

**WORK SESSION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
**Monday, February 5, 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, February 5, 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  
Superintendent of Buildings Stephen Fellman

The following topics were discussed:

- Tonight's public hearings/hearings to be scheduled
- Linwood Avenue update:
  - H2M has been hired to perform a drainage study of the area and to propose options for corrective measures. A preliminary report was presented to the Board and the public at the January 22<sup>nd</sup> Work Session. Please see the minutes of that meeting.
  - The Village will continue to monitor weather conditions and anything else that might have an impact in the area while H2M works on solutions.
  - Residents were informed about how to access FEMA/State programs along with contact numbers for Governor Hochul, Senator Rhoads and Assemblyman Blumencranz.
  - Mayor Ekstrand has coordinated with the Town of Oyster Bay for drain maintenance in the area, which is completed as of mid-December.
  - A resident requested tree trimming on Linwood Ave. to assist in limiting debris during storm events. Stapleton Tree surveyed the area and said that no trimming was needed at this time.
  - NC DPW has been working on the Tulane sump as of about February 1<sup>st</sup>, maintenance is still underway.
  - Governor Hochul has announced that the September 29<sup>th</sup> storm event has been approved as a FEMA emergency and therefore eligible for certain funding and tax considerations. Senator Rhoads to follow up with procedures to access funding and application for tax benefits.
- Fire Department
- Building Department:

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- 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. Final State DOT comments received by developer.
- Eastern Parkway derelict garage – framing is done, ready for windows and siding. In process, nearing completion.
- Both Sterling Green and Robby Lee projects are proceeding. 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.
- VHB has been contracted to analyze the Master Plan and the developments that have occurred in the last 12 years – ongoing draft completed and will be presented to the Board at a January work session. Waiting for final plan.
- Waiting for Verizon submission of an application to install communication equipment on the clock tower at Palmer’s Shopping Center.
- “The Coop” went to the Planning Board and received approvals and will be at the February 7<sup>th</sup> court date to resolve issues there.
- Lotus Garden should be ready to open as soon as the natural gas is installed. A permit has just been issued for installation, the gas line will be installed February 2<sup>nd</sup>.
- Proposed 2 lot sub-division on Staples Street is in process and will be sent to NCPC when Planning Board review is complete.
- Enterprise Rent-A-Car may be moving into the corner of Route 109 and Route 24. Waiting for application, Superintendent Fellman was asked to contact them.
- Proposal for apartment at 207 Main St. to the Planning Board for review. The review is completed, need vote.
- Valance across from law office: in discussion with property owner for proposed changes, discussing with contractor.
- CVS lot letter to manage/ticket lot – need local law. Announce in February for adoption in March.
- Fading signage on parking lots, Scott has been contacted and will review.

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- Zuzu gas line installed.
- Need to discuss waste stream with the ownership of the Nutty Irishman and 317.
- Highway Department:
  - Lot maintenance and routine maintenance of Main St.
  - Routine garbage pickup in parks and dog stations
  - The new DPW garage is 99% complete: remaining items is final alarm system connections to fans, then Fire Marshal inspection.
  - Main St. pole removal project Phase 1 with PSEGLI & Altice completed. Street widening, sidewalks and paving has been completed, new driveway to Parking Lot 4 sidewalks and drain completed. Verizon has line removals between Prospect Street and Route 109 to complete their work (January 2024).
  - Poles for FFD stoplights and traffic “loops” at Rte. 24 are ordered, anticipate delivery by January 2024.
  - 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.
  - 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 move sign for resident parking on Washington Street.
  - Need to evaluate lighting at the Melville Road/Secatogue Avenue intersection.
  - Administrator Harty contacted Cornell Cooperative Extension regarding Main Street landscape architecture and Village-wide tree assessment, meeting completed with tour awaiting proposal from CCE.

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- Mayor Ekstrand contacted National Grid regarding tree grant for Main Street. A meeting is scheduled for the week of December 18 – met with National Grid rep and they need tree plan. Anticipated grant will be between \$5,000 and \$10,000.
- A light is out over the sign in Parking Lot 3, parts have been ordered.
- CVS Lot 2 stop signs by McDonald's crosswalk.
- From Ken Tortoso – DPW weekly work assignments:
  - DPW crews were out in the north railroad lot and other areas in the Village repairing potholes.
  - Crews have been running loads of wood debris out of Jackson Ave.
  - Town of Oyster Bay Lighting has been in repairing street lights.
  - Stapleton will be in this month for some trim and removal jobs.
  - Crews have been hot washing the downtown alleyways when the weather is right.
  - Crews assisted the Water Department on a water main break on Clinton St. and Dale Dr.
  - Both sweepers have been out cleaning up the Village.
  - Shop fleet crews have been busy servicing DPW and FD equipment.
- Water Department:
  - Water tower construction completed, including training on pumping system in tower base.
  - Dish Network is in engineering design review process.
  - Tank removal is completed and all debris has been removed.
  - AOP installation by Philip Ross is complete and testing to meet health department requirements is complete at Well 1-3. SCADA system design for this new system is underway by Philip Ross Industries coordinating with Eagle Control who will be installing the new system – installation of Well 1-3 anticipated soon.
  - New steel building to cover the GAC tanks at Well 1-3 will be delivered by January 19<sup>th</sup>. Foundation design and installation contractor is being arranged.

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- \$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.
- 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.
- Contact PWGC regarding state grants.
- From John Falbo:
- Every day there is progress...with AOP plants at both Eastern Parkway and Ridge Road.
- Water Department is involved with monitoring and reporting to John Mirando and Philip Ross Management on all vendor activities for both projects.
- Lead and Copper Service line survey is underway...we are knocking on doors, getting appointments, and inspecting water service line.
- Hydrant repairs are underway. One hydrant out of service due to motor vehicle accident. The other 2 are due to freezing temps during recent below freezing temperatures and staff will reactivate them.
- Rebuild chemical pumps in Well Houses--- We are due to order and purchase a few more, Chlorine and Caustic take their toll on pumps.
- Assisted Village Hall with 4<sup>th</sup> quarter billing cycle.
- Conducted all 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter sampling for all 3 wells.

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- Well 1-3 is now out of service due to Well being pulled. All progress.
- 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 2024, after pole removal project is completed. All signage and brackets are being ordered for Main Street.

There being no further business, the Board adjourned to the regular meeting at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Brian P. Harty, Village Clerk-Treasurer