

## **WORK SESSION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**Monday, April 22, 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, April 22, 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

The following topics were discussed:

- Lithology requests for 2024 events:

**LITHOLOGY 2024 EVENTS** – Upon a motion made by Trustee Parisi and seconded by Trustee Priestley, it was,

**RESOLVED (#2024-04-25)**, to approve the following events at Lithology Brewing Co. (211A Main St.) in 2024:

- Use of 5 parking spaces in Parking Lot 3, behind Lithology for a live music event in partnership with Colored Colors on Saturday, June 15, 2024 (rain date June 22) from 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. The actual time of the event is 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., 50-100 people are expected.
- Use of 5 parking spaces in Parking Lot 3, behind Lithology for a Dog Meet-Up event on Sunday, June 23, 2024 from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. The actual time of the event is 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., about 50 people are expected.
- Use of 5 parking spaces in Parking Lot 3, behind Lithology for an anniversary party with food from Chiddy's Food Truck and possibly live music on Saturday, July 20, 2024 from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. The actual time of the event is 3:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m., 50-75 people are expected.
- Use of 10 parking spaces in Parking Lot 3, behind Lithology for an Oktoberfest celebration with food from Chiddy's Food Truck on Saturday, September 21, 2024 from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. The actual time of the event is 2:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., approximately 100 people are expected.

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- Use of 5 parking spaces in Parking Lot 3, behind Lithology for a Dog Meet-Up event on Sunday, October 6, 2024 from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. The actual time of the event is 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., about 50 people are expected.
- Use of 10 parking spaces in Parking Lot 3, behind Lithology for a Winterfest celebration with live music and food from Chiddy's Food Truck on Saturday, November 23, 2024 from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. The actual time of the event is 2:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., approximately 100 people are expected.

The discussion continued on the following topics:

- Lithology was asked to consider façade improvements and they indicated that they would like to install a roll-up or accordion style door. They are interested in pursuing this but need landlord approval and assistance with the cost of renovations. They also noted that the adjacent storefront would most likely have to be done at the same time as the cladding façade is uniform between the two locations.
- Lithology is also looking for an offsite 5,000 – 10,000 sq. ft. production facility.
- Discuss Farmingdale BID request to hold an Art Crawl on Main Street once a month:

**ART CRAWL 2024** – Upon a motion made by Deputy Mayor Barrett and seconded by Trustee Rosasco, it was,

**RESOLVED (#2024-04-26)**, to approve a request from Farmingdale BID to hold an Art Crawl on Main Street on the second Sunday of each month from 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. on the following dates: May 12, 2024, June 9, 2024, July 14, 2024, August 11, 2024, September 8, 2024 and either October 6, 2024 or October 20, 2024. No parking will be permitted during those hours on Main Street. Farmingdale BID, Farmingdale Chamber of Commerce & Rosner Russo Shahabian PLLC are co-sponsors.

The discussion continued on the following topics:

- Linwood Avenue: Ongoing.

**PUBLIC HEARING FOR BID DISTRICT RENEWAL** – Upon a motion made by Trustee Priestley and seconded by Trustee Parisi, it was,

**RESOLVED (#2024-04-27)**, to open the hearing.

There being no public comment, upon a motion made by Deputy Mayor Barrett and seconded by Trustee Parisi, it was,

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**RESOLVED (#2024-04-28)**, to close the hearing.

Upon a motion made by Deputy Mayor Barrett and seconded by Trustee Priestley, it was,

**RESOLVED (#2024-04-29)**, to renew the Business Improvement District for 5 years.

**2024-2025 BUDGET** – Upon a motion made by Trustee Priestley and seconded by Trustee Rosasco, it was unanimously,

**RESOLVED (#2024-04-30)**, to adopt the 2024-2025 Budget:

**2024/2025 Budget Resolution**

**RESOLVED**, to adopt the 2024/2025 General Budget as presented with a net budget of \$4,340,265 with the following appropriations: Reserve for Debt to be appropriated of \$49,295. The total tax levy of \$4,290,970 is an increase of 1.51% and within the New York State allowable tax cap limit.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, to certify the tax shares or base proportion percentages as follows: Homestead 65.8034% and Non-homestead of 34.1966% and the tax levy breakdown as: Homestead \$2,823,604 and Non-homestead of \$1,467,366. Corresponding tax rates are \$2.559961/1,000 in assessed value for Homestead and \$4.935893/1,000 in assessed value for Non-homestead.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, to adopt the 2024/2025 Water Budget as presented with a total appropriated budget of \$2,915,065, with the following appropriations: Reserve for Debt to be appropriated of \$480,785.

This approval is granted by a vote as follows:

Mayor Ralph Ekstrand	aye
Deputy Mayor William Barrett	nay
Trustee Cheryl Parisi	aye
Trustee Walter Priestley	aye
Trustee Craig Rosasco	aye

**MEDIEVAL HISTORY DAY** – Upon a motion made by Trustee Priestley and seconded by Trustee Parisi, it was,

**RESOLVED (#2024-04-31)**, to approve a request from the Cultural Arts Committee to use the Gazebo and the lawn in front of it for a Medieval History Day with the SCA on Saturday, June 1, 2024 (rain date June 8) from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

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**USE OF FACILITIES – TOWNE HOUSE WEST** – Upon a motion made by Trustee Parisi and seconded by Trustee Priestley, it was,

**RESOLVED (#2024-04-32)**, to approve a request from Towne House West Owners, Inc. to use the Court Room for their annual Cooperative Shareholder meeting on Thursday, May 2, 2024 from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

**USE OF FACILITIES - WEDDING** – Upon a motion made by Trustee Priestley and seconded by Deputy Mayor Barrett, it was,

**RESOLVED (#2024-04-33)**, to approve a request from Brooke Sinnott to use the Gazebo/Village Green (or the Court Room if it rains) for a wedding ceremony on Friday, September 6, 2024 from 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

**MEMORIAL DAY PARADE** – Upon a motion made by Deputy Mayor Barrett and seconded by Trustee Priestley, it was,

**RESOLVED (#2024-04-34)**, to approve a request from the Farmingdale Fire Department to hold their annual Memorial Day Parade on Monday, May 27, 2024. Assembly will be at Northside Elementary School and kickoff will be at 10:00 a.m. The viewing stand will be in front of Village Hall for ceremonies after the parade.

**WATER TOWER DEMO EXPENDITURES** – Upon a motion made by Deputy Mayor Barrett and seconded by Trustee Priestley, it was,

**RESOLVED (#2024-04-35)**, to approve the use of ARPA money in the amount of \$635,646.17 for water tower demolition expenditures.

**USE OF FACILITIES - LILSL** – Upon a motion made by Trustee Parisi and seconded by Trustee Priestley, it was,

**RESOLVED (#2024-04-36)**, to approve a request from the L. I. Ladies Soccer League to use the Court Room for their annual board meeting on Thursday, June 6, 2024 from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Coffee will be served.

**CHRYSANTHEMUM WORKSHOP** – Upon a motion made by Trustee Parisi and seconded by Deputy Mayor Barrett, it was,

**RESOLVED (#2024-04-37)**, to approve a request from the Cultural Arts Committee to hold a Beginners Exhibition Chrysanthemum Workshop, presented by the Long Island Chrysanthemum Society, on Saturday, June 15, 2024 and Saturday, August 17, 2024 beginning at 1:00 p.m.

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The discussion continued on the following topics:

- Fire Department
- 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.
  - Both Sterling Green and Robby Lee/Carlyle projects are proceeding. Sterling Green is 85% complete and Carlyle is 85% complete. 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 on revised plans. Anticipate building permit by mid-April with installation by June 1 per Dick Comi and D&B.
  - Waiting for Verizon submission of an application to install communication equipment on the clock tower at Palmer's Shopping Center.
  - Lotus Garden should be ready to open as soon.
  - Proposed 2 lot sub-division on Staples Street - application completed and is now going to the Planning Board with plans for new homes.
  - Enterprise Rent-A-Car has submitted an application and will be going to the Board for a Special Use Permit for rental location at the corner of Route 109 and Route 24.
  - Valance across from law office: in discussion with property owner for proposed changes, owner is discussing with contractor, awaiting response from property owner.
  - CVS lot letter to manage/ticket lot – need local law to be completed and sent to NYS.
  - Fading signage on parking lots, Scott has been contacted and will review.
  - Zuzu nearing completion.
  - Discussed waste stream with the ownership of the Nutty Irishman and 317 – very high estimate for new dumpster, need to discuss options.
  - The Villager – status on rear enclosure, no application to date.

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- National Grid grant for street trees and planter boxes – follow up with Laura Coletti on status of purchase of planter boxes and trees.
- Status of adding handicapped spaces to Parking Lot 1.
- D&B has contract to identify ownership of pipe infrastructure connecting to catch basins.
- 174 Staples Street apartment has been removed.
- Toretta Estates has submitted requests for three building permits to complete the subdivision.
- Check Enterprise signage on fence to reflect Special Use Permit. Check Village for application to enclose rear area.
- Highway Department:
  - Lot maintenance and routine maintenance of Main St.
  - Routine garbage pickup in parks and dog stations
  - Main St. pole for FD traffic light delivered. Foundations need to be poured and set for 28 days.
  - 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. Work is in review and will start on or about April 2.
  - 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 evaluate lighting at the Melville Road/Secatogue Avenue intersection.
  - Mayor Ekstrand contacted National Grid regarding tree grant for Main Street. Need to contact National Grid regarding status, anticipated grant will be between \$5,000 and \$10,000.
  - Rte. 109 – add no parking signs by Hearthstone, signs ordered.

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- Plan for 8 - 15 minute parking spaces on Main Street and no parking on the east side after 10:00 p.m. on Thursday, Friday and Saturday except for pick-up and drop-off, Uber, Lyft and Taxi use.
- Rehabilitate all trash cans on Main Street and outer areas.
- LIRR trestle painting completed.
- Move HVAC thermostat and remove electrical outlets & prep for painting (fill in with sheetrock/spackle/tape) on south wall in the courtroom as directed.
- Need to replace no parking sign on Rte. 109 near Hearthstone Condominiums.
- Replace Best of Long Island sign at Village Hall with backing to match.
- From Ken Tortoso – DPW weekly work assignments:
  - Crews have been out power washing and rehabbing the Main Street garbage pails.
  - Crews have been power washing and removing stickers and graffiti from the downtown area signs and poles.
  - Flower pots have been cleaned and are ready for the upcoming spring planting.
  - Crews have been doing ground work and clean up at DPW.
  - Town of Oyster Bay lighting has been in doing repairs.
  - Crews have been out on pothole patrol.
  - Stapleton coming in for stump grinding and removals.
  - Shop fleet has been busy doing oil changes and services.
- Water Department:
  - Training on pumping system in water tower base.
  - Well 1-3 is out of service as well pulled to add a stage to the pump and evaluate condition.
  - AOP installation by Philip Ross is complete to the testing stage in order to meet health department requirements along with the SCADA system.

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- New steel building to cover the GAC tanks at Well 1-3 is on site, awaiting final foundation plans. Piping is being rearranged to accommodate new steel building.
- \$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 and with peak pumping season coming this task will be done when peak season is over (agreed to with PRI).
- PWGC following up on required testing to secure funding from legal settlements and potential federal and county funding.
- Bans have been sold to pay for Water Department upgrades.
- Discussed status of various projects with updates coming from PRI on all aspects.
- Awaiting contract with South Farmingdale Water District Inter-Municipal agreement for certain management and operational services.
- A grant of \$9.6 million has been applied for through Senator Chuck Schumer to offset capital cost of treatment systems.
- A grant of \$1 million has been committed through County Legislator John Ferretti to offset costs of the new water treatment systems.
- From John Falbo:
- Lead and Copper survey is being conducted on a weekly basis.
- Meter monitoring work and updating MXUs is conducted weekly between Village Hall and Water Department in order to efficiently bill each quarter.
- Well 1-3 was reassembled but not electrically in service yet.
- Work at the Suburbia complex – shut offs were updated by the facility itself with our supervision and is now in compliance and met our standards.
- Water Department updated Caustic injecting pipes at Well 1-3.



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- Code Department:
  - Working on signage for lots with court and admin office
  - New prototype signage has been installed for clarity of metered parking and free parking times.
- 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.

**YOAKUM STREET PARK** – Upon a motion made by Trustee Parisi and seconded by Trustee Priestley, it was,

**RESOLVED (#2024-04-38)**, to approve an increase in Belgian Block for the new Yoakum Street Park in the amount of \$11,000.

**REGO SETTLEMENT** – Upon a motion made by Trustee Parisi and seconded by Trustee Priestley, it was,

**RESOLVED (#2024-04-39)**, to approve \$2,500 as settlement with A. J. Rego.

**NEW CHIEF’S CAR** – Upon a motion made by Trustee Parisi and seconded by Trustee Priestley, it was,

**RESOLVED (#2024-04-40)**, to approve outfitting of the new Chief’s car by Command Fleet, cost not to exceed \$20,062.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Brian P. Harty, Village Clerk-Treasurer