

**WORK SESSION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
**Monday, March 20, 2023**  
**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 20, 2023.

**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

Eagle Scout Aidan Martin gave a presentation for his Eagle Scout project in Gerngras Park.

**EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT IN GERNGRAS PARK** – Upon a motion made by Trustee Parisi and seconded by Deputy Mayor Barrett, it was unanimously,

**RESOLVED (#2023-03-19)**, to approve Aidan Martin’s Eagle Scout project to install balance beam, pull up bars and push up bar in Gerngras Park. He will work with Building Superintendent Fellman to ensure code compliance and location.

**USE OF FACILITIES - V1 CHURCH** – Upon a motion made by Deputy Mayor Barrett and seconded by Trustee Parisi, it was unanimously,

**RESOLVED (#2023-03-20)**, to approve a request from the V1 Church for the use of the Village Green for an Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 8, 2023, either morning or afternoon. 20-30 children are expected.

**NEW GUARD RAIL** – Upon a motion made by Trustee Parisi and seconded by Deputy Mayor Barrett, it was unanimously,

**RESOLVED (#2023-03-21)**, to purchase timber building materials for a new guard rail to be installed at the corner of Bethpage Road and Thomas Powell Boulevard in the amount of \$3,500.

**USE OF FACILITIES – FARMINGDALE BASEBALL LEAGUE**– Upon a motion made by Trustee Rosasco and seconded by Trustee Priestley, it was unanimously,

**RESOLVED (#2023-03-22)**, to approve a request from the Farmingdale Baseball League to hold their Annual Opening Day Parade on Sunday,

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April 23, 2023. The parade will assemble at the Howitt Baseball fields at 1:30 p.m. and kick off at 2:00 p.m. The parade will make a left from Howitt to Conklin Street and make a left on Main Street and proceed south to a right on Motor Avenue to Allen Park.

**DEFIBRILLATOR PURCHASE**– Upon a motion made by Trustee Priestley and seconded by Trustee Rosasco, it was unanimously,

**RESOLVED (#2023-03-23)**, to approve ZOLL Medical Corporation as sole source provider for the purchase of an X Series Monitor/Defibrillator at a cost of \$37,630.77 to be financed at no interest over 24 months and with letter from Chief to indicate need as a sole source.

**SMALL CLAIMS ASSESSMENT REVIEW FUNDS** – Upon a motion made by Trustee Parisi and seconded by Trustee Priestley, it was unanimously,

**RESOLVED (#2023-03-24)**, to approve all Small Claims assessment review funds for the 2022/2023 tax year totaling \$880.23.

**USE OF FACILITIES – CULTURAL ARTS COMMITTEE**– Upon a motion made by Trustee Parisi and seconded by Deputy Mayor Barrett, it was unanimously,

**RESOLVED (#2023-03-28)**, to approve a request from the Cultural Arts Committee to use the Gazebo and Village Green for “Sherwood on the Green” – Eastline Theatre will perform Robin Hood on Saturday, October 14, 2023 & Sunday, October 15, 2023 at 2:00 p.m. at a cost of \$1000/performance. They will need the space between 12:00 Noon and 6:00 p.m. to set up, perform, and take down the stage.

**NEW HIRES** – Upon a motion made by Trustee Priestley and seconded by Trustee Rosasco, it was unanimously,

**RESOLVED (#2023-03-29)**, to hire Daniel Hickey and Alexis Kashuba as Parking Meter Attendants at a rate of \$18 per hour.

The following topics were discussed:

- “Stop for Kids” presentation: The Board heard the presentation and agreed in principle to pursue this new Stop Sign Management Camera Technology to a pilot level to one location. Village Attorney DeBellis will follow up with SFK and speak to the Village Attorney of Saddle Rock, who has installed this stop sign camera equipment.

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- Resident requests a curb in front of 190 Bethpage Rd. The Board requested a quote and information that was provided to the homeowner by the County.
- Budget Discussion: The 2023-2024 Village budget was presented and a 1.95% tax increase is proposed along with an 8% increase in water rates.
- Fire Department: Chief Tortoso has requested a new fire hydrant to be placed in front of Palmer's Plaza.

**NEW FIRE HYDRANT** – Upon a motion made by Trustee Parisi and seconded by Trustee Priestley, it was unanimously,

**RESOLVED (#2023-03-30)**, to install a new fire hydrant to be placed in front of Palmer's Plaza. The estimated installation cost is \$15,605.99.

The discussion continued on the following topics:

- Building Department:
  - Blue and Gold Development will be bringing final plans for a building permit for development at 1 Conklin Street in the near future, approved for 12 units. Waiting for state DOT sign off.
  - The Carlyle (formerly Robbie Lee) - Construction is underway.
  - 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.
  - Peter Florey/D&F Development (Sterling Green):
    - Building permit has been issued
    - Demo is completed
    - Site work is underway, pilings completed, ongoing construction
  - Arrow Exterminating has been engaged to solve the rodent problem, abatement is underway. Progress has been made but work continues, although Stratford Green continues to have issues in dumpsters. The Board has requested billings from the rodent abatement vendor.
  - Rte. 109 & Conklin St. auto body – work is proceeding on this project, continues. Brick façade is nearing completion and drainage installed, final site paving completed.

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- Application for one home on the south side of the Black Course development has been approved by the Planning Board. Permit has been issued.
  - Daler Pizza at 331 Main Street – construction continues. Natural gas easement completed.
  - New fence has been requested along the LIRR from Melville Road to Secatogue Avenue.
  - Zuzu is under construction, demo is complete, construction underway.
  - Eastern Parkway houses are being cleaned up, with one home in court for a derelict garage. Permit has been issued for roof repair. In addition, 10 Eastern Parkway lot cleaned up, smoker and trampoline removed, fence installed.
  - New parking arrangements on Eastern Parkway are being finalized in front of 4 family houses. Awaiting plans from Fairfield.
  - 37 Potter Street was shut down by the Nassau County Fire Marshal due to lack of filing plans for a sprinkler system. Illegal occupant of second floor will be removed. Sprinkler plans removed and construction underway. Tenant has been removed and there will be no apartment above.
  - Application for 250 Conklin St. office building has been received and will be ready for a public hearing on March 6.
  - Stratford Green needs to rehabilitate the area on Rte. 24 that was damaged by a car.
  - Noise code review
  - 2 & 4 Franklin Street rear yards have been cleaned.
  - All projects requiring a public hearing will be required to place a sign on the property indicating the time and date of the hearing and a brief description of the project, a legally required radius map and proof of mailing via snail mail to each party in the radius map.
  - Need to call Ed Clarke regarding future tenant for the gas station and market at Bernard St. and Route 109.
- Highway Department:
    - Lot maintenance and routine maintenance of Main St.

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- Routine garbage pickup in parks and dog stations
- The new DPW garage foundation construction is underway for the steel building. New fence along property line on south exposure to be installed by highway personnel.
- Window and door project at Village Hall is complete.
- Main St. pole removal start date is March 6 due to engineering changes and changes in pricing. PSEG will be supplying a phasing of the project in the near term once all contractor issues are resolved. Met with Altice as first proposal was unacceptable, we are awaiting final pricing. Verizon meeting held to finalize construction plans, pricing was received and approved. Coordinating with Asplundh.
- Magniflood quote for electric GFI type fixture \$325/\$350 per fixture for holiday decorations.
- The walkway north of the tracks near My Grandmother's Kitchen needs cleaning – completed
- A tree on Prospect St. across from Doud St. needs to be evaluated for possible removal.
- A request to remove a tree in front of Burgerology was approved.
- From Ken Tortoso – DPW weekly work assignments for the week of March 17:
  - The St. Patrick's Day parade was a success.
  - Had crews on standby during our nor'easter, just ended up with rain.
  - Crews ran loads of sweepings to Brookhaven.
  - Stapleton coming in to do removals and stump grinding.
  - Stapleton was in removing dead trees and stump grinding.
  - Town of Oyster Bay Lighting will be in to repair the transformer for the north railroad lot lighting. The part finally came in after 3 months of waiting.
  - Our speed sign has been out on Bethpage Road.
  - Need to remove “metered parking” sign on Secatogue Ave. and Eastern Pkwy. until new meters are delivered.

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- Water Department:
  - Water tower construction with punch list items being addressed. Generaor has been installed and old diesel tank removed. Generator start up scheduled before mid-March – coordinating with Huntington Power, The new tank is now in operation.
  - Cell providers organizing contractors to remove old equipment from the old tank and install new on the new tank, including NCPD microwave. Verizon is the first provider and they will be doing the changeovers in sequence. All cell providers will be on the new tank by April 30, 2023.
  - AOP installation by Philip Ross is underway with foundation and installation of tanks along with health department submittals.
  - \$3,000,000 has been awarded to the Village in Gov. Hochul’s budget for Improvements WIIA grant. This funding will be used to install new pollution control equipment. Documents have been signed and submitted to the state to receive funding.
  - New doors and hatch approved for all well locations are completed. All locks need to be changed on the new door installation as well, Abetta Lock has been contacted.
  - Coordinating with Bob Holzmacher and the Health Department to install piping and new valves to enable filling of ground tank at Ridge Road from both wells.
  - New site plan and location of equipment has been agreed. PWGC to handle NYS submittals for reimbursement of WIIA grant and legal consulting services only.
  - A meeting was held with Bethpage Water District to discuss meter pit and water purchase agreement.
  - A meeting was held with South Farmingdale Water District to explore ways of working together.
  - Met with Philip Ross Industries to develop Plant 2 treatment. Initial site plan is in working phase.
  - From John Falbo – Water Department for the past 2 weeks:
  - Main Street/Nutty Irishman – ¾ inch water service break. The line was hit installing conduits, taken care of by me and the Asplundh crew on scene

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doing the electric. All work has been successful so far, except for this one incident which has been remedied. Taking pictures and videos for documentation to know whether electrical lines will be crossing us.

- 570 Melville Road (March 10) – ¾ inch service break. Multiple pin holes and severe deterioration of service line. The service line is connected to our remaining 6 inch Transite Line and is over 6 ft. deep at that point. A 350psi gas main was marked 1 foot from our main. Multiple water main shut off valves were buried by road work contractors over the years, so our shut off took us down to Balcom Road and Melville Road which was over 200 yards away. Work done by Merrick Utilities due to Transite line and major gas proximity. Since this leak has been fixed, our pumpage per day has gone down almost 50,000 gallons per day. It was not noticeable for a while because it is the last house that we service on Melville Road and there is also drainage underground that it was running off into.
- Generator at 1-3 running. All seems to be working and running well after weekly tests. Some communication support is to be worked on, but all good so far.
- Diesel motor removed from Well 2-2.
- Next week – Fire Service line to be tapped into water main for new garage.
- Hach Systems serviced our Chemical Analyzers (service contract). All working and maintained properly.
- Thank you!
- Code Department:
  - Working until 10:00 p.m. on Thursday, Friday and Saturday.
  - Noise issues were discussed regarding outdoor music, types and volume levels to develop new Village Code.
  - New signage ordered for LIRR North parking lot has been installed with special thanks to Dave Rodenburg, Mike Tortoso and Matt Kilbridge.
  - The Board requested a review of nighttime personnel as outdoor dining and open windows have changed with the season.
  - Contact FBS for rollout and administration of parking meter policy.

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- Make Uber parking/pickup on Main St. after 10:00 p.m. for implementation spring/summer 2023.

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

**RESOLVED (#2023-03-31)**, to move to Executive Session.

Upon a motion made by Deputy Mayor Barrett and seconded by Trustee Parisi, it was unanimously,

**RESOLVED (#2023-03-32)**, to reconvene the meeting.

**HITEMCO & BARCHILD SETTLEMENT** – Upon a motion made by Deputy Mayor Barrett and seconded by Trustee Parisi, it was,

**RESOLVED (#2023-03-25)**, to authorize Mayor Ekstrand to sign an agreement of settlement of Village claims against Hitemco and Barchild Properties in legal case against polluters causing pollution to our water system:

WHEREAS, the Incorporated Village of Farmingdale ("Village") brought the actions: *Village of Farmingdale v. Aluminum Louvre Corp., et al.*, [Nassau County Supreme Court, Index No. 603443/2019] and *Village of Farmingdale v. Aljo-Gefa Precision Manufacturing LLC*, et al., [Nassau County Supreme Court, Index No. 607613/2020] to recover for contamination by and the presence of 1,4-Dioxane in the Village's groundwater and drinking water supply; and

WHEREAS, Hitemco LLC ("Hitiemco"), and Barchild Properties Limited Partnership ("Barchild") were named among the defendants in the above actions, which were consolidated under Index No. 603443/2019 ("contamination lawsuits"); and

WHEREAS, the above Defendants in the contamination lawsuits have agreed to settle their respective liabilities in connection with these matters for the sum disclosed in the Settlement Agreement; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Board of Trustees ("Village Board") of the Village have duly considered the proposed settlement and agree that the Agreement and its terms shall remain confidential, subject to the conditions therein; and



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WHEREAS, the law firm of Napoli Shkolnik PLLC, counsel for the Village, has recommended that the settlement represents a fair and reasonable settlement on behalf of the Village,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, The Village Board authorizes the settlement of the Village's claims against the above Defendants in the contamination lawsuits, and the Village Board consents to the settlement of the coverage action, to the extent that this consent is necessary.

The following vote was recorded in connection with this matter:

Mayor Ralph Ekstrand	aye
Deputy Mayor William Barrett	aye
Trustee Cheryl Parisi	aye
Trustee Walter Priestley	aye
Trustee Craig Rosasco	aye

**ALJO-GEFA & SWEET HOLLOW SETTLEMENT** – Upon a motion made by Deputy Mayor Barrett and seconded by Trustee Parisi, it was,

**RESOLVED (#2023-03-26)**, to authorize Mayor Ekstrand to sign an agreement of settlement of Village claims against Aljo-Gefa Precisions Manufacturing and Sweet Hollow Associates in legal case against polluters causing pollution to our water system:

WHEREAS, the Incorporated Village of Farmingdale ("Village") brought the actions: *Village of Farmingdale v. Aluminum Louvre Corp., et al.*, [Nassau County Supreme Court, Index No. 603443/2019] and *Village of Farmingdale v. Aljo-Gefa Precision Manufacturing LLC, et al.*, [Nassau County Supreme Court, Index No. 607613/2020] to recover for contamination by and the presence of 1,4-Dioxane in the Village's groundwater and drinking water supply; and

WHEREAS, Aljo-Gefa Precisions Manufacturing LLC ("Aljo-Gefa") and Sweet Hollow Associates LLC ("Sweet Hollow"), were named among the defendants in the above actions, which were consolidated under Index No. 603443/2019 ("contamination lawsuits"); and

WHEREAS, the above Defendants in the contamination lawsuits have agreed to settle their respective liabilities in connection with these matters for the sum disclosed in the Settlement Agreement; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Board of Trustees ("Village Board") of the

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Village have duly considered the proposed settlement and agree that the Agreement and its terms shall remain confidential, subject to the conditions therein; and

WHEREAS, the law firm of Napoli Shkolnik PLLC, counsel for the Village, has recommended that the settlement represents a fair and reasonable settlement on behalf of the Village,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, The Village Board authorizes the settlement of the Village's claims against the above Defendants in the contamination lawsuits, and the Village Board consents to the settlement of the coverage action, to the extent that this consent is necessary.

The following vote was recorded in connection with this matter:

Mayor Ralph Ekstrand	aye
Deputy Mayor William Barrett	aye
Trustee Cheryl Parisi	aye
Trustee Walter Priestley	aye
Trustee Craig Rosasco	aye

**ASPHALT SUPPLY SETTLEMENT** – Upon a motion made by Trustee Priestley and seconded by Trustee Rosasco, it was,

**RESOLVED (#2023-03-27)**, to pay \$220,454.53 to contractor in exchange for discontinuance of claim and release of liens in case of paving work performed:

WHEREAS, Asphalt Supply of Long Island, LLC, Bove Industries, Inc. and Skyline, LLC, and Suffolk Asphalt Corp. ("Lienholders") asserted liens against the Inc. Village of Farmingdale ("Village") as set forth in the claim and action, *Asphalt supply of L.I. Inc. v. Village of Farmingdale, Index No. 605086/20*.

WHEREAS, Lienholders claim that they are owed \$220,454.53.

WHEREAS, the Village has confirmed that the amount claimed to be owed by lienholders is the amount properly owed.

WHEREAS, Lienholders have agreed to discontinue their liens and all claims against the Village in exchange for the Village's payment of \$220,454.53, in accordance with the attached Stipulation of Settlement.

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NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Village authorizes the settlement of, *Asphalt supply of L.I. Inc. v. Village of Farmingdale, Index No. 605086/20*, and all of the claims and crossclaims raised therein in accordance with the attached Stipulation of Settlement.

This Resolution is approved by a vote as follows:

Mayor Ralph Ekstrand	aye
Deputy Mayor William Barrett	aye
Trustee Cheryl Parisi	aye
Trustee Walter Priestley	aye
Trustee Craig Rosasco	aye

**SUFFOLK COUNTY WATER AUTHORITY** – Upon a motion made by Trustee Priestley and seconded by Deputy Mayor Barrett, it was,

**RESOLVED (#2023-03-33)**, authorizing the Village Attorney to write to the counsel of the Suffolk County Water Authority to explore a change in their Charter in order to include the Village of Farmingdale in an amended boundary of their approved franchise/operation/management area.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Brian P. Harty, Village Clerk-Treasurer