

WORK SESSION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Monday, December 4, 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, December 4, 2023.

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
Building Superintendent 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.
 - 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 is coordinating with the Town of Oyster Bay for drain maintenance in the area, scheduled for the week of December 11th.
 - A resident requested tree trimming on Linwood Ave. to assist in limiting debris during storm events.
- Fire Department:
 - Discussed FFD apparatus floor rehabilitation. Mayor Ekstrand will contact Commissioner DiBartolo.
- Building Department:
 - 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.

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- Daler Pizza at 331 Main Street – Special Use Permit, Parking Waiver Agreement and Certificate of Occupancy have been issued.
- Eastern Parkway house in court with derelict garage – after court appearances and discussion, the property owner’s new plan is to demo half of the garage and rebuild to the original size. Anticipate re-construction starting within 2 weeks.
- New parking arrangements on Eastern Parkway under review in front of and behind 4 family houses. 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, resident has submitted plan to come into compliance, with removal of hardscape to be completed in the spring of 2024.
- 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 – D&B to check on reserves for Comi review fees.
- VHB has been contracted to analyze the Master Plan and the developments that have occurred in the last 12 years – ongoing draft to be completed by year end.
- Waiting for Verizon submission of an application to install communication equipment on the clock tower at Palmer’s Shopping Center.
- “The Coop” is now in compliance and finishing construction except that it may need to go back to the Planning Board for exterior approval.
- Lotus Garden should be ready to open by mid-December pending new natural gas installation. National Grid was contacted.
- Proposed 2 lot sub-division on Staples Street awaiting a Planning Board application.
- Enterprise Rent-A-Car may be moving into the corner of Route 109 and Route 24. Waiting for application.
- Superintendent Fellman to find out the status of curb cut and intersection that has State approval for 1 Conklin Street development.

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- Superintendent Fellman was asked to contact the CVS property owner about parking management and internal stop sign that has been removed.
- Need more information regarding proposed sporting goods store.
- Need to contact Staller regarding the façade between SPA and Daler Pizza, awaiting response.
- Administrator Harty needs to complete the Fairfield Parking Agreement for Eastern Parkway.
- Superintendent Fellman to check behind 207 Main St. for obstructions prior to public hearing about apartment.
- The clock tower at Palmers Shopping Center needs to be painted to match the new paint on the building.
- Change of Tenancy needed for spa in Parking Lot 1.
- 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: electrical and plumbing issues are being addressed, the gas line is in and the meter is installed. Modine units are operational, finishing exhaust fans and finalizing alarm installation.
 - Main St. pole removal project Phase 1 with PSEGLI & Altice completed. Verizon has line removals between Prospect Street and Route 109 to complete their work.
 - Main Street reconstruction/widening between Prospect Street and Conklin Street is underway with completion anticipated to be on schedule. Poles for FFD stoplights are ordered and new drain is installed with new sidewalk in entrance to Lot 4.
 - 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 has been ordered.
 - Village Green Gazebo brick wall needs repointing.

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- 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.
- Request that Superintendent Patanjo contact property owners about removing old utility masts from buildings where wires have gone underground, in process with JD Faro.
- Make sure new poles with upper and lower GFI outlets are properly positioned.
- Need crosswalks at Secatogue Avenue and Melville Road scheduled along with zebra striping on Washington St.
- Need to evaluate lighting at the Melville Road/Secatogue Avenue intersection.
- Need to follow up on Town of Oyster Bay Vactor machine for the week of December 11th.
- Removed dead 6' Blue Spruce tree at the cul-de-sac on Circle Drive and replaced with new tree.
- Administrator Harty contacted Cornell Cooperative Extension regarding Main Street landscape architecture and Village-wide tree assessment.
- Mayor Ekstrand contacted National Grid regarding tree grant for Main Street.
- A light is out over the sign in Parking Lot 3.
- From Ken Tortoso – DPW weekly work assignments:
 - DPW crews have been out in full force vacuuming/removing leaves, thinking 2 more weeks to go.
 - DPW crews have been assisting the Beautification Committee with the holiday decorations.
 - Town of Oyster Bay has been in repairing streetlight outages.
 - Stapleton has been in trimming and doing removals of dead trees.
 - DPW crew planted a new spruce tree in the cul-de-sac on Circle Drive.
 - Fleet maintenance/shop crews are still working on snow plow prep and regular oil changes and services.
 - Crews have replaced a couple of stop signs.

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- Castro Landscaping has been in finishing up the fall clean ups.
- Sweeper has been out with the leaf crews.
- Crews have been assisting Roadwork Ahead with the Main St. project with some items when needed.
- Village tree lighting was a success, the Village Green looked great all lit up.
- We need to start talking about a tree planting for this upcoming spring.
- Water Department:
 - Water tower construction completed.
 - Cell providers completed move to new tank, including NCPD Motorola microwave. Dish Network is in engineering design review process. Tank removal started by Wargo with completion expected in early January.
 - 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 Eagle Control who will be installing the new system – installation of Well 1-3 anticipated by early January 2024.
 - New steel building to cover the GAC tanks at Well 1-3 has been 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, roof is now complete and siding will be installed next. 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.

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- Discussed status of various projects with updates coming from PRI on all aspects and Wargo on tank demolition.
- From John Falbo – A few follow-ups:
 - The 10 inch check valve at Well 2-3 was replaced and has been operating properly and efficiently after a few adjustments.
 - Quarterly samples came back, we are still passing but the numbers are creeping up.
 - Well 2-3 had an electrical issue for a full working day which was repaired by PCS. It gave us a reminder of how vulnerable we are without that well. All is good now.
 - Valves for 12 inch water main piping and 10 inch drain at the new elevated tank were moved to new location to allow for footing for new AOP building. Merrick Utilities did the work.
 - System was run by using the pressure telemetry rather than using elevated tank telemetry and was a success. Good to know for emergency purposes.
 - Sidewalks on Main St. – Russ & I made repairs to broken curb boxes and shut offs as work was being done.
 - Merrick Utilities is to move 1 hydrant and move 1 hydrant on Main Street, Both to be mostly hand dug because of underground electric and gas. Completed.
 - Lead and copper survey is now in our forefront.
 - AOP work at both sites is daily.
 - Meters and Well work are on a daily basis as per usual.
 - Old water tower demolition due to start on late November/early December.
- 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. Code is familiar with the operation of the meters and does assist.

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- The Board approved no parking on Main Street on 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.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Brian P. Harty, Village Clerk-Treasurer