

**WORK SESSION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
**Monday, October 28, 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, October 28, 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:

- Discuss Holiday Tree Lighting Ceremony – change start time from 6:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. due to conflict with Howitt Middle School at 7:00 p.m. The Board agreed to move the start time to 6:00 p.m.

**NEW HIRE**, upon a motion made by Trustee Parisi and seconded by Deputy Mayor Barrett, it was,

**RESOLVED (#2025-10-23)**, to Kenneth Amato as a laborer at a rate of \$35 per hour.

**TREE PURCHASE**, upon a motion made by Trustee Priestley and seconded by Trustee Rosasco, it was,

**RESOLVED (#2025-10-24)**, to purchase 4 3.5-4.0 inch caliper Red Maple trees from Half Hollow Nursery at a cost of \$1,580.00.

The discussion continued on the following topics:

- Fire Department:
  - Discussed new epoxy apparatus floor completed & controversy. Board of Trustees to establish protocols & procedures.
  - Grant request to NYS Homeland Security and Emergency Services were not selected.
- Building Department:

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- Blue and Gold Development at 1 Conklin Street “The Enclave” is complete with C/O issued.
- 7-11 and Sunoco – ZBA approved plans and the Board approved a Special Use Permit. Awaiting construction drawings in order to issue building permit. Special Use Permit was extended.
- The Sterling Green project is nearing completion, TCO issued. Demo of adjacent house completed and new landscaping and fencing per plan being completed.
- Dish Network building permit issued with installation nearing completion.
- Waiting for Verizon resubmission of plans to install communication equipment on the clock tower at Palmer’s Shopping Center. Public hearing for special use permit adjourned until November.
- The owner of the Nutty Irishman & 317, dumpster under construction, needs second dumpster guard and container.
- National Grid grant for street trees and planter boxes has been submitted – approximately \$10,000, awaiting response.
- Toretta Estates - three building applications for remaining lots, going to the Planning Board.
- Mike’s Barber Shop nearing completion with hanging sign (now installed) and window work, including neon (installed).
- Bodega on Conklin St. signage to be reviewed.
- 217 Main Street to be renamed L.I. McGrath’s - will be an Irish pub. Working with the Building Department for a Special Use Permit.
- The Pour Authority (lease executed) will be moving into space adjacent to 335 Main Street (application anticipated).
- Building Department needs to follow up on window signage on Main Street and the Downtown Business District for percent of coverage of storefront windows, ATM signs, digital and rolling message signs, signage not approved by the Planning Board and “open” signs. Illuminated/framed “open” signs are permitted, an example of one was indicated. Underway.
- Need to review Special Use Permit and fees.
- A seafood restaurant will be moving into the former Creations Pizza location.

**WORK SESSION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
**Monday, October 28, 2024**  
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- Highway Department:
  - Lot maintenance and routine maintenance of Main St.
  - Routine garbage pickup in parks and dog stations
  - New DPW Yoakum St. park is completed (berm behind park needs completion).
  - Village Green Gazebo brick evaluated, one joint needs replacement (to be done by handyman ASAP) along with repointing of Fire Department and Courtroom stoops.
  - Need to evaluate lighting at the Melville Road/Secatogue Avenue intersection (Superintendent Patanjo).
  - GFI units for holiday lighting to be supplied by the Town of Oyster Bay, 50 units at DPW prepped by VOF staff, now ready for installation.
  - Check schedule for FFD traffic lights – Hinck, Wellsbach & TOB.
  - Check Parking Lot 3 Blue Spruce trees to provide electric for holiday decorations.
  - Schedule tree removal & trimming in Zone 1 – partially underway with DPW personnel, to start the week of October 7 for remaining trees.
  - Crack sealing completed by Roadwork Ahead along with paving of 9 roads.
  - Waiting for Altice plan for North Main Street. Deposit paid to PSEG for pole removal.
  - Drain piping ownership has been questioned.
  - Review County easement at Thomas Powell Blvd. for payment (Village Attorney DeBellis).
  - Holiday lighting of two evergreens in Parking Lot 3 is requested. Please check with TOB to see if this is possible.
  - Work with Hello Alert for cameras for the downtown business district including parking lots and additionally the LIRR parking lots.
  - Follow up with H2M regarding Linwood.
  - From Ken Tortoso – DPW weekly work assignments:
    - DPW leaf crews are out.
    - Castro Landscaping was in performing tree trims and stump grinding.

**WORK SESSION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
**Monday, October 28, 2024**  
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- Stapleton was in removing large dead trees on Rose St.
- Crews are still watering Jefferson Road sump and Circle Drive.
- Crews have started fall cleanup in the outer areas of the Village.
- Heads Up Sprinkler will be winterizing the rest of the Village parks in early November.
- Town of Oyster Bay was in installing outlets for the Christmas décor in the parking lots
- Town of Oyster Bay was in again repairing street lights.
- Water Department:
  - Sampling and testing of Well 1-3 of AOP/GAC installation by Philip Ross continues with well now fully operational.
  - New steel building to cover the GAC tanks at Well 1-3 construction has started with building to be finished on or about 11/15/24. Additional testing costs for newly monitored contaminants at approximately \$16,000 per well.
  - Plant 2 construction to re-commence on or about 11/6/24.
  - Master schedule is being worked on by PRI through completion for all wells, expected to be 5/1/25.
  - PWGC following up on required testing to secure funding from legal settlements and potential federal and county funding. Deputy Clerk Ruckdeschel helped finalize all submissions.
  - A grant of \$1 million has been committed through County Legislator John Ferretti to offset costs of the new water treatment systems. A payment of \$500,000 was received.
  - Congressman Thomas Suozzi has informed the Village that a \$1.1 million commitment has been secured in the 2025/2026 Federal Budget. Not a reimbursement grant.
  - Evaluation of ground tank roof and structure for repairs and/or replacement is underway by D&B.
  - D&B is providing analysis for antennae replacement on elevated tank by AT&T.
  - From John Falbo:

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- Hydrant flushing, previously scheduled for 11/1, has been cancelled and will be rescheduled.
- Well 1-3 at Eastern Parkway is running as lead well 24/7.
- Well 2-3 was pulled for start of Phase 2 work at Ridge Road, due to emerging traces of contaminants.
- Well 2-2 to be used on limited emergency use purposes due to emerging traces of contaminants.
- All interconnect valves with SCWA, Bethpage WD and South Farmingdale WD have been located and are ready to be tested for use.
- Second phase of Lead and Copper Rule Program is in effect. Letters for homes (customers) with galvanized pipes have been drafted by Brian Harty with Holzmacher Group's assistance. Brita Water Pitchers with appropriate NSF/ANSI certified filters have been purchased for those customers.
- Lead and Copper Inventory Survey is located at Village Hall counter in a black binder.
- Mark outs and meter work is ongoing every day.
- Code Department:
  - Weekly inspections of meters are done to check for any malfunctions (i.e. coins jammed in credit card slot).
  - Electrification of all parking meters is underway.
  - Sign posts and signage needs to be placed on Main Street. Sign posts received, Roadwork Ahead installed. New signage to be installed by DPW.
  - Noise issues on Main Street will be addressed as noted by code officers. If complaints are received, please forward to appropriate code or building department for resolution.

**USE OF FACILITIES**, upon a motion made by Trustee Parisi and seconded by Trustee Priestley, it was,

**RESOLVED (#2025-10-25)**, to approve the use of the Village Green by the Alzheimer's Association on Tuesday, November 19, 2024 from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. for a Luminaire Ceremony.

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**EV CHARGING STATIONS**, upon a motion made by Trustee Rosasco and seconded by Trustee Priestley, it was,

**RESOLVED (#2025-10-26)**, to approve the supply and installation of 3 dual ports and 1 single port EV charging stations in Parking Lot 3 by INF Associates at a cost of \$52,571.50. \$50,000 will be paid through a NYSERDA grant.

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