

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

**Monday, June 3, 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, June 3, 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  
Building Superintendent Stephen Fellman

The following topics were discussed:

- Tonight's public hearings/hearings to be announced
- Linwood Avenue: Ongoing
- West St. & Conklin St. intersection problems:
  - Add right turn only sign and stencil on pavement.
  - Have code officers at intersection during morning hours.
- Fire Department:
  - Phone system for both Village Hall and the Fire Department is being investigated
  - Please ask the Fire Department to remove the orange box and signage from the recent fair.
- Building Department:
  - Blue and Gold Development at 1 Conklin Street is now under construction, going well.
  - 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. Superintendent Fellman called them, they are still waiting for drawings from the architect. Special Use Permit was extended but was not paid, Howard Avertine is following up.
  - The Sterling Green project is proceeding. Sterling Green is 90% complete with applications now available. Completed applications are due for submission by June 25 for a lottery that will take place on July 9.

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Occupancy will begin in August. No issues with the project moving to completion.

- The Robby Lee/Carlyle project is also proceeding and is 90% complete. No issues with the project.
- Dish Network building permit issued with installation by June 1 per Dick Comi and D&B. Check on status with 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 mid-June.
- Enterprise Rent-A-Car – Special Use Permit has been approved. The palm tree shop that is on the property was given a temporary month lease by the property owner, will be gone by the end of June.
- 502 Main Street (across from law offices) - Discussed proposed changes and met with the Planning Board/ARB.
- CVS lot will now be a managed/ticket lot as local law was passed and notice of filing was received from the Department of State. "No parking" signage was installed. Warnings have been issued and tickets to begin on June 1<sup>st</sup>.
- Fading signage on parking lots, Bullseye Signs has completed this.
- Zuzu nearing completion, to open in mid-June.
- Discussed waste stream with the ownership of the Nutty Irishman and 317 – very high estimate for new dumpster, need to discuss options – needs follow up.
- The Villager – status on rear enclosure, no application to date, plans are being prepared for submission. Superintendent Fellman spoke to them, they're not starting work until the fall.
- National Grid grant for street trees and planter boxes. Planter boxes were delivered with some breakage. Trees need to be selected.
- D&B has contract to identify ownership of pipe infrastructure connecting to catch basins.
- Toretta Estates has submitted requests for three building permits to complete the subdivision, need to go to the Planning Board.

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- Two lot subdivision on Staples Street – building permits have been issued, work is underway.
- Two lot sub-division on Melville Rd. needs to go to the NCPC. Public hearing to be announced in July for an August hearing.
- Some Main Street apartments are using trash cans for household garbage.
- 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. Superintendent Patanjo is obtaining quotes for traffic lights. 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. Trustee Parisi to review locations.
  - 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 – replace one no parking sign by Hearthstone, sign ordered.
  - 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.

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- Rehabilitate all trash cans on Main Street and outer areas – nearing completion.
- Need to remove all ribbons on poles.
- Per Trustee Parisi, CJ Flag will have new lighting on Main Street in the fall of 2024.
- It was agreed to raise the minimum grass cutting fee from \$250 to \$300 for basic service on abandoned and overgrown properties.
- Discussed evaluating the removal of parking on the east side of Main Street between Conklin St. and So. Front St. in order to widen sidewalks and improve traffic flow.
- From Ken Tortoso – DPW weekly work assignments:
- Castro Landscaping has been in mulching all the parks and garden areas in our parking lots.
- The annual Village flower planting led by Trustee Parisi and the Beautification Committee was completed.
- DPW crews have started the new chain link fence for the Yoakum St. pocket park, should be completed by next week if the weather is dry.
- Stapleton has been in removing trees and stumps in preparation for the Village sidewalk program. STEP program is underway and sidewalks have been repaired.
- Town of Oyster Bay Lighting has been repairing lights and installing the new meters on Main St., will be in on June 3<sup>rd</sup> to install hardwire meters in Lot 4.
- DPW fleet maintenance crews have been busy with inspections on the Fire Dept. and DPW vehicles.
- Flower pots and baskets have been put out and hung throughout the Village.
- Water Department:
  - South Farmingdale Water District is now the operator in charge as forms have been submitted to the Health Department and approval has been received. All communication going well with the new contract. Geary is on board until mid-June.
  - Training on pumping system in water tower base.

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- Well 1-3 was just turned on, will be doing blowoff and ready to go through start-up testing shortly.
- AOP installation by Philip Ross is complete to the testing stage in order to meet health department requirements along with the SCADA system.
- New steel building to cover the GAC tanks at Well 1-3 is on site, awaiting final foundation construction start. Piping rearrangement to accommodate new steel building is completed.
- \$3,000,000 has been awarded to the Village in Gov. Hochul's budget for Improvements WIIA grant, Deputy Clerk Ruckdeschel submitted for reimbursement in the amount of \$2,250,000. The remaining 25% to be requested when the job is completed. \$4,624,000 in funding has been committed for Phase 2 project at Ridge Road from the New York State WIIA funding for the new GAC installation. PWGC is working on Phase 3 project and will handle 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. Deputy Clerk Ruckdeschel helped finalize all submissions last week.
- BANS have been sold to pay for Water Department upgrades.
- Discussed status of various projects with updates coming from PRI on all aspects.
- Contract with South Farmingdale Water District for certain management and operational services is now in place.
- 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. The contract was signed, Deputy Clerk Ruckdeschel is following up on grant requirements for reimbursement.

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- A grant request of \$5 million was applied for through the office of Congressman Thomas Suozzi and has been submitted by the Congressman to the House Appropriations Committee.
- From John Falbo:
  - Peak pumping season is well underway. Pumpage over the last couple of weeks jumped to over a million a day from the average 700,000 a day due to seasonal use increase (watering lawns). Daily use is now at 1.4mgpd.
  - Service leak at the curb box for 46 Sullivan Road was repaired with Water Department and the homeowner's contractor.
  - Lead and Copper survey is moving along steadily.
  - Well 1-3 motor was tested by running the pump to waste. Philip Ross Industries and Schultes are to make their adjustments next week, then sampling can begin. We are getting closer.
  - Chemical pumps were worked for summer usage.
- 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.
  - Meters on Main St. are hardwired and always on, to help with any confusion. Weekly inspections of the meters are done for any malfunctions (i.e. coins jammed in credit card).
  - Section 375 of the NYS VTL indicates that flyers placed on cars is illegal.
- 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 (received) and brackets have been ordered for Main Street.

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

Respectfully submitted,

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Brian P. Harty, Village Clerk-Treasurer