

**WORK SESSION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**Monday, September 19, 2022**

**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, September 19, 2022.

**Present:** Mayor Ralph Ekstrand  
Trustee Walter Priestley  
Trustee Craig Rosasco  
Administrator/Clerk/Treasurer Brian Harty

**Absent:** Deputy Mayor William Barrett  
Trustee Cheryl Parisi  
Deputy Clerk Daniel Ruckdeschel  
Village Attorney Claudio DeBellis

**USE OF FACILITIES (CHAMBER OF COMMERCE)** – Upon a motion made by Trustee Priestley and seconded by Trustee Rosasco, it was,

**RESOLVED (#2023-09-13)**, to approve a request from the Farmingdale Chamber of Commerce to use the Village Green for a Women’s Self Defense event on Tuesday, October 11, 2022 from 5:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

**POSTAGE MACHINE LEASE** – Upon a motion made by Trustee Rosasco and seconded by Trustee Priestley, it was,

**RESOLVED (#2023-09-14)**, to approve a new 60 month lease from Pitney Bowes for our postage machine at a cost of \$298.11 per month, which is a decrease from our current rate of \$308.53.

**CYBER INSURANCE POLICY** – Upon a motion made by Trustee Rosasco and seconded by Trustee Priestley, it was,

**RESOLVED (#2023-09-15)**, to renew the Village’s stand-alone cyber insurance policy for Sept. 2022/Sept. 2023 with Chubb/ACE with a premium of \$9,446.00.

**USE OF FACILITIES (BID)** – Upon a motion made by Trustee Priestley and seconded by Trustee Rosasco, it was,

**RESOLVED (#2023-09-16)**, to approve the Farmingdale Business Improvement District’s request to hold a Halloween Parade on Saturday, October 29<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m. (Rain date: October 30<sup>th</sup>). The parade will assemble at Northside School and continue south on Main Street to the

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Village Green. Family activities to follow on the Village Green until approximately 4:30 p.m.

The following topics were discussed:

- Fire Department:
  - Chief Buser said that the Installation Dinner was a big success. Mayor Ekstrand and Trustee Priestley attended and they agreed.
  - Chief Buser reported that the Junior firefighters are doing very well and that a number of them have already achieved certified EMT status at 17 years old. He also said that morale is at an all-time high.
  - The new ambulance will arrive in approximately 7-10 days.
  - One of two gators will arrive and be operational by the Columbus Day fair.
  - The Fire Department is saluting Ray Ryan for 50 years of service on October 22.
- Building Department:
  - Blue and Gold Development will be bringing final plans for a building permit for development at 1 Conklin Street in mid-September. This was delayed because a special use permit is needed. A hearing is scheduled for October 11.
  - The Carlyle (formerly Robbie Lee) told Mayor Ekstrand that they have finally closed financing and are getting on track. The Mayor contacted the new owners, structural steel has been ordered.
  - 7-11 and Sunoco – to redesign the site based on feedback from the recent hearing. The site redesign was presented at hearing. The Planning Board meeting was completed, now proceeding to the ZBA in October.
  - Peter Florey/D&F Development (Sterling Green):
    - Building permit has been issued
    - Demo is underway
    - Working with the Fire Department for training
  - Rodent and property maintenance issues are being addressed, LIRR was contacted about removing rat habitat along the tracks from Merritts Road to Stratford Green. LIRR claims to have a large back-up in clearing and removing vegetation and it may be some time before they are able to address this issue. They have been notified that we may contact the NCDOH and

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NYSDOH. Also on Cobb Place, summons (rodents, property maintenance) has been issued. Awaiting disposition through Village Court.

- Stratford Green rat issues are being addressed solely by Stratford Green, which to date have not been successful. Their vendor has not dealt with the rat issue – their vendor has placed rat traps and the Building Department has verified that the traps are baited. Arrow Exterminating has been engaged to work with the LIRR to solve this problem in all discussed locations.
- Rte. 109 & Conklin St. auto body – work is proceeding on this project. Mr. Schmeltzer and his attorney appeared in court, work continues. Mr. Schmeltzer and his attorney will provide scheduling and progress in October. Dry wells are being installed and the site is being cleaned up.
- Application for one home on the south side of the Black Course development has been submitted and is going to the Planning Board, waiting for Planning Board application, they need to do a mailing.
- “Haunted Hamburgers” is coming to the former Friendly’s site on Route 109. Building permit has been issued. Meeting with Planning Board for final disposition of exterior elevations.
- Daler Pizza at 331 Main Street has to come to the Board for more than 12 seats. Building permit has been issued.
- The Board requested an ownership check of certain properties on Eastern Parkway.
- Outdoor dining was discussed for Bagel Hut and the gas station at the corner of Heisser Lane. Outdoor dining was denied to the gas station due to lack of on-site parking.
- Friday & Saturday noise issues on Main Street are being addressed by Code Enforcement.
- New fence has been requested along the LIRR from Melville Road to Secatogue Avenue. It was noted that the LIRR needs a general cleanup of litter along the tracks at various locations.
- ZUZU will be coming in for special use permit. Plans were just submitted, needs review. This will be announced at the October meeting for a November hearing.
- Proposed fine arts center for the Village with plans done by Superintendent Fellman.

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- Eastern Parkway houses are being cleaned up, with one home in court for a derelict garage.
- 415 Secatogue Avenue was reported to have 9 vehicles. Building Dept. will investigate.
- Highway Department:
  - Lot maintenance and routine maintenance of Main St.
  - Routine garbage pickup in parks and dog stations
  - Ongoing storm prep/planning and debris removal
  - DPW Garage renovations substantially completed, punch list items only. The new DPW garage foundation plans are being evaluated and should be done by mid-September.
  - Delivery for the window and door project at Village Hall is expected the week of Sept. 6, 2022.
  - Stumps are located at 90 Conklin St., 250 Conklin St. (Citibank), Clinton Ave.
  - The PO has been issued to Westar for the new DPW garage, waiting for working plans and foundation drawings. Preliminary site work, including retaining wall, will be done by Roadwork Ahead.
  - Mayor Ekstrand reminded Administrator Harty that the southbound turning lane on Main Street at 5 Corners Park needs to be restriped - completed.
  - A tree stump was noted in front of 140 Prospect Street for removal.
  - Mayor Ekstrand reported that the projected start date for removing poles from Main Street is September 12, 2022.
  - Paving projects in the Howitt & Sullivan Road areas are completed. Some striping to be done the week of Sept. 6, which was completed.
  - Main Street pole removal – A major meeting of all parties was conducted at Village Hall on Thursday, Sept.1. The start date is projected to be Sept. 19 with completion expected by late December. PSEG will supply a phasing of the project by the end of the week of Sept. 12.
  - Prep for Art in the Park.
  - Highway and Code to have personnel in support of the event.
- Water Department:

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- Water tower construction continues. The tank is now complete. Interior work is underway for the ceiling that will protect the booster pumps. Insulation will be added to the walls of the booster pump room along with covering. Piping is being installed on the booster pumps located at ground level.
- Discussion about wireless services move from existing tank to temporary pole is desired, including NCPD microwave.
- \$3,000,000 has been awarded to the Village in Gov. Hochul's budget for Improvements WIIA grant. Documents have been signed and submitted to the state to receive funding.
- New gas line arranged with National Grid
- Mayor Ekstrand requested a review of the number of cell providers that can be placed on the new water tank.
- New doors and hatch approved for all well locations and are in the process of being installed. Ridge Road is completed, waiting for delivery of doors for well 13.
- Mayor Ekstrand, Administrator Harty and Water Superintendent Geary Gerhardt met with Paul Granger at Hicksville Water to look at 1,4 dioxane treatment installation.
- Meeting scheduled with PWGC to review pollution control measures and approach to solutions. PWGC recommends pre-construction purchase of equipment. WIIA grant money to be used for the purchase of Advanced Oxidation Process and Granulated Activated Carbon Equipment, Peroxide Tank and Computer Interfaces. Mayor Ekstrand and Administrator Harty reported on a recent meeting with consultant PWGC and indicated that pre-purchasing of pollution control equipment was recommended.
- Mayor Ekstrand and Administrator Harty had visited Hicksville Water District – they have already installed and are operating the equipment that can be used by Farmingdale to treat for the 1,4 dioxane contaminant.
- A second meeting with Hicksville Water District took place on 8/18 with Mayor Ekstrand, Trustee Parisi and Administrator Harty to attend with PWGC consultants to review water treatment plant operations. Progress meeting with PW Grosser took place on Friday August 26, clarified costs and procedures to purchase equipment. A possible NDA may exist that

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might be an obstacle to purchase certain equipment, PWGC indicated that there are comparative options.

- Need to coordinate with Bob Holzmacher to install valving to enable filling of ground tank at Ridge Road from both wells.
- Disinfection of the new tank will start on 9/26 by Aquastore.
- Reworking location of generator to reduce construction cost of foundation and blast wall.
- Code Department:
  - Working until 10:00 p.m. on Thursday, Friday and Saturday. Administrator Harty to meet with FBS and Village Attorney DeBellis for code revision implementation – public hearing on October 11. Meeting completed with all recommendation to Village Attorney DeBellis.
  - Noise issues were discussed regarding outdoor music, types and volume levels.
  - The Board wants Code to stay until 11:15 p.m. on Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday to make sure all doors and windows are closed so that music can be heard inside only.
- Make Uber parking/pickup on Main St. after 10:00 p.m.
- Other:
  - Deputy Clerk Ruckdeschel will assist Trustee Priestley with BID filings.
  - Tre Scalini was selected for the Village's annual holiday gathering.

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

**RESOLVED (#2023-09-17)**, to move to Executive Session.

Upon a motion made by Trustee Rosasco and seconded by Trustee Priestley, it was,

**RESOLVED (#2023-09-18)**, to reconvene the meeting.

**SALARY INCREASE** – Upon a motion made by Trustee Priestley and seconded by Trustee Rosasco, it was,

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**RESOLVED (#2023-09-19)**, to increase Court Clerk Anne Signa's annual base salary to \$53,000.

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

Respectfully submitted,

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Brian P. Harty, Village Clerk-Treasurer