

April 7, 2020

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees was held on April 7, 2020 at 8:00 pm. Before the opening of the meeting the Mayor announced that due to the COVID-19 pandemic and social distancing mandate, seating will be limited in the Village Hall Courtroom and that a video-conference via Click on link: <https://zoom.us/j/799163687> Meeting ID: 799 163 687 and a tele-conference call via (1-646-558-8656: Meeting ID: 799163687) were set up for the public to listen in and to allow for a public comment period during the board meeting. A public hearing for the application of Anthony Lopez for the Special Use Permit of Tony's Taco & Tequila, LLC, 262 Jericho Turnpike was also being held. The Mayor also stated for the record that various Trustees and employees were participating remotely.

The meeting opened with the Mayor leading all in the Pledge to the Flag. The Mayor then held a moment of silence for those that have passed away due to COVID-19 in our community and asked all to please keep their families and friends in our prayers.

Present in the Village Hall Court Room were Mayor Dominick A. Longobardi, Village Clerk Susan Walsh and Darlene Lanza. Trustee Archie Cheng and Village Administrator Gerard Bambrick were present in the Village Hall in other locations. Deputy Mayor Kevin Fitzgerald, Trustee Lynn Pombonyo, Trustee Frank Chiara, Superintendent of Buildings Renee Marcus, Superintendent of Public Works Kevin Ginnane, Deputy Assessor Michael Derby, Police Commissioner Stephen McAllister, Deputy Village Clerk Rosaleen Shea and Village Attorney John E. Ryan were in attendance remotely.

On motion by Trustee Fitzgerald, seconded by Trustee Pombonyo, and carried unanimously, the Board approved the below listed minutes:

Regular Board Meeting - March 19, 2020  
Work Session - March 30, 2020

Trustee Pombonyo offered Resolution No. 2020-76 approving the Schedule of Accounts Payable as presented:

General Fund	\$ 1,805,320.32
Swimming Pool	\$ 889.60
Community Development	\$ -0-
Capital Fund	\$ <u>-0-</u>
GRAND TOTAL	\$ 1,806,209.92

The Resolution was seconded by Trustee Cheng and adopted on roll call as follows:

Trustee Fitzgerald	- Aye
Trustee Pombonyo	- Aye
Trustee Cheng	- Aye
Trustee Chiara	- Aye
Mayor Longobardi	- Aye

Trustee Cheng offered Resolution No. 2020-77 accepting the retirement letter from Tommy Mack, Laborer in the Recreation/Pool Department, after 38 years of service with the Village effective May 2, 2020.

The Resolution was seconded by Trustee Chiara and adopted on roll call as follows:

Trustee Fitzgerald	- Aye
Trustee Pombonyo	- Aye
Trustee Cheng	- Aye
Trustee Chiara	- Aye
Mayor Longobardi	- Aye

Trustee Chiara offered to amend the March 19, 2020 Resolution No. 2020-69 to include the upgrade of telephone equipment and system for the Fire Department headquarters by Innovative Communications Concepts in the amount of \$5088.00 for the total amount of the quote awarded of \$19,973.00 and authorizes the Village Administrator to execute said contract.

The Resolution was seconded by Trustee Fitzgerald and adopted on roll call as follows:

Trustee Fitzgerald	- Aye
Trustee Pombonyo	- Aye
Trustee Cheng	- Aye
Trustee Chiara	- Aye
Mayor Longobardi	- Aye

Trustee Fitzgerald offered Resolution No. 2020-78 to set the date for the tax lien sale to be held on Wednesday, May 6, 2020 at 10:00 am in the Village Hall Courtroom to recover the 2019 unpaid taxes on 23 parcels of property:

Total taxes not paid	\$108,218.80
Total penalty due on the above	\$ 15,150.63
Cost of publishing legal notice	<u>\$ 460.00</u>
	\$123,829.43
Total 2019 tax collection	\$25,410,262.80
% of tax collected	99.6%

The Resolution was seconded by Trustee Pombonyo and adopted on roll call as follows:

Trustee Fitzgerald	- Aye
Trustee Pombonyo	- Aye
Trustee Cheng	- Aye
Trustee Chiara	- Aye
Mayor Longobardi	- Aye

Trustee Pombonyo offered Resolution No. 2020-79 determining that the Special Use Permit application of Tony's Taco and Tequila, LLC to operate a restaurant at 262 Jericho Turnpike, Floral Park, NY 11001 is a Type II action as that term is defined in SEQRA and will not have a significant effect on the environment.

The Resolution was seconded by Trustee Cheng and adopted on roll call as follows:

Trustee Fitzgerald	- Aye
Trustee Pombonyo	- Aye
Trustee Cheng	- Aye
Trustee Chiara	- Aye
Mayor Longobardi	- Aye

On motion by Trustee Cheng, seconded by Trustee Chiara, and carried unanimously, the Board approved the request of the Crocus Avenue residents between Pine and Larch Streets to have a block party on Saturday, June 27, 2020 with a rain date of Sunday, June 28, 2020; and such approval is conditional upon the status of COVID19 epidemic.

Trustee Chiara offered Resolution No. 2020-80 authorizing the Village Administrator to sign the renewal of the CSEA Employee Benefit Fund Agreement for the coverage of dental and optical benefits for employees covering the period June 1, 2016 through May 31, 2022.

The Resolution was seconded by Trustee Fitzgerald and adopted on roll call as follows:

Trustee Fitzgerald	- Aye
Trustee Pombonyo	- Aye
Trustee Cheng	- Aye
Trustee Chiara	- Aye
Mayor Longobardi	- Aye

Trustee Fitzgerald offered Resolution No. 2020-81 authorizing the promotion of Joseph Karam, Motor Equipment Operator to Sanitation Supervisor with the contractual rate of \$65,300.00 as per the terms and conditions of the Stipulation of CSEA's Supervisor Unit and subject to the approval of the Nassau County Civil Service Commission.

The Resolution was seconded by Trustee Cheng and adopted on roll call as follows:

Trustee Fitzgerald	- Aye
Trustee Pombonyo	- Aye

Trustee Cheng - Aye  
Trustee Chiara - Aye  
Mayor Longobardi - Aye

**Department of Public Works – Deputy Mayor Kevin Fitzgerald**

Deputy Mayor Kevin Fitzgerald thanked the entire Floral Park Village staff for their tremendous effort over the past couple of weeks to enable the Village to continue to be fully functioning as it always has been. He reported that the DPW is fully functioning and has received lots of calls regarding garbage pick-up and recycling. Garbage pick-up is on the same days. The Village posted a recycling notice on its website last week for residents to follow. Recycling materials such as glass bottles, plastic bottles and plastic that needs to be cleaned are to be placed in the blue bins. Paper and cardboard should be tied up and placed outside the blue bins. It is important that residents follow these guidelines to ensure the safety and health of all the public and the DPW employees who pick-up the garbage.

This Spring, the Village will once again celebrate 20 (+) years as a Tree City USA. To qualify for this special status, the Village has shown its commitment to trees by fulfilling a number of requirements including celebrating Arbor Day, having an active Tree Board and Tree Care Ordinance, spending \$2 per capita, and planting and maintaining its beautiful tree canopy. Arbor Day is typically the last Friday in April, however, due to the COVID-19 emergency, the Arbor Day Foundation and the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation have relaxed the rules to allow for plantings at a later date. The Village plans to plant a Japanese Maple tree at Walnut Street Park and a number of other trees throughout the Village.

Many folks at home who may be tired of watching old sports replays may want to tune in to 4VS at 4VS.org online. There are a number of informative shows including the Community Spotlight that covers a variety of local topics and highlights Village departments, trees, and the Wes Houston music shows. Let us hope that the COVID-19 emergency will end soon and I pray that everyone stays safe and will soon be able to see everyone and enjoy our beautiful community. Thank you.

**Recreation and Pool Department – Trustee Lynn Pombonyo**

Trustee Pombonyo thanked Recreation Superintendent Kurt Meyfohrt, Pool Director Tom Dillon, Assistant Gena King, and all the other staff members who have worked flexible schedules to maintain our beautiful Village Park. A greatly reduced staff continues to care for the grounds, ballfields and landscaping, and make necessary repairs. Meanwhile, preliminary planning for our yet-to-be-scheduled summer and fall seasons, including our exciting team sports, is under way with our Recreation staff and sports coaches.

We're happy to announce that, several weeks ago, the new brighter, efficient LED lighting installation in the Rec Center parking lot was completed. Appreciation goes to Department of Public Works Superintendent Kevin Ginnane, General Supervisor Kevin Pearsall and all in their hardworking department for always helping to enhance our park facility and working with great dedication throughout this pandemic to keep our Village in good repair, clean and safe.

**Covert Avenue Chamber of Commerce and All Our Businesses – Trustee Lynn Pombonyo**

Trustee Pombonyo thanked all in our Village for the significant and heartfelt support for our local Floral Park and Stewart Manor businesses during the pandemic. Our fpvillage.org website contains an up-to-date listing of the Covert businesses, phone numbers and websites, so you can easily check on their status. Our stores and bakeries providing essential services are open, and a number of our restaurants, delicatessens and food establishments offer takeout services. Please continue to SHOP AND DINE LOCAL in Floral Park and Stewart Manor, and support our businesses.

We express our great appreciation to the dedicated and giving business owners and employees who have kept their businesses open, and continued to unfailingly work and serve our Village, along with our Floral Park Fire Department, Police Department, Department of Public Works, Building Department, Assessment, Library, Recreation Department, Village Hall staff and our physicians, nurses and other health care providers. We salute you and thank you from the bottom of our hearts!

And, to all, be well and stay safe.

### **Fire Department – Trustee Archie Cheng**

The number of calls responded to by our fire department for the month of March, 2020 are Rescue Company -77; all other Firematic calls – 31. On behalf of the Village Board and all of our residents, I wish to thank each and every member of the Fire Department for their dedication, service and courage in responding to calls during this unprecedented time. Our volunteer members cast aside their own fears and concerns in order to help the rest of the residents of Floral Park. Not only do they put themselves in peril, but they also place their loved ones at risk. Their selfless devotion is not just appreciated but admired by us all. Our thanks to each and every member and we pray for your safety.

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

Since our last meeting, the Plainfield Avenue Bridge at the Main Line of the LIRR was set in place. Field Seven (7) work is complete. It really looks as good as a big league baseball field. Work at the Department of Public Works (DPW) yard is just about finished. We anticipate that North Street and Bergen Street will be repaved next week. Sound Wall sections have now been installed behind 2 houses on Charles Street. Finally, the Tunnel to the Park should be opening soon. We are just waiting for gates to be installed. All in all, work is proceeding at a fast pace.

### **Library Report – Trustee Frank Chiara**

Although the library building remains closed to the public, the Floral Park Library continues to stay connected with our community by answering phones and email requests for books, CDs, audiobooks, DVDs and magazines. Patrons need to leave their names with their request and the items will be available for pick-up in the library lobby. Pick-up hours are currently Monday - Friday, 11am-5pm. At this time the library is closed on Saturdays and Sundays. The library is also posting on-line links for e-material for information to be accessed from your home. Please check the library's website [www.floralparklibrary.org](http://www.floralparklibrary.org) and on Facebook for offered services, along with current hours of operation. Thank you to our library staff for all that they are doing to keep services available to our residents during these different times.

### **Building Department – Trustee Frank Chiara**

The Building Department is still issuing permits and have extended the expiration date of these permits to one (1) year from the actual start of construction, rather than the permit issue date. This was initiated because, at this time, new non-essential construction is NOT ALLOWED. Some construction work is permitted if it is for repairs, health or safety concerns. We are requesting residents who observe any construction sites that are not following the Governor's Executive Orders, to notify the Building Department. Currently, we have limited the amount of staff coming into the department and are permitting them to working off site. The best way to request services is to email the building department at [FPBuildings@FPVillage.org](mailto:FPBuildings@FPVillage.org) and a staff member will return your call. THANK YOU! to Renee and the entire building department for staying operational during these difficult times.

I would also like to extend my extreme THANKS to all our Village Employees and especially to our Volunteer Services for their continued commitment of service which is keeping our Village functioning during these extremely difficult times. Please STAY SAFE and BE WELL! THANK YOU ALL!

### **Mayor's Report - Mayor Dominick Longobardi**

The Mayor announced that during this unprecedented time due to the COVID-19 emergency, the Village of Floral Park is still fully open and operating to serve the residents of Floral Park and the public. Adjustments and changes to operations have been made to comply with all federal, state and county Executive Orders and Mandates. These orders and mandates are designed to protect the safety and health of the public. The Village continues to provide sanitation, public works, police, fire, EMT, building department, recreation, library, justice court and administrative services during this emergency. Some procedures have been modified to ensure social distancing rules are practiced and to protect the health and welfare of all. Please check the Village website [www.fpvillage.org](http://www.fpvillage.org) for online and mail-in services.

The Mayor announced that during this time of essential services, quarantine and social distancing, please continue to take care of those around you. Please follow all Centers for Disease (CDC),

New York State (NYS) and Nassau County (NC) Department of Health (DOH) guidelines. Please call Village Hall at 516-326-6300 if you need assistance. Mayor Longobardi thanked the Floral Park Police Department for their dedication and the Floral Park Volunteer Fire Department members for their selfless response. He thanked the teachers, medical technicians, nurses, doctors and other essential employees for their bravery and selflessness as we face this epidemic together.

The Mayor hopes that in the next few weeks there will be an ease and that the COVID-19 situation improves. However, at this time he urges everyone to continue to follow the rules established by the CDC and NYS/NC DOH to help protect and safeguard everyone. For Catholics, this week is Holy Week and Passover will begin for those of the Jewish faith. Let us recognize our church and religious leaders and institutions who have provided essential services and spiritual support during this challenging time. For those who have lost loved ones our prayers and thoughts are with you. Please call the Floral Park Police Department and Fire Department if you have an emergency. Please call the Village if you need us in any way. The Village of Floral Park is here for you. Despite the challenges we face - we are together - so please try to enjoy the time with your family. Thank you.

Immediately after the Board Reports, the Mayor asked for any comments from the public. The meeting was recessed at 8:25 pm.

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At 9:10 pm Trustee Kevin Fitzgerald motioned to go into Executive Session and seconded by Trustee Lynn Pombonyo, and carried unanimously, the Board went into Executive Session by way of tele-conference. Present were Mayor Dominick A. Longobardi, Trustees Kevin Fitzgerald, Lynn Pombonyo, Archie Cheng and Frank Chiara, Village Administrator Gerry Bambrick, Village Clerk Susan Walsh, Village Attorney John Ryan, Superintendent of Buildings Renee Marcus, Police Commissioner Stephen McAllister, and Superintendent of Public Works Kevin Ginnane.

The Village Board discussed police, fire, building and public works department personnel matters and potential litigation. At 10:25 pm Trustee Archie Cheng motioned to come out of Executive Session, seconded by Trustee Frank Chiara and carried unanimously. No action was taken.

The meeting ended at 10:30 pm.

Susan E. Walsh, Village Clerk