eight years. We're very
21 proud of that, and we're very proud of our
22 downtown merchants, restaurateurs and
23 professional people who helped make
24 Farmingdale the Best Downtown in Nassau
25 County, and on all of Long Island.

1 2-1-21 BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

2 I thought there was a third thing I
3 was going to announce.

4 BRIAN HARTY: We wanted to remind
5 the public to clear the fire hydrants --

6 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Thank you --

7 BRIAN HARTY: (Continuing) -- if
8 they could.

9 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: (Continuing)
10 -- Brian, yes.

11 BRIAN HARTY: And also that there'd
12 be no -- there's going to be no pick-up
13 until Thursday from the Town of Oyster
14 Bay.

15 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Thank you.

16 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: But I don't
17 think that that's us on Thursday, we're on
18 Friday.

19 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Yeah.

20 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: We were
21 going to get clarification.

22 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: We were
23 going to get clarification on it, but I
24 believe -- I also believe it's Friday, and
25 as Village Administrator Brian just said,

1 2-1-21 BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
2 if you can, when you're shoveling snow, if
3 you could help out the Fire Department,
4 and of course the safety of your street
5 and your neighbors, by clearing the area
6 around the fire hydrant so they can have
7 an easy hook-up.

8 The Fire Department does try and go
9 out and clear the fire hydrants, but
10 we have over 200 fire hydrants in the
11 Village, and it would be a great help if
12 you, while you're shoveling on your
13 sidewalk, could help out by clearing out
14 the fire hydrant for everybody's safety.

15 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: I just have
16 one question about February 16th.

17 We usually have a work session
18 there as well, and if somebody comes in,
19 we stop, and we are the Board of
20 Assessors, okay. But it doesn't say this
21 in the announcements. It just says
22 that --

23 BARBARA KELLY: It says Trustees
24 work session/tax grievance night will be
25 held on Tuesday, February 16th.

1 2-1-21 BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

2 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: Oh, I'm
3 sorry. Okay, thank you.

4 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Okay, moving
5 right along.

6 Resolution to approve the following
7 regular meeting business items.

8 The Abstract of Audited Vouchers
9 11455, dated February 1st, 2021; all the
10 December wire transfers; the minutes of
11 Board meetings of 1/4/21, 1/19/21 and
12 1/25/21.

13 There is no applications for use of
14 Village property, however we do have a Tax
15 Cert.

16 Tax Cert. settlement between
17 Elizabeth Gardens Corporation on 25
18 Elizabeth Street, for the tax years 2011
19 through and including 2020 and 2021, for a
20 refund of \$14,500 with the reduction in
21 assessed value to \$5.9 million, and again,
22 as always, if assessment remains at the
23 reduced value for tax years '21 -- through
24 '21/'22 and including 2023, 2024, no
25 Article 7 proceedings will by filed

1 2-1-21 BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

2 against the Village.

3 Motion to approve?

4 DEPUTY MAYOR WILLIAM BARRETT: So

5 moved.

6 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Second?

7 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: I'll

8 second.

9 TRUSTEE ANTHONY ADDEO: I'll second

10 it.

11 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: All in

12 favor?

13 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: Aye.

14 DEPUTY MAYOR WILLIAM BARRETT: Aye.

15 TRUSTEE ANTHONY ADDEO: Aye.

16 TRUSTEE WALTER PRIESTLEY: Aye.

17 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Great.

18 A resolution to set the public

19 hearing on Monday, March, 1st, 2021, at

20 8:00 p.m., for the Community Development

21 Block Grant Application for Year 47.

22 Motion to approve?

23 DEPUTY MAYOR WILLIAM BARRETT: So

24 moved.

25 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Second?

1 2-1-21 BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

2 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: I'll second
3 it.

4 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: All in
5 favor?

6 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: Aye.

7 DEPUTY MAYOR WILLIAM BARRETT: Aye.

8 TRUSTEE ANTHONY ADDEO: Aye.

9 TRUSTEE WALTER PRIESTLEY: Aye.

10 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Great,
11 another unanimous.

12 Okay, we would like to open the
13 public hearing to revise the Workforce
14 Housing District Code.

15 Motion to open the public hearing?

16 TRUSTEE ANTHONY ADDEO: I'll make
17 that motion.

18 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: I'll second
19 it.

20 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: All in
21 favor?

22 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: Aye.

23 DEPUTY MAYOR WILLIAM BARRETT: Aye.

24 TRUSTEE ANTHONY ADDEO: Aye.

25 TRUSTEE WALTER PRIESTLEY: Aye.

1 2-1-21 BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

2 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Great. As
3 we noticed, we are tweaking the Workforce
4 Housing Code with a couple of paragraphs
5 cleaning up some legal language, and we
6 would open up to public comment at this
7 time.

8 Please raise your hand in the
9 chatroom, and Kevin will let you in.

10 So Kevin, do we have anybody who
11 wants to ask a question?

12 ZOOM ADMINISTRATOR: Not at this
13 time, but just reiterating to raise your
14 Zoom hand, that little small hand down at
15 the bottom, and it looks like a yellow
16 hand. Just raise your hand if you want to
17 come in to public comment here at this
18 time, please.

19 Nothing at this time, Mayor.

20 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Oh --

21 ZOOM ADMINISTRATOR: I'm sorry,
22 that just changed.

23 I'm bringing in Bradley Smallberg,
24 please stand by.

25 BARBARA KELLY: Sorry, somebody

1 2-1-21 BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

2 asked the question in the chat that said,
3 what was the changing in the wording?

4 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Claudio?

5 CLAUDIO. DEBELLIS, ESQ.: It's
6 highlighted in the draft. It's
7 underlined.

8 BARBARA KELLY: And it's available
9 on www.farmingdalevillage.com. If you go
10 to the virtual meeting list right in the
11 center, you can see the local law.

12 MR. SMALLBERG: Okay, so I tried to
13 look for it last week, maybe I missed it.
14 Could you just state it out loud, because
15 instead of me searching, because if I hang
16 -- I'm the only person who raised my hand,
17 so -- is it all right, or is it really,
18 really long; the difference?

19 ZOOM ADMINISTRATOR: Accurate
20 Reporting, do you need Mr. Smallberg's
21 name and address?

22 COURT REPORTER: Yes, please.

23 ZOOM ADMINISTRATOR: Yes, please,
24 if you wouldn't mind.

25 MR. SMALLBERG: Sure.

1 2-1-21 BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

2 ZOOM ADMINISTRATOR: Thank you.

3 MR. SMALLBERG: Sure. Bradley
4 Smallberg, 173 Cherry Street.

5 ZOOM ADMINISTRATOR: Thank you.
6 Okay, please comment.

7 MR. SMALLBERG: Yeah, so my comment
8 was -- well, it was in the chat, but I
9 guess I figured it was easier.

10 I tried to look last week, it
11 wasn't up there, maybe it's there now. I
12 don't know if it's a long change; could
13 you just tell me a brief of exactly what's
14 changing?

15 CLAUDIO. DEBELLIS, ESQ.: Mayor, I
16 can do that if you'd like.

17 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Sure.

18 CLAUDIO. DEBELLIS, ESQ.: Okay. So
19 the Board is considering a change to
20 600-107, Development Incentive Bonuses.
21 More specifically, E., Prohibitions; E.1.,
22 where they're going to increase the number
23 of permissible units, so the maximum
24 permitted beyond the prohibitions to 35;
25 and then they're relaxing the parking

1 2-1-21 BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
2 variance, but only by allowing for land
3 banking if necessary, and then they are
4 also granting -- have the power to grant
5 additional relief, not necessarily
6 granting it, in terms of the unit layout.

7 MR. SMALLBERG: But there's no
8 change in who qualifies?

9 CLAUDIO. DEBELLIS, ESQ.: Well --

10 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: No.

11 CLAUDIO. DEBELLIS, ESQ.:

12 (Continuing) -- what do you mean by that?

13 MR. SMALLBERG: So, I thought there
14 was like a list of different people under
15 the Workforce Housing who qualify, because
16 I remember this last year, this is the
17 Workforce Housing, it's the new
18 development that they're building;
19 correct?

20 CLAUDIO. DEBELLIS, ESQ.: Well,
21 it's not being proposed yet, but we are in
22 conversation with the developer, you know.

23 MR. SMALLBERG: Okay, so my
24 question is, I remember when I asked and
25 it was discussed, there was a certain

1 2-1-21 BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
2 group of people that had priority. Is
3 that group of people changing?

4 TRUSTEE ANTHONY ADDEO: Do you want
5 to point him to Section 105?

6 CLAUDIO. DEBELLIS, ESQ.: Yeah, I'm
7 not so sure I understand the question, but
8 Section 105 is not changing.

9 MR. SMALLBERG: Okay, then that was
10 my question.

11 CLAUDIO. DEBELLIS, ESQ.: You know,
12 if your question is asking whether or not,
13 you know -- the units are going to be more
14 available if that makes any sense. That
15 gives the Board a greater latitude to
16 allow more of these types of units.

17 MR. SMALLBERG: No, I understand it
18 allows more of the types of units, but it
19 doesn't change who qualifies for the
20 units.

21 CLAUDIO. DEBELLIS, ESQ.: Yeah, I
22 don't -- if I understand you correctly, it
23 doesn't change, no.

24 MR. SMALLBERG: Okay, that's my
25 question.

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2 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: Thank you.

3 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Thank you.

4 MR. SMALLBERG: You're welcome.

5 DEPUTY MAYOR WILLIAM BARRETT:

6 Thank you, Bradley.

7 MR. SMALLBERG: You're welcome.

8 BARBARA KELLY: Just to let you
9 know, it is on the website, right in the
10 center of the home page. If you scroll
11 down, you'll see the local law sitting
12 right there with all of the changes in it.

13 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Thank you,
14 Barbara.

15 Kevin, is there another person with
16 their Zoom hand up?

17 ZOOM ADMINISTRATOR: Not at this
18 time.

19 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Okay.

20 Does anybody from the Board want to
21 add a comment before I entertain a motion
22 to close the public hearing?

23 (WHEREUPON, no response was heard.)

24 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Okay. Do I
25 hear a motion to close the public hearing?

1 2-1-21 BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
2 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: So moved.
3 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Second?
4 DEPUTY MAYOR WILLIAM BARRETT: I'll
5 second it.
6 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: All in
7 favor?
8 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: Aye.
9 DEPUTY MAYOR WILLIAM BARRETT: Aye.
10 TRUSTEE ANTHONY ADDEO: Aye.
11 TRUSTEE WALTER PRIESTLEY: Aye.
12 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Okay, motion
13 to approve the revisions to the Workforce
14 Housing District Code.
15 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: So moved.
16 DEPUTY MAYOR WILLIAM BARRETT: So
17 moved. I'm in favor.
18 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: You're
19 seconding, Bill.
20 DEPUTY MAYOR WILLIAM BARRETT:
21 Okay, I'm a little anxious tonight, I
22 guess I'm a little anxious.
23 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: That's okay,
24 that's because you're missing Murphy.
25 All in favor?

1 2-1-21 BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

2 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: Aye.

3 DEPUTY MAYOR WILLIAM BARRETT: Aye.

4 TRUSTEE ANTHONY ADDEO: Aye.

5 TRUSTEE WALTER PRIESTLEY: Aye.

6 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Okay.

7 Number six. Public hearing to subdivide
8 the property located on 368 Melville Road,
9 has been adjourned to March 1st, 2021, at
10 8:00 p.m.

11 Motion to approve the adjournment?

12 TRUSTEE ANTHONY ADDEO: I'll make
13 that motion.

14 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Second?

15 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: So moved.

16 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: All in
17 favor?

18 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: Aye.

19 DEPUTY MAYOR WILLIAM BARRETT: Aye.

20 TRUSTEE ANTHONY ADDEO: Aye.

21 TRUSTEE WALTER PRIESTLEY: Aye.

22 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Okay.

23 Resolution to approve the 2020/2021 budget
24 adjustments as presented.

25 Motion to approve?

1 2-1-21 BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

2 DEPUTY MAYOR WILLIAM BARRETT: I'll
3 make that motion.

4 TRUSTEE ANTHONY ADDEO: I'll second
5 it.

6 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: All in
7 favor?

8 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: Aye.

9 DEPUTY MAYOR WILLIAM BARRETT: Aye.

10 TRUSTEE ANTHONY ADDEO: Aye.

11 TRUSTEE WALTER PRIESTLEY: Aye.

12 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Okay.

13 Resolution to authorize the lease purchase
14 of a 2021 Ram 1500 Tradesman SSV crew for
15 use by the Fire Department as the Chief's
16 vehicle.

17 Equipment cost of the vehicle is
18 \$31,640.23. Financing will be 60 monthly
19 payments at a cost of \$594.34 per month,
20 with a \$1.00 purchase at the end of the
21 lease.

22 Any discussion before I ask for a
23 motion to approve?

24 TRUSTEE ANTHONY ADDEO: I'd like to
25 ask about the interest rate; can we shop

1 2-1-21 BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

2 the rate?

3 BRIAN HARTY: This is what the
4 dealer's -- am I on -- one second.

5 TRUSTEE ANTHONY ADDEO: Does the
6 dealer mind if we come in with a cashier's
7 check, and pay it in full?

8 I mean because you know, that's
9 what the dealer is giving you, but right
10 now you can get a car loan for 2 percent.

11 BRIAN HARTY: Bill, we had
12 discussed this because budget
13 considerations, and --

14 DEPUTY MAYOR WILLIAM BARRETT:
15 Yeah, we were looking at, instead of
16 having \$31,000 hit the general fund, we
17 were looking at roughly \$1,000 hitting the
18 general fund for this year.

19 I don't recall the rate, Brian;
20 4.6?

21 BRIAN HARTY: I think it's 4.12
22 percent.

23 TRUSTEE ANTHONY ADDEO: 4.81.

24 DEPUTY MAYOR WILLIAM BARRETT:
25 4.12, I think.

1 2-1-21 BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

2 TRUSTEE ANTHONY ADDEO: I'm looking
3 at 4.81.

4 BRIAN HARTY: Is it in the --

5 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: I'm looking.

6 BRIAN HARTY: If there's --

7 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Okay, just
8 to get to the crux of Anthony's point, it
9 says --

10 BRIAN HARTY: Yeah, 4.81 percent.

11 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: This is what
12 the dealer is offering us. What, if any,
13 alternative do we have to get a lower
14 interest rate on the five month loan?

15 I believe that's what Anthony's
16 question was.

17 TRUSTEE ANTHONY ADDEO: Yes, so
18 credit unions are offering 2 percent.

19 BRIAN HARTY: Well, they have all
20 kinds of deals. This is a municipal
21 lease. There's not a lot of -- to my
22 knowledge, there's not a lot of municipal
23 leasing around through varying
24 dealerships.

25 Typically, you lease through the

1 2-1-21 BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

2 dealer that you're dealing with. Many car
3 loans right now are at 2 percent, some are
4 at 0 percent. This happens to be a
5 municipal lease, and that's the rate that
6 they quoted us.

7 So for us to go out and shop a
8 municipal lease, I don't know -- in all
9 honesty, I wouldn't know where to go to
10 get a municipal lease at this level for
11 somebody to take it on at a much lower
12 rate.

13 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Okay, I
14 guess that's --

15 DEPUTY MAYOR WILLIAM BARRETT: I
16 think it's what; about \$4,400 of interest,
17 a little bit less than that, over the 60
18 months.

19 BRIAN HARTY: Yeah, it's over five
20 years.

21 DEPUTY MAYOR WILLIAM BARRETT:
22 Yeah, over the 60 months, right.

23 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Okay, well
24 is there a motion to approve the purchase,
25 the lease purchase for the Chief's

1 2-1-21 BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

2 vehicle?

3 (WHEREUPON, no response was heard.)

4 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Okay.

5 DEPUTY MAYOR WILLIAM BARRETT: All
6 right, so if we pay the \$31,000, you know,
7 the fund balance gets hit for \$31,000, you
8 know, for this year, and then you know,
9 over I guess the five years it would get a
10 hit for an additional \$35,000, as opposed
11 to taking a hit right now for \$31,000.

12 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: So it's 45
13 -- approximately \$4,500 in interest at
14 this rate.

15 DEPUTY MAYOR WILLIAM BARRETT:
16 Yeah, and you know, the only reason why I
17 think, you know, Brian is bringing this up
18 is because, you know, we're having a tough
19 time.

20 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Well, we all
21 know that.

22 BRIAN HARTY: We're trying to
23 finance our way through a difficult
24 period, and utilizing, you know -- the
25 interest rate, it does appear a little bit

1 2-1-21 BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

2 high for the markets, what they are right
3 now, but it gives us an option. It's at
4 the Board's discretion, if you want to
5 exercise that option, we'll take it out of
6 fund balance.

7 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: That's an
8 option.

9 TRUSTEE ANTHONY ADDEO: I'm not
10 suggesting we buy it cash, I just was
11 suggesting we shop the rate.

12 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: Is there a
13 pre-payment penalty on this?

14 MR. KELLY: New York State
15 forbids that.

16 BRIAN HARTY: You can approve that.
17 You can approve this tonight. That
18 doesn't necessarily mean we have to
19 execute it. That can give me some time --
20 I can try to look it around, and see if I
21 can come up with anything by our next
22 meeting because we're not getting delivery
23 on this until April sometime, anyway.

24 So we would have -- if it was
25 approved, we can always reverse it at some

1 2-1-21 BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

2 point down the road if I find a better
3 deal.

4 DEPUTY MAYOR WILLIAM BARRETT: All
5 right, I'll go with that.

6 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Okay, that
7 makes sense. We'll give it a try, see
8 if --

9 BRIAN HARTY: Yeah, I'll try to
10 come up with something, we'll try to
11 figure something out.

12 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Okay. Now,
13 do I hear a motion? With all that in
14 mind, do we have a motion to approve?

15 DEPUTY MAYOR WILLIAM BARRETT: I'll
16 make the motion right now subject to, you
17 know, Brian's recommendations in the next
18 month or two.

19 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Okay.
20 Second?

21 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: I'll second
22 it.

23 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: All in
24 favor?

25 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: Aye.

1 2-1-21 BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

2 DEPUTY MAYOR WILLIAM BARRETT: Aye.

3 TRUSTEE ANTHONY ADDEO: Aye.

4 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Did Walter
5 come back? I don't see Walter up there.

6 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: No, he
7 never came back.

8 DEPUTY MAYOR WILLIAM BARRETT: I
9 saw him briefly.

10 BARBARA KELLY: Just to let you
11 know, New York State, I think, has rules
12 against any penalty for early payment of
13 loans. I've taken loans to get, I guess,
14 a good deal at dealerships, and then just
15 refinanced it once I got the title.

16 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: Okay.

17 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Okay.

18 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: Thank you,
19 Barbara.

20 BARBARA KELLY: Mm-hmm.

21 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Okey-dokey,
22 moving right along.

23 Beautification.

24 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: Okay so,
25 did you have a chance to talk to the

1 2-1-21 BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

2 Chamber members to see what they felt
3 about the white lights, Mayor?

4 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: No.

5 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: Okay.

6 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: I forgot. I
7 had a Chamber meeting and Executive Board
8 meeting, and I forgot.

9 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: Okay, so
10 next time if you ask.

11 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: No, I'll do
12 it via e-mail to the Executive Board.

13 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: Okay.

14 DEPUTY MAYOR WILLIAM BARRETT:
15 Cheryl, I like the lights. I like them up
16 all year.

17 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: Okay,
18 that's fine.

19 DEPUTY MAYOR WILLIAM BARRETT: I
20 think it looks good.

21 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: I like
22 them, too. I think they look fabulous.

23 But you know, sometimes people get
24 tired, you know, and so when you -- they
25 get, you know, they see them all the time

1 2-1-21 BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

2 so they're there all the time, so if you
3 eliminate them for a short period of time,
4 they come back and people go, oh --

5 DEPUTY MAYOR WILLIAM BARRETT: I
6 think it brings us down. When you take it
7 away, I think it brings us down.

8 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: Okay,
9 that's fine.

10 TRUSTEE WALTER PRIESTLEY: And I
11 know I'm just jumping in on this, but one
12 of the residents also mentioned they
13 wanted the lights because Main Street
14 needs a little bit more illumination,
15 which hopefully we'll do in the future,
16 and those lights, if we take them down,
17 it's only going to take away some of the
18 illumination. That was Joe Staudt --

19 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: I was going
20 to say that's got to be Joe. Who else
21 could it be?

22 TRUSTEE WALTER PRIESTLEY:
23 (Continuing) -- said, well, I agree, I
24 agree wholeheartedly we need more lighting
25 on Main, which will come, hopefully, one

1 2-1-21 BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

2 day.

3 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Okay, so
4 Cheryl, only -- I will let you know only
5 if somebody on the Executive Board thinks
6 it's a bad idea; okay?

7 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: Yup, thank
8 you. That's all.

9 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: That's not a
10 problem.

11 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: And
12 hopefully we're going to -- we ordered
13 flowers for the parking fields, the
14 hanging baskets, and hopefully, we're
15 going to order flowers to plant in May.

16 So we'll see how it goes.

17 BRIAN HARTY: It will be a nice 80
18 degree day, too.

19 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: Yes, let's
20 hope.

21 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Without 19
22 inches of snow.

23 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: Without 19
24 inches of snow, yes.

25 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Oh, good.

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2 Just to let everybody know, the National
3 Weather Service has stated that
4 Farmingdale got 19 inches of snow in this
5 -- total accumulation in this snowstorm,
6 which is --

7 TRUSTEE WALTER PRIESTLEY: So far.
8 I was just outside, it's still snowing.

9 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Well --

10 DEPUTY MAYOR WILLIAM BARRETT: It's
11 not raining yet; it's still snowing, huh?

12 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: No, I got a
13 weather alert that said snow for the next
14 few hours.

15 BRIAN HARTY: Hopefully, that's the
16 case. It's supposed to rain overnight,
17 and go back to snow during the day
18 tomorrow, late in the day.

19 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Well, anyway
20 we have our -- our guys are out there
21 doing their best to clear the 19 miles of
22 Village roadways, and the nine Village
23 parking lots, and they're doing the best
24 they can.

25 We have plans for them to clear off

1 2-1-21 BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
2 Main Street snow from the government
3 strip, hopefully, Wednesday/Thursday of
4 this week, and we're doing our best to
5 keep the Village walkable, and our
6 merchants and residents able to come in,
7 and visit our wonderful downtown.

8 Oh, by the way, did I mention that
9 we won Best Downtown again for the seventh
10 out of eight years.

11 DEPUTY MAYOR WILLIAM BARRETT: I
12 don't think so, Mayor. I didn't hear
13 that.

14 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Oh, okay,
15 just --

16 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: Maybe you
17 should mention it, yeah, maybe you should
18 mention it, yeah.

19 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Okay.
20 Correspondence.

21 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: Wait, could
22 we just do old business.

23 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Oh, I
24 thought we did old business, I'm sorry.

25 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: No.

1 2-1-21 BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

2 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: I thought
3 that was -- go ahead.

4 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: Okay, so I
5 had asked earlier about if we knew the
6 Executive Order. Steve Wilson was looking
7 for it.

8 Did you have any chance to look for
9 that; Claudio?

10 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Claudio?

11 CLAUDIO. DEBELLIS, ESQ.: I'm here.
12 Cheryl, say again, please.

13 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: So, he's
14 looking for the Executive Order that talks
15 about --

16 CLAUDIO. DEBELLIS, ESQ.: Yes.

17 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI:
18 (Continuing) -- in-person meetings with
19 municipalities.

20 CLAUDIO. DEBELLIS, ESQ.: Okay,
21 yeah. I've got -- so, in November we had
22 202.74 which limited gatherings of
23 non-essential residential-types to ten
24 people, which modified the prior Executive
25 Order, which limited all personal

1 2-1-21 BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
2 gathering to 50 people, provided you could
3 socially distance, and you could comply
4 with the other mandates of the Governor.

5 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: Okay.

6 CLAUDIO. DEBELLIS, ESQ.: As of
7 January, 2021, we're working with 202.89
8 which extends the ten person non-essential
9 private residential gatherings, and the 50
10 people or less requirement until
11 February 6th, 2021.

12 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: Okay.

13 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: But we have
14 to do all the social distancing of six
15 feet etc., etc., etc.

16 CLAUDIO. DEBELLIS, ESQ.: Correct.

17 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: Right, so
18 that's what applies to us in Village Hall.

19 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: That's
20 correct.

21 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: And that's
22 why we continue to sit here on Zoom.

23 Okay.

24 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Correct.

25 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: I just --

1 2-1-21 BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

2 that was one thing that wasn't answered,
3 so thank you.

4 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Thank you,
5 very much for following up.

6 I didn't see any correspondence;
7 did I miss any guys?

8 BRIAN HARTY: Not that I'm aware
9 of.

10 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Okay, does
11 anybody have a fair housing complaint or
12 comment; if you do, could you please raise
13 your Zoom hand?

14 ZOOM ADMINISTRATOR: I'm going to
15 bring in -- well, there was a hand raised,
16 Joe Staudt had raised possibly on another.

17 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Yeah, I
18 think he's waiting for me to do public
19 comment, and not the --

20 ZOOM ADMINISTRATOR: Okay, okay, so
21 there's no hand raised on the subject you
22 just raised.

23 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Okay, good.
24 That's because there hasn't been, since we
25 legally have do it, but we legally do it,

1 2-1-21 BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

2 so I say it every time.

3 Okay, now we're open to public
4 comment, so if any of the public would
5 like to raise their Zoom hand, Kevin will
6 let you in one at a time.

7 So now's the time Joe could raise
8 his Zoom hand.

9 ZOOM ADMINISTRATOR: Here comes
10 Joe.

11 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Okay, Joe.

12 MR. STAUDT: Can you guys hear me?

13 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Yeah, there
14 you are.

15 MR. STAUDT: Hello, I hope
16 everyone's doing well in the storm.

17 I just wanted to give a quick shout
18 out to the Village crew, everyone did a
19 great job today. I keep hearing from
20 family living elsewhere in the Town of
21 Hempstead and other towns. They're still
22 waiting for plows on some streets, and at
23 least here, on Hillside Road, we saw the
24 guys come down in daylight hours at least
25 three or four times, you know, usually two

1 2-1-21 BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

2 trucks at a time.

3 So I appreciate all that hard work,
4 and you know, it's nice to see, you know,
5 that get done so quick. So, appreciate
6 it.

7 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: That's why
8 you live in a village.

9 DEPUTY MAYOR WILLIAM BARRETT:
10 Thank you, Joe.

11 MR. STAUDT: That's right.

12 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: Mm-hmm.

13 DEPUTY MAYOR WILLIAM BARRETT: Our
14 guys work hard.

15 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: They sure
16 do.

17 MR. STAUDT: Yeah. The other topic
18 I wanted to bring up was just relating to
19 the Village Green.

20 I know the trees, the big old trees
21 came down. Actually, I think I walked
22 past the day they were doing it, and it
23 was, you know, it's a shame the trees had
24 to come down, but it was obvious that they
25 definitely were -- that they needed to

1 2-1-21 BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

2 come down. They were really hollowed-out
3 completely.

4 The only comment or thought I
5 wanted to add, as you guys figure out what
6 to do with the Green going forward is
7 just, if it would be possible in whatever
8 landscape design or final plan that's
9 developed, if we could, you know, perhaps
10 replace, maybe not all three of those
11 trees, but at least one of them with a
12 tree that has the potential to grow large
13 and provide shade on the Green, and be
14 kind of a memorable -- I don't know what
15 word to use -- but I feel like so many
16 times in municipalities, big old memorable
17 trees come down, and then they're replaced
18 with what my husband -- my husband who
19 grew up in Huntington, which has a lot of
20 tall trees, he calls the trees down here
21 Nassau County trees, which is like those
22 pear trees that get put in on the sides of
23 the road when a big tree comes down. They
24 have no potential to grow, they usually
25 look half-dead, and I just hope on the

1 2-1-21 BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
2 Village Green, it's not a side of the
3 road, that we can do something that has
4 the potential. You know, even if it's
5 just one tree, to be a tree, you know,
6 that 50 or 60 years from now, we look at,
7 and go like, oh, I remember the year that,
8 you know, the Board put that tree in, you
9 know, that was a big deal.

10 So, just my two cents on it.

11 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: Okay.

12 DEPUTY MAYOR WILLIAM BARRETT:

13 Thank you.

14 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: I did meet
15 with a landscape design person, and
16 they'll be back with an idea like three or
17 four months from now, give or take, so
18 we'll be able to -- let the grass heal for
19 a while, and they'll come back with a few
20 ideas for us.

21 MR. STAUDT: Great.

22 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: One of the
23 things, Joe, if I may interject, the Board
24 was looking at, I believe -- and help me
25 out guys -- a minimum of ten-inch tree,

1 2-1-21 BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

2 right; ten inches?

3 TRUSTEE ANTHONY ADDEO: Yes.

4 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: Yes.

5 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Yeah.

6 MR. STAUDT: That's great.

7 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Ten inches
8 in width, so it wouldn't be a small tree.

9 MR. STAUDT: Yeah, and I'm not even
10 saying whatever you put in doesn't -- it
11 doesn't have to be big when you put it in,
12 but yeah, just something that has the
13 potential to grow, and you know, over time
14 become a real landmark in the Green, the
15 way the other trees were. And again, I'm
16 not saying all three. You know, you don't
17 have to put them all back just the way
18 they were, but you know, just an idea to
19 throw out there.

20 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Sure.

21 MR. STAUDT: I think a lot of
22 times, like I said, it's easier, and maybe
23 there's liabilities involved and
24 municipalities thinking about root systems
25 tearing up sidewalks and stuff. They tend

1 2-1-21 BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
2 to go smaller these days than they used
3 to, and so you know, it would be nice to
4 see something go in that, again, over
5 time, could grow and become a real staple
6 on the Green.

7 Just my --

8 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Two cents.

9 MR. STAUDT: (Continuing) -- two
10 cents, no big deal.

11 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: We
12 appreciate it, Joe.

13 MR. STAUDT: Yeah. Last thing, I
14 just wanted to thank you guys. I think
15 Brian had brought up in the last meeting
16 the missing light pole on Moby Way. I saw
17 that that was replaced.

18 It looks great, and yeah, so
19 thanks. Thanks, very much, for figuring
20 out what was going on with that, and
21 getting that done.

22 That was it.

23 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: Thank you,
24 Joe.

25 DEPUTY MAYOR WILLIAM BARRETT:

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2 Thanks, Joe.

3 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Thank you,
4 Joe.

5 MR. STAUDT: Have a good one, be
6 safe out there.

7 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: You, too.

8 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: You, too.
9 Be safe, be warm.

10 MR. STAUDT: Yeah.

11 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Okay, next
12 person in?

13 ZOOM ADMINISTRATOR: Anybody
14 wanting to make a public comment, please
15 raise your Zoom hand.

16 Eight attendees; nobody raising
17 their hand at this point, except Marina.
18 Marina is coming in.

19 And that's probably not Marina;
20 right?

21 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: No it's,
22 it's --

23 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: It's Alex.

24 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: It's Alex,
25 and Stevie is going to have to unmute

1 2-1-21 BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

2 himself.

3 Thank you, Stevie.

4 ZOOM ADMINISTRATOR: Accurate, if
5 you want to ask that full name when the
6 public commenter comes on, I can help you
7 with that.

8 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: He's muted
9 right now.

10 COURT REPORTER: Thank you.

11 ZOOM ADMINISTRATOR: Right now, I'm
12 asking Alex to unmute, and to start video.

13 MR. LAPIDUS: I am unmute; no?

14 ZOOM ADMINISTRATOR: We can hear
15 you now, Alex.

16 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Now you're
17 good.

18 MR. LAPIDUS: Good.

19 ZOOM ADMINISTRATOR: Just spell
20 your first and last name, please, and your
21 address.

22 MR. LAPIDUS: A-L-E-X-A-N-D-E-R,
23 last name is L-A-P-I-D-U-S, 16 Merritts
24 Road, Farmingdale, New York 11735.

25 COURT REPORTER: Thank you.

1 2-1-21 BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

2 MR. LAPIDUS: Thank you.

3 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Hey, Alex,
4 how can we help you out today, or go right
5 ahead.

6 MR. LAPIDUS: I hope you have a
7 neighbor like mine. My neighbor shoveled
8 the driveway and the road three times
9 today, so he's a nice guy. I hope he's
10 listening.

11 Is Mr. Fellman there?

12 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Yes, Stevie?

13 STEVE FELLMAN: Yeah, I'm here.

14 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Yeah, go
15 ahead, Alex. You can ask your question.
16 Stevie is right here.

17 MR. LAPIDUS: Steve, I met with
18 Tom.

19 STEVE FELLMAN: Yup.

20 MR. LAPIDUS: Yeah, and Tom has no
21 idea that those trees were marked to be
22 removed, and --

23 STEVE FELLMAN: They're not marked
24 to be removed. We've had them
25 investigated by the Village arborist, and

1 2-1-21 BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
2 he feels that the root systems were not
3 compromised, and there's no reason to
4 remove the trees.

5 MR. LAPIDUS: Uh-huh.

6 Okay, otherwise I met with him. He
7 said he was going to order -- he was going
8 to order new blocks to continue the
9 extent.

10 STEVE FELLMAN: Yes, I did remind
11 him about the HOM report that recommended
12 that the section of the retaining wall be
13 extended as far east as possible.

14 MR. LAPIDUS: Right, so he said he
15 measured it, and hopefully he'll order
16 enough, and that's about all.

17 Oh, he also asked me if he could
18 backfill. I said you can backfill all you
19 want. The higher the better.

20 So he said there won't be anything
21 going on for about the next two weeks
22 until those parts are ordered, and he was
23 supposed to meet with somebody else. He
24 didn't say who.

25 STEVE FELLMAN: Yeah, they'll also

1 2-1-21 BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

2 need some warmer temperatures to be able
3 to spread any backfill.

4 MR. LAPIDUS: Yeah.

5 STEVE FELLMAN: It's all frozen
6 right now.

7 MR. LAPIDUS: So --

8 STEVE FELLMAN: I recommended that
9 he just do a section up there with you, to
10 kind of -- what he's thinking, and we'll
11 all take a look at it to make sure we're
12 all comfortable with it.

13 MR. LAPIDUS: Yeah, I brought him
14 over to the trees, I said take a look, I
15 mean you have nothing here. I mean, how
16 do you think these things are going to
17 stand; he agreed and he measured.

18 So you know, I guess we'll have to
19 see when he starts doing it, and we'll
20 take it from there.

21 STEVE FELLMAN: You bet.

22 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Okay.

23 MR. LAPIDUS: All right, thank you.

24 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Thank you,
25 Alex.

1 2-1-21 BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

2 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: Thank you,
3 Alex.

4 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Okay, if
5 anybody else wants to do a public comment,
6 ask the Board anything or just make a
7 comment, raise your Zoom hand, and Kevin
8 will let you in.

9 ZOOM ADMINISTRATOR: Going once,
10 twice.

11 No Zoom hands raised at this time,
12 Mayor.

13 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Okay, well
14 I'd like to thank you all for coming.

15 The Board will entertain a motion
16 to go into Executive Session to discuss
17 some legal matters/problems.

18 So in doing so, do I have a motion
19 to go to Exec?

20 TRUSTEE WALTER PRIESTLEY: I'll
21 make a motion to go into Exec.

22 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: I'll second
23 it.

24 MAYOR RALPH EKSTRAND: Okay, all in
25 favor?

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2 TRUSTEE CHERYL PARISI: Aye.

3 DEPUTY MAYOR WILLIAM BARRETT: Aye.

4 TRUSTEE ANTHONY ADDEO: Aye.

5 TRUSTEE WALTER PRIESTLEY: Aye.

6 (WHEREUPON, this meeting was

7 concluded at 8:37 p.m.)

8 * * * *

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C E R T I F I C A T E

STATE OF NEW YORK)

SS:

COUNTY OF NASSAU)

I, DEBBIE BABINO, a Certified Shorthand Reporter in the State of New York, do hereby certify:

That, the foregoing is a true and accurate transcript of my stenographic notes.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have set my hand on this 8th day of February, 2021.

Debbie Babino

DEBBIE BABINO

Certified Court Reporter

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