

Inc. Village of Floral Park
August 13, 2019
Board of Trustees Meeting

Prior to the start of the Board Meeting, Mayor Longobardi asked for a moment of silence to remember MaryJane Menendez, former Deputy Village Clerk for the Village of Floral Park, who passed away recently. Please keep MaryJane and her family in your prayers.

Prior to the Mayor and Board delivering their Board Reports, Mayor Longobardi welcomed our new Superintendent of Buildings, Renee Marcus, who is filling the position vacated by Stephen Siwinski who retired from the Village last month. Renee is a licensed architect and comes to us with a wealth of experience in her field. Mayor Longobardi said we all look forward to working with Renee and are pleased she is joining our Village family. On September 3rd, Renee's first day of employment with the Village, she will be taking her Oath of Office at the Board of Trustees meeting.

Mayor Longobardi was very happy to announce the promotion of Kevin Ginnane from Deputy Superintendent of Public Works to Superintendent of Public Works. Kevin has been with the Village for over 18 years and is a hard-working and dedicated employee. Kevin will also be taking his Oath of Office along with Renee at our next Board Meeting on September 3rd. Congratulations Kevin and we wish you well in your new position!

Belmont – Trustee Kevin Fitzgerald

Trustee Fitzgerald said most of us now know that on Thursday, August 8th, the ESD approved the FEIS and the FOB approved the plan late today, August 13th. Unfortunately, despite our respectful request and various letters signed by elected officials that represent not only Floral Park but other communities that surround Belmont, the ESD Board at the meeting did not grant our request for an SEIS (Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement) for more time to study this still ever-changing project. Trustee Fitzgerald thanked the following elected officials who sent in letters of support of Floral Park's request for an SEIS: Assemblywoman Michaelle Solages, Assemblyman Edward Ra, Nassau County Presiding Officer Richard Nicoletto, Nassau County Legislator Vincent Muscarella, Councilman Thomas Muscarella and Receiver of Taxes Donald Clavin.

Additionally and perhaps one of the most unfortunate events of this entire process was at the meeting last week when the ESD Board did not ask one single question to their project managers or the project sponsors (NYAP, NYI). Trustee Fitzgerald said it is hard to believe that not one questions was asked knowing, by the ESDs own admission, that this was the most commented project that they ever undertook, including the Barclay Center and the now rejected Amazon Headquarters in New York City.

As there are still a significant number of unresolved and unsatisfactorily answered questions, we as a Board will continue to actively engage our outside counsel, Beveridge & Diamond, to

discuss the next steps that need to be taken in order to ensure our Village and its residents' way of life is not irreparably harmed by this project that has over stepped its initial intent and scope.

Department of Public Works – Trustee Kevin Fitzgerald

Trustee Fitzgerald reported that dead trees were taken down on Tulip Avenue in anticipation of Tulip Avenue being repaved by Nassau County. The repaving will begin on Thursday night, August 16th and continue for three to five days. The work will occur at night only. We are currently looking at options for streetscaping improvements.

The remainder of Locust Street will be finished in the next two weeks. Of course weather plays an important part in the timely completion of the work both on Locust Street and Tulip Avenue.

Police Department – Trustee Kevin Fitzgerald

Trustee Fitzgerald reported that so far this year to date, crime is down from 23% to 17%. Vehicle and traffic law (VTL) summonses are up 58% from 937 to 1,482.

Recreation and Pool – Trustee Lynn Pombonyo

Trustee Pombonyo happily reported on the final weeks of the Summer 2019 recreation and pool season. Team sports activities in football, basketball, cage soccer, volleyball, swimming and tennis are reaching the championship rounds in exciting competitions. Pickleball enthusiasts will be thrilled about the addition of two courts at the hockey rink. All look forward to the annual park and pool awards night coming soon. The season's final jump into the pool is scheduled for 5:00 pm on Labor Day.

The park is gearing up for the fall season of activities including Titans Football, Youth Council Football, Indians Soccer, and Little League Baseball. Watch for the details posted at the Recreation Center, on the Village website and in a Recreation mailing in the coming weeks.

Conservation Society – Trustee Lynn Pombonyo

Trustee Pombonyo invited all to enjoy the beauty of nature, right here in our own Centennial Gardens on Floral Parkway, open noon to 5:00 pm daily, weather permitting.

Covert Avenue Chamber of Commerce – Trustee Lynn Pombonyo

Trustee Pombonyo reminded all to save the date, Saturday, September 21st, for the 25th Annual Covert Avenue Street Fair featuring crafts, face painting, inflatables, live bands, raffles, a rock wall, food and store sales, mums, pumpkins and more. It promises to be a fun-filled community celebration for all.

Fire Department – Trustee Archie Cheng

Trustee Cheng said he is happy to report that all of our fire trucks have been repaired and are in service. Trustee Cheng thanked Superintendent of Public Works Kevin Ginnane for his support in getting the repairs done quickly.

There were 126 fire calls for the month of June; 97 were rescue calls and 29 were general alarm and non-rescue calls.

Many of our Fire Department members have been attending the Fire Service Academy. New members are participating in basic fire training and seasoned members are attending advanced training. It is very difficult and taxing training, especially in the hot summer months wearing the heavy fire gear.

Third Track – Trustee Archie Cheng

Trustee Cheng reported that the retaining walls and sound attenuation walls have, for the most part, been completed where work has been allowed. Work on the retaining walls at Plainfield Avenue will be installed once the Plainfield Avenue bridge is installed. Work on the retaining and sound walls behind the Recreation Center and Pool and the expansion of the Linden Avenue tunnel will commence after Labor Day.

The installation of the Tyson Avenue bridge will occur this weekend, Friday, August 16th through Sunday, August 18th. This will result in a complete closure of Tyson Avenue and the suspension of the Hempstead Branch of the Long Island Railroad east of Floral Park. The following weekend, the Covert Avenue bridge will be installed.

Electrical work is in progress under the viaduct at the Floral Park Station. Trenching of certain streets will be taking place during August resulting in partial closures of Atlantic Avenue between Carlton Street and Carnation Avenue. Also, partial lane closures on Caroline Place will occur. Trenching work under the viaduct for the elevators should be completed by December of this year.

Library – Trustee Frank Chiara

Trustee Chiara reported that the Library is having a very active summer providing a number of programs for all ages to enjoy. In coordination with our CREW Committee, a children's workshop was offered to ages 6 through 8. It was an interactive workshop with fun activities tailored specifically for children within this age bracket focusing on building self-management, relationship building, cooperation and conflict resolution skills and combining awareness of their own emotions and those of others. It was well attended. Thank you to our CREW Committee, especially Elaine Licari and her daughter, Terry Sanlewicz, and our Library staff who put it together.

A reminder – Thursday, August 15th is the 50th Anniversary of Woodstock. The Library will be hosting a celebration highlighting the music of Woodstock with Nina Gordon. All are invited to attend. So dust off your bellbottoms and tie-dye shirts and come and enjoy the legendary music of Woodstock!! Please check the Library website for all upcoming programs and events.

New Resident Committee – Trustee Frank Chiara

Trustee Chiara said the New Resident Committee continues to welcome our new neighbors and our community. If a new resident moves into your area, please encourage them to stop by Village Hall to pick up a welcome bag or give us a call at Village Hall to set up an appointment for a committee member to stop by to welcome them into the community.

Building Department – Trustee Frank Chiara

Trustee Chiara welcomed Renee Marcus as our new Superintendent of Buildings. After interviewing a number of highly-qualified candidates, Renee was selected as the best candidate and fit for our Village. She is a highly-qualified registered architect with an enormous amount of experience with project management, construction administration, design and code enforcement. Trustee Chiara said he is looking forward to working with her and welcomed her to our Village.

Trustee Chiara personally thanked Trustees Fitzgerald and Pombonyo for attending the last ESD meeting. Although the outcome was anticipated, they both represented our Village extremely well making our concerns heard. Thank you for all your hard work on this project and all that you do for the Village. We will all continue to work together to ensure our Village concerns are addressed at Belmont. Thank you!

Enjoy the remainder of the summer!

Mayor's Report – Mayor Dominick Longobardi

Mayor Longobardi said dealing with the Belmont ESD Board was a very difficult process. He thanked all the residents for taking the time to work toward the betterment of our community. The process is not done. We will continue to monitor closely all of our concerns. The Belmont Task Force has put in many, many hours of dedicated time to this project and they will continue to do so. Mayor Longobardi thanked Trustee Fitzgerald for the enormous amount of work he has done. The Mayor also thanked the entire Village Board and our Village staff. He appreciates everything they have done led by Village Administrator Gerard Bambrick. Gerry even took telephone calls last week while on vacation. Mayor Longobardi also thanked all the elected officials who came to our aid in order to protect our beautiful village.

On a personal note, Mayor Longobardi said he experienced first-hand assistance from the Floral Park Fire Department. He said he had a small fire in his home last week and, thankfully, no one was hurt. The only thing lost was the stove. The response from the Police Department and the Fire Department was extraordinary. The Mayor said he cannot thank them enough, particularly Police Officer Robert Hayes who had the fire extinguisher followed up by members of the Fire Department and the Police Department. They all knew what to do to and extinguished the stove

fire immediately. Mayor Longobardi thanked everyone for taking care of his family and for taking care of all the residents in our community. He thanked them from the bottom of his heart.