

Mayor  
Dominick A. Longobardi



Board of Trustees  
Kevin M. Fitzgerald  
Dr. Lynn Pombonyo  
Archie T. Cheng  
Frank J. Chiara

## Floral Park Village Items



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April 2017

### **ANNUAL BUDGET HEARING APRIL 12, 2017 7:45 PM VILLAGE HALL**

#### **Message from Mayor Longobardi**

*Dear Resident,*

The Village Board will be presenting the proposed Village Budget on Wednesday, April 12, 2017 at 7:45 p.m. at the Village Hall Courtroom.

The Village of Floral Park portion represents approximately 1/3 of your total property tax bill, and it is the goal of each member of the Village Board to keep taxes as low as possible while still providing for the level of services that keeps Floral Park a Great Place To Live.

To achieve that goal, over the past several years the Village has reduced its workforce through attrition. We have also combined positions and we have turned to outside servicers to reduce our personnel, where appropriate. Further, we have aggressively pursued state and federal grants (when available) for road construction, equipment replacement and capital improvements.

#### **Bond Rating Upgrade**

The Village's prudent fiscal management was recognized this past Summer when Moody's credit rating agency improved the Village's already strong credit rating of "Aa3" and assigned an improved credit rating of "Aa2". In upgrading the Village's bond rating, Moody's noted that "Floral Park's financial position is expected to remain strong given conservative budgeting of expenditures and revenues." Moody's also noted that although Village officials faced budgeting pressures from New York State's mandated Tax Cap and State aid reductions, the Village has managed to produce structurally balanced budgets for the past five years.

The upgraded bond rating translates into tangible savings for the taxpayers of Floral Park because the improved bond rating directly results in lower financing costs for the Village going forward. Consequently, necessary capital improvement projects, such as the Village's multi-year road improvement program (discussed below), can be financed at lower costs.

Nonetheless, economic challenges continue to confront us. The costs imposed on our Village due to mandates and market forces continue to rise. While certain costs, such as required pension contributions, appear to have at least leveled off after

years of steep increases, other costs continue to rise at an alarming rate. The most significant example of this is health insurance costs. We have responded in part to rising health insurance costs by negotiating increased employee contributions into our collective bargaining agreements with our employee unions.

However, health insurance costs continue to rise and this year health insurance premiums have increased 12%.

Yet, despite these challenges, we must plan to address the Village's needs going forward. Several projects are ongoing and some are in the initial planning stages. Our multi-year road program and plans for Tiny Town are two good examples.

#### **Road Program**

In an effort to simultaneously plan for future improvements while trying to stay within New York's "2% Tax Cap", three years ago the Village embarked upon a road improvement program in which we added to the Village budget approximately one-half of one percent of the total tax levy (approximately \$130,000) each year over and above the amount that the Village spent in the prior year towards improving the conditions of our roads. This program of planned incremental increases in funding for road reconstruction enabled the Village, through a combination of short term financing and the application of state and federal funds, to develop a plan to gradually fund the maintenance and improvement of the Village roads. We started with the roads that our Public Works Department, in conjunction with our engineering consultants, have determined were the roads most in need of attention.

Because of this program, last year Raff and Lowell Avenues were reconstructed and a major drainage problem that affected the residents of Cedar Place and Hickory Street for decades was finally addressed. This year, the Village is undertaking reconstructions on Charles Street, Zinnia Street and a portion of Daisy Avenue between Mayfair and Crocus Avenues. In the coming year, we will be able to undertake a reconstruction project on the large majority of the expanse of Locust Street, between Miller Avenue and Floral Parkway, with the balance of Locust Street to be addressed after the construction at Floral Park Memorial is completed. We are also hopeful to include one or two other road projects in the coming fiscal year.

Aside from the major reconstruction projects, there are also other benefits that are derived from the Road Program. Prior to the Road Program, our DPW Road Maintenance Crew spent so much of their time patching and re-patching the roads in the worst condition just to make them passable, it was difficult for them to address general road maintenance on other streets. Now that we are a couple of years into reconstructing the roads in the most need of attention, our Road Maintenance Crews are being freed up to focus more on maintenance of the other roads in the Village.

**Tiny Town**

Parents and our youngest residents have enjoyed Tiny Town since it was renovated and the play structures were upgraded in 2000. One of the greatest natural attributes of Tiny Town was the enormous black willow tree that for 100 years provided a beautiful leafy canopy over that play area. Unfortunately, time caught up with the old black willow tree and it had to be removed. The removal of the black willow tree drastically changed the look and contour of Tiny Town and eliminated most of the shade from the play area. Also, the 17-year-old play equipment is now beyond its originally estimated useful life.

This past January, the Village retained a landscape architect to assist our Recreation Department and Recreation Committee in the re-design of Tiny Town. Our Recreation Committee is working with this landscape architect and will be reaching out to village parents and other residents to develop a

design for this area of the Recreation Center for the next generation of young Floral Parkers to enjoy.

On the following pages, you will find a summary of the proposed tentative budget for fiscal year June 1, 2017 to May 31, 2018. The tentative budget proposes a tax rate of \$13.0028 per hundred dollars of assessed valuation compared to the \$12.6800 rate established in 2016-2017. Based on the budget as presented, a typical homeowner in the Village of Floral Park owning the average home with an assessed value of \$36,600 will pay an additional \$118.00 for the 2017-2018 fiscal year for Village government services. The total annual Village tax for a home assessed at \$36,600 would be \$4,759.02. This year's budget reflects a tax levy (the overall amount of the budget raised by taxes) increase of 2.9%. The tax rate (the rate applied to your assessed valuation to determine your tax bill) will increase by 2.5%. Our tax rate increase is slightly lower than our tax levy increase because the Village has benefitted from an increase in total assessed valuation of properties, due largely to several new residential construction projects underway and improvements to various commercial properties in the Village - a sure sign that Floral Park continues to be a Great Place to Live, and to do business.

Copies of the entire budget document can be obtained at Village Hall. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact our Village Administrator/Treasurer Gerard Bambrick at 326-6300 or come to our Budget Hearing on Wednesday, April 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:45p.m.

*Mayor Dominick A. Longobardi*

**Allocation of Village Tax for Home Assessed at \$36,600**

**TRANSPORTATION**

**\$ 333.13**

- Street Maintenance
- Street Lighting
- Parking
- Snow Removal
- DPW Administration

**PUBLIC SAFETY**

**\$ 1,284.94**

- Police
- Fire
- Safety Inspection
- Civil Defense

**CULTURE,  
RECREATION &  
POOL**

**\$ 237.95**

- Pool, Parks & Playgrounds
- Youth Programs
- Programs for the Aging

**LIBRARY**

**\$ 190.36**

**GENERAL**

**\$ 761.44**

- General Government
- Staff
- Central Garage
- Engineering
- Insurance
- Contingencies
- Finances
- Vital Statistics



**PER MONTH**

**\$ 396.59**

**EMPLOYEE BENEFITS**

**\$ 1,189.76**

- State and Police Retirement
- Social Security
- Worker's Compensation
- Hospital/Medical Insurance

**COMMUNITY  
SERVICES**

**\$ 475.90**

- Refuse Disposal
- Sewer Service
- Shade Trees
- Street Cleaning
- Zoning

**DEBT SERVICE**

**\$ 285.54**

- Debt Reduction
- Bond Interest

**TOTAL TAX**

**\$ 4,759.02**

**BUDGET SUMMARY 2017-2018**

DEPARTMENT	2016/2017	PERCENT	2017/2018	PERCENT	CHANGE
Board of Trustees	\$ 21,500.00	0.08%	\$ 21,500.00	0.08%	\$0.00
Village Justice	\$ 268,409.00	0.98%	\$ 267,910.00	0.94%	(\$499.00)
Mayor	\$ 11,500.00	0.04%	\$ 11,500.00	0.04%	\$0.00
Clerk/Treasurer	\$ 889,585.00	3.23%	\$ 889,569.00	3.13%	(\$16.00)
Purchasing	\$ 63,300.00	0.23%	\$ 78,300.00	0.28%	\$15,000.00
Assessment	\$ 92,050.00	0.33%	\$ 93,352.00	0.33%	\$1,302.00
<b>STAFF</b>					
Law	\$ 347,100.00	1.26%	\$ 197,100.00	0.69%	(\$150,000.00)
Personnel	\$ 41,500.00	0.15%	\$ 41,500.00	0.15%	\$0.00
Engineer	\$ 1,500.00	0.01%	\$ 1,500.00	0.01%	\$0.00
Elections	\$ 6,230.00	0.02%	\$ 5,810.00	0.02%	(\$420.00)
<b>SHARED SERVICES</b>					
Buildings	\$ 961,688.00	3.49%	\$ 873,749.00	3.08%	(\$87,939.00)
Central Garage	\$ 428,068.00	1.56%	\$ 446,310.00	1.57%	\$18,242.00
Central Mailing	\$ 20,000.00	0.07%	\$ 17,000.00	0.06%	(\$3,000.00)
<b>PUBLIC SAFETY</b>					
Police	\$ 6,730,689.00	24.46%	\$ 6,800,649.00	23.96%	\$69,960.00
Fire	\$ 375,900.00	1.37%	\$ 392,400.00	1.38%	\$16,500.00
Animal Control	\$ 2,500.00	0.01%	\$ 1,000.00	0.00%	(\$1,500.00)
Safety Inspection	\$ 359,135.00	1.31%	\$ 351,184.00	1.24%	(\$7,951.00)
Civil Defense	\$ 7,050.00	0.03%	\$ 7,050.00	0.02%	\$0.00
Health	\$ 4,900.00	0.02%	\$ 4,900.00	0.02%	\$0.00
<b>TRANSPORTATION</b>					
DPW Administration	\$ 249,679.00	0.91%	\$ 265,408.00	0.94%	\$15,729.00
Street Maintenance	\$ 1,457,297.00	5.30%	\$ 1,398,454.00	4.93%	(\$58,843.00)
Snow Removal	\$ 44,100.00	0.16%	\$ 45,100.00	0.16%	\$1,000.00
Street Lighting	\$ 167,663.00	0.61%	\$ 167,663.00	0.59%	\$0.00
Off-Street Parking	\$ 168,569.00	0.61%	\$ 132,724.00	0.47%	(\$35,845.00)
<b>PUBLICITY</b>	\$ 27,000.00	0.10%	\$ 26,000.00	0.09%	(\$1,000.00)
<b>CULTURE AND RECREATION</b>					
Programs for the Aging	\$ 9,640.00	0.04%	\$ 9,640.00	0.03%	\$0.00
Parks	\$ 248,934.00	0.90%	\$ 252,815.00	0.89%	\$3,881.00
Playgrounds, Recreation Centers	\$ 655,426.00	2.38%	\$ 693,234.00	2.44%	\$37,808.00
Youth Programs and Projects	\$ 132,090.00	0.48%	\$ 129,786.00	0.46%	(\$2,304.00)
Historian	\$ 15,250.00	0.06%	\$ 15,250.00	0.05%	\$0.00
Celebrations	\$ 55,500.00	0.20%	\$ 56,500.00	0.20%	\$1,000.00
<b>HOME AND COMMUNITY SERVICES</b>					
Zoning & Planning	\$ 36,750.00	0.13%	\$ 36,750.00	0.13%	\$0.00
Refuse and Garbage	\$ 1,917,889.00	6.97%	\$ 1,918,980.00	6.76%	\$1,091.00
Street Cleaning	\$ 126,644.00	0.46%	\$ 141,207.00	0.50%	\$14,563.00
Noise Abatement	\$ 2,000.00	0.01%	\$ 2,000.00	0.01%	\$0.00
Storm Sewers	\$ 48,900.00	0.18%	\$ 60,900.00	0.21%	\$12,000.00
Shade Trees	\$ 329,829.00	1.20%	\$ 302,955.00	1.07%	(\$26,874.00)
Emergency Tenant Protection	\$ 2,150.00	0.01%	\$ 2,150.00	0.01%	\$0.00
Co-op Agreements	\$ 316,500.00	1.15%	\$ 281,600.00	0.99%	(\$34,900.00)
<b>VILLAGE GENERAL</b>					
Self-Insurance	\$ 457,000.00	1.66%	\$ 551,000.00	1.94%	\$94,000.00
Special Items	\$ 906,596.00	3.29%	\$ 1,071,000.00	3.77%	\$164,404.00
Employee Benefits	\$ 6,357,501.00	23.76%	\$ 7,164,661.00	25.24%	\$627,160.00
Library Fund	\$ 1,283,290.00	4.66%	\$ 1,269,649.00	4.47%	(\$13,641.00)
Pool Fund	\$ 122,234.00	0.44%	\$ 192,000.00	0.68%	\$69,766.00
Debt Service	\$ 1,566,047.00	5.69%	\$ 1,693,232.00	5.97%	\$127,185.00
<b>TOTALS</b>	\$ 27,517,082.00	100.00%	\$ 28,382,941.00	100.00%	\$865,859.00

**COMPARATIVE REPORT**

	<u>2016-2017</u>	<u>2017-2018</u>
Appropriations, General Fund	\$ 27,517,082	\$ 28,382,941
Revenues, General Fund (Non-Tax)	3,684,995	3,714,828
Appropriated Fund Balance, General Fund	293,650	445,000
Amount to be Raised by Taxes	23,538,437	24,220,113
Assessed Valuation (after exemptions)	185,633,814	186,269,120
Tax Rate Per \$100 of Assessed Value	\$12.6800	\$13.0028



PRSR.T. STD.  
US POSTAGE  
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PERMIT NO. 487

**Incorporated Village of Floral Park  
One Floral Boulevard, P.O. Box 27  
Floral Park, New York 11002**

**Important Village of Floral Park  
Phone Numbers**

**Police & Fire Emergency.....911**  
 Police & Fire Non-Emergency.....326-6400  
 Administration.....326-6300  
 Assessment.....326-6305  
 Building Department.....326-6319  
 Court Office.....326-6325  
 Fire Department Chief's Office.....326-6327  
 Library.....326-6330  
 Mayor's Voice Mail (after 4:30 p.m.)...326-6300  
 Public Works Department.....326-6320  
 Recreation/Shelter House.....326-6334  
 Recreation/Pool Bldg.....326-6336

[www.fpvillage.org](http://www.fpvillage.org)  
 4VS - Cablevision Channel 18 / Verizon Channel 28

**Mayor**  
 Dominick A. Longobardi  
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**Trustees**  
 Kevin M. Fitzgerald      Dr. Lynn Pombonyo  
 Archie T. Cheng              Frank J. Chiara

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**Village Justice**  
 Douglas J. Hayden

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**Village Administrator**  
 Gerard M. Bambrick

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**Village Clerk**  
 Susan E. Walsh

 **We are currently preparing for the 2017 tax collection process. Residents are reminded to contact us at 326-6305 with any of the following changes:**

- When there is a change in the billing or mailing address of the property owner.
- The property has been recently purchased or sold. As a property owner you can not rely solely on the mortgagor or your attorney to notify the village.
- The mortgage has been satisfied or refinanced with a different bank or financial institution.

**Centennial Hall Update**

A 3<sup>rd</sup> Public Visioning Session will be held at 8:00 pm on May 2, 2017 in Village Hall Courtroom. Please check our new Village website ([www.fpvillage.org](http://www.fpvillage.org)) for further information.