

**WORK SESSION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
**Monday, September 25, 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, September 25, 2023.

**Present:** Mayor Ralph Ekstrand  
Deputy Mayor William Barrett  
Trustee Walter Priestley  
Administrator/Clerk/Treasurer Brian Harty  
Deputy Clerk Daniel Ruckdeschel  
Village Attorney Claudio DeBellis

**Absent:** Trustee Cheryl Parisi  
Trustee Craig Rosasco

**USE OF FACILITIES – ELIZABETH GARDENS** – Upon a motion made by Deputy Mayor Barrett and seconded by Trustee Priestley, it was,

**RESOLVED (#2024-09-18)**, to approve a request by the Elizabeth Gardens Corp. to use the Courtroom for their annual shareholder’s meeting on Tuesday, December 5, 2023 beginning at 6:30 p.m.

**USE OF FACILITIES – JUNIOR LEAGUE** – Upon a motion made by Deputy Mayor Barrett and seconded by Trustee Priestley, it was,

**RESOLVED (#2024-09-19)**, to approve a request by the Junior League to use the Courtroom for a special project on Monday, January 15, 2024 (Holiday/Village Hall closed) from 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

The following topics were discussed:

- Fire Department

**VENDOR FOR CHIEF’S VEHICLE** – Upon a motion made by Deputy Mayor Barrett and seconded by Trustee Priestley, it was,

**RESOLVED (#2024-09-20)**, to approve Commander Fleet as vendor to outfit the new Chief’s vehicle using Suffolk Community College Contract No. 25-cc-122 in the amount of \$26,962.70.

The discussion continued on the following topics:

- Discussed Fairfield on street parking on Eastern Parkway: Approved, need to follow up with project.

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- CDBG fund reassignment: \$191,000 has been assigned to the Main Street Project from bathroom renovations.

**NELSON STREET TREE REMOVAL** – Upon a motion made by Trustee Priestley and seconded by Deputy Mayor Barrett, it was,

**RESOLVED (#2024-09-21)**, to remove a tree at 89 Nelson Street as it is in electric wires connecting to the home and has pulled down that service in high winds causing an outage and pulling down the post necessitating expensive electrical repairs. Additionally, the tree is root-based causing damage to the sidewalk and front lawn.

**ROSE STREET TREE REMOVAL** – Upon a motion made by Trustee Priestley and seconded by Deputy Mayor Barrett, it was,

**RESOLVED (#2024-09-23)**, to remove certain trees on Rose Street per arborist recommendation.

The discussion continued on the following topics:

- Building Department:
  - Blue and Gold Development demo permit and building permit have been issued for development at 1 Conklin Street. Demolition is now complete, discussion with NY State DOT for curb cut is being finalized.
  - 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.
  - Daler Pizza at 331 Main Street – construction is nearing completion.
  - LIRR trestles at NY 24 and Merritts Road are being rehabilitated – completion to be confirmed by LIRR, visually complete.
  - Eastern Parkway house in court with derelict garage. Permit issued for roof repair. Permit revised to increase the size of the garage, checking on status as construction has not started. Building inspector met with the owner and must start within 30 days or they will receive a summons.
  - New parking arrangements on Eastern Parkway under review in front of and behind 4 family houses. Meeting scheduled with Fairfield for Tuesday, September 19 – met with Fairfield’s architect and have a tentative agreement for 11 spaces on-site parking in driveways that will be assigned

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and numbered, and 7 spaces on the street similar to other FF projects (with Board approval).

- Paver issue on Cherry Street residence nearing resolution, going to ZBA. Anticipate significant removal of pavers.
- Both Sterling Green and Robby Lee projects are proceeding. No issues with either project.
- The parking lot at CVS will be repaved in September, waiting for permit application.
- Dish Network application has been sent to Dick Comi for review.
- VHB has been contacted about analyzing the Master Plan and the developments that have occurred in the last 12 years. A proposal has been provided for review and approval by the Board.
- Waiting for Verizon submission of an application to install communication equipment on the clock tower at Palmer's Shopping Center.
- Summons issued to "The Coop" needing Planning Board approval for a new façade.
- Need follow up with Staller on façade and patio in the rear, and Main Street Pizza change in tenancy.
- Need to address trash issues behind Flower Shop of Farmingdale (formerly Dinda Florist).
- Possible code change.
- Highway Department:
  - Lot maintenance and routine maintenance of Main St.
  - Routine garbage pickup in parks and dog stations
  - The new DPW garage is 95% complete: electrical, plumbing and insulation remain.
  - Main St. pole removal project Phase 1 complete. NY24 crossing – permit received and work completed. Asplundh/PSEG work completed. All property owners signed Altice access agreement to be able to proceed with Altice/Verizon installation. Altice installation underway with completion on or about October 1. Verizon will provide an updated schedule next week.

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- Plans for Main Street widening submitted to Nassau County, awaiting permit. Anticipate all work on Main Street to be completed by November 15.
- 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 preliminary plan for new DPW park.
- Village Green Gazebo brick wall needs repointing.
- Parking meters are being installed.
- 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 near term.
- Need to speak with homeowner on Park Avenue regarding new guardrail.
- From Ken Tortoso – DPW weekly work assignments for the week of September 18:
  - Castro Landscaping will be thatching and fertilizing the Village Green, 5 Corners Park and the waterfalls park.
  - Art in the Park was a success.
  - DPW crews are slowly removing hanging baskets. Was a great season this year.
  - Spraying Village Hall twice a week.
  - Crews will be turning off and winterizing the waterfalls system in October.
  - DPW crews have been out installing the parking meter signs in various parking lots.
  - Mums should be in next week for planting around the Village with Trustee Parisi and the Beautification Committee.
  - Repaired a roof leak in the conference room.
  - Called in Arrow Exterminating to check out a possible bees nest in a tree at the north lot of the railroad station. The tech could not locate the hive and said that it's late in the season and they're going to be dying off soon due to the cooling temperatures. I will keep an eye on it.

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- Town of Oyster Bay lighting has been in doing streetlight repairs! NEED to order more streetlight decko LED insert replacements from Magniflood!!
- New DPW Garage: Insulation issues resolved and installation started. Electrical issues resolved, exhaust fans ordered and alarm system engineering and submittals to the Fire Marshal's office are underway. Gas application to National Grid has been submitted, gas header to be installed by plumber.
- Water Department:
  - Water tower construction continues with few punch list items remaining.
  - Cell providers organizing contractors to remove old equipment from the old tank and install new on the new tank, including NCPD microwave. Two are completed and one is nearing completion. They will all finish by the time the tank is scheduled to come down, now revised to middle to end of October.
  - AOP installation by Philip Ross is complete and testing to meet health department requirements is complete. SCADA system design for this new system is underway by Philip Ross Industries coordinating with Bob Holzmacher & D&B. Eagle Control will be designing and installing the new system.
  - New steel building to cover the GAC tanks at Well 1-3 is being ordered.
  - \$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 as paperwork is coming from PRI to make application for reimbursement funding. Deputy Clerk Ruckdeschel to follow up with PWGC for reimbursement.
  - Plant 2 construction underway with GAC building excavation, foundation and installation of GAC tanks completed. Construction of the GAC building is underway. Pipe installation to connect into the system is near completion with cut ins to main trunk lines to be done just after peak pumping season.
  - A new WIIA grant application has been submitted to the State by PWGC.
  - PWGC following up on required testing to secure funding from legal settlement.
  - The Village is investigating waivers from the NYSDOH relating to contaminants.

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- Bonds will be sold to pay for Water Department upgrades in mid-September.
- From John Falbo – Recent work over the past week:
- Quarterly samples for 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of year at all Well Houses and Tanks were done. Results will be in about 3 weeks from now. Motorola finished all ground work at Eastern Parkway.
- Well 2-3 is sending off multiple chemical safety alarms every time it runs due to bad 10” check valve to system. We found it restricts the flow rate to system and which affects readings on Chemical output. Still waiting on quote from Merrick Utilities for replacement old valve and recommendation from Holzmacher Engineering. This is our primary well. IMPORTANT! Needs to be replaced. Along with this a new flow meter is to be installed by Eagle Control.
- All is moving along with AOPS at both places.
- Tank Level signal is being moved from Old Tank to New Tank which means essentially we can start draining old tank at any time. But we will keep in use until old tank is ready to come down.
- Code Department:
  - Working until 11:00 p.m. on Thursday, Friday and Saturday and day shift on Sunday until 7:00 p.m.
  - Noise issues regarding outdoor music, types and volume levels to be enforced with Notice of Violation and then summons if needed.
- Make Uber parking/pickup on Main St. after 10:00 p.m. for implementation spring/summer 2023, after pole removal project is completed.

**WATER POLLUTION SETTLEMENTS – 148 SWEET HOLLOW REALTY** - upon a motion made by Deputy Mayor Barrett and seconded by Trustee Priestley, it was,

**RESOLVED (#2024-09-22)**, to accept settlement amounts in water pollution case against 148 Sweet Hollow Realty, LLC.

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.

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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, 148 Sweet Hollow Realty, LLC ("148 SHR"), was named among the defendants in the 2020 action which was consolidated with the 2019 action under Index No. 603443/2019 ("contamination lawsuits"); and

WHEREAS, the above Defendant, 148 SHR, in the contamination lawsuits has agreed to settle its 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 Settlement 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 Defendant, 148 SHR, in the contamination lawsuits, and the Village Board consents to the settlement of the coverage action (if any), to the extent that this consent is necessary.

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

**RESOLVED (#2024-09-24)**, to move to Executive Session.

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

**RESOLVED (#2024-09-25)**, to reconvene the meeting.

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

Respectfully submitted,

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Brian P. Harty, Village Clerk-Treasurer