

WORK SESSION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Monday, March 18, 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, March 18, 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

Absent: Village Attorney Claudio DeBellis

The following topics were discussed:

- 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 was presented to the Board and the public at the January 22nd Work Session. Please see the minutes of that meeting.
 - 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. Stapleton Tree surveyed the area and said that no trimming was needed at this time.
 - NC DPW has been working on the Tulane sump as of about February 1st, maintenance is still underway.
 - Governor Hochul has announced that the September 29th storm event has been approved as a FEMA emergency and all information has been provided to the Linwood Avenue residents.
 - Soil testing completed at Tulane, results anticipated by 3/24.

CONVENE THE BOARD OF ASSESSMENT REVIEW– Upon a motion made by Trustee Parisi and seconded by Trustee Priestley, it was,

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RESOLVED (#2024-03-17), to convene the Board of Assessment Review.

PROPERTY TAX COMPLAINT PETITIONS – Upon a motion made by Trustee Priestley and seconded by Trustee Parisi, it was,

RESOLVED (#2024-03-18), to deny all the property tax complaint petitions.

ADJOURN THE BOARD OF ASSESSMENT REVIEW– Upon a motion made by Trustee Parisi and seconded by Trustee Rosasco, it was,

RESOLVED (#2024-03-19), to adjourn the Board of Assessment Review.

PHONE SYSTEM SUPPORT SERVICE– Upon a motion made by Trustee Priestley and seconded by Trustee Rosasco, it was,

RESOLVED (#2024-03-20), to approve an agreement with Forerunner Technologies, Inc. to provide support services for the Village’s phone system at an annual cost of \$1,411.

NEW HIRE – Upon a motion made by Deputy Mayor Barrett and seconded by Trustee Priestley, it was,

RESOLVED (#2024-03-21), to hire Bryan Rose as a Parking Meter Attendant at a rate of \$20 per hour.

NASSAU SPCA PARADE DATE CHANGE– Upon a motion made by Trustee Rosasco and seconded by Trustee Priestley, it was,

RESOLVED (#2024-03-22), to reschedule the Nassau SPCA Stop Animal Abuse parade from Saturday, April 18, 2024 to Saturday, May 11, 2024 and to allow the use of Village bathrooms during their upcoming event.

FFD NARCOTIC SAFES– Upon a motion made by Trustee Rosasco and seconded by Deputy Mayor Barrett, it was,

RESOLVED (#2024-03-23), to approve the purchase of 3 Narcotic Safes from MedixSafe, as sole source provider, for the Farmingdale Fire Department for a cost of \$7,554, including a 3 year warranty.

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The discussion continued on the following topic:

- Review proposal for new parking lot signs – Agreed to make prototypes and install them to determine communicative ability to the public.

SURPLUS WATER AMBULANCE – Upon a motion made by Trustee Parisi and seconded by Trustee Rosasco, it was,

RESOLVED (#2024-03-24), to approve a bid for surplus Water Ambulance via Auctions International for \$2,700.

SURPLUS 2009 DODGE DURANGO – Upon a motion made by Trustee Parisi and seconded by Trustee Rosasco, it was,

RESOLVED (#2024-03-25), to approve a bid for surplus 2009 Dodge Durango via Auctions International for \$1,625.

The discussion continued on the following topics:

- Discussed letter of support for NYS Packaging Reduction and Recycling Infrastructure Act. All agreed to send a letter of support.
- Fire Department

FD FLOORING – Upon a motion made by Trustee Parisi and seconded by Trustee Priestley, it was,

RESOLVED (#2024-03-26), to approve Milburn Flooring for new epoxy apparatus floor at a total cost of \$71,955 including change orders.

The discussion continued on the following topics:

- 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 nearing completion.
 - Both Sterling Green and Robby Lee projects are proceeding. No issues with either project.

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- Dish Network application has been sent to Dick Comi for review. D&B is coordinating all related issues with Mr. Comi on revised plans.
- VHB final report received.
- Waiting for Verizon submission of an application to install communication equipment on the clock tower at Palmer's Shopping Center.
- Lotus Garden should be ready to open as soon as the natural gas is installed.
- Proposed 2 lot sub-division on Staples Street - application is in process coming to the Board for final approval.
- 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.
- Valance across from law office: in discussion with property owner for proposed changes, owner is discussing with contractor, awaiting response from property owner.
- CVS lot letter to manage/ticket lot – need local law. Announce in February for adoption in March.
- Fading signage on parking lots, Scott has been contacted and will review.
- Zuzu gas line installed.
- Need to discuss waste stream with the ownership of the Nutty Irishman and 317 – estimate for new dumpster in process.
- Remove “open” signs from Village businesses.
- Check with podiatrist about locating a 4' bench in front of their storefront.
- Resident reported that multiple families are living on the corner of Duane St. & Secatogue Ave.
- Look into status of Dish Network.
- Status of dumpster enclosure for 317.
- The Villager – status on rear enclosure.
- Contact Scott regarding fading parking lot signage.
- National Grid grant for street trees and planter boxes – follow up with Laura Coletti on status of purchase of planter boxes and trees.
- Status of adding handicapped spaces to Parking Lot 1.

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- Highway Department:
 - Lot maintenance and routine maintenance of Main St.
 - Routine garbage pickup in parks and dog stations
 - Main St. pole for FD traffic light due in March.
 - 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 evaluate lighting at the Melville Road/Secatogue Avenue intersection.
 - 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.
 - Add a “No Left Turn” sign at the corner of West St. & Conklin St.
 - Rte. 109 – add no parking by Hearthstone
 - Plan for 8 15 minute parking spaces on Main Street and no parking on the east side after 10:00 p.m. on Thursday, Friday and Saturday except for pick-up and drop-off, Uber, Lyft and Taxi use.
 - Rehabilitate all trash cans on Main Street and outer areas.
 - LIRR trestle painting is not finished – take photos and forward to LIRR.
 - From Ken Tortoso – DPW weekly work assignments:
 - Fleet maintenance crews replaced a water pump in Water #2 in house with a cost savings of \$2,000.
 - Fleet maintenance crews have been doing oil changes and inspections.

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- Town of Oyster Bay Lighting was in repairing street lights
- DPW repaired the parking lot signs light in Lot 2 and Lot 4.
- DPW crews have been out doing pothole repair in the north railroad lot and other areas in the Village.
- The Village landscaper will be in this month to start doing spring cleanups and fertilizing.
- DPW has started getting our equipment ready for spring/summer grass season.
- DPW fixed a broken curb in Parking Lot 2 from the winter.
- DPW will start working in Gergras Park to start applying mulch under the playground equipment, just waiting for a couple of dry days.
- Stapleton will be in this week to do some trim work.
- DPW crews have also been out trimming trees, the ones we can reach.
- DPW crews have been out replacing signs around the Village.
- Water Department:
 - Training on pumping system in water tower base.
 - Dish Network is in engineering design review process.
 - Well 1-3 is out of service as well pulled to add a stage to the pump.
 - AOP installation by Philip Ross is complete to the testing stage in order to meet health department requirements is complete along with the SCADA system.
 - New steel building to cover the GAC tanks at Well 1-3 is on site, awaiting final foundation plans.
 - \$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.

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- PWGC following up on required testing to secure funding from legal settlements and potential federal and county funding.
- 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.
- From John Falbo:
 - Slow but steady progress with Well 1-3, Well was pulled and screens are being cleaned.
 - Lead and Copper survey is underway.
 - Workforce housing project at Route 109 had all water taps put in successfully.
 - 600 Fulton St. hydrant was replaced and is now in service.
 - 400 Fulton St. (Suburbia) had an isolation valve which had been buried for over 30 years, it was located and is now back in service. Discovery and work to put back in operation was done by the Water & DPW departments. This is a big win for us. The homeowners board was very happy.
- Code Department:
 - Working on signage for lots with court and admin office
- 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.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Brian P. Harty, Village Clerk-Treasurer