

WORK SESSION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Monday, April 20, 2015
INC. VILLAGE OF FARMINGDALE

The Work Session of the Board of Trustees of the Incorporated Village of Farmingdale was held at Village Hall, 361 Main Street, Farmingdale, New York on Monday, April 20, 2015 at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Mayor Ralph Ekstrand
Deputy Mayor Patricia Christiansen – Arrived at 7:30
Trustee Cheryl Parisi
Trustee William Barrett
Trustee Thomas Ryan
Attorney Claudio DeBellis
Administrator Brian Harty
Deputy Clerk Barbara Kelly
Building Superintendent Stephen Fellman
Superintendent of Public Works Andrew Fisch
Research Assistant Herman Miller
Village Engineer Paul Granger

Mayor Ekstrand opened the meeting at 7:05 p.m.

A discussion led by Superintendent Fellman began on the following Building department items:

- Amending the accessory building code to include commercial property since the current code does not address this.
- Elizabeth Street will be repaved by TDI all the way to Conklin Street.

Administrator Harty reported that one bid was received for the Fire Department ambulance for \$184,000.

A discussion led by Superintendent Fisch began on the following Highway department items:

- Leaf Vac machine to be purchased off state bid will be presented at BOT work session next week. Trustee Ryan asked if the leaf program is being continued.
- Merritt Road landscaping – 3 bids are in.

A general discussion began on the following items:

- Savik & Murray gave a proposal for the Jackson Avenue parking lot and for core samples of roads within the Village. Mayor Ekstrand stated that the Village may have Chips funding of just over \$200,000 to go to road rehabilitation.
- Optimum would like to film a commercial at Paint & Main on Friday, 4/24 starting at 7:00 a.m.

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- Tri-State damaged a resident fence on Sherman Road – Tri-State is the company the county chose to pave Main Street.
- Vandalism at Gazebo.

Trustee Parisi led a discussion on the following items:

- Pictures for the store fronts – they will be done within a week – we want the commercial property owners to place these in the windows before brown craft paper is used to cover.
- Banners for the parking lot – 40 two sided banners – 3 written quotes will be given and funding will be paid from CDBG grant funding.
- Update on Village newsletter.

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously,

RESOLVED, to move to Executive Session to discuss the contract with Vision Accomplished.

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously,

RESOLVED, to return to regular meeting business.

A Power Point presentation was given about the Water Department.

The following public comments were made:

- Mr. Callahan, Oakview Avenue asked for clarification about 4-6 million dollars to improve the water distribution. Mayor Ekstrand stated that the new water rates will be able to cover the \$3.195 MM in bonds over 20 years. The bond debt per year would be \$220,000.
- Mr. Diurno, Fairview Road, asked what the cost was for running the Water Department in 2014 and if any of it is paid for with tax dollars. The Board answered that the Water Department is paid by the water rates and not taxes. Mr. Diurno also asked how much money the Village has borrowed in total. Mayor Ekstrand responded that the Board did not have those numbers tonight but they can be provided at another time. Lastly, Mr. Diurno asked what happened to the idea that the Village needed another well. The Board responded that the Village currently has the capacity to cover our worst day.
- Former Mayor Starkie, Doud Street, discussed the following items:
 - He asked what the average cost would be to have a 1B Operator on staff? Herman Miller stated the cost would be approximately \$165,000 per year.

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- He stated that the Village could not operate without 1B operator on staff. Mayor Ekstrand stated that the Village does not have to hire a 1B operator and that we can continue to have H2M fulfill this function. Former Mayor Starkie asked to have a breakdown of those expenses.
- He stated that only the state would need to pass legislation. Mayor Ekstrand replied that the state would not consider legislation without home rule message from Nassau and Suffolk counties.
- He stated that the Village just voted to replace the water main near the Staller building replacing 500 feet of main at \$150,000. Paul Granger stated the role of the 1B operator and explained that the age of our mains is not unusual within Long Island.
- Mr. Miller, Quaker Lane, inquired about the timeline of the pressure zone. Mayor Ekstrand stated the Village would complete the pressure zone, remediation of the tanks and the upgrade to communications within 1-3 years. Mr. Miller asked about quarterly billing being based on estimates or readings and Mayor Ekstrand stated they will be on readings.
- Mr. Johnson, Ridge Road, asked that the taxes do not increase because he is not in favor of subsidizing the commercial users.
- Mr. Claase inquired about the life of the water meters. Paul Granger stated the life would be 20 years.
- Ms. Lieber, Quaker Lane, asked if the Village has a budget for water main breaks. The Board stated that the Village does. She asked Herman Miller to clarify information regarding Suffolk County Water Authority and other entities being satisfied with them. Herman Miller stated that the Village does not have a compelling reason at this time to go with Suffolk County Water, but should treatment become necessary in the future, the Village can look again to make a change.
- Mr. Carosella asked that the Board clarify the rates. Trustee Barrett explained the rates for residents and commercial owners.

There being no further business, upon a motion duly made, the meeting was adjourned at 10:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Brian Harty – Village Administrator