

Inc. Village of Floral Park
January 2, 2019
Board of Trustees Meeting

Prior to the start of the meeting, Mayor Longobardi asked for a moment of silence in memory of Bill Bedell. Bill gave so much to our community through the Floral Park Fire Department and the Explorers Program and for spreading his love of school marching bands to the students of Floral Park Memorial High School. Mayor Longobardi extended his condolences to Bill's wife, Irene, and to all his family and friends.

Department of Public Works – Trustee Kevin Fitzgerald

Trustee Fitzgerald reported that recently six LED streetlights were installed as part of our initial pilot program. They are located at Pansy Avenue between Atlantic Avenue and Floral Boulevard along with one outside of the gym entrance at John Lewis Childs School. Feedback is welcomed. If you have any comments, please contact the Department of Public Works.

Belmont Park – Trustee Kevin Fitzgerald

Trustee Fitzgerald said, that as previously mentioned, the ESD will be holding hearings at the Elmont Public Library on Tuesday, January 8th from 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm, Wednesday, January 9th from 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm and then from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm, and Thursday, January 10th from 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm. We are urging all residents to attend and comment on this ever-growing project that now encompasses the parking lots nearest to Floral Park. In preparing for these hearings, we are holding a community information meeting on Thursday, January 3rd at the Village Hall Court Room at 7:30 pm. All residents are welcomed and encouraged to attend to hear thoughts of the members of the Belmont Task Force on various impacts and concerns.

Additionally, form letters will be distributed at the meetings for residents to review and sign and then submit to the ESD. Separately, it is imperative that residents speak at these public hearings next week to state their concerns even if they simply state "the project is too large to fit into the suburban character of the surrounding neighborhoods and must be scaled back."

Fire Department – Trustee Lynn Pombonyo

Trustee Pombonyo welcomed 1st Assistant Fire Chief Sal Arrigo, Former Fire Chief Mike Longobardi, who is also liaison to the Belmont Task Force, and Former Fire Chief Joe O'Grady to the meeting. Trustee Pombonyo wished all a Happy New Year. She then offered a tribute to Floral Park Fire Department Honorary Chief William Bedell, Sr. who passed away on December 22nd after serving in our Department's Rescue and Alert Companies for 52 years. Chief Bedell was a veteran of the U.S. Air Force, courageously serving on the flight line for air crash rescue operations. From 1997 to 2012, Chief Bedell served as a Floral Park Police Department dispatcher. He is credited with developing the Fire Department's Explorer program for young adults, many of whom go on to careers in the fire service, and working with our Explorer groups for twenty years. Chief Bedell and his wife were lifelong fans of school

marching bands and the drum and bugle corps, and enthusiastically showed that support at Floral Park Memorial High School. Our deepest sympathy is extended to Chief Bedell's wife of forty-two years, Irene, and his son, daughter-in-law and grandchildren. Bill Bedell, Jr. is a Floral Park firefighter, FDNY Lieutenant, and instructor at the Nassau County Fire Services Academy. We express our gratitude to the entire Bedell family for their service to our Fire Department and Village.

Throughout this holiday season, our fire and rescue companies responded to numerous calls. In the days leading up to and including New Year's Day, FPPD responded to mutual aid fires in New Hyde Park, Stewart Manor and Elmont, the first, sadly, resulting in the loss of two lives. Our Department also responded to a weekend house fire in the Village. Many at the scene credited our firefighters with a fast arrival, immediately putting water on the fire and extinguishing it quickly, limiting damage to the home, and preventing any spread to the neighbors. Thanks to all in the Fire and Police Departments for their expertise and dedication to our families.

Library – Trustee Archie Cheng

Trustee Cheng reported that the Library is hosting the AARP Driver Safety Program on Wednesday, January 16th, a six-hour class, two sessions. The cost is \$20 for AARP members and \$25 for non-members.

The Library will be offering a tax assistance program. It is by appointment only starting on Tuesday, February 5th through Tuesday, April 9th from 10:15 am to 1:15 pm. Check out the Library's website at www.floralparklibrary.org for all of the interesting programs.

Police Department – Trustee Archie Cheng

Trustee Cheng reported that there has been a reduction of 25% in the major crime rate for 2018 in Floral Park. Robberies are down by 50%, burglaries are down by 27% and larcenies are down by 32%. Trustee Cheng thanked the department for all their hard work.

Third Track Project – Trustee Archie Cheng

Trustee Cheng reported that the MTA and 3TC has thus far been very cooperative with the Village. They are responsive to all our requests. We continue to constantly monitor the project.

Recreation Center – Trustee Frank Chiara

Trustee Chiara reported that registration for the Session 2 Recreation Programs will take place on Wednesday and Thursday, January 9th and 10th from 9:30 am to 1:30 pm for seniors and from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm for all other residents. Program information is in the winter *Village Items* and on our website at www.fpvillage.org.

Trustee Chiara reported that Tiny Town is nearing completion. The final walk through will be in the next few weeks.

Mayor's Report – Mayor Dominick Longobardi

Mayor Longobardi reported that the Historical Society will be hosting their New Year's luncheon at Poppy's Place on Sunday, January 13th from 12:30 pm to 4:00 pm.

Mayor Longobardi said he echoes the sentiments of Trustee Fitzgerald regarding the Belmont Redevelopment Project. It is very important for people to attend the informational meeting being held at the Floral Park's Village Hall Court Room on Thursday, January 3rd at 7:30 pm. Please come to discuss any issues you might have with Belmont Park that affect you. We will help you if you don't know what you want to say. We will make sure you have all the facts you need. If you do not want to speak in person, you may make your complaint in writing. It must be received before February 11th. Mayor Longobardi also asked residents to attend the ESD public hearings at the Elmont Library on January 8th, 9th or 10th. This is a very large-scale project which will affect us all tremendously. We are asking for your help by coming to the meetings.

Mayor Longobardi thanked Felix Procaccia for filming this evening's meeting. Mayor Longobardi wished everyone a Happy and Healthy New Year!

The Village Board Meeting will continue in the Mayor's office with Department Heads after a brief recess and the public is invited to attend.

On motion by Trustee Fitzgerald, seconded by Trustee Pombonyo, and carried unanimously, Mayor Longobardi recessed the meeting at 8:15 pm.
