

WORK SESSION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Monday, August 5, 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, August 5, 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
Superintendent of Buildings Stephen Fellman

The following topics were discussed:

- Tonight's public hearings/hearings to be scheduled: Discussed limiting the hours of convenience store operation by closing from 1:00 a.m. – 4:00 a.m.
- Linwood Avenue: Ongoing. Action plan for Linwood Ave. was discussed including long and short term goals. An emergency declaration will be adopted at the Board meeting, including funding.
- Fire Department:
 - Rear door to be installed by the end of August.
 - Fire Police vehicle auction price at \$28,500.
 - Painter will refurbish the Fire Department front door.
- 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.
 - 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.

WORK SESSION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Monday, August 5, 2024

INC. VILLAGE OF FARMINGDALE

- Dish Network building permit issued with installation to start in August.
- Waiting for Verizon submission for an application to install communication equipment on the clock tower at Palmer's Shopping Center.
- Enterprise Rent-A-Car – Special Use Permit has been approved.
- 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.
- 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 – update: check neatness of area.
- Need to review 1 Conklin St. entrance.
- Contact Dish Network for construction status.

WORK SESSION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Monday, August 5, 2024

INC. VILLAGE OF FARMINGDALE

- Ice cream truck illegally operating on Main Street during Music on Main and on weekends.
- Plans for the rebuild of 215 Prospect St. will be delivered to the Board for discussion at the August 19 Work Session.
- 193 Main Street and the former Grecian Grill have new tenants. The Village needs information regarding buildout.
- Met with the attorney for the 368 Melville Road subdivision.
- 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.
 - 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.
 - From Ken Tortoso – DPW weekly work assignments:
 - Still watering 6 days a week! DPW crews have been working hard to keep our flowers vibrant in the downtown area.
 - Moving around hanging baskets, some have burnt up due to the high heat and sun exposure.
 - Town of Oyster Bay lighting has been in repairing street light and parking meter work.
 - Stapleton will be here next week to take care of some tree trimming.

WORK SESSION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Monday, August 5, 2024

INC. VILLAGE OF FARMINGDALE

- Shop crews have been busy with oil changes and NYS inspections on Highway & Fire Dept. vehicles.
- Sweeper has been out.
- Crews have been removing tree debris and wood chips from Jackson Ave.
- Castro Landscaping has been in trimming the evergreens in the Village parking lots.
- Castro Landscaping has fertilized all of our tree pits in our municipal parking fields.
- Crews have been assisting with the Village Pops, Movie Nights and Music on Main. The crew has done a great job during these events.
- TJ tank inspections will be working with the Nassau County Fire Marshal on our annual underground tank functionality testing in the 2nd week of August.
- 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

WORK SESSION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Monday, August 5, 2024

INC. VILLAGE OF FARMINGDALE

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.
- 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.
- A grant of \$9.6 million has been applied for through Senator Chuck Schumer to offset capital cost of treatment systems as well as 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 underway and is running to system. At this point South Farmingdale and VOF are monitoring and changing all set points for both well and AOP for our system. This work is being 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.

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Monday, August 5, 2024

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- 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.
- 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.
- A new movie screen was proposed that will withstand wind conditions up to 25mph.
- Need to issue BID funding.
- Pictures of former Deputy Mayor Pat Christiansen and former Mayor Butch Starkie will be added to the “Wall of Honor” in the Farmingdale Courtroom at the Board meeting on Monday, October 7, 2024 at 8:00 p.m.
- Meeting scheduled with Ryder Cup personnel.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Brian P. Harty, Village Clerk-Treasurer