

**Inc. Village of Floral Park**  
**November 7, 2018**  
**Board of Trustees Meeting**

Prior to the start of the meeting, Mayor Longobardi asked for a moment of silence in memory of those who were so senselessly and tragically killed at the Tree of Life Congregation in Pittsburgh. Our thoughts and prayers are with their families and friends at this very difficult time.

At the beginning of the Board Meeting, Mayor Longobardi swore in John Wilson as Floral Park's newest Police Sergeant. In attendance were John's wife, Nicole, and his children, Danielle and John, and many members of the Floral Park Police Department. Mayor Longobardi congratulated John on his promotion and for his many years of service to our Village.

**Department of Public Works – Trustee Kevin M. Fitzgerald**

Trustee Fitzgerald reported that the Locust Street tree plantings have been completed. Forty-three trees were planted. These trees have larger calibers than what typically are planted during our twice-early plantings. Sod will be placed in the next week.

The Heritage Park make over is nearly complete. There will be additional plantings in the future.

Plantings have occurred at the park on Jericho Turnpike on the median at the entrance to the Village on Jericho Turnpike and Sycamore Avenue. Trustee Fitzgerald thanked Parks Supervisor Larry DeSantis for his initiative in completing all of these projects.

The developer of the Cisney Avenue project has repaved parts of Cisney Avenue that were damaged during the construction of the new homes. Trustee Fitzgerald thanked Superintendent of Public Works Stephen Siwinski for ensuring this was completed.

**Belmont Park – Trustee Kevin Fitzgerald**

Trustee Fitzgerald reported that there has been no substantive releases or additional information over the past few weeks. Trustee Fitzgerald encouraged residents to continue to review the documents and letters the Village has posted on our website. Additionally, on Thursday, November 8<sup>th</sup>, Police Commissioner Stephen McAllsiter will be discussing the potential impacts of traffic and policing at the Southside Civic meeting. Also on November 8<sup>th</sup>, Trustee Fitzgerald said he will be at the West End Civic Association Meeting where he will go through the recent presentation on the project and the potential impact to the Village. Both meetings will be held at the Pool building.

**Fire Department – Trustee Lynn Pombonyo**

Trustee Pombonyo thanked the Chief staff and all the members of the Floral Park Fire Department for their special tributes to lifelong residents Firefighter Robert "Bobby" Spillman

and Mayor Frank Lauria who passed away. The Department served as honor guards, conducted services and displayed the American flag on hook and ladder arches to express the admiration and appreciation of the entire Village to these extraordinary men and their families.

The interior renovations on the Active Firehouse on Atlantic Avenue have been completed. There is a new, larger bright red door on the front that will accommodate the new, up-to-date firetruck which has arrived and is undergoing its final new vehicle prep work. It is expected that the new firetruck will be in Floral Park, in service, in the coming weeks. In the meantime, the current Active truck, which is twenty-five years old, will continue in operation. The Floral Park Fire Department is wished all the best with our new pumper truck and is thanked, along with our Village Administration, Department of Public Works, and community for their work and support of this important safety addition to our firefighting equipment.

### **Covert Avenue Chamber of Commerce – Trustee Lynn Pombonyo**

Trustee Pombonyo asked all to support our local businesses on Small Business Saturday, on November 24<sup>th</sup>, two days after Thanksgiving. The Village of Floral Park and Stewart Manor have both waived all parking meter fees on that day, and encourage our Villages to SHOP LOCAL.

### **Floral Park Library – Trustee Archie T. Cheng**

Trustee Cheng reported that as of November 1<sup>st</sup>, the Floral Park Library has waived overdue fines (up to \$5 per Library cardholder) in exchange for non-perishable food items. The food will be donated to Our Lady of Victory food pantry. Donations will be accepted even if you do not have an overdue item. The “Food for Fines” program will run through the month of November.

### **Police Department – Trustee Archie T. Cheng**

Trustee Cheng reported that by the end of this month, our Police Department, through retirements, will be losing six of its most senior officers, two Lieutenants, two Sergeants and two Police Officers. This represents over 200 years of experience. In a department our size, rarely does this much turnover occur. However, because of these retirements, our remaining officers have an opportunity for advancement in rank and to further their training in supervisory roles.

The Board has been conducting numerous interviews for the replacement of these officers and for promotions within the department. This is an exciting time for the members of our police force. Trustee Cheng said he is certain the changes in personnel will only build on the excellence of our Police Department.

All of us are extremely thankful for their service and for safeguarding our Village.

### **Third Track Project – Trustee Archie Cheng**

Trustee Cheng said, as he is sure all of us have witnessed, real construction for the Third Track is about to start, first at South Tyson Avenue. The supporting structure for the Third Track at

South Tyson Avenue between the Main Line and Hempstead Branches has to be rebuilt so a new bridge between the branch openings will be constructed.

Phase 1 of the project will concentrate on the opening from the east side of Tulip Avenue to the west side of South Tyson Avenue. Eighteen parking spots under the railroad in that area and four west side South Tyson metered parking spots will be temporarily eliminated. The contractors have provided alternate parking at 50 Carnation Avenue. Thirty spots are available for anyone who has a Village commuter parking permit for under the railroad. To use the spots at 50 Carnation Avenue, please enter off Lily Street. These spots are on a first-come first-served basis, as is all parking under the railroad.

Two-way traffic will be maintained on South Tyson Avenue. However, the lanes will not be as wide as prior to construction.

Also, the sidewalk on the west side of South Tyson Avenue will be closed to pedestrians. All pedestrians must utilize the sidewalk on the East side of South Tyson Avenue. Additional stop signs and signs directing vehicles to Lily Street parking have been installed.

The Floral Park-Bellerose School District has been notified and they plan to send a letter to John Lewis Childs School students and parents on Thursday.

Phase 1 is estimated to take approximately four months.

We urge all motorists and pedestrians to exercise caution when traversing the area during construction.

### **Recreation Center – Trustee Frank J. Chiara**

Trustee Chiara reported that most of the sports activities at the Recreation Center are either complete or near completion. Fall Little League has ended their season. Youth Council Football is at its mid-point and the Floral Park Sports Association Hockey has recently started.

The Recreation programs at the Pool Building are also at their mid-way point and registration for the next session will be posted in the winter *Village Items*.

Tiny Town renovations are going well with the new PVC fencing being installed which looks very nice. Pictures of the project can be viewed on the Village website. We are all anxious for its completion.

On Saturday, November 17<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 am, we will have a ceremony to place Bill McQuade's name on the Memorial Wall at the Recreation Center. Bill was a very active volunteer for Little League, hockey and Titans Football. Please join us in recognizing Bill for all that he contributed to the youth of our community.

On Monday, November 12<sup>th</sup>, the winter hours for the park will go into effect from 8:00 am to 4:30 pm. The hours for Centennial Gardens are currently 11:00 am to 4:00 pm.

## **Mayor's Report – Mayor Dominick A. Longobardi**

Mayor Longobardi echoed the comments made by Trustee Cheng regarding the Police Department. We will be losing many senior personnel who have given a lot to our Village over many years of service. Mayor Longobardi thanked all of them for protecting us and said it is one of the reasons why we have such a wonderful community. Mayor Longobardi extended his best wishes to all the officers who will be new on the job or promoted to a new rank.

Mayor Longobardi agreed with the comments from Trustee Pombonyo thanking the Fire Department's Truck Committee for all their hard work obtaining the new pumper truck. It is a wonderful piece of equipment. Modifications had to be made to the firehouse in order to accommodate the new truck. All of this work has been done on a volunteer basis and Mayor Longobardi thanked everyone for all their efforts. Mayor Longobardi said residents will be seeing the new fire truck around the Village, perhaps in a parade, but hopefully not at your house for a rescue call!

Mayor Longobardi said the Village received a thank you letter from the Lions Club, a group which has been active in our Village since 1925 and is one of the oldest charitable organizations in our Village. The Lions Club is very happy that the Floral Park Library is displaying their Charter at the Library. It is a wonderful group who has worked very hard for our community. Thank you to the Lions Club for their many years of service.

On Saturday, November 10<sup>th</sup>, the Knights of Columbus will be sponsoring the annual Rhatigan Run. The date of the run was changed due to inclement weather. Mayor Longobardi said he had the great pleasure to work with Trustee Jim Rhatigan for many years on the Board of Trustees. He was a man of great counsel who always had the best interest of the Village in his heart. Many people will be participating in this race raising money for different charities and Mayor Longobardi urged residents to come out and support the runners!

Sunday, November 11<sup>th</sup> is Veterans Day. The reason we are allowed to live in this country with the freedoms we enjoy is because of the sacrifices made by our veterans throughout the history of this great nation. In order to accommodate our local churches, the Veterans Day Parade and Ceremony will take place on Monday, November 12<sup>th</sup> stepping off from Woodbine Court at approximately 10:50 am and ending at Memorial Park. Mayor Longobardi urged all residents to participate and honor all our great veterans!

Mayor Longobardi thanked Felix Procaccia for filming this evening's meeting and for Kris Brooks from *Newsday* and Jed Hendrixson from *BlankSlate* for attending.

The Mayor stated the Village Board Meeting would continue in his 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 8:30 pm.

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