

Inc. Village of Floral Park
December 3, 2019
Board of Trustees Meeting

Police Department – Trustee Kevin Fitzgerald

Trustee Fitzgerald reported that the Police Department has been reviewing and undergoing extensive research into the potential impact that the new criminal justice reforms in New York State will bring and are preparing to address the issues that are arising from this new legislation.

Additionally, the Department will be actively looking out for “porch pirates”, including running undercover operations (e.g. using unmarked cars) in an attempt to thwart thefts. It is suggested that if you can arrange for alternative delivery spots such as a back or side door, you should do so.

Lastly, the men and women of the Department, besides continuing to keep us safe, have also been actively enforcing both traffic and village violations, including writing over 150 “don’t block the box” tickets since the various intersections were marked.

Trustee Fitzgerald said he looks forward to seeing residents and all of the holiday festivities this coming month!

Recreation Department – Trustee Lynn Pombonyo

Trustee Pombonyo invited all to the fun-filled Recreation Christmas Tree Lighting on Friday evening, December 20th. This annual event for both children and adults will feature holiday music and songs by “The Dance Place,” hot chocolate, cookies, coloring, Santa and elf hats, and a visit by Santa and friends. Enjoy the outdoor festivities at the Recreation Roller Rink, opening at 7:00 pm, program starting at 7:30 pm. If the weather outside is frightful, we’ll head upstairs in the Rec Building. So let it snow, let it snow, let it snow!

Other Recreation news: Centennial Gardens is now closed for the season and will reopen in April, 2020. All Village of Floral Park 2018-19 leisure passes will expire on January 1st. Applications for the 2020-21 passes are now being accepted at the Rec Center, Mondays to Thursdays, 9:00 am-7:00 pm, and Fridays, 9:00 am-5:00 pm. If you have a 2018-19 leisure pass, you may submit the current pass and a current utility bill with your 2020-21 application. Questions? Please call 516-326-6336. Plan to make our Floral Park parks and recreational facilities a big part of your family’s 2020 activities!

Covert Avenue Chamber of Commerce – Trustee Lynn Pombonyo

Trustee Pombonyo thanked all for supporting Small Business Saturday on Covert Avenue and throughout Floral Park and Stewart Manor. The turnout was large and enthusiastic. Holiday shoppers are encouraged to continue doing your browsing and shopping on Covert and at all of our local stores and businesses.

The holiday season in Floral Park sparkles and glows with our beautiful traditions, and the holiday decorations and lights on our homes, businesses, places of worship and trees. Take some time to walk or drive around our Village and enjoy every moment of the holidays. Thanks to all in Floral Park for making this such a magnificent place to be at this blessed time of year.

Fire Department – Trustee Archie Cheng

Trustee Cheng reported that the Floral Park Fire Explorers are having their annual fundraising drive. They will be selling wreaths, blankets and crosses this year. Please contact John Florio at fpchief96@yahoo.com.

Trustee Cheng asked residents to be careful with their holiday decorations. We want everyone to have a happy and safe holiday season.

The Fire Department responded to 64 rescue and 33 non-rescue calls during the month of November.

Third Track – Trustee Archie Cheng

Trustee Cheng reported that there is not much to report on the Third Track Project that has not been previously announced. Inasmuch as our monthly meeting is normally scheduled for the 4th Thursday of the month and Thanksgiving was last Thursday, we did not have a meeting and we were not provided with any updates on construction.

Work on the retaining and sound attenuation walls, the expansion of the Linden Avenue tunnel, Plainfield Avenue and Terrace Avenue wing walls and support for the Third Track bridge is continuing.

We are still meeting with 3TC regarding the restoration of Field 7 and landscaping along the retaining walls. We will provide further information as soon as we have come to an agreement.

We are also still negotiating with the LIRR and 3TC regarding the possibility of additional parking under the railroad viaduct.

Library – Trustee Frank Chiara

Trustee Chiara reported that the Christmas concert held last Sunday went very well. A full house enjoyed the music entertainment and all who attended had a wonderful time. It was a great way to start off the holiday season.

All of the donated food from the Food for Fines Program was dropped off to the Our Lady of Victory food pantry. The program went very well and lots of food was donated. Thank you to the residents of Floral Park who are so giving!

The Library received a Certificate of Appreciation from “Birthday Wishes”, an organization that brings birthday goodies to homeless children. The Library provides some goodies and Floral

Park families come to stuff the goody bags as part of this great giveback. Congratulations to our wonderful Library staff and all the families that helped put a smile on a homeless child's face on their birthday.

On Thursday evening, December 5th, the Library will be hosting a Sidewalk Astronomer who will set up behind the Library for all to view the night sky. All are welcome to attend.

Building Department – Trustee Frank Chiara

The gas moratorium has been lifted so we anticipate the Taco Bell project on Jericho Turnpike to begin shortly.

Rene Marcus, our Buildings Superintendent, is continuing to move to electronic forms to make the department more efficient and user friendly to our residents. Thank you to Renee and our Building Department.

Centennial Hall – Trustee Frank Chiara

Trustee Chiara reported that the purchaser/developer, Friedman Group, has been submitting engineering and architectural plans to our Building Department for the required building permits. We anticipate to close on the sale of the property to the Friedman Group this month.

New Residents Committee

Trustee Chiara said that this Friday evening at our Village Tree Lighting event sponsored by the Floral Park Chamber of Commerce and the Jr. Woman's Club, the New Resident Committee will have a table with information about our community available for new residents. All new residents are encouraged to stop by.

Mayor's Report – Mayor Dominick Longobardi

Mayor Longobardi said he hopes everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving. We all have a lot to be thankful for starting with our Village employees. Thank you for all the work you do.

Today was declared as *Giving Tuesday* which is a very important day. Anyone who gave today, thank you very much. This is what the season is about.

Friday, December 6th is the annual Christmas Festival at Memorial Park sponsored by the Floral Park Chamber of Commerce and the Jr. Woman's Club. The festivities begin at 5:00 pm and it is a great evening for everyone. The tree lighting takes places around 6:00-6:30 pm. Mayor Longobardi said that, unfortunately, he will be out of town on that evening and the tree will be lit by Deputy Mayor Kevin Fitzgerald. Let's all hope the weather holds out!

Mayor Longobardi also asked residents to please shop locally. Our local shops are the businesses that support our community so it is very important to support them too. It is very important to keep a strong business community – please support them.

On Saturday, December 14th at 9:30 am, Mayor Longobardi said he and other members of the Board will be at the Shelter House by the Recreation Center if any resident would like to come by and talk to them.