

WORK SESSION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Monday, July 25, 2022
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, July 25, 2022.

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

Mayor Ekstrand opened the meeting at 7:00 PM.

SEQRA NEGATIVE DECLARATION – Upon a motion made by Deputy Mayor Barrett and seconded by Trustee Priestley, it was unanimously,

RESOLVED (#2023-07-10), to approve and authorize the Mayor to execute and to declare it a negative declaration under SEQRA the “First Amendment to Land and Tower Lease Agreement” between the Incorporated Village of Farmingdale and New York SMSA Limited Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless, a limited partnership in the State of New York.

USE OF FACILITIES – Upon a motion made by Trustee Parisi and seconded by Deputy Mayor Barrett, it was unanimously,

RESOLVED (#2023-07-11), to approve a request from the Farmingdale Fire Department for the use of the back of Village Green for a Department Picnic on Sunday, August 21, 2022.

The following topics were discussed:

- Federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA): A general discussion regarding the use of ARPA funds was held. Follow up on certain project costs and potential legal settlements need to be addressed before committing the ARPA funds to a particular use.

NCVOA DINNER – Upon a motion made by Trustee Parisi and seconded by Trustee Priestley, it was unanimously,

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RESOLVED (#2023-07-12), to approve purchase of a table of 10 (\$1,000) and a half page color ad (\$350) in support of the annual NCVOA Testimonial Dinner.

The discussion continued on the following topics:

- Fire Department:
 - Purchase CAT II System/PO – Deputy Clerk Ruckdeschel to follow up and research state bid pricing contract. The Board will approve once the bidding process is clear.
- Building Department:
 - The Carlyle (formerly Robbie Lee) told Mayor Ekstrand that they have finally closed financing and are getting on track.
 - 7-11 and Sunoco – to redesign the site based on feedback from the recent hearing. The site redesign was presented at hearing. The Planning Board meeting was completed, now proceeding to the ZBA..
 - Peter Florey/D&F Development (Sterling Green):
 - Building permit has been issued
 - Rodent and property maintenance issues are being addressed on Cobb Place, summons has been issued. Awaiting disposition through Village Court.
 - Village Attorney DeBellis to follow up regarding unauthorized signage affixed to poles or lawn signs.
 - Rte. 109 & Conklin St. auto body (Schmeltzer) has restarted construction and stopped. Mr. Schmeltzer was in and said that construction will restart beginning June 27 – he has not but says he will be underway this week. Work has not started. Mr. Schmeltzer’s attorney has been contacted and we are waiting for a status report.
 - Stratford Green rat issues are being addressed solely by Stratford Green, which to date have not been successful. Their vendor has not dealt with the rat issue. Arrow Exterminating visited the site and proposed a comprehensive rat abatement for the entire area at a cost of \$15,000. Additionally, the LIRR has been notified that there is a rat issue. The issue is being addressed piecemeal.

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- Application for one home on the south side of the Black Course development has been submitted and is going to the Planning Board, waiting for Planning Board application.
- The Post Office site has been cleaned up with only fence and shed issues remaining.
- “Haunted Hamburgers” is coming to the former Friendly’s site on Route 109. Building permit has been issued, need to come to the Board for more than 12 seats.
- Asplundh has done test holes for pole removal and line burial on Main Street.
- Daler Pizza has to come to the Board for more than 12 seats. Building permit has been issued.
- Vacant house at 55 Clinton Avenue needs follow up, with lot condition and possible animals inside, along with status report from Prochamps.
- The Board requested an ownership check of certain commercial properties on Eastern Parkway. They also requested that the Building Department address certain illegal housing issues and to investigate the condition of other Eastern Parkway residences.
- The Board indicated that a majority were not in favor of renewing Whiskey Down Diner’s south side of the walkway outdoor dining contract. The north side will remain as outdoor dining.
- Outdoor dining was discussed for Bagel Hut and the gas station at the corner of Heisser Lane. Outdoor dining is allowed with a permit at no charge.
- A lengthy discussion took place regarding exterior noise after Music on Main events, Thursday nights, and particularly Friday and Saturday nights where certain businesses are not following permit requirements. The discussion centered around decibel levels, which will be determined going forward and incorporated into a new Local Law once the levels have been established.
- Highway Department:
 - Lot maintenance and routine maintenance of Main St.
 - Routine garbage pickup in parks and dog stations
 - Ongoing storm prep/planning and debris removal

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- DPW Garage renovations substantially completed, punch list items only.
- Stumps are located at 90 Conklin St., 250 Conklin St. (Citibank), Clinton Ave.
- The PO has been issued to Westar for the new DPW garage, waiting for working plans and foundation drawings. Preliminary site work, including retaining wall, will be done by Roadwork Ahead.
- Prepping for Movies and Pop Concerts.
- Comments from Foreman Ken Tortoso: List of DPW job assignments for the week of 7/18:
 - Due to the lack of rain and high temps, the watering unit is out every morning. We are also including the medians on Rte. 109 for watering also. Main St. and the parking lot flowers are looking amazing!
 - The Patcher truck, aka the “black top truck” caught fire at the DPW yard. Employee Pat Tortoso was able to extinguish it quickly. The hydraulic pump failed which caused the fluid to overheat and catch fire. The truck was saved with very, very minor damage. The truck is currently at Dependable Hydraulics in Amityville getting a new pump. Should be back in service next week.
 - Capital truck #2 is also going next week to Dependable Hydraulics for a PTO issue.
 - DPW has been out trimming trees.
 - DPW has been doing a great job setting up for the weekly movie nights, Village Pops and Music on Main.
 - DPW will be installing the rest of the benches at 5 Corners Park next week.
 - Stapleton Tree Service will be in on August 1 for stump grinding.
 - Heads Up Sprinklers, in conjunction with John Iaboni, found a blown GFI outlet for the sprinklers timing unit in Lot #2, DPW has been moving around hanging baskets.
 - New crosswalk signs have been put out on Main St.
 - TOB Lighting Dept. has been in the Village repairing street lights. If you see any lights out please let me know.
- Water Department:

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- Water tower construction continues. The tank is now complete. Interior work is underway for the ceiling that will protect the booster pumps. Insulation will be added to the walls of the booster pump room along with covering.
- Discussion about wireless services move from existing tank to temporary pole is desired, including NCPD microwave.
- \$3,000,000 has been awarded to the Village in Gov. Hochul's budget for Improvements WIIA grant. Documents have been signed and submitted to the state to receive funding.
- New gas line arranged with National Grid
- Mayor Ekstrand requested a review of the number of cell providers that can be placed on the new water tank.
- Grant Avenue driveway apron needs to be replaced, Roadwork Ahead has this on their repair list.
- New doors and hatch approved for all well locations and are in the process of being installed.
- Mayor Ekstrand, Administrator Harty and Water Superintendent Geary Gerhardt met with Paul Grainger at Hicksville Water to look at 1,4 dioxane treatment installation.
- Meeting scheduled with PWGC to review pollution control measures and approach to solutions. PWGC recommends pre-construction purchase of equipment. WIIA grant money to be used for the purchase of Advanced Oxidation Process and Granulated Activated Carbon Equipment, Peroxide Tank and Computer Interfaces.
- Mayor Ekstrand and Administrator Harty reported on the recent meeting with PWGC and stated that pre-purchasing of pollution control equipment was recommended. Mayor Ekstrand and Administrator Harty had visited Hicksville Water District – they have already installed and are operating the equipment that can be used by Farmingdale to treat for the 1,4 dioxane contaminant.
- Code Department:
 - Working until 10:00 p.m. on Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

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- Corner of Staples Street and Secatogue Avenue: Resident requests traffic light. The Board agreed to place a STOP AHEAD sign south of the corner so that motorists can clearly see that a stop sign is just ahead.
- Other:
 - Trustee Parisi reported that Candy's Jewelers is purchasing a bench in honor of her father and would like the bench placed inside Moby Way on the northwest corner – the Board concurred.
 - Walter Brem is retiring from the Farmingdale Youth Council, The Board will have three representatives at his retirement celebration.

EXECUTIVE SESSION, upon a motion made by Trustee Priestley and seconded by Trustee Rosasco, it was unanimously,

RESOLVED (#2023-07-13), to move to Executive Session.

Upon a motion made by Trustee Parisi and seconded by Trustee Rosasco, it was unanimously,

RESOLVED (#2023-07-14), to reconvene the meeting.

CODE OFFICER OVERTIME – Upon a motion made by Trustee Parisi and seconded by Deputy Mayor Barrett, it was unanimously,

RESOLVED (#2023-07-15), to pay time and one half to code officers during Music on Main from 5:00 p.m. until completion, retroactive to the first Music on Main in 2022.

SALARY ADJUSTMENT – Upon a motion made by Trustee Parisi and seconded by Trustee Priestley, it was unanimously,

RESOLVED (#2023-07-16), to reduce Justice Anthony Addeo's salary by \$3,000 and to increase Justice Thomas Dell Aquila's salary by \$3,000 at the request of Justice Addeo.

PARKING LOT 9 EXPANSION – Upon a motion made by Trustee Priestley and seconded by Deputy Mayor Barrett, it was unanimously,

RESOLVED (#2023-07-17), to approve the expansion of Parking Lot 9 by twenty spaces at a total cost of \$57,000. Funding for this expansion will come from Incentive Bonus Monies received.

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There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Brian P. Harty, Village Clerk-Treasurer