

WORK SESSION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Monday, July 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, July 22, 2024.

Present: Mayor Ralph Ekstrand
Deputy Mayor William Barrett
Trustee Walter Priestley
Trustee Craig Rosasco
Administrator/Clerk/Treasurer Brian Harty
Deputy Clerk Daniel Ruckdeschel
Village Attorney Claudio DeBellis (via phone)

Absent: Trustee Cheryl Parisi

The following topics were discussed:

- Discussion about 220 Fulton St. (Enterprise): Reviewed and approved landscape site plan, changes noted on plans replacing water element with landscaping for building department permitting.
- Discussion about Melville Rd. subdivision: Reviewed and discussed possible changes, to be referred to the Building Department and Village Attorney DeBellis for further action. Also, prep summary of nearby home sizes.
- Discussion about St. Kilian Outreach request to add clothing collection bins to municipal lots: No incremental clothing bins as the Village has a commitment to a current vendor.
- Linwood Avenue: Ongoing. Meeting rescheduled for August 19 with Linwood Ave. residents due to vacations of H2M personnel.
- Fire Department:
 - Installation dinner scheduled for Friday, July 26 at 7:00 p.m.
 - Floor project scheduled for October
- Building Department:
 - Blue and Gold Development at 1 Conklin Street is now under construction, nearing completion.
 - 7-11 and Sunoco – ZBA approved plans and the Board approved a Special Use Permit. Awaiting construction drawings in order to issue building permit. Special Use Permit was extended but was not paid, Howard Avertine (attorney for the applicant) is following up.

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- The Sterling Green project is nearing completion with occupancy expected to begin in August. The lottery took place on July 9th with approximately 800 applicants.
- The Carlyle project is nearing completion. No issues with the project moving toward C/O.
- Dish Network building permit issued with installation to start in July.
- Waiting for Verizon submission for an application to install communication equipment on the clock tower at Palmer's Shopping Center.
- Lotus Garden C/O is approved and is now open.
- 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 until the end of June, they have vacated the site.
- 502 Main Street (across from law offices) - Discussed proposed changes and met with the Planning Board/ARB.
- Zuzu is nearing completion.
- Discussed waste stream with the ownership of the Nutty Irishman and 317 – very high estimate for new dumpster. They have proposed to build dumpster, at a much more reasonable cost with the exterior to match their fencing. The Board agreed as long as “dumpster guards” are used internally. Nutty/317 management will submit a sketch for approval based on their proposal.
- The Villager – status on rear enclosure, will wait until autumn of 2024 for application submission.
- National Grid grant for street trees and planter boxes has been submitted – approximately \$10,000.
- 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.
- Two lot subdivision on Staples Street – building permits have been issued, construction is underway.
- Public hearing for the proposed two lot sub-division on Melville Rd. is set for the August 5th meeting.

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- Application for a Caribbean fusion restaurant in the former Grecian Grill.
- Potential application for warehouse distribution & retail of baked goods from 621 Fulton Street.
- The Dark Horse needs to clean up their rear yard.
- Need to review 1 Conklin St. entrance.
- Contact Dish Network for construction status.
- Check Dark Horse rear yard for neatness.
- Ice cream truck illegally operating on Main Street during Music on Main and on weekends.
- Highway Department:
 - Lot maintenance and routine maintenance of Main St.
 - Routine garbage pickup in parks and dog stations
 - Main St. poles for FFD traffic light installed. Superintendent Patanjo is obtaining quotes and delivery schedule for traffic lights.
 - Plan for new DPW pocket park was approved by the Board and is under construction. The gazebo is in and stored at the vendor's facility.
 - Village Green Gazebo brick wall needs repointing.
 - Need to evaluate lighting at the Melville Road/Secatogue Avenue intersection.
 - Rte. 109 – replace one no parking sign by Hearthstone, sign ordered.
 - It was discussed to evaluate removal of parking on the east side of Main Street between Conklin St. and South Front St. in order to widen sidewalks and improve traffic flow.
 - GFI units for holiday lighting to be supplied by the Town of Oyster Bay.
 - Make sure the electrical outlet drop by Croxley's is working for the upcoming Music on Main.
 - From Ken Tortoso – DPW weekly work assignments:
 - Watering still ongoing.
 - DPW crews are preparing for Movie Night, Village Pops and Music on Main.

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- Town of Oyster Bay lighting has been in doing street light repairs and electrical and street lights at Yoakum Park.
- Music on Main clean up went very well.
- Water Department:
 - All communication going well with the new contract with the South Farmingdale Water District. Geary is on board until mid-July.
 - Sampling and testing of Well 1-3 of AOP/GAC installation by Philip Ross is in process. Trojan to calibrate the AOP to reflect contaminant level. SCADA system to be set to reflect the AOP contaminant level, all need to meet health department requirements.
 - New steel building to cover the GAC tanks at Well 1-3 is on site, awaiting final foundation construction. Health Department has added requirements for lighting and heating of this building. Need to get information about testing costs.
 - \$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 has submitted Phase 3 project grant request and handled the application and narrative for this grant.
 - Plant 2 construction currently on hold. 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.
 - 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 for assistance in the construction of new pollution control equipment. We have been informed that a \$1.1 million commitment has been secured in the 2025/2026 Federal Budget by the Congressman through the House Appropriations Committee.
- From John Falbo:
- Well 1-3 – All AOP project testing is nearly complete. Should be running to system by next week. At that point South Farmingdale and VOF will be monitoring and changing all set points for both well and AOP for our system. This work will be done during working hours until we are comfortable with its production and efficiency.
- This has been a very heavy pumping season with just Well 2-3 and the boosters at Ridge Road. Our Water Department has been performing maintenance to the 2 wells at Ridge Road. Our proactive approach has kept chemical output consistent and in good standing.
- Code Department:
 - Weekly inspections of meters are done to check for any malfunctions (i.e. coins jammed in credit card slot).
 - Section 375 of the NYS VTL indicates that flyers placed on cars is illegal.
 - Deputy Clerk Ruckdeschel reported that electrification of all parking meters is underway.
 - Sign posts and signage needs to be placed on Main Street. Sign posts ordered for late August delivery.
 - 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.
 - North Main Street to be closed for Music on Main on Thursday, July 25 at 3:00 p.m. so that a stage can be set up.
- Make Uber parking/pickup on Main St. after 10:00 p.m. for implementation summer 2024. All signage (received) and brackets have been ordered for Main Street.

HELLO ALERT TECHNICAL SUPPORT – Upon a motion made by Deputy Mayor Barrett and seconded by Trustee Rosasco, it was,

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RESOLVED (#2025-07-24), to approve Hello Alert as 24/7 technical support, including parts and labor, for the dispatch panel for the Farmingdale Fire Department at a cost of \$7,500 annually for 5 years.

A survey of the Powell House was authorized at a cost of \$750.00.

BIRD ALERT AUDIBLE SYSTEM – Upon a motion made by Deputy Mayor Barrett and seconded by Trustee Rosasco, it was,

RESOLVED (#2025-07-25), to approve the installation of the Bird Alert Audible System that keeps birds of various types away from the downtown area, resulting in a cleaner/safer area at a cost of \$6,478.00 in the first year with annual maintenance for each successive year at a cost of \$1,000.00.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Brian P. Harty, Village Clerk-Treasurer