

WORK SESSION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Monday, May 19, 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, May 19, 2025.

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:

- A presentation was made by the principals of FBS, after which a contract for a three year extension was approved.

FBS CONTRACT EXTENSION – Upon a motion made by Trustee Rosasco and seconded by Trustee Priestley, it was,

RESOLVED (#2025-05-08), to extend the FBS contract with the Village of Farmingdale from May of 2025 until June 1, 2028.

The discussion continued on the following topics:

- APB Security: A resident requested the reinstatement of late night security in Parking Lot 3 on Friday and Saturday evenings, indicating disturbing issues. The Board reserved the decision in order to speak with the security provider.
- Discussion regarding inspection fees: The Board discussed new Fire Safety and Public Assembly inspection fees and decided to stratify the fees by occupancy levels.

FIRE SAFETY/PUBLIC ASSEMBLY INSPECTION FEES – Upon a motion made by Trustee Parisi and seconded by Deputy Mayor Barrett, it was,

RESOLVED (#2025-05-09), to approve the following fees for Fire Safety/Public Assembly inspections: Occupancy of 1-25 = \$50.00, 26-50 = \$100.00, 51+ = \$250.00.

The discussion continued on the following topics:

A general discussion about the public hearing regarding proposed raises for the Board of Trustees and the Mayor, where the Board of Trustees shall be paid \$20,000 annually with

WORK SESSION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Monday, May 19, 2025

INC. VILLAGE OF FARMINGDALE

the Deputy Mayor being paid an additional \$1,000 annually to \$21,000 and the Mayor \$45,000 annually.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES SALARY INCREASES – Upon a motion made by Trustee Parisi and seconded by Trustee Priestley, it was,

RESOLVED (#2025-05-10), to adjourn the public hearing regarding salary increases for the Board of Trustees and the Mayor until June 2, 2025 at 8:00 p.m.

2026 FIRE DEPARTMENT INSTALLATION DINNER – Upon a motion made by Trustee Parisi and seconded by Trustee Rosasco, it was,

RESOLVED (#2025-05-11), to approve the 2026 Farmingdale Fire Department Annual Installation Dinner at the Heritage Club at Bethpage State Park on Friday, October 23, 2026 in an amount not to exceed \$37,515.

2027 FIRE DEPARTMENT INSTALLATION DINNER – Upon a motion made by Trustee Parisi and seconded by Trustee Priestley, it was,

RESOLVED (#2025-05-12), to approve the 2027 Farmingdale Fire Department Annual Installation Dinner at the Heritage Club at Bethpage State Park on Friday, October 22, 2027 in an amount not to exceed \$38,430.

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

RESOLVED (#2025-05-13), to approve a request from the Farmingdale High School Thespian Honor Society to hold a “Theater Showcase: A Night of Musicals” on the Village Green & Gazebo on Sunday, June 8, 2025. The performance will begin at 3:00 p.m., with set up starting at 1:30 p.m. 30 students are expected to participate and expected attendance will be 60-100 people.

NEW HIRE – FIRE DEPARTMENT – Upon a motion made by Trustee Parisi and seconded by Trustee Priestley, it was,

RESOLVED (#2025-05-14), to hire Ryan Stone as a Part Time Cleaner for the Fire Department at a rate of \$21 per hour.

WORK SESSION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Monday, May 19, 2025

INC. VILLAGE OF FARMINGDALE

NEW HIRE – CLERK’S OFFICE – Upon a motion made by Trustee Parisi and seconded by Trustee Priestley, it was,

RESOLVED (#2025-05-15), to hire Kelsey DeMaria as a Part Time Typist Clerk for the Clerk’s Office at a rate of \$18 per hour.

2025/2026 TAX WARRANT – Upon a motion made by Trustee Priestley and seconded by Trustee Parisi, it was,

RESOLVED (#2025-05-16), to authorize Mayor Ekstrand to sign the 2025/2026 Tax Warrant, as annexed to these minutes.

BLOCK PARTY – Upon a motion made by Trustee Parisi and seconded by Trustee Priestley, it was,

RESOLVED (#2025-05-17), to approve a request from Adam Tabrys of 77 Nelson Street to hold a block party on August 23, 2025 (rain date August 24) from 10:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. Nelson Street will be closed from Harrison Place to Clinton Avenue.

The discussion continued on the following topics:

- Fire Department
- Building Department:
 - 7-11 and Sunoco – Permit has been issued, fee has been paid. Anticipate construction to begin in early July.
 - Verizon’s attorney has requested adjournment of the April 7 public hearing for the clock tower cell service installation at the Marquis Shopping Center to June 2, 2025 at 8:00 p.m. - hearing will be postponed to a date to be determined.
 - Bodega on Conklin St. signage - order to remedy has been issued.
 - The Pour Authority 335 Main Street - application received, will have 114 seats. Need Special Use Permit, denial letter issued. Permit issued for interior build-out.
 - A seafood restaurant, Captain Ihab, will be moving into 193 Main Street, following up on special use permit – nothing filed. He is having difficulties with contractor.

WORK SESSION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Monday, May 19, 2025

INC. VILLAGE OF FARMINGDALE

- Barnyard needs a Special Use Permit – C/O issued. Working on new signage.
- Review Casa Stellina for compliance and expansion.
- Need Board of Trustees input regarding tents in rear yard/permit fees.
- Vintage at 185 Main Street is being rebranded by the current owner. Planning Board approved, permits issued, construction has started.
- Met with Dark Horse regarding rear yard cleanup, outdoor dining, dumpster – waiting for plan submission. Will submit application soon.
- Restaurants need to be inspected annually and other businesses every three years. Organizing this with new Building Inspector and Building Department staff – inspections underway.
- 199 Cherry Street – health conditions and property maintenance issues are ongoing, to be reinspected until property maintenance issues are resolved.
- 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/May 2025).
 - Altice/LIRR plan for North Main Street – awaiting final plans and related costs. Altice to submit plans to LIRR for LIRR permit.
 - Follow up with H2M regarding Linwood - ongoing.
 - LIRR pot belly stove was refurbished by Doug Ketchum of the Highway Department, to be installed in the Farmingdale Train Station. Discussing with LIRR.
 - 5 maple trees will be added to 5 Corners Park in the spring of 2025 with one additional maple being removed. Ordering trees for the park tonight.
 - Establishing 2 year cycle for drain cleaning/maintenance. Drains that need to be cleaned have been identified and will be done in the near term.
 - Weeding in parking lots under bushes is needed.
 - Replace Leland that has died in Parking Lot 2.
 - 187 Thomas Powell Blvd. has property maintenance issues.

WORK SESSION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Monday, May 19, 2025

INC. VILLAGE OF FARMINGDALE

- Meters that are out of order need to have signs to proceed to the next working meter.
- From Ken Tortoso – DPW weekly work assignments:
- DPW crews have been out in all the parking lots pulling weeds and cleaning.
- DPW crews have planted flowers with guidance from Trustee Parisi in all the flower pots and will be going out this week.
- Watering still ongoing for the Jefferson Rd. sump evergreens.
- Village Green, waterfall park and 5 Corners Park flowers will be planted this week.
- Hanging baskets should be in the week after Memorial Day weekend and will be hung after that.
- DPW still power washing the downtown areas.
- DPW crews have once again scraped off and cleaned the graffiti off the downtown signs and poles.
- Water Department:
 - Well 1-3 is fully operational.
 - Plant 2 construction – underway/ongoing.
 - Master schedule is being followed by PRI through completion for all wells, expected to be May 2025.
 - Total grants promised/received \$8.6 million.
 - The Village will be reapplying to the Federal Government for funding for a new water tank at Ridge Road.
 - Evaluation of ground tank roof and structure for repairs and/or replacement has been completed and next steps are being developed.
 - Lead and Copper letters have been sent to residents with galvanized services.
 - Requirements contracts have been awarded to successful bidders.
 - Philip Ross Industries reported that all wells will be operating for the summer season.

WORK SESSION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Monday, May 19, 2025

INC. VILLAGE OF FARMINGDALE

- The grants for Wells 2-2 and 2-3 from the State of New York through the WIIA grant program is capped at \$4.6 million.
- Testing has started on Well 2-2. Well 2-3 is expected to be completed soon with testing to follow. Nassau County Health Department approval is needed.
- Coordination between South Farmingdale Water District and Farmingdale Water Department is working well.
- From John Falbo:
 - Ridge Road facility project oversight on a daily basis
 - Monthly sampling of GAC and AOP at Eastern parkway was done this week.
 - Programmed new set points for Well 1-3 due to higher demand.
 - Markouts and monitoring valves and curb boxes during RWA paving in Linwood area
 - Daily well maintenance and inventory control
 - Meter readings and repairs of MXUs
 - Report work for D.E.C. on Chemical Bulk Storage
- Code Department:
 - Weekly inspections of meters are done to check for any malfunctions (i.e. coins jammed in credit card receptacle).
 - Electrification of all parking meters is nearing completion.
 - 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 has started.
 - Set meeting with FBS to discuss contract at mid-May work session.
 - APB Security has been cancelled for Friday and Saturday nights.

WORK SESSION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Monday, May 19, 2025

INC. VILLAGE OF FARMINGDALE

ZONING BOARD APPOINTMENT (5 YEAR TERM) – Upon a motion made by Trustee Rosasco and seconded by Trustee Priestley, it was,

RESOLVED (#2025-05-18), to appoint David Nostrand to a five year term to the Zoning Board of Appeals.

ZONING BOARD APPOINTMENT (CHAIRMAN) – Upon a motion made by Trustee Rosasco and seconded by Trustee Priestley, it was,

RESOLVED (#2025-05-19), to appoint David Nostrand to a one year term as Chairman of the Zoning Board of Appeals.

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

RESOLVED (#2025-05-20), to approve the parking agreement with the Farmingdale School District for public parking at Howitt Middle School with hours indicated in the contract for a fee of \$1.00.

NEW HIRE – HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT – Upon a motion made by Trustee Parisi and seconded by Trustee Priestley, it was,

RESOLVED (#2025-05-21), to approve the hiring of Kyle Dunn as a seasonal laborer in the Highway Department at an hourly rate of \$16.50 per hour.

“HOT BOX” PURCHASE – Upon a motion made by Trustee Parisi and seconded by Trustee Priestley, it was,

RESOLVED (#2025-05-22), to approve the purchase of a “Hot Box” to be used for street and pot hole repair through a Sourcewell Contract with a maximum purchase amount not to exceed \$35,000.

“HOT BOX” SURPLUS – Upon a motion made by Trustee Priestley and seconded by Deputy Mayor Barrett, it was,

RESOLVED (#2025-05-23), to declare the 1988 vintage “Hot Box” as surplus and to be placed on an auction site.

The discussion continued on the following topics:

- A discussion was held about the relationship between the Village and the Farmingdale Youth Council.

WORK SESSION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Monday, May 19, 2025

INC. VILLAGE OF FARMINGDALE

- The Board agreed to provide a pilot project for June and July to provide Medical Parking Only for three spaces in front of 308 Main Street on Saturdays from Noon until 3:00 p.m.
- There will be a public meeting at the Farmingdale Public Library on June 17th beginning at 6:30 p.m. and ending at 8:30 p.m. to encourage public participation in the process for new projects through the \$4.5 million New York Forward grant.
- Village staff are pursuing possible locations for a local theater.
- Linwood Phase Three soil tests completed, planning just starting.
- A discussion was held about Village funding of the Farmingdale Senior Citizens group and the Board decided to offer fiscal year 2025/2026 funding at \$2,500.00 in November with the caveat that the group establish a dues program for membership.
- A discussion was held about the timing of purchasing and installing “street trees”.

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

RESOLVED (#2025-05-24), to move to Executive Session.

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

RESOLVED (#2025-05-25), to reconvene the meeting.

WATER POLLUTION SETTLEMENTS – SWEETHOLLOW REALTY - upon a motion made by Deputy Mayor Barrett and seconded by Trustee Priestley, it was,

RESOLVED (#2025-05-26), to accept settlement amounts in water pollution case against Sweethollow Realty, LLC.

WHEREAS, the Incorporated Village of Farmingdale ("Village") brought the actions: *Village of Farmingdale v. Aluminum Louvre Corp., et al.*, [Nassau County Supreme Court, Index No. 603443/2019] and *Village of Farmingdale v. Aljo-Gefa Precision Manufacturing LLC*, et al., [Nassau County Supreme Court, Index No. 607613/2020] to recover for contamination by and the presence of 1,4-Dioxane in the Village's groundwater and drinking water supply; and

WHEREAS, Sweethollow Realty, LLC (“Sweethollow”), was named among the defendants in the above actions, which were consolidated under Index No. 603443/2019

WORK SESSION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Monday, May 19, 2025
INC. VILLAGE OF FARMINGDALE

("contamination lawsuits"); and

WHEREAS, the above Defendant in the contamination lawsuits has agreed to settle their respective liabilities in connection with these matters for the sum disclosed in the Settlement Agreement; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Board of Trustees ("Village Board") of the Village have duly considered the proposed settlement and agree that the Agreement and its terms shall remain confidential, subject to the conditions therein; and

WHEREAS, the law firm of Napoli Shkolnik PLLC, counsel for the Village, has recommended that the settlement represents a fair and reasonable settlement on behalf of the Village,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, The Village Board authorizes the settlement of the Village's claims against the above Defendants in the contamination lawsuits, and the Village Board consents to the settlement of the coverage action, to the extent that this consent is necessary.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Brian P. Harty, Village Clerk-Treasurer