

WORK SESSION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Monday, November 18, 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, November 18, 2024.

Present: 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

Absent: Mayor Ralph Ekstrand

The following topics were discussed:

- Verizon – Pre-conference hearing regarding plans to install communication equipment on the clock tower at Palmer’s Shopping Center:
 - A presentation was made by Denise Vista from the Amato Law Group, which is representing Verizon in this matter. A visibility analysis was provided along with a set of plans for the project. The project proposed to mount multiple antennas on the clock tower and camouflage them by painting them the same color as the tower. Ms. Vista said that a new larger clock will be installed as part of this project to add to the look of both the tower and the shopping center in general.
 - All analysis of the project is being done by Dvirka and Bartilucci with regard to structure and related matters to complete the plans to be submitted for approval to the Building Department.
 - A closer rendering of the proposed installation was requested by the Board of Trustees to make sure that the aesthetic value is maintained. The required public hearing for the project will be determined by the timing of needed information submission.
 - A question arose about taxing utilities not on Village property, to be followed up with our assessor consultant.
- Suffolk County DPW/Dept. of Economic Development presentation – new bus route to connect the Farmingdale Railroad Station with Route 110:
 - The Suffolk County Department of Public Works and Department of Economic Development presented a new proposal to add a connecting bus route to the 110 corridor with the Farmingdale Village train station.

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- The routing was examined to come up with the most efficient and safe route to connect with Rte. 110 by the following route: head west on NY24 from Rte. 110, north on Vogel Way, then west on Eastern Pkwy. where a new bus stop will be created using 5-6 of the on-street daily parking spaces at the curb, then proceed south on Secatogue Ave. and east on NY24 to head back to Rte. 110.
- The Board of Trustees unanimously thought that this was a benefit to both commuters and to Village residents.

SNOW CLEARING CONTRACT – Upon a motion made by Trustee Rosasco and seconded by Trustee Priestley, it was,

RESOLVED (#2025-11-08), to approve a contract with Castro Family Landscaping for snow clearing during the 2024-2025 winter season.

DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS PHASE ONE – Upon a motion made by Trustee Parisi and seconded by Trustee Priestley, it was,

RESOLVED (#2025-11-09), to approve Phase One of the Linwood Ave. Drainage Improvements at a cost of approximately \$250,000.

USE OF FACILITIES - FARMINGDALE HAWKS – Upon a motion made by Trustee Priestley and seconded by Trustee Rosasco, it was,

RESOLVED (#2025-11-10), to approve a request from the Farmingdale Hawks for use of the Courtroom from 8:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. on the following dates: 1/16/25, 2/20/25, 3/20/25, 4/17/25, 5/15/25, 6/19/25, 7/17/25, 8/21/25, 9/18/25, 10/16/25, 11/20/25, 12/18/25.

The discussion continued on the following topics:

- Fire Department:
 - The rear stairs have rust so proposals are being sought for repair/replacement. A small matching grant of \$5,000 was applied for; future grant requests are to be routed through the Board of Trustees.

The discussion continued on the following topics:

- Building Department:

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- 7-11 and Sunoco – ZBA approved plans and the Board approved a Special Use Permit. Construction drawings received, permit has been issued.
 - Verizon resubmission of plans to install communication equipment on the clock tower at Palmer's Shopping Center was received. Public hearing for special use permit scheduled for January 6th, 2025.
 - The owner of the Nutty Irishman & 317, dumpster under construction, needs second dumpster guard and container.
 - National Grid grant for street trees and planter boxes has been submitted – approximately \$10,000, awaiting response.
 - Toretta Estates - three building applications for remaining lots went to the Planning Board, awaiting their comments.
 - Mike's Barber Shop completed.
 - Bodega on Conklin St. signage reviewed, remedy proposed.
 - 217 Main Street to be renamed L.I. McGrath's - will be an Irish pub. Working with the Building Department for a Special Use Permit, hearing to be scheduled for December 2nd. Temporary C/O issued November 14.
 - The Pour Authority (lease executed) will be moving into space adjacent to 335 Main Street (application anticipated).
 - The Board reiterated that the Building Department needs to follow up on window signage on Main Street and the Downtown Business District for percentage of coverage of storefront windows, ATM signs, digital and rolling message signs, signage not approved by the Planning Board and "open" signs. Illuminated/framed "open" signs are permitted, an example of one was indicated. Continuing.
 - Need to review Special Use Permit and fees.
 - A seafood restaurant will be moving into the former Creations Pizza location.
 - Enterprise Rental Car location is under construction and moving well.
 - The Board pointed to a serious water issue coming from a neighbor impacting a retaining wall and rear yard of 5 Puritan Lane. Needs investigation.
- Highway Department:

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- 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).
- Need to evaluate lighting at the Melville Road/Secatogue Avenue intersection (Superintendent Patanjo).
- Check Parking Lot 3 Blue Spruce trees to provide electric for holiday decorations – will be solar powered.
- Waiting for Altice plan for North Main Street, meeting Wednesday, November 20.
- Review County easement at Thomas Powell Blvd. for payment (Village Attorney DeBellis).
- Work with Hello Alert for cameras for the downtown business district including parking lots and additionally the LIRR parking lots.
- Follow up with H2M regarding Linwood. Phase One to begin on November 29th.
- Electrified parking meters are being reinstalled Monday, November 18 with some remaining to be converted by McKay Meters.
- A credit of \$5,800 was secured by the Village from United Rentals as a credit for the last Linwood Ave. pump rental as the Village purchased a new pump through them.
- From Ken Tortoso – DPW weekly work assignments:
 - Leaf crews are out per the map.
 - Adding and replacing stop signs.
 - Setting up for the holiday season with Trustee Parisi.
 - Watering is still ongoing.
 - All Village sprinklers have been winterized for the season.
 - All American flags from Main Street have been removed and stored up at DPW.
 - Castro will be in tomorrow to start the fall cleanups.
- Water Department:

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- Sampling and testing of Well 1-3 of AOP/GAC installation by Philip Ross continues with well now fully operational.
- New steel building to cover the GAC tanks at Well 1-3 construction has started with building to be finished on or about 11/15/24. Additional testing costs for newly monitored contaminants at approximately \$16,000 per well.
- Plant 2 construction to re-commence on or about 11/6/24.
- Master schedule is being worked on by PRI through completion for all wells, expected to be 5/1/25.
- 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. A payment of \$500,000 was received.
- Congressman Thomas Suozzi has informed the Village that a \$1.1 million commitment has been secured in the 2025/2026 Federal Budget. Not a reimbursement grant.
- Evaluation of ground tank roof and structure for repairs and/or replacement is underway by D&B.
- D&B is providing analysis for antennae replacement on elevated tank by AT&T.
- Deputy Clerk Ruckdeschel reported that water revenue is up and that more customers are using auto-pay.
- Lead and Copper letters have been sent to residents with galvanized services.
- Status of WIIA grants was discussed.
- From John Falbo:
 - Well 1-3 at Eastern Parkway is running as lead well 24/7.
 - Well 2-3 was pulled for start of Phase 2 work at Ridge Road, due to emerging traces of contaminants.
 - Well 2-2 to be used on limited emergency use purposes due to emerging traces of contaminants.

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- All interconnect valves with SCWA, Bethpage WD and South Farmingdale WD have been located and are ready to use.
- Second phase of Lead and Copper Rule Program is in effect. Letters for homes (customers) with galvanized pipes have been drafted by Brian Harty with Holzmacher Group's assistance. Brita Water Pitchers with appropriate NSF/ANSI certified filters have been purchased for those customers.
- Lead and Copper Inventory Survey is located at Village Hall counter in a black binder.
- Mark outs and meter work is ongoing every day.
- We had our triennial Nassau County Board of Health Sanitary Survey of system on the 26th. As of right now all seems to have gone well. A lot of recommendations and few if any violations. We are waiting on full report and then will update.
- Code Department:
 - Weekly inspections of meters are done to check for any malfunctions (i.e. coins jammed in credit card slot).
 - Electrification of all parking meters is underway.
 - Sign posts and signage needs to be placed on Main Street. New signage to be installed by DPW.
 - 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 observing landscaper regarding leaf removal and permit compliance.
 - E-Bikes and policing of those was discussed. Covered under NYS V&T law.
 - Meter revenue was discussed.
- Status of "Solar Grant" from NYSERDA was requested.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Brian P. Harty, Village Clerk-Treasurer