

WORK SESSION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Monday, March 25, 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 25, 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:

- Budget Discussion: Budget was presented by Deputy Clerk Treasurer Dan Ruckdeschel to the Board. Certain revisions were made to the Court salary schedule.
- Linwood Avenue: Ongoing.

MAIN STREET MILE– Upon a motion made by Trustee Parisi and seconded by Trustee Priestley, it was,

RESOLVED (#2024-03-27), to approve a request from Race Awesome & Runner’s Edge to hold their annual Main Street Mile running event on Saturday, August 31, 2024 beginning at 8:30 a.m. at Powell Cemetery ending on Main Street near Village Hall. The course will need to be closed by 7:00 a.m. for set-up and will close at approximately 10:30 a.m.

MASTER PLAN REPORT – Upon a motion made by Trustee Parisi and seconded by Trustee Priestley, it was,

RESOLVED (#2024-03-28), to accept the update report on the Village of Farmingdale Master Plan prepared by VHB.

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

RESOLVED (#2024-03-29), to purchase all the tax liens on unpaid taxes in fiscal year 2023.

PUBLIC HEARING FOR 2024-2025 BUDGET– Upon a motion made by Deputy Mayor Barrett and seconded by Trustee Priestley, it was,

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RESOLVED (#2024-03-30), to set a public hearing for the 2024-2025 Budget for Monday, April 15, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.

USE OF FACILITIES - LITHOLOGY – Upon a motion made by Trustee Rosasco and seconded by Trustee Priestley, it was,

RESOLVED (#2024-03-31), to approve a request from Lithology Brewing Co. for the use of 5 parking spaces in Parking Lot 3, behind Lithology (211A Main St.) for a Dog Meet-Up event on Sunday, May 19, 2024 from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. The actual time of the event is 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., about 50 people are expected.

Resolution to approve a request from Lithology Brewing Co. for the use of 5 parking spaces in Parking Lot 3, behind Lithology (211A Main St.) for a live music event in partnership with Colored Colors on Saturday, June 15, 2024 (rain date June 22) from 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. The actual time of the event is 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., 50-100 people are expected. **Motion to approve. TABLED.**

Resolution to approve a request from Lithology Brewing Co. for the use of 5 parking spaces in Parking Lot 3, behind Lithology (211A Main St.) for an anniversary party with food from Chiddy's Food Truck and possibly live music on Saturday, July 20, 2024 from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. The actual time of the event is 3:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m., 50-75 people are expected. **Motion to approve. TABLED.**

Resolution to approve a request from Lithology Brewing Co. for the use of 10 parking spaces in Parking Lot 3, behind Lithology (211A Main St.) for an Oktoberfest celebration with food from Chiddy's Food Truck on Saturday, September 21, 2024 from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. The actual time of the event is 2:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., approximately 100 people are expected. **Motion to approve. TABLED.**

Resolution to approve a request from Lithology Brewing Co. for the use of 5 parking spaces in Parking Lot 3, behind Lithology (211A Main St.) for an Dog Meet-Up event on Sunday, October 6, 2024 from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. The actual time of the event is 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., about 50 people are expected. **Motion to approve. TABLED.**

Resolution to approve a request from Lithology Brewing Co. for the use of 10 parking spaces in Parking Lot 3, behind Lithology (211A Main St.) for an Winterfest celebration with live music and food from Chiddy's Food Truck on Saturday, November 23, 2024 from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. The actual time of the event is 2:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., approximately 100 people are expected. **Motion to approve. TABLED.**

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EXECUTIVE SESSION, upon a motion made by Trustee Parisi and seconded by Deputy Mayor Barrett, it was,

RESOLVED (#2024-03-32), to move to Executive Session.

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

RESOLVED (#2024-03-33), to reconvene the meeting.

The discussion continued on the following topics:

- Discuss new local law for “Places of Assembly”
- Proposed Multiple Residence Fee Changes, Fence Permit to \$100

FEE INCREASES – Upon a motion made by Trustee Parisi and seconded by Trustee Priestley, it was,

RESOLVED (#2024-03-34), to approve increases as submitted to Multiple Residences, raise fence permit fee to \$100 and raise Place of Assembly fee to \$250.

The discussion continued on the following topics:

- Fire Department: Establish a new title “Acting Chief on Demand”.
- 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.
 - Both Sterling Green and Robby Lee/Carlyle projects are proceeding. Sterling Green is 85% complete and Carlyle is 85% complete. No issues with either project.
 - Dish Network application has been sent to Dick Comi for review. D&B is coordinating all related issues with Mr. Comi on revised plans. Anticipate building permit by mid-April with installation by June 1 per Dick Comi and D&B.
 - Waiting for Verizon submission of an application to install communication equipment on the clock tower at Palmer’s Shopping Center.

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- Lotus Garden should be ready to open as soon.
- Proposed 2 lot sub-division on Staples Street - application completed and is now going to the Planning Board with plans for new homes.
- Enterprise Rent-A-Car has submitted an application and will be going to the Board for a Special Use Permit for rental location at the corner of Route 109 and Route 24.
- 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 to be completed and sent to NYS.
- Fading signage on parking lots, Scott has been contacted and will review.
- Zuzu nearing completion.
- Discussed waste stream with the ownership of the Nutty Irishman and 317 – very high estimate for new dumpster, need to discuss options.
- Resident reported that multiple families are living on the corner of Duane St. & Secatogue Ave. – there is no evidence to support this claim.
- The Villager – status on rear enclosure, no application to date.
- 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.

INFRASTRUCTURE OWNERSHIP RESEARCH – Upon a motion made by Trustee Parisi and seconded by Trustee Priestley, it was,

RESOLVED (#2024-03-35), to hire Roger Cochii through D&B to research infrastructure ownership in the Village of Farmingdale at a cost not to exceed \$10,000.

The discussion continued on the following topics:

- Building Department (continued):
 - Look at Guercio & Guercio sign for compliance.
- Highway Department:

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- Lot maintenance and routine maintenance of Main St.
- Routine garbage pickup in parks and dog stations
- Main St. pole for FD traffic light delivered. Foundations need to be poured and set for 28 days.
- 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. Work is in review and will start on or about April 2.
- 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. Need to contact National Grid regarding status, 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 signs ordered.
- 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 completed.
- Covers for parking meters are being investigated by Deputy Clerk Ruckdeschel.
- From Ken Tortoso – DPW weekly work assignments:
- Crews working at Gergras Park adding mulch around the playground equipment.

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- Fleet crews repaired the Water Department's valve machine at a cost savings to the Village. Half of the motor had to be rebuilt due to internal failure of a stuck valve and a bent lifting rod. A new motor would have cost \$2,599, but thanks to the fleet crew the cost was only \$100.95 for parts.
- Town of Oyster Bay Lighting has been in again repairing street lights
- Changed the air filters in the air handlers on the Village Hall and Fire Department roofs.
- Water patch was repaired on Heisser Land and we're continuing to fill potholes.
- Setting up the water tank and trailer this week to start power washing some locations in the Village.
- Easter Egg Hunt this weekend on the Village Green.
- Sweeper is working in zone #1 in the hill area.
- Water Department:
 - Training on pumping system in water tower base.
 - Well 1-3 is out of service as well pulled to add a stage to the pump and evaluate condition.
 - AOP installation by Philip Ross is complete to the testing stage in order to meet health department requirements along with the SCADA system.
 - New steel building to cover the GAC tanks at Well 1-3 is on site, awaiting final foundation plans. Piping is being rearranged to accommodate new steel building.
 - \$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 and potential federal and county funding.

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- 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.
- Grant request submitted to Senator Chuck Schumer for \$9.6 million to cover cost of capital improvements in the water system.
- Lead and copper information requested.
- Information on status of plating company on Potter St. was requested.
- From John Falbo:
 - Congrats on 4 more years!
 - Valve location planning for future shut down to Ridge Road AOP work.
 - Lead and copper survey is ongoing.
 - 1 Conklin St. project – 2 inch domestic service tapped successfully, 4 inch fire service to be installed on Monday.
 - Chemical pump work... we are rebuilding older pumps. We have new ones on order.
 - AOP work... Brian Harty is informed every day, thanks Brian!
 - Meetings with South Farmingdale to review daily & weekly AOP movement and to ensure a smooth transition into shared daily routines.
- Code Department:
 - Working on signage for lots with court and admin office
 - Need to speak with Burgerology and Whiskey Down Diner regarding Music on Main DJs.
- 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.
- Other:
 - Overtime report requested
 - Develop a schedule of when all PILOTS terminate.

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- Need public hearing notice for BID extension.
- General discussion about Courtroom improvements – new carpeting and wall of honor carpentry.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Brian P. Harty, Village Clerk-Treasurer