

WORK SESSION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Monday, February 24, 2025
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 24, 2025.

Present: Mayor Ralph Ekstrand
Deputy Mayor William Barrett
Trustee Cheryl Parisi
Trustee Walter Priestley (arrived 7:20)
Trustee Craig Rosasco
Administrator/Clerk/Treasurer Brian Harty
Deputy Clerk Daniel Ruckdeschel
Village Attorney Claudio DeBellis

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

RESOLVED (#2025-02-35), to hire Justin Rogus as a Part Time Laborer with the Highway Department beginning April 1, 2025 at a rate of \$20 per hour.

The following topics were discussed:

- Discuss closing entrance to Lot 4 (near Nutty Irishman) for Art Crawl on May 4 & October 5 per organizer's request. Need more information.
- Follow up discussion about 368 Melville Rd. subdivision. Need to meet with the developer.
- Fire Department:
 - New ambulance will be considered in the near term.
 - Windows and floors to be done summer of 2025.
- Building Department:
 - 7-11 and Sunoco – Permit has been issued, waiting for permit to be picked up. Spoke to attorney, awaiting response for start date – mark outs for demo are underway.
 - Verizon resubmission of plans to install communication equipment on the clock tower at Palmer's Shopping Center was received and is being reviewed. Hearing rescheduled to April 7.
 - Bodega on Conklin St. signage reviewed, remedy proposed.

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- The Pour Authority 335 Main Street - application received, will have 114 seats. Need Special Use Permit.
- A seafood restaurant, Captain Ihab, will be moving into the former Creations Pizza location, following up on special use permit.
- Barnyard needs a Special Use Permit.
- 20 Quaker Lane – moving leader to control rainwater flow, needs to move the roof gutter to connect to the drywell.
- Review Casa Stellina for compliance and expansion. They need to file to legalize, architect is working on plans.
- Proposed subdivision at 368 Melville Road. Presented the possibility of a circular driveway for the home located in the Village along with payment of the Parkland requirement and ensure that parking requirements are met in both jurisdictions. A public hearing is required along with Planning Board/ARB review.
- Route 109 & Weiden St. – Healthy Meals Direct, C/O to be issued, awaiting electrical underwriters. Retail only, no seating or cooking on premises.
- Special Use Permits need follow up & completion.
- Need information regarding Casa Stellina – why delays?
- Captain Ihab status – need to get resident to redirect water.
- 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/spring 2025).
 - Need to evaluate lighting at the Melville Road/Secatogue Avenue intersection (Superintendent Patanjo).
 - Altice/LIRR plan for North Main Street - decision to tunnel under the tracks to accommodate Altice. Altice to submit plans to LIRR.
 - Follow up with H2M regarding Linwood - ongoing. Phase One completed. Phase Two was also completed.
 - LIRR pot belly stove was refurbished by Doug Ketchum of the Highway Department, to be installed in the Farmingdale Train Station.

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- Main Street needs to be swept and pails on Main Street and Village Green need to be emptied when Rosie is on vacation.
- 5 maple trees will be added to 5 Corners Park in the spring of 2025 with one additional maple being removed.
- National Grid \$9200 grant in process.
- Discussed establishing 2 year cycle for drain cleaning/maintenance.
- From Ken Tortoso – DPW weekly work assignments:
- DPW crews were out yet again salting the Village roads on 2/15/25 Saturday evening.
- Crews repaired a Village bench that was struck by a car at the Northside Pocket Park.
- Stapleton is coming in on 2/20 to remove dying trees at 5 Corners Park.
- Crews are still out doing pothole repairs around the Village.
- Sweeper will be going out when the temperatures are above freezing, hoping soon!
- Salt has been ordered.
- Town of Oyster Bay was notified for some streetlight outages.
- All plowing equipment has been power washed and maintained after every snow event.
- 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 been completed. Additional testing costs for newly monitored contaminants at approximately \$16,000 per well.
 - Plant 2 construction – underway/ongoing.
 - 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.

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- 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. The Village has requested to repurpose this grant toward the installation of a new ground tank.
- 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 along with CMS.
- Lead and Copper letters have been sent to residents with galvanized services.
- Requirements contract bid opening took place on 2/21/25. Holzmacher is evaluating in order to make award recommendations.
- From John Falbo:
 - Mark outs for 7/11 & Sunoco project is done... buried shut off valves located.
 - Well maintenance at 1-3 is a daily occurrence.
 - Well 2-3 and 2-2 cleaning up after major project work.
 - Monthly samples for Wells completed.
- 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 new signage are being 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.
 - Code reviewing Main Street security for events with NCPD.
 - Ticketing in CVS shopping center in fire lanes and handicapped spaces to commence.

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- Planning for LepreCon with no parking on the east side of Main Street.
- Discussed assessment letters to be sent to residents 30 days before grievance night if possible.

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

RESOLVED (#2025-02-36), to move to Executive Session.

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

RESOLVED (#2025-02-37), to reconvene the meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Brian P. Harty, Village Clerk-Treasurer