

**WORK SESSION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
**Monday, October 16, 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, October 16, 2023.

**Present:** Mayor Ralph Ekstrand  
Trustee Cheryl Parisi  
Trustee Walter Priestley  
Trustee Craig Rosasco  
Administrator/Clerk/Treasurer Brian Harty  
Deputy Clerk Daniel Ruckdeschel  
Village Attorney Claudio DeBellis

**Absent:** Deputy Mayor William Barrett

The following topics were discussed:

- Linwood Avenue update:
  - This storm was an aberration.
  - We had made improvements in 2017 and had not received a complaint since then until now.
  - We had H2M Architects and Engineers at our Board meeting on Monday night, October 2, and requested a proposal to evaluate the drainage system in this area and make recommendations for improvement to handle the volume of water from an event such as the storm on Friday.
  - We have set up an email communication group for the impacted residents.
  - We have contacted LIPA, National Grid and PETRO, a major oil heating supplier, about grants and/or low interest financing for heating and water heaters that were flooded.
  - The Mayor has contacted the State of New York through Senator Rhoads and the County of Nassau to see what programs may be of assistance to the homeowners.
  - The information about low interest financing from PETRO Home Heating and how to file with the State to make a claim has already been forwarded to the residents.
  - We continue to evaluate the outcome of the storm and look for possible short term remedies.
  - We closely monitor weather conditions.

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**H2M LINWOOD ROAD DRAINAGE STUDY**, upon a motion made by Trustee Parisi and seconded by Trustee Rosasco, it was,

**RESOLVED (#2024-10-04)**, to approve H2M proposal titled Linwood Road Drainage Study H2M Proposal No. LP231195 in the amount of \$43,000.

The discussion continued on the following topics:

- Resident request – Proposed tree removal corner of Tulane St. and Leonard St.: The Board has directed to keep the Tulane St. tree with trimming to be done as needed and an elliptical sidewalk replacement. A camera will be provided (at Village expense) to verify the sewer line condition on Leonard St. as the Village would like to keep both trees because they are a significant enhancement to the neighborhood.
- Representative from Northport V.A. to discuss using the Village Green in May 2024 for a Veteran’s Resource Fair.

**USE OF FACILITIES – ALZHEIMER’S ASSOCIATION**, upon a motion made by Trustee Priestley and seconded by Trustee Rosasco, it was,

**RESOLVED (#2024-10-05)**, to approve a request from the Alzheimer’s Association to use the Village Green for an Awareness Night Light Luminaria Ceremony on Tuesday, December 19, 2023 from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Approximately 20-30 people are expected to attend, hot chocolate and baked goods will be served.

**NEW DPW TRUCK**, upon a motion made by Trustee Parisi and seconded by Trustee Rosasco, it was,

**RESOLVED (#2024-10-06)**, to purchase one Chevrolet Pick-up with plow, insert sander and lift gate in the amount of \$68,998.00 off of the BOCES contract. To be leased through Real Lease for 60 months at \$1,361.19 per month with a \$1.00 buyout at the end of the lease.

The discussion continued on the following topics:

- 66 Washington St. parking issue – Resident requests zebra striping behind driveway: Approved.

**YOAKUM STREET POCKET PARK**, upon a motion made by Trustee Parisi and seconded by Trustee Rosasco, it was,

**RESOLVED (#2024-10-07)**, to approve the creation of a pocket park on Yoakum Street at the DPW yard at a cost of \$76,000, as estimated by the Village Engineer

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with work to be performed by Roadwork Ahead, with new gazebo, fencing, lighting and planting materials included.

The discussion continued on the following topics:

- Fire Department: The Board thanked Fire Commissioner Phil LoNigro for the great job he continues to do with the Columbus Day Fair.
- 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. State DOT approval anticipated soon.
  - 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.
  - Daler Pizza at 331 Main Street – construction is nearing completion, anticipated opening November 15<sup>th</sup>.
  - 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 Demarrais spoke to the owners to begin construction - however, a summons was issued. They were in court last Wednesday, the property owner was given a short timeline to begin the work.
  - 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 and numbered, and 7 spaces on the street similar to other FF projects (with Board approval). Fairfield has requested contract.
  - Paver issue on Cherry Street residence nearing resolution, going to ZBA. Anticipate significant removal of pavers. Fined \$2,500 by the court, a new plan was submitted which goes back to 35% lot coverage as required.
  - Stop work order issued on Jefferson Rd. for driveway expansion without permit.
  - Both Sterling Green and Robby Lee projects are proceeding. No issues with either project.

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- The parking lot at CVS will be repaved in September, waiting for permit application which is on hold.
- 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 approved 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. Architect has contacted the Building Department. They have presented to the Planning Board.
- Lotus Garden should be ready to open by the end of October.
- Proposed 2 lot sub-division on Staples Street given a Planning Board application. The county reviewed the proposed sub-division and has determined it to local jurisdiction.
- 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 issues are being addressed.
  - 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 15. Verizon removal of wires underway.
  - 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.

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- Received preliminary plan for new DPW park.
- Village Green Gazebo brick wall needs repointing.
- Parking meters are 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.
- Deputy Mayor Barrett spoke to Ken Tortoso about new pick-up trucks and asked about the asphalt patch truck.
- New “no parking here to corner” signs need to be added Richard St. and Rose St.
- A dead tree at the intersection of Route 109 and Doud St. needs to be removed.
- “Daler Strong” flags need to be ordered.
- Zebra striping to be added in crosswalks on Secatogue Ave. and Melville Road as well as in the parking area in front of 66 Washington St.
- From Ken Tortoso – DPW weekly work assignments for the past 2 weeks:
  - DPW crews will be going out to start leaf season
  - Shop crews have started prepping equipment for the upcoming winter season
  - Stapleton was in and will be coming back to remove trees at 5 Corners Park and Taylor Road
  - DPW crews are slowly removing dead flowers.
  - Village sprinkler systems will be turned off and winterized for the season next week
  - DPW crews will be starting fall clean ups soon
  - Town of Oyster Bay lighting has been in repairing street lights
  - DPW crews did a great job with clean up from Columbus Day fair weekend
  - Hwy #15 is at Checkpoint due to a transmission issue
- Water Department:

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- 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. Three are completed and Motorola 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, walls are up and roofing trusses delivered. 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 and when Well 1-3 is fully operational.
- A new WIIA grant application has been submitted to the State by PWGC.
- PWGC following up on required testing to secure funding from legal settlements.
- The Village is investigating waivers from the NYSDOH relating to contaminants.
- Bonds have been sold to pay for Water Department upgrades.
- Hydrant flushing is planned for Friday, October 27, 2023.
- 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.

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- 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. Valves replaced and additional check valve needs to be installed.
- 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.
  - Trustee Priestley asked if Code could be trained to assist people in using the new parking meters.
  - The Board approved no parking on Main Street on October 27, 2023, October 28, 2023 and November 22, 2023 after 10:00 p.m. and December 16, 2023 from Noon until 4:00 a.m.
- Make Uber parking/pickup on Main St. after 10:00 p.m. for implementation spring/summer 2023, after pole removal project is completed.
- November 17<sup>th</sup> will be Gina Pellettiere Day in Farmingdale, where all will celebrate the life and contributions that this beloved Farmingdale Music teacher made to numerous students in the Farmingdale School District. November 17<sup>th</sup> is Ms. Pellettiere’s birthday. In the future, Bea Ferrari’s birthday will be celebrated in the same manner.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Brian P. Harty, Village Clerk-Treasurer