

Inc. Village of Floral Park
April 16, 2019
Board of Trustees Meeting

Prior to the start of the meeting, Mayor Longboardi asked for a moment of silence for John Tymecki, an employee at the Department of Public Works, who died last week. Please keep him and his family in your prayers.

Mayor Longobardi called upon outgoing Fire Chief David Maickel to present his annual report to the Mayor and Board of Trustees. Chief Maickel read his annual report as follows:

‘Mayor Dominick Longobardi, Deputy Mayor Kevin Fitzgerald, Trustee Dr. Lynn Pombonyo, Trustee Archie Cheng, Trustee Frank Chiara, Members of the Village Administration, Chiefs, Members of the Department, Residents and Guests.

I stand before you tonight extremely honored and humbled as Chief of the Floral Park Fire Department to give my final report for the year 2018-2019.

This is the status of our department:

Membership:

The Department currently has 182 members consisting of the following

Active membership is 151 including 109 firefighters and EMS, 25 Ex-Chiefs, 4 Honorary Chiefs, 13 Probationary members

28 Associate Members

3 Chaplains

This year we swore in 8 new members and had 6 resignations.

Alarms:

For the year:

EMS calls:	905
Fire Calls:	224
Auto accidents:	41
Hazmat/Hazmat related:	8
Carbon monoxide alarms/incidents:	44
Mutual aid to other towns:	83

Total calls: 1,305

This year total fire loss is is approximately \$125,000.00.

Training:

From the first moment we are sworn in, hands-on training begins and never stops. All firefighters participate in monthly drills as well as many hours of hands-on training, and annual department operations training at the fire academy in Bethpage. On the EMS side, the commitment is just as great, if not greater. Our EMTs put in hundreds of hours in the classroom as well as take a NYS test just to get their certification. Each year they spend numerous hours at continuing medical education classes as well as regular drills. All members participate in periodic department drills, drills with other departments, an annual MOBEX drill where we interact with FDNY and an annual battalion drill in Nassau County. This year our members accumulated 4,918 man hours of training; a testament to their professionalism and dedication. Thank you to Chief McAllister, Chief Naughton and their committee for all their hard work and dedication to the training program.

Probationary Training:

We have our specialized in-house program to train our new members on how Floral Park operates and get them familiar with our equipment. Thank you to Chairman William Hecker and his committee for all their hard work and efforts with our new members.

Purchasing:

This year there were 57 purchase orders and 148 vouchers processed. Thank you to Village Administrator/Treasurer Gerry Bambrick and Village Deputy Treasurer Kathleen Mack for all your help and assistance with our purchasing needs.

Medicals and Fit Testing:

Each year our members are required to take an OSHA medical and interior firefighters are required to be fit tested for their SCBA mask. Thank you to Chief McAllister and William Hecker for overseeing these and ensuring our members are current.

Radios:

Radio communications are an ongoing problem. We constantly strive to find solutions and improve on what is our most important piece of equipment: our ability to

communicate. We were advised that a grant had been secured to purchase new portable radios. It is currently awaiting approval from Nassau County.

Equipment:

The Department has the following inventory of vehicles:

2015 Ford 450 Ambulance
2004 Pierce 95 ft. Tower Ladder
1984 Salisbury Heavy Rescue
2002 Spartan Salisbury Engine
1997 Spartan Salisbury Engine
2018 Ferrara Engine
2018 Ford Transit Van
2003 Chevy Express Van
2009 Ford Expedition
2008 Ford Expedition
2009 Chevy Tahoe
2013 Chevy Tahoe
2016 Chevy Tahoe
2017 Chevy Tahoe
1931 American LaFrance Antique

Work Orders:

This year, there were 59 vehicle work orders and 14 house work orders. Thank you to Superintendent Steve Siwinski, Deputy Superintendent Kevin Ginnane and all the Village mechanics for all your hard work and dedication to this.

Pump, Ladder and Hose Testing:

All ladders and hoses were tested as required. Any damaged hose was removed and replaced. All three engines had their annual pump test.

Explorers:

Our explorer program continues to thrive under the leadership of Chief Florio, Ex-Captain Georke, their advisors and members. At this time, there are 11 active members and five advisors.

Parades:

The department participated in two parades this year: July 4th Stewart Manor parade and the Nassau County Parade in Hicksville.

Fire Prevention:

Our fire prevention is always ongoing through both inspection and education. Our formal inspection program has our members go business to business to inspect and review what if any hazards exist and point these out to the business owners. This also gives us the opportunity to learn what goes on in these businesses and preplan buildings for that unfortunate event should there be fire. All this information is then entered in our red alert system. This year the department conducted 363 inspections. Thank you to Chief Bennett for all your hard work organizing and overseeing this very important and time-consuming task.

The education side involves formal programs as well as everyday calls. When we enter a house or business, we are able to look and see if extinguishers and alarms are present, and see if they are up to date, and if they are being maintained. It is still all too often we enter a home and there are no smoke detectors and no carbon monoxide detectors present. We talk to the homeowners about this and stress the safety issues and need for them. We also conduct firehouse tours and welcome groups such as the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts, school children, and also visit groups in town. We show them the equipment we have and how we operate, as well as provide handouts. This year we coordinated seven separate tours between schools and various community organizations. Thank you to Chief Dodson for all our efforts to make this a success.

None of this well-oiled machine happens without many people involved and I would like to take a moment to thank some people.

Mayor Longobardi and the Board of Trustees: Thank you for all you have done and continue to do to support us. It is greatly appreciated.

Commissioner McAllister: It has been a pleasure working with you and entire Police Department. Thank you to all your officers and staff for a great job and their support.

To Gerry Bambrick, Susan Walsh and the entire staff at Village Hall, thank you for all your hard work and help. You make the day-to-day things happen and it is very much appreciated.

To Chief O'Grady and Chief Wakely, thank you for all your hard work in the office, you guys are the backbone of the office.

To Chief Longobardi and Firefighter Paul Pinto, thank you for the hard work you do.

To Chief Bennett, Chief Naughton, Chief Florio and Chief Longobardi, thank you for all your guidance and showing me the ropes as I made my way up the line to Chief. It was a pleasure working with you.

To my staff, Sal, Pat, Mike and Jep. What a great year it's been! I can't thank you enough for all you did this year! I know you guys will continue to do a great job. I couldn't have asked for a better staff! Brian welcome aboard. I know you'll do a great job.

To my family, I'd like to thank my mother and father for starting me on this ride 49 years ago. My kids, Gianna and Nicholas, thanks for always dealing with me running out at the most inopportune times. And most importantly my Chief – my wife, Gina. Thank you for always supporting me and being my rock. I couldn't have done this without you! I love you guys.

Lastly, I would like to thank my warriors, you truly make this department the best there is. Your dedication and hard work shows in everything you do. I can't thank you enough for allowing me the honor of being your Chief. I will forever be honored. The Village is truly blessed to have you.

Mayor Longobardi, Board of Trustees, it is my Honor to introduce an amazing group of dedicated gentlemen, the newly elected Chief's Staff of the Floral Park Fire Department for the 2019-2020 year:

- 4th Assistant Chief Brian Hamerman from Reliance Engine Co. #2;
- 3rd Assistant Chief James Dodson from Alert Engine Co. #1;
- 2nd Assistant Chief Michael Saville from Hook and Ladder Company #2
- 1st Assistant Chief Patrick McAllister from Active Engine Co. #3
- Chief of Department Chief Salvatore Arrigo from Rescue Company #1

Mayor Longobardi, I have one final order to my warriors: HYDRATE, HYDRATE HYDRATE!!! I now respectfully request to be relieved of my duties as Chief of the Floral Park Fire Department.

Respectfully submitted,

David Maickel
Chief of Department'

Chief Dave Maickel – Trustee Archie Cheng

Trustee Cheng said he met Dave when he was a new fireman. Dave babysat his children and worked in his office until he enlisted in the Navy. Trustee Cheng said you could always rely on Dave and it has been such a pleasure to watch him grow and his family grow. Trustee Cheng said he has known Dave's mother and father for a very long time, too, and he complimented them on raising such a wonderful family.

Chief Dave Maickel – Trustee Lynn Pombonyo

'First, I want to thank Mayor Longobardi and my fellow Trustees for my appointment as Fire Commissioner for the past two years. It has been an interesting, exciting and humbling experience. Our all-volunteer Fire Department, the Chiefs, officers, firefighters, and rescue staff, are all heroes as you train and work tirelessly to save lives and property. I have been honored to witness firsthand the valiant work you do.

We're also here tonight to pay tribute to Chief David Maickel for his twenty-seven and a half years of service to Reliance Company and the Department since 1991; his contributions as a Lieutenant and Captain; his five years on the Chief staff; and this past year, our Chief of Department.

Chief Maickel's expertise in firefighting is part inherited, part training and part experience. He is the son of former Floral Park Chief Rick Maickel who has been a member of our Rescue Company for forty-nine years since 1970. Chief Dave Maickel is also a Nassau County Fire Marshall, a position that has given him keen insights into the causes and behavior of fires. It has been said that Chief Maickel has the ability to see through walls at the Nassau County Fire Services Academy and, by observing the fire and smoke, determine exactly what every one of his firefighters is doing as they extinguish fires in the burning buildings.

Tonight, we thank Chief Maickel for his decades of important contributions to our Village as well as his service to our country as a member of the United States Navy. A special thank you also goes to the Maickel family to Gina, Gianna, and Fire Department Explorer Nicholas Maickel for all their contributions and the sacrifices they have made so that Dave can serve, and to Chief Maickel Sr., Pat and Peter for their years of love and support for our Fire Department, too.

And now, Dave, as you surrender all your Chief of Department responsibilities, we hope that you and your family have more time to do what you love most-like trips to Sheepshead Bay and Roll N Roaster, all the shrimp you can eat, and lots of exciting road trips and adventures in your pickup truck. Thanks from all of us in Floral Park. For me, working with you has been a real pleasure. God bless.'

Chief Dave Maickel – Mayor Dominick Longobardi

Mayor Longobardi said that on behalf of the entire Village, thank you. It has been a long haul and a lot of fun. Mayor Longobardi relayed a story that on his previous job, he took care of abandoned homes and, one time, he had an issue with one of the homes, so the Fire Marshall was called in. The truck pulls up in front of the home and out comes Dave. The Mayor said at that moment he knew everything would be fine because you knew when Dave was involved, it was well taken care of. That is the way Dave ran the Floral Park Fire Department. You knew you did not have to worry and that you were secure. It has been an honor and a pleasure to know Dave both professionally and personally. Mayor Longobardi thanked Dave's family, his wife, Gina, and his children, Gianna and Nicholas and his mother and father, Patty and Richie. The family sacrifices a lot because of all the time spent away from family. There is a reason we call the Fire Department our greatest volunteers. Mayor Longobardi again thanked Dave for his distinguished service to our Village and reluctantly accepted his resignation as Chief of the Department.

Belmont Park – Trustee Kevin Fitzgerald

Trustee Fitzgerald thanked all the residents who attended Senator Kaplan's Mobile Office meeting at the Library this past Friday. Trustee Fitzgerald said that he and his fellow Board members plus many residents raised a multitude of issues which further informed the Senator of the significant issues that the project as currently proposed will present to Floral Park.

There is no set date for the ESD to release the FIS. The ESD Board typically meets once a month with their next meeting being on Thursday, April 18th. The agenda is released a day or two before the meeting. Trustee Fitzgerald called the ESD and, as of this afternoon, there were no Belmont related items on the proposed agenda; of course, that is subject to change. We will certainly let our residents know as soon as we hear a date and time when the ESD Board may vote on the FIS.

Public Works Department – Trustee Kevin Fitzgerald

Trustee Fitzgerald said that the Village is planting approximately 100 trees throughout the Village. We ask that residents take care of these new trees so that they can grow to their expected height and provide all the benefits that we have come to expect.

Police Department – Trustee Kevin Fitzgerald

Trustee Fitzgerald said that this week the Department released its 2018 Annual Report. It can be found on their webpage, Facebook page or Twitter page. Trustee Fitzgerald encourages all residents to take a few minutes to read through the document to get a better understanding of the services and superior job that our Police Department does.

Recreation Center and Pool – Trustee Lynn Pombonyo

Trustee Pombonyo reported that, following this past Saturday's Floral Park Little League parade and opening day, our spring and summer sports season is in full swing. Come down to the Rec Center to cheer on our local athletes, young and older.

As we head towards the June 9th opening of the Village pool, watch for your copy of the Pool & Recreation book filled with registration information and pages of enjoyable summer activities for those of all ages at the Rec Center and Pool. See page 7 of this book for the exciting details about discounted sponsorships and new memberships for 2019, along with guest pass options that will support members who wish to invite guests and may now do so at a reduced cost by purchasing ten guest passes for the price of eight. Pool registration is open now, so register early for the coming season.

Covert Avenue Chamber of Commerce – Trustee Lynn Pombonyo

Trustee Pombonyo reminded everyone that, as the partial closure of Covert Avenue north of Stewart Avenue is now underway, please continue to patronize our Floral Park and Stewart Manor businesses, and SHOP LOCAL!

Third Track Project – Trustee Archie Cheng

Trustee Cheng reported that of the 2,200 feet of support excavation wall construction on the south side of the right of way, approximately 1,300 feet has been completed. Approximately 15 feet remains until the Linden Avenue tunnel is reached.

We have been advised that the retaining wall should begin in the next two weeks.

In mid to late May, work will commence for the construction of the three elevators at the railroad station. Phase 1, which entails utility trenching, will commence with Atlantic Avenue being closed at Carlton Avenue for about 1 ½ weeks. Carlton Avenue will reopen and for about 2-2 ½ weeks, work will continue under the railroad. During Phase I, 36 parking spots under the railroad will be lost. Alternate parking arrangements are being finalized with 3TC.

Sometime between mid to late June, Phase II will begin. Phase II, which also involves utility trenching, should last for three weeks. No parking spots under the railroad will be affected. There will be no parking on Caroline Place and there will be no passenger drop off or pick up on Atlantic Avenue.

Phase III involves excavation and installation of the elevators. That work should start in July and is expected to last 5 to 6 months. During Phase III, 24 parking spots under the railroad will be eliminated. Again, alternate parking is being arranged. There also will be no parking on Atlantic Avenue from Arps to Dalton's Funeral Home.

Throughout this work, the station will be open and ticket machines will still be functioning.

The intersection at Tulip, Verbena, Atlantic and Plainfield/Magnolia, will be striped and signs will be installed clearly showing the intersection as a “don’t block the box” area.

A right-turn lane is being installed at southbound Plainfield and Woodbine Court within the next few days, weather permitting.

We expect an answer within the next few days regarding the synchronization of the traffic lights on Tulip Avenue. The County has finally agreed and is determining the best way to do this considering traffic and the age of the signaling equipment.

Work is progressing.

Library – Trustee Frank Chiara

Trustee Chiara asked residents to save the date for a book sale sponsored by The Friends of the Library during the weekend of May 4th and 5th being held at the Library Meeting Room. Funds raised will be used toward the renovation of the Young Adult Area of the Library. All are encouraged to come out and support the sale.

New Resident Committee – Trustee Frank Chiara

Trustee Chiara said the New Resident Committee will be hosting a “Welcome to Our Community” event for our new neighbors on Sunday, May 5th between 2:00 pm and 4:00 pm at the Pool Building. There will be representatives from a number of community organizations letting the new residents know about their groups. Information about our Village services will also be available. Light refreshments will be served. Invitations will be coming out shortly and all new residents are welcome to attend.

Mayor’s Report – Mayor Dominick Longobardi

Mayor Longobardi reported that on Saturday, May 4th from 9:30 am to 11:30 am at Village Hall will be the first open house being hosted by himself and the Board. They plan on hosting an open house on the first Saturday of each month somewhere in the Village to allow residents to come and discuss their concerns.

Mayor Longobardi echoed Trustee Pombonyo’s comments asking residents to shop locally on Covert Avenue, Tulip Avenue and Jericho Turnpike, especially during the construction of the third track. Our local businesses are a strong part of our community who give back so much to our children and schools. Please patronize them.

On behalf of his family, Mayor Longobardi wished everyone a blessed and Happy Easter and Passover. Spend time with your families and enjoy!
