

April 14, 2021

**Local Law No. 1 of 2021 Hearing Minutes**  
**Wednesday, April 14, 2021 8:00 pm**  
**In-Person Attendance Is Permitted; Village Hall Courtroom**  
**LIMITED SEATING AVAILABLE; FACE MASKS REQUIRED WHEN ENTERING THE BUILDING**

A Public Hearing for the Board of Trustees regarding Proposed Local Law No. 01 of 2021 was held on the above date at 8:00 pm.

The hearing was held by way of video/teleconference as follows:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87428192867?pwd=V3M1QW01WXZNa241QUQxdWVnZkFYQT09>

Meeting ID: 874 2819 2867; Passcode: 146355 Dial: +1 646 558 8656 US (New York);

Meeting ID: 874 2819 2867 Passcode: 146355.

Present: Mayor Kevin M. Fitzgerald, Trustees Lynn Pombonyo, Frank J. Chiara and Jennifer Stewart, Village Administrator Gerard M. Bambrick, Village Clerk Susan E. Walsh, Village Attorney John Ryan, Superintendent of Public Works Kevin Ginnane, Superintendent of Buildings Renee Marcus, Police Commissioner Stephen G. McAllister, Deputy Village Clerk Rosaleen Shea, Deputy Superintendent of Public Works Joseph O'Grady, Clerk to the Village Justice Joan McAllister, Superintendent of Recreation Kurt Meyfohrt, Pool Director Thomas Dillon, Deputy Assessor Michael Derby, Fire Chiefs Michael Saville and Daniel Bennett and Research Assistant Darlene Lanza. Trustee Archie Cheng was excused.

Mayor Fitzgerald opened the hearing with the Pledge of Allegiance and asked for a moment of silence in memory of Floral Park Fire Department Volunteer Firefighter William Hecker.

Purpose: To consider the enactment of a local law known as Local Law No. 01 of 2021, entitled: "A local law to override the Tax Cap imposed by the State of New York."


Trustee Pombonyo offered Resolution No. 2021-75 reserving decision on Local Law No. 01 of 2021 and to close the public hearing.

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

Trustee Pombonyo	- Aye
Trustee Cheng	- Excused
Trustee Chiara	- Aye
Trustee Stewart	- Aye
Mayor Fitzgerald	- Aye

The hearing was closed at 8:10 pm.

A copy of the transcript and a copy of the legal notice of public hearing is attached and made a part of these minutes.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Susan E. Walsh  
Village Clerk

April 14, 2021

**Budget Hearing Minutes**  
**Wednesday, April 14, 2021 8:00 pm**  
**In-Person Attendance Is Permitted; Village Hall Courtroom**  
**LIMITED SEATING AVAILABLE; FACE MASKS REQUIRED WHEN ENTERING THE BUILDING**

A Budget Public Hearing to hear the Tentative Budget for Fiscal Year 2021/2022 was held on the above date immediately after the public hearing for proposed Local Law No. 01 of 2021.

The hearing was held by way of video/teleconference as follows:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87428192867?pwd=V3M1QW01WXZNa241QUQxdWVnZkFYQT09>

Meeting ID: 874 2819 2867; Passcode: 146355 Dial: +1 646 558 8656 US (New York);

Meeting ID: 874 2819 2867 Passcode: 146355.

Present: Mayor Kevin M. Fitzgerald, Trustees Lynn Pombonyo, Frank J. Chiara and Jennifer Stewart, Village Administrator Gerard M. Bambrick, Village Clerk Susan E. Walsh, Village Attorney John Ryan, Superintendent of Public Works Kevin Ginnane, Superintendent of Buildings Renee Marcus, Police Commissioner Stephen G. McAllister, Deputy Village Clerk Rosaleen Shea, Deputy Superintendent of Public Works Joseph O'Grady, Clerk to the Village Justice Joan McAllister, Superintendent of Recreation Kurt Meyfohrt, Pool Director Thomas Dillon, Library Director Patricia Eren, Library Board President John Breheny, Library Board Trustee Linda Price, Deputy Assessor Michael Derby, Fire Chiefs Michael Saville and Daniel Bennett and Research Assistant Darlene Lanza. Trustee Archie Cheng was excused.

Purpose: To present the Tentative Budget for the Fiscal Year June 1, 2021 to May 31, 2022.


Trustee Pombonyo offered Resolution No. 2021-76 to reserve decision on the budget and closed the public hearing.

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

Trustee Pombonyo	- Aye
Trustee Cheng	- Excused
Trustee Chiara	- Aye
Trustee Stewart	- Aye
Mayor Fitzgerald	- Aye

Mayor Fitzgerald closed the hearing at 9:35 pm.

A copy of the transcript and a copy of the legal notice of public hearing is attached and made a part of these minutes.



Susan E. Walsh  
Village Clerk

TWO HEARINGS - ONE TRANSCRIPT  
PROPOSED LOCAL LAW #1 YR 2021 - TAX CAP (Pages 2 - 5)  
ANNUAL BUDGET HEARING (Pages 5 - 60

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M I N U T E S  
OF THE MEETING  
OF THE  
PROPOSED LOCAL LAW#1 - YR 2021 - TAX CAP  
& BUDGET HEARING  
INCORPORATED VILLAGE OF FLORAL PARK

April 14, 2021

8:00 p.m.

P R E S E N T:

- |                       |                      |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| KEVIN M. FITZGERALD,  | MAYOR                |
| DR. LYNN POMBONYO,    | DEPUTY MAYOR/TRUSTEE |
| ARCHIE T. CHENG, ESQ. | TRUSTEE- Not Present |
| FRANK J. CHIARA,      | TRUSTEE              |
| JENNIFER STEWART,     | TRUSTEE              |

ALSO PRESENT:

- JOHN RYAN, ESQ. Village Attorney
- GERARD M. BAMBRICK, Village Administrator
- SUSAN E. WALSH, Village Clerk
- RENEE MARCUS, Supt. Public Works & Bldgs.
- STEPHEN MCALLISTER, Police Commissioner

Catherine P. Murphy  
Court Reporter



- 4/14/21 - 2021/2022 BUDGET HEARING -

1           MAYOR FITZGERALD: Good evening everyone.  
2 I ask everyone to please stand for the Pledge  
3 of Allegiance.

4           (Pledge of Allegiance said.)

5           MAYOR FITZGERALD: Good evening everyone  
6 in Village Hall and those of you who joining  
7 via Zoom this evening. Tonight is our annual  
8 budget hearing. We do have two public hearings  
9 the first one will be to introduce a local law.  
10 Before I start, I want to just place on the  
11 record that Trustee Archie Cheng is excused  
12 with prior notice.

13           So, the first local law is, the purpose of  
14 the local law is to override, if necessary, the  
15 tax cap imposed by the State of New York, which  
16 this year is 2.54 percent. I will ask the  
17 Village Administrator to read the notice.

18           MR. BAMBRICK: Thank you, Mayor. Legal  
19 Notice. Notice of Public Hearing Incorporated  
20 Village of Floral Park. Proposed Local Law  
21 number 1 of 2021.

22           Please Take Notice that pursuant to  
23 Article 9 of the New York State Constitution,  
24 the provisions of the Code of the Village of  
25 Floral Park and the Municipal Home Rule Law of



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1 the State of New York, a public hearing will be  
2 held in Village Hall courtroom of the  
3 Incorporated Village of Floral Park, One Floral  
4 Boulevard, Floral Park, New York on the 14th  
5 day of April, 2021 at 8:00 p.m. (immediately  
6 before the Budge Public Hearing) to consider  
7 the enactment of a local law entitled: A Local  
8 Law to override the Tax Levy Limit Established  
9 in General Municipal Law Section 3-c.

10 Since there will be limited space for in  
11 person attendance in the courtroom, the hearing  
12 will be available by way of  
13 video/tele-conference as indicated on the link  
14 provided in the notice. The Meeting ID# is 874  
15 2819 2867. Pass code is 146355. The dial in  
16 number is (646) 558-8656.

17 This local law shall take effect  
18 immediately upon its filing with the Secretary  
19 of State, dated April 2, 2021 and April 9,  
20 2021. By Order of the Board of Trustees  
21 Village of Floral Park, New York, Susan E.  
22 Walsh, Village Clerk.

23 This legal notice has been published in  
24 the official paper of the Incorporated Village  
25 of Floral Park, New York and village website

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1 according to law.

2 MAYOR FITZGERALD: Thank you,  
3 Mr. Bambrick. The Board has previously adopted  
4 a negative declaration meaning the proposed  
5 local law has no significant impact on the  
6 environment.

7 Just by way of explanation, we introduced  
8 this law last month for the purpose of in  
9 budget planning meeting in case we did have to  
10 exceed the tax cap that we will be able to and  
11 we would need the local law to do so. The  
12 intent is not to exceed the tax cap and when we  
13 get into the budget hearing, Village  
14 Administrator Bambrick will explain the tax cap  
15 and how we will be will be below tax cap.

16 Is there anyone on the Board that would  
17 like to make a comment? Anyone in the public,  
18 either in-person or on-line, that would like to  
19 make a comment on this? I don't see anyone.  
20 Thank you.

21 With that being there's no comments, I  
22 would like to ask for a motion to reserve  
23 decision and close this public hearing.

24 TRUSTEE POMBONYO: So moved.

25 TRUSTEE CHIARA: Second.

- 4/14/21 - 2021/2022 BUDGET HEARING -

1           MAYOR FITZGERALD: Mr. Bambrick, if you  
2 please poll the Board.

3           MR. BAMBRICK: Trustee Chiara?

4           TRUSTEE CHIARA: Aye.

5           MR. BAMBRICK: Trustee Pombonyo?

6           TRUSTEE POMBONYO: Aye.

7           MR. BAMBRICK: Trustee Stewart?

8           TRUSTEE STEWART: Aye.

9           MR. BAMBRICK: Mayor Fitzgerald?

10          MAYOR FITZGERALD: Aye. Now, moving to  
11 the annual budget hearing. Once again, I will  
12 put on the record that Trustee Cheng is absent  
13 with prior notice.

14          So once again, this is the budget hearing  
15 for the year, fiscal year '21, '22. Before we  
16 get into that, I would like the Village  
17 Administrator Bambrick to read the legal  
18 notice.

19          MR. BAMBRICK: Thank you again, Mayor.  
20 Legal notice. To the Taxpayers of the  
21 Incorporated Village of Floral Park.

22          Notice is hereby given that the tentative  
23 budget for the Incorporated Village of Floral  
24 Park, New York for year 6/1/2021 to 5/31/2022  
25 has been completed by the Budget Officer and a



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1 copy filed in the Office of the Village Clerk  
2 at Village Hall where same will be available  
3 for public inspection during office hours  
4 Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.  
5 until April 14, 2021.

6 The Budget Hearing will be held on  
7 Wednesday, April 14, 2021 and will begin at  
8 8:00 p.m. (immediately after the Proposed Local  
9 Law #1 of 2021 Public Hearing) in Village Hall  
10 Courtroom, One Floral Boulevard, Floral Park,  
11 New York and be also available by way of  
12 video-conference or tele-conference as follows  
13 with the link listed in the public notice,  
14 meeting I.D. 874 2819 2867, pass code 146355.  
15 Dial in # (646) 558-8656.

16 The purpose of the budget hearing is to  
17 hear any and all interested persons in  
18 connection therewith and to consider such  
19 budget for final adoption. Only budget  
20 business shall be discussed at this meeting.  
21 Copies of the tentative budget will be  
22 available commencing Monday, April 5, 2021  
23 between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. at  
24 Village Hall.

25 The maximum compensation proposed from all

- 4/14/21 - 2021/2022 BUDGET HEARING -

1 sources under such budget to the Village  
2 Justice is \$10,000, the Mayor, #10,000 and each  
3 Trustee \$5,000 per year.

4 By Order of the Board of Trustees, Susan  
5 E. Walsh, Village Clerk. Dated April 2, 2021  
6 and April 9, 2021.

7 This legal notice has been published in  
8 the official paper of the Incorporated Village  
9 of Floral Park, New York and Village website  
10 according to law.

11 MAYOR FITZGERALD: Thank you,  
12 Mr. Bambrick. I have been on the Board for a  
13 little more than ten years. In the past, we  
14 used to go page by page. Last year, we were  
15 forced pretty quickly to do this all by zoom.  
16 We took a different approach and stick with  
17 that approach, where we will go department by  
18 department so that to try to keep you updated  
19 to what pages. For those of you on zoom  
20 presentation, you should be able to see the  
21 presentation as we go through it. The pages we  
22 are speaking on will appear.

23 So with that said, Mr. Bambrick, if you  
24 can explain the tax cap.

25 MR. BAMBRICK: Yes Mayor. Thank you.

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1 This is the Village's 9th proposed budget after  
2 the enactment of the New York State tax cap law  
3 that went into affect starting with the  
4 2012/2013 fiscal year. By now, most are  
5 generally familiar with what is referred to as  
6 the 2 percent tax cap. But there's still a  
7 good amount of confusion about the tax cap due  
8 primarily, I believe, to the fact that there  
9 are several factors that go into calculate the  
10 tax cap. I believe on the screen, you can see  
11 the formula for the calculated tax cap.

12 But first of all, the tax cap is not  
13 2 percent. It is a formula established by the  
14 state based on the information and factors set  
15 by the state. The biggest of these factors is  
16 the allowable growth factor which is assigned  
17 each year for the state to all municipalities  
18 based on the municipalities fiscal year starts.  
19 The allowable grow it factor is set at  
20 2 percent or the rate of inflation, whichever  
21 is lower. That is where the 2 percent cap  
22 derives the name.

23 In past years, the allowable growth factor  
24 for Floral Park has arranged from a low of 0.12  
25 percent to a high of 2 percent. This year, the



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1 allowable growth factor from municipalities  
2 like Floral Park, which has a fiscal year  
3 beginning June 1st is 1.31 percent.

4 Another factor that impacts the tax cap is  
5 the tax base growth factor. The tax base  
6 growth factor is also assigned by the state to  
7 each separate municipalities reflects the  
8 determination of the New York State Department  
9 of taxation and finance as to the increases in  
10 the tax base based on such things as new  
11 construction, or measurable improvements to  
12 taxable properties in the Village.

13 The tax base growth factor for Floral Park  
14 for the 2021, 2022 fiscal year is 0.16 percent  
15 or just under two-tenths of one percent.

16 Yet another factor that impacts the tax  
17 cap is the available carry over. The available  
18 carry over applies if, in the prior fiscal year  
19 the Village's tax Levy was less than the full  
20 tax cap amount allowed for that year. The  
21 available carry over from this year because  
22 last year, the Village tax levy was less than  
23 one half of the tax levy increase provided  
24 under the tax cap. Last year, the tax cap that  
25 was applied to the Village was 2.02 percent,

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1 but the village tax levy for last year, the  
2 increase for last year was 0.98 percent. That  
3 was because last year, to provide some  
4 financial relief to Village residents during  
5 Covid, significant cuts were made to positions  
6 that were left unfilled.

7 The dollar amount, which the tax levy  
8 increase was below the tax cap last year, was  
9 \$276,923. That amount is the available carry  
10 over that can be applied to the tax cap amount  
11 this year. So, based on the 1.3 percent  
12 allowable growth factor, the point 16 percent  
13 tax base growth factor and the available carry  
14 over of \$276,000 roughly the tax cap for Floral  
15 Park for the coming fiscal year is 2.54  
16 percent.

17 This year, the proposed tax levy, which is  
18 at the first page of the budget, which we will  
19 be getting to later, is 2.39 percent of the  
20 tentative budget. This does not exceed the tax  
21 cap. One time just through the chart that you  
22 have on the screen, the last year the tax  
23 cap -- I am sorry, the total tax levy was  
24 \$25,751,734.00. That amount is multiplied by  
25 the growth factor I mentioned before which is

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1 .16 percent. That results in an amount of  
2 \$25,792,937.00. To that, you add whatever  
3 pilot payments were made. Floral Park used to  
4 have a pilot, meaning payment in lieu of taxes  
5 basically agreed to by the county industrial  
6 agency. We haven't had a pilot for the last  
7 few years. That number is uneffected. It  
8 stays at \$25,792,937.00. To that, you apply  
9 the allowable growth factor.

10 As I mentioned before, for all  
11 municipalities, the June 1st start date for the  
12 fiscal year, the allowable growth factor is  
13 1.31 percent. That results in an amount of  
14 \$26,130,824,000. That's just the pilot which  
15 is not available. To that, you add the  
16 \$276,923,000 carried over from last year's  
17 amount.

18 The tax cap for Floral Park for this year  
19 will be \$26,407,746,00. That will be 2.54  
20 increase over the \$25,751,734.00 that was last  
21 year's tax levy.

22 The tax levy reflected on the first page  
23 of the budget book and the tax levy for this  
24 year is \$26,366,500.00. That results in an  
25 increase of 2.39 percent over the



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1 \$25,751,734.00 tax levy from last year.

2 I will repeat it again. We're not  
3 exceeding the tax cap based on the tentative  
4 budget.

5 But also it is important to note that the  
6 tax cap is a cap on the tax levy. It is not a  
7 cap on the tax rate. Tax levy is the amount by  
8 which the Village needs to raise taxes on all  
9 residents and businesses in the Village after  
10 taking into consideration all of the sources of  
11 revenue. It is an important aspect of the  
12 budget in that it sets the tax rate for the  
13 coming year. It's the tax rate, not the tax  
14 levy, that is multiplied by the assessed value  
15 of your home or property that determines the  
16 tax bill for the coming year. Don't get me  
17 wrong, the tax levy, which the tax cap  
18 addresses, is very important in determining  
19 your tax bill, but the tax levy is only a  
20 component to determine the tax rate. All  
21 taxable properties in the Village are subject  
22 to the same tax rate for the Village portion of  
23 their taxes. The tax rate is calculated by  
24 taking the tax levy and dividing by the  
25 assessed valuation of all taxed property. For

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1 the coming fiscal year of 2021/2022, the tax  
2 rate calculation is set forth at the bottom of  
3 roman numeral page I of your budget book.

4 The proposed tax levy of \$26,366,500.00  
5 was divided by the assessed valuation of all  
6 taxable properties, which you will see on the  
7 bottom of the page, \$189,154,571.00, which  
8 results in a tax rate of 13.9391 per one  
9 hundred dollars of assessed value. That's the  
10 number at the bottom of Roman numeral page I.

11 The next page, Roman numeral page two, at  
12 the bottom of page also reflects the tax rate  
13 from last year which was 13.6445 per one  
14 hundred dollars assessed valuation.

15 This year's proposed tax rate of 13.931  
16 for each one hundred dollars assessed  
17 evaluation is an increase of 2.16 percent over  
18 last year's tax rate. The percentage increase  
19 of the tax rate is lower then the percentage  
20 increase of the tax levy because the assessed  
21 valuation of all properties in the Village  
22 increased in the last year.

23 On the same page of Roman numeral number  
24 two, the line above where the tax rate is  
25 indicated, you can see the taxable value of the

- 4/14/21 - 2021/2022 BUDGET HEARING -

1 properties in the Village increased from  
2 \$188,732,961.00 last year to \$189,154,571.00  
3 for the upcoming 2021/202 2022 fiscal year. A  
4 \$421,621.00 increase. If the assessed value of  
5 all taxable properties had stayed exactly the  
6 same as last year, then the tax rate would have  
7 matched the taxi levy increase of 2.39 percent.  
8 But since the assessed value of all taxable  
9 properties grew by \$421,621.00, the tax rate  
10 grew at a slower rate of 2.16 percent.

11 So, the tax rate multiplied by the  
12 assessed valuation of your home or property  
13 determines the amount of your village tax bill  
14 for the coming year. As set forth in the  
15 village items which mailed out, which is  
16 on-line, the average residential property in  
17 the Village is assessed at \$37,083.00. The  
18 Village items you have on screen reflect that  
19 the average assessed value, reflects the  
20 average assessed value of Floral Park.

21 The average residential property assessed  
22 at \$37,083.00 you'll receive a tax bill of  
23 \$5,169.00 based on the proposed tax rate of  
24 13.9391 for each \$100 of assessed value. Same  
25 property with last year's tax rate of 13.6445



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1 for each \$100 assessed value had a tax bill of  
2 \$5.059.00.

3 So, this proposed tax rate represents a  
4 \$110 increase for the average residential  
5 property. Of course, that is for the average  
6 residential property. If the assessed value of  
7 your property is higher or lower than the  
8 average, then of course, your tax increase will  
9 be higher or lower than \$110, but will increase  
10 by the same percentage which is 2.16 percent.

11 Mr. Mayor, I just want to thank all the  
12 department heads and the Board and staff for  
13 all the efforts crafted in the budget this  
14 year, their extraordinary efforts in the past  
15 year due to Covid. I want to thank all the  
16 departments who have functioned very well and  
17 have risen to the occasion.

18 MAYOR FITZGERALD: Thank you,  
19 Mr. Bambrick. I know a lot of work goes into  
20 this, especially getting the -- we just went  
21 through down to a simple form. It is very  
22 complicated and we do appreciate trying to  
23 simplifying it for us and our residents.

24 So again, thank you everyone for coming.  
25 Hopefully, and I mention this at many civic

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1 meetings in the past and that is if there's one  
2 meeting you come to a year, this is the meeting  
3 where I hope you learn a lot, where we spend  
4 the money and I believe we spend it wisely and  
5 keep the Village a great place. So hopefully  
6 you'll stick around with us on this.

7 This year's budget process has been  
8 heavily influenced by the Coronavirus outbreak  
9 that has affected all of us in many various and  
10 significant ways for the past 12 months. It  
11 had a direct effect not only on the economy as  
12 a whole, but on our local economy as well. For  
13 the past fiscal year so far, the Village has  
14 seen a reduction in non-tax related revenues  
15 such as parking meter fees, revenue line 1740,  
16 1743, 2541 and fines, line 2610, pool  
17 memberships, which Trustee Stewart will speak  
18 on later, etc.

19 For many years, these numbers were steady  
20 and easily predictable when establishing the  
21 annual budget. Unfortunately, due to the lack  
22 of clear visibility as to when the pandemic  
23 will end and the economy returns to  
24 pre-pandemic levels, in order to provide a  
25 responsible and functionable budget, we had to

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1 reduce certain revenue lines. Although these  
2 revenue lines had to be decreased,  
3 unfortunately, certain expense lines had to be  
4 increased due to contractual agreements,  
5 significant increase in pension contributions,  
6 etc.

7 Fortunately, the American Rescue Plan will  
8 provide additional funding to local governments  
9 such as Floral Park and therefore cuts to  
10 expenses and hence services were only minor.

11 We have added a new revenue line 4788 for  
12 the anticipated receipt of funds under the  
13 American Rescue Plan. At this time, we, and  
14 for that matter, any municipality in New York  
15 State, has not been provided a firm amount on  
16 what we will receive. With that said, based on  
17 conference calls with NYCOM and Senator  
18 Schumer, we have conservatively estimated the  
19 amount of be \$531,000 which is based on  
20 \$228,000 from lost revenue on parking fees and  
21 \$303,000 from lost revenue on pool  
22 subscriptions.

23 Even will all of the aforementioned, along  
24 with other challenges in 2021, for example,  
25 Tropical Isaias, the most winder storms in



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1 years, etc, the Village continued with various  
2 capital projects and initiatives such as the  
3 reconstruction of Floral Boulevard, initiation  
4 of changing all streets lights to LED, etc all  
5 while providing the essential services that has  
6 been a hallmark of Floral Park for decades.

7 Some items that I would like to point out  
8 on the expense side, there were some decreases  
9 in certain departments due to retirements, for  
10 example, Village Justice office, central  
11 garage, etc, while some slight increases,  
12 Deputy Treasurers and Assessors Office, due to  
13 merit raises to the exempt staff.

14 The contingent account, line 1990 on page  
15 18, is increasing to \$375,000 primarily due to  
16 the following increase to convert to first  
17 dollar workers compensation insurance and cost  
18 to cover salaries for hiring to new exempt  
19 employees to train, shadow employees who have  
20 indicated that they will be retiring in the  
21 coming year. The Board recently decided to  
22 convert first dollar workers comp recently as  
23 the cost increased was significantly lower than  
24 it has been in the past and this eliminates the  
25 risk of the Village being self-insured up to

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1       \$750,000 for police and fire personnel and  
2       \$500,000 for all other personnel worth of the  
3       first claim. The cost increase is \$154,000 for  
4       this change in insurance.

5               Approximately 65% of the increase in the  
6       amount of revenue required to be raised by real  
7       property taxes is due to the increase mandated  
8       by the State for the police and employee  
9       retirement funds, lines 9010 and 9015 on page  
10      51. These numbers are given to us by the State  
11      and in fact this year, the State inexplicably  
12      acknowledged that even though the stock market  
13      is at record highs and has significantly  
14      increased, they were increasing the employers'  
15      contributions due to potential volatility in  
16      the market. Although the markets can be  
17      volatile, we need to be ensured that in future  
18      years if there any dips in the market, any  
19      increase in pension contributions is offset and  
20      minimal due to taxpayers having to contribute  
21      extra when the market is increasing.

22               Before we move on to the various  
23      individual departments, I would like to thank  
24      our Village Administrator/Treasurer Bambrick  
25      and Deputy Treasurer Kathleen Mack along with

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1 their staffs for their tired-less efforts in  
2 putting this upcoming year's budget together.

3 Additionally, I would like to thank all of  
4 the department heads/supervisors and the  
5 Library Board for their efforts and inputs  
6 during the drafting of the budgets for their  
7 respective departments.

8 I would like to thank former Mayor  
9 Longobardi for putting this budget together.  
10 He was actively involved during the last three  
11 or four months with the budget and as we all  
12 know, he went through a lot of personal issues  
13 while maintaining the job as Mayor and most  
14 impressive, Mr. Mayor, your effort and we  
15 appreciate your input in this year's budget.

16 With that said, we will move to, I believe  
17 Trustee Chiara, who will talk about our police  
18 department.

19 TRUSTEE CHIARA: Thank you, Mr. Mayor.  
20 Thank you everyone for being out tonight.

21 The police department's budget is shown on  
22 page 19 and 20. The mission of our Floral Park  
23 Police Department is to protect and provide  
24 services throughout the community and this  
25 year, having to perform under unprecedented



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1 times of the pandemic and the ongoing police  
2 reform, they continue to serve our Village with  
3 their dedicated professionalism and the  
4 compassion with all they have come in contact  
5 with.

6 The department responded to 4,756 calls of  
7 service, issuing 861 moving violation summons  
8 along with 1,142 parking summonses. They  
9 effected 29 arrests and served 29 summonses for  
10 village ordinance violations. The department  
11 strategically and tactfully managed  
12 demonstrations that took place in the Village,  
13 providing a secure and safe environment for all  
14 that participated. Their professionalism was  
15 clearly exhibited by the manner and the way it  
16 was conducted resulting in no reported major  
17 incidents. They did an excellent job.

18 The department also took part in New York  
19 State Police Reform and Reinvented  
20 Collaborative by collaborating with the village  
21 committee and residents to prepare a report  
22 that was submitted to the state. The report  
23 highlighted the willingness to serve our  
24 Village by being well trained and prepared to  
25 address the needs of our community. Our Police

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1 Commissioner, two Lieutenants, five Sergeants,  
2 one Detective and 24 Police Officers currently  
3 man the department. There's six police  
4 communication operators, six neighborhood  
5 aides, seven part-time school crossing guards  
6 and one part time administrative aide.

7 The operating budget had an increase this  
8 year of 0.5 percent or \$43,500. This increase  
9 was due in part to personal expenses for PBA  
10 and CSEA contractual agreements noted on line  
11 0100 and termination payments on line 0103.  
12 Combining lines 0445 and 455, subscription text  
13 and past office equipment shows a savings of  
14 \$18,632.00, producing a police budget with an  
15 increase of 0.5 percent.

16 I would like to thank our police  
17 department and acknowledge our appreciation of  
18 the police and their duties throughout the  
19 Village. In these very turbulent times, we  
20 support you for doing it and keeping us  
21 protected and safe. Thank you and stay safe.

22 MAYOR FITZGERALD: Thank you, Trustee  
23 Chiara. Deputy Mayor Pombonyo will now discuss  
24 public works.

25 TRUSTEE POMBONYO: Good evening everyone.

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1 It's good to see you. Thank you to those of  
2 you on zoom for joining us as well. Tonight I  
3 will be covering the Department of Public Works  
4 budget, the recreations department budget and  
5 four village studios budget. I will start with  
6 public works. As I go through that budget,  
7 because it is a very, very large one in terms  
8 of its scope and its size and complexity. So,  
9 I'll let you know what page number we are on as  
10 we go.

11 For the Department of Public Works.  
12 Floral Park DPW is at the heart of our  
13 Village's operation. DPW's complexities spans  
14 13 different areas of operations with  
15 approximately 50 staff members, who are highly  
16 skilled in their areas of expertise.  
17 Superintendent Kevin Ginnane and the Assistant  
18 Superintendent Joe O'Grady provide  
19 extraordinary leadership.

20 I will start out on page 15 of the budget,  
21 and that page, if you look towards the bottom  
22 of the first column of items is called shared  
23 services building. It is in this budget area  
24 where the maintenance and upkeep of our Village  
25 of Floral Park buildings are accomplished. You



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1 will see many offsets with expenditures while  
2 some are reduced, others are increased enabling  
3 the budget to remain relatively constant.

4 In the building budget, you will see 406  
5 and 406 is the last three digits I'm talking  
6 about. It goes from 100 down to 460. I'm  
7 looking at 406, which is supplies. You will  
8 see that increased continued paying for  
9 disinfectant supplies used throughout the  
10 Village.

11 450, further down, Village Hall has  
12 increased by \$25,000 for needed upgrades and  
13 repairs in this building. Items like carpeting  
14 which is currently torn, worn and taped  
15 together in many places. Bathrooms with  
16 obsolete fixtures and some issues with other  
17 things in need of repair and compliance. Outer  
18 doors that are in need of repair so they  
19 operate with full security and easily.

20 And water hydrant rental, which is number  
21 419, which in this case has been raised by  
22 \$62,000 driving our buildings total increase  
23 from 2.8 percent to 10.6 percent, which you see  
24 at the bottom. The reason for this large  
25 increase in water and hydrants which you will

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1 see reflected in other areas of the budget as  
2 you may recall, our discussions about  
3 construction on Cisney and Magnolia, New York  
4 State has changed its requirement, I guess, in  
5 response to federal guidelines too for water  
6 standards and increased the level of what the  
7 standard should be. As a result, the water  
8 authority here had to do a tremendous amount of  
9 work in constructing apparatus that can provide  
10 treatments that will improve the quality of  
11 water. They have been given a brief timeline  
12 to do this and that's because of the speed at  
13 which the projects have got to be done and  
14 completed, as well as additional devices that  
15 they have to add as well as other things that  
16 they are using in treatment has caused pretty  
17 high rates and increase in the water rates and  
18 it is reflected in our DPW, as I said, by  
19 increasing \$62,000.

20 Going on to the next page, which is page  
21 16, is called central garage. 1640 is the  
22 number of that entire area of central garage  
23 items. This code covers the maintenance and  
24 repairs of our village vehicles, which of  
25 course, all of the village departments total

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1 close to 100. You will see decreases in  
2 several codes as new equipment is purchased.  
3 That equipment is no longer needed and supplies  
4 are inventoried continually. All that remains  
5 in inventory is used in subsequent years. So  
6 that is important to keep in mind that the DPW  
7 leadership and supervisors have very hard in  
8 keeping accurate inventory control numbers and  
9 what has enabled us, as you see throughout the  
10 budget, is many supply lines have decreased  
11 because we're able to use supplies that were  
12 left in inventory at the end of last year.

13 In the 100 personnel code, you will see  
14 that staffing has been reduced and we are  
15 working in the area of one less person,  
16 full-time mechanic, who will be replaced by  
17 mechanic aides who work under the supervisor.  
18 So this staffing arrangement has also lead to  
19 savings in a way that we can have running the  
20 work of what our experience would have us do.  
21 So, you see also a total decrease and total  
22 expenditures there for the next year.

23 The next code is 5010 code, which is on  
24 page 28. It is called DPW administration.  
25 This section is for the running of the whole



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1 DPW operation of approximately 50 staff  
2 members. The budgetary changes, first of all  
3 in the 100 area, reflect staffing and  
4 responsibility changes which have resulted in  
5 reductions and overtime. Some of our immediate  
6 staff is very expertise and may have mentioned  
7 his remarks. There have been some of them that  
8 are reflected in that code.

9 Radio repair, which is 435, there are  
10 reductions due to radios where we don't have to  
11 keep repairing them and we don't have to keep  
12 purchasing them and reduce conference  
13 attendance, both attending conferences and  
14 using virtual conferences instead, which has  
15 brought that very much, very slight increase in  
16 that area.

17 Going on to page 29, the next page, you  
18 will see street maintenance, transportation and  
19 it's the 5110 code. This is our highway  
20 department and our department for road repairs.  
21 There are approximately 37 miles of road and  
22 parking lots in the Village of Floral Park.  
23 Sweeping, line striping, sanding, salting,  
24 plowing and many other functions are among the  
25 responsibility of this department.

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1           The Village will soon be continuing work  
2           on Floral Boulevard with road re-construction  
3           following last fall's completion of the curbs  
4           and drains. This project has been funded by  
5           the LIRR as part of the third track project and  
6           memorandum understandings. This is something  
7           that benefits us greatly to have for the street  
8           lights on Floral Boulevard reconstructing at  
9           someone else's cost. Although a number of  
10          streets have been designated for reconstruction  
11          repair, the priorities may change due to the  
12          rate of deterioration of certain roads and  
13          other factors. As of this date, Spooner and  
14          Hinsdale from Jericho to Lowell have gone to  
15          engineering phase and are going out to bid.

16                 Reduction in expenditures due to supply  
17                 inventory, 406, carry the department to next  
18                 year and the purchase of new equipment. 4760  
19                 which reduces the need for repair. Code 450 is  
20                 allocated for items, such as handicap curbs and  
21                 repairs associated with other projects that  
22                 were being done.

23                 458 code with \$180,000 proposed is the  
24                 sidewalk repair program which will be offset by  
25                 corresponding revenues and gains on property

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1 owners for sidewalk repair. And that is our  
2 highway department.

3 Next up is page 30, code 5142. This is  
4 self-explanatory. Funds are allocated for  
5 contingency lines for snow removal, as I  
6 believe Mr. Bambrick and the Mayor were talking  
7 about. The contingency lines follow page 18.  
8 It is a chart that comes after page 18.  
9 Estimates about snow removal or guesstimates  
10 about snow removal are a whole nine months  
11 ahead of the winter season are challenging and  
12 contingency funds maybe funds that are used for  
13 contingencies.

14 In code 200, which is equipment and  
15 snowblower and plans for purchase, in line 406,  
16 supplies. DPW has supplies like sand, salt and  
17 calcium supplies in inventory. Again, enabling  
18 a reduction in the expenditures and we are  
19 really fortunate to have a department that is  
20 very skillful in doing inventory control so  
21 supplies are utilized very carefully and  
22 continue to be used in the following year.

23 Going on to page 31, which is  
24 transportation and street lighting. This  
25 section is very exciting. The reason is LED



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1 lighting. Plans are to complete LED lighting  
2 in the Village beginning this summer with the  
3 final phase of Centennial Gardens exterior  
4 lighting on Floral Parkway following. Budget  
5 reductions are due to supplies again that we  
6 have in stock, in code 406, and to anticipate a  
7 reduction needed for outside contractors or  
8 repairs. Increases in 450 and major repairs  
9 and the last phase of the Centennial Gardens  
10 LED lights installation which is very  
11 important. LED lighting will take a big place,  
12 prominence, in the DPWs work this year coming  
13 very soon and watch for more to follow. Next  
14 is, you can see that DPW is very a large and  
15 complex operation.

16 So next, go to page 32, which is off  
17 street parking. I will be talking about some  
18 of the items here. Included in the parking  
19 meter expenditures all our reduction due to  
20 changing needs. Prior Creedmor Spur rentals  
21 located in the bottom half, \$500, have been  
22 suspended due to the Village of Floral Park's  
23 third track agreement with the LIRR. Again  
24 that's the second part of that agreement from  
25 2017, I believe, where we have gotten benefits

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1 from the LIRR, monetary benefits, due to the  
2 time they spend here and any changes that  
3 happened in the village as a result.

4 Next will be off street parking. That's  
5 5650, included are parking meeting expenditures  
6 and -- I did this.

7 Next page is 33. That is economic  
8 assistance and opportunity public. I will talk  
9 about 405 again which involves the railroad.  
10 The last line item there, that one talks about  
11 anticipated expenditures offset revenue to a  
12 tune of \$150,000. This will be revenue that is  
13 received from the community benefit fund from  
14 the third track and LIRR. The revenue is on  
15 page 5, if you go back to that. This is the  
16 place where we are putting in the line for that  
17 expenditure. It has to be in both revenue and  
18 expenditure side is offsetting.

19 On to code 7110 on page 35. This is  
20 parks. This is not recreation and parks. This  
21 is keeping our parks beautiful and in good  
22 work. This section covers DPW services to the  
23 approximate ten parks and properties, some of  
24 the parks are mini parks and some are bigger  
25 from parks like the Adams park and Walnut Park

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1 in middle of the neighborhoods to Centennial  
2 Gardens, our largest park. You will see a  
3 reduction due to the elimination of a laborer  
4 in the 100 position. You will see supply 406  
5 inventories and reduced needs there. Minimum  
6 equipment needs in 200 of this time. And the 8  
7 percent increase in code 419 is back with the  
8 water, which I explained before. It is a  
9 \$2,000 increase and it is due to the New York  
10 State requirements that had been imposed  
11 regarding the higher standards and treatment of  
12 water and the limited amount of time we have to  
13 do those projects.

14 The noteworthy expenditure is 102  
15 overtime. Because that includes overtime for  
16 special events, for holiday festivals and  
17 street fairs. And something we work on very  
18 hard to do is that now we have, and had for  
19 quite a while, weekend trash collection in the  
20 business district. They have in most cases  
21 tremendously improved the tremendous trash  
22 overflow we see in our receptacle during the  
23 weekends down Tulip Avenue, Jericho Turnpike  
24 and somewhat on Covert Avenue as well. We now  
25 have that taking place.



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1           The next area is refuse and garbage on  
2           page 42. This is our sanitation department.  
3           This massive and powerful department includes  
4           about 20 staff members including drivers,  
5           recyclers, 10 refuse and recycling trucks and  
6           including three of the trucks purchased in  
7           2019. So that's a tremendous importance that  
8           we have equipment of that size and cost because  
9           it is that new. Depending on the season,  
10          they're doing a lot of different tasks. I  
11          might add my recollection is through this  
12          year's storms one in August and three snow and  
13          ice storms in February, I don't think we missed  
14          a refuse collection day. Despite the fact they  
15          were plowing, I believe they collected refuse  
16          without interruption, so that department is to  
17          be applauded a lot.

18                Next is code 8170 which is street  
19                cleaning. That is on page 43. I'm getting  
20                there. I'm on the last page of notes for DPW.  
21                This section of DPW street cleaning has two  
22                licensed motor equipment operators has two  
23                street sweepers and other related equipment.  
24                The purchase of a new street sweeper will be  
25                forthcoming, not in this budget, but soon

1 because of due to age and wear and tear and as  
2 you can imagine, those pieces of equipment are  
3 working very hard and show it. So, you will be  
4 hearing about the replacement at least of a  
5 sweeper soon.

6 Next, we have page 45, which is storm  
7 sewers. This section of the DPW focused on the  
8 maintenance of the Village of Floral Park storm  
9 sewage system. A \$20,000 allocation in code  
10 430 includes engineering service. I think as  
11 we look at the maintenance and possible repair  
12 of our storm drains, people don't realize that  
13 these are not just a hole in a ground, but  
14 they're systems that pull the water out of the  
15 street and send it to where it is going next to  
16 make sure the streets are not flooded. So  
17 engineering services are listed in professional  
18 services in 430 are very important.

19 Going to the last section of DPW on page  
20 46 is shade trees, code 560. This is another  
21 exciting code for all of us because what it  
22 represents for our Village. Our Village is  
23 known for its beautiful trees, old and younger,  
24 parks and tree line streets. To maintain these  
25 trees and the planting of new trees are

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1 important initiatives carried out by the  
2 knowledgeable and professional tree staff which  
3 includes two pruners, one laborer and two  
4 summer staff members. Salary and stipend for  
5 the senior pruner are included in the  
6 increases. That's in code 100. That's the  
7 first one.

8 Training in electrical hazards awareness.  
9 That's code 480 is a priority. I wanted to  
10 highlight that to you. Our tree pruners in  
11 addition to having to be very careful on the  
12 cherry pickers have to be very knowledgeable  
13 about electrical hazards. So that's a priority  
14 training. Reductions include a greater  
15 alliance on our own pruners. Code 430 for  
16 example and 435. We are, because of our  
17 experiences in house, we are far less reliant  
18 on outside contractors to prune our trees  
19 unless we had a case like we did last  
20 August 4th where we had a massive number of  
21 trees that had to removed and cut down very  
22 quickly. Normally ours do it. It is also due  
23 to new equipment in codes 455 and 460.

24 Our Village continues to be proudly  
25 recognized as Tree City U.S A by the Arbor Day



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1 Foundation. If you would like a new tree for  
2 the grassy strip in front of the house, call  
3 DPW at 326-6320. That brings our DPW complex  
4 budget to an end.

5 I want to thank, with all of our hearts,  
6 Superintendent Ginnane, Assistant  
7 Superintendent O'Grady, our supervisors who are  
8 specialized in each or some of the areas that  
9 the budget is divided into. Our workers and  
10 especially the hours they put in after the  
11 August 4th storm and throughout the month of  
12 February with the kind of weather we had and  
13 kind of impact it had on the village. Thank  
14 you for listening to DPW.

15 I'm now going on to another favorite in  
16 the Village. That starts on page 36. That's  
17 culture and recreation playground. I'll be  
18 doing the next two pages of that, 36 and 37.

19 Our Floral Park Rec Center continues to be  
20 a beautiful complex. The rec features  
21 everything for all ages including the rec  
22 building, pool complex, volleyball court,  
23 basketball court, softball field, refurbished  
24 shelter house and the use of the meeting rooms  
25 is increasing tremendously. It's great to have

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1 that space. And our ever popular Tiny Town  
2 playground.

3 After the Village of Floral Park was  
4 permitted the playground in late Spring, 2020,  
5 many found a place to go to see friends, bring  
6 children and share on our Floral Park Little  
7 League and then soccer and then roller hockey  
8 team. Evenings in the park were spectacular  
9 last summer, as in the beginning of summer,  
10 2020. We plan to offer our regular recreation  
11 schedule programs with the appropriate safety  
12 protocol. Our staffing include approximately  
13 33 full, part-time and seasonal staff members.

14 Code 100, personal services, has a nine  
15 percent increase which reflects, not across the  
16 board increases for every staff member at nine  
17 percent. That's not what it is. What it does  
18 reflect is increases -- it does reflect  
19 increases for all staff. But it does also  
20 reflect raises for staff members as they took  
21 on more responsibilities or added to the staff.  
22 Supervisors were something we added to the,  
23 staff supervisors who were more experienced  
24 than some of our other supervisors in terms of  
25 being there during hours, during the high

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1 occupancy guest rates at the park. A lot more  
2 was going on. We wanted a higher level of  
3 supervision. That's what the code increase was  
4 there for the personal.

5 Plus, budgeting in the effect to \$15 and  
6 hour. We know during the coming fiscal year,  
7 it goes all the way to May 31, that there's a  
8 chance that many of our workers and departments  
9 that are seasonal and part-time like the  
10 recreation department and pool departments may  
11 see an increase for employees who are now  
12 making 10, 11 or 12 dollars up to 15 dollars an  
13 hour. We have to anticipate that and that is  
14 included in the 100 recreation code. That's  
15 important.

16 Increases also include the 405 code, which  
17 is also a very happy increase. It is increase  
18 of \$5,000 to Centennial gardens. Interesting.  
19 The village's Centennial Gardens budget  
20 allocation has been \$20,000 since 2001. 2001.  
21 One year after the garden's dedication in 2000.  
22 I know that because I was there doing the  
23 program yesterday with the fifth graders from  
24 Growing With Me and talking about the  
25 dedication in 2000. They haven't had a budget



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1 increase in 20 years. So, we're happy to say  
2 we are adding \$5,000 to their code. Centennial  
3 Gardens has a tremendous amount of work done by  
4 the Floral Park Conservation Society volunteers  
5 too. The size of the garden and complexities  
6 of the garden increased, which is on the backs  
7 of the volunteers. So, we are making an  
8 increase and help them out.

9 Line 406 supplies includes many consumable  
10 items you use in recreation activities, as well  
11 as important cleaning supplies we know was  
12 increased in the DPW too. Finally, \$1,500  
13 increase for line, that is I explain the reason  
14 for that. This water for recreation goes to  
15 the recreation and sprinklers which consume  
16 quite of bit of water. And that is our  
17 recreation budget.

18 The next budget, page 37, related 7  
19 through 10 code and youth program code which  
20 takes place in our recreation center. This  
21 wonderful section of the budget includes summer  
22 sports, arts and crafts and fitness programs,  
23 as well as our youth programs, such as Zumba,  
24 gymnastics, creative gardens for kids which  
25 takes place in Centennial Gardens in the fall,

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1 winter and Spring and on Saturdays. We have  
2 rounded the year program expenditures in these  
3 code.

4 Highly popular this year and last has been  
5 youth tennis for grades one to three, four to  
6 eight and seven to twelve. As a matter of  
7 fact, when the registration lines for the  
8 Spring youth tennis went out of the parking lot  
9 at the rec center out towards the New Hyde Park  
10 parking lot, they added on structures and  
11 section for this. It is very popular so we are  
12 happy to offer it.

13 Our thanks go to our two, six hourly  
14 part-time and seasonal staff members recreation  
15 around the year for our youth. Relatively no  
16 changes in the 2021/2022 budget. Thanks goes  
17 to Kurt Meyforht who is here. Tom Dillon from  
18 the pool, who plays a role in planning and  
19 carrying out and working with our recreation  
20 program, as well as many talented supervisors  
21 who are grown ups or young adults who have been  
22 through our park programs and are now coming  
23 back to do the favor and teach the younger  
24 counter parts, as well as counselors and  
25 teachers that are doing fine jobs in all the

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1 programs we mentioned. That's it for the  
2 recreation program.

3 You and I will be happy to hear that this  
4 is the last program I'm talking about for  
5 budget planning. That's on page 50. It is the  
6 8990 code. And it is Four Village Studio.

7 This unique welcome government access  
8 television station serves the Village of Floral  
9 Park, Bellerose Village, South Floral Park and  
10 Stewart Manor. In addition to providing  
11 community programs, it informs, entertains and  
12 educates the community while publicizing  
13 accomplishments of local organizations and  
14 individuals.

15 Four Village Studio also continues to  
16 partner with many community organizations with  
17 interesting programs for them. They also play  
18 another tremendously important role in training  
19 interested teen volunteers on how to produce  
20 and edit T.V. shows. Jim Green, our director,  
21 has a constant stream of very bright and  
22 talented young people that go through the  
23 program assisting him and also learning  
24 valuable skills and creative ways to produce  
25 interesting programs. That's just a great



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1 function and we're very thankful for him for  
2 doing that.

3 Four Village Studio is self-sustaining  
4 with revenue that comes directly from Altice,  
5 Verizon, Cablevision, as well as revenue that  
6 comes in from three other villages who shares  
7 the revenue with us. Mayor, thank you.

8 MAYOR FITZGERALD: Thank you, Deputy Mayor  
9 Pombonyo for the wonderful overview of those  
10 departments. Next, we will be doing the pool.  
11 Trustee Stewart.

12 TRUSTEE STEWART: Like you heard all  
13 evening, Covid has impacted the budget in all  
14 areas of our community, nowhere more evident  
15 then in the swimming pool. Our revenue was  
16 significantly decreased due to the loss of  
17 membership. In 2020 there was reduced  
18 attendance in the programming for all our  
19 youngsters.

20 Swimming pool funds are presented page 54  
21 to 56. Line 5031 shows the amount transferred  
22 from the general funds to balance the pool  
23 budget to the bond cost for the new pool and  
24 once again, limited revenue from last year. It  
25 has been increased to offset an anticipated

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decrease in membership revenue from 2019 but with an increase over the 2020 summer.

The rationale for the expected increase for 2020 is as follows: We anticipate a full pool season this year, opening on time, using the 2019 membership rates. We anticipate at least the 2020 members to return with an added number of memberships as residents are more comfortable joining as word got out quickly about the wonderful job our Superintendent Kurt Meyforht, our Assistant Pool Director, Tom Dillon and their staff did all summer last year keeping our members safe and happy while also gradually introduced many of the long-standing aquatic programs like water fitness classes as space and regulations allowed.

Our expenditures include salaries for 63 seasonal employees, one pool director, two assistant pool directors.

I would like to take a second to address lifeguard salaries. We see advertisements around the County with hourly salaries that are slightly higher then our lifeguards. We do this deliberately to employ as many youngsters from our community as we possibly can. For

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1 many of the youngsters, working at the pool is  
2 their first job and one they return to after  
3 high school and college years. This is a  
4 tradition we are proud to maintain.

5 Additional expenditures include pool  
6 equipment such as janitorial supplies, pool  
7 chemicals and umbrellas. We will have  
8 decreased spending on the stationery line as we  
9 have limited of the pool booklet. We expect  
10 the majority of our members to take advantage  
11 of our on-line registration and will have  
12 printed books available at locations throughout  
13 the Village, for example pool building, shelter  
14 house, Village Hall and the library.

15 Additionally, you'll know the last  
16 expenditure, number 9940, which includes two  
17 bond payments, one for approximately \$47,175  
18 for the pool share of our recreation building  
19 and the remainder for the actual pool  
20 reconstruction.

21 Primarily, prior to 2020, the pool  
22 operating budget was self-sustained to  
23 approximately 75 percent for both operations  
24 and bonding. The total gross expenditures  
25 match the \$1,094,974, a proposed 4.78 increase



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1 over last year.

2 I would like to thank our Superintendent  
3 of Recreation Assistant and Pool Director and  
4 our entire pool staff as we look forward to a  
5 safe, fun-filled summer of 2021.

6 MAYOR FITZGERALD: Thank you, Trustee  
7 Stewart. Trustee Cheng is absent. I will  
8 cover the Fire Department.

9 "Fire Department. The Floral Park Fire  
10 Department is an all volunteer member run  
11 organization. The Fire Department not only  
12 provides our village residents fire protection  
13 service but also both rescue and ambulance  
14 services. During the calendar year of 2020,  
15 the over 150 volunteer members responded to  
16 four significant structural fires in Floral  
17 Park (plus others in neighboring Villages via  
18 mutual aid), 34 motor vehicle accidents, 94  
19 alarm activations, 706 emergency medical  
20 responses and 312 other responses (such as  
21 mutual aid, spills, etc) for a total of 1,119  
22 calls for service or an average of over 3  
23 responses a day.

24 In order to maintain the quality of  
25 service that our residents have grown

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1 accustomed to for over the last 100 years, in  
2 addition to the thousands of training hours  
3 required by the Department, the department  
4 requires funding. The overall proposed budget  
5 is for \$431,000. The primary year over year  
6 changes totaling \$21,500 are as follows:

7 Line 0407, medical supplies is being  
8 increased by \$5,000 due to both prices  
9 increasing and usage of supplies increasing.

10 Line 0421, contract and maintenance  
11 agreements is used to track the maintenance  
12 numerous service and maintenance contracts that  
13 the department has. Some examples are for Red  
14 Alert (service used transmittal of calls,  
15 preplan information amongst other items) flow  
16 testing of air packs, hose testing and ladder  
17 testing. The line is being increased this year  
18 by \$5,000 to primarily due to the required PSS  
19 (personal safety system) which is done every  
20 three years.

21 Line 0460, repairs of truck and auto, due  
22 to the aging fleet, an increase of \$4,000 is  
23 necessary to ensure the proper and immediate  
24 function of the Department's vehicles.

25 Although the vast majority of the work is done

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1 by the Village mechanics, in certain instances,  
2 the vehicles must be sent to an outside  
3 specialized vendor.

4 Line 0478, contract fire protection, a  
5 \$1,000 increase. Per agreement with the  
6 Village, the Fire Department provides the  
7 aforementioned services to our residents 24/7  
8 365 days a year. In return, the Village  
9 provides the Fire Department funding for  
10 various events, activities and policy coverage.

11 I would like to thank Chief McAllister,  
12 Chief Saville, Ex-Chief Longobardi and the  
13 Chiefs staff for the time and efforts in  
14 submitting their aforementioned budget."

15 Trustee Chiara will discuss the Building  
16 Department.

17 TRUSTEE CHIARA: Yes. Thank you. For the  
18 building department, back on page 24, our  
19 building department continues to automate our  
20 ever increasing service our residents. Most,  
21 if not all permits, are now on-line and legally  
22 assist by performing, providing information  
23 that will aide them in their construction  
24 project. The department is responsible for  
25 reviewing of all plans submitted for



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1 alterations for new structures, the issuance of  
2 permits, New York State and local codes leading  
3 to the issuance of certificate of occupancy.  
4 The department's ability to accept scanned  
5 documents, to display them on-line was  
6 instrumental in keeping the ARB and ZBA  
7 functioning during this pandemic. This was an  
8 indication of how well the building department  
9 operates during the pandemic, easily adapting  
10 to the current ways in performing their duty.  
11 They're doing a great job.

12 For 2020, the building department and  
13 public works answered 11,508 phone calls of  
14 inquiries or call to service. A total of 569  
15 permits were issued in this year. The building  
16 department, staffed by our superintendent, one  
17 office manager, one full-time building  
18 inspector and two part-time clerks. This year,  
19 budget reflects an overall increase of 4.21  
20 percent. The majority of the increases are  
21 reflected on line 100 for personal service and  
22 salaries for an increase of \$16,780. There was  
23 also a reduction, line 407, 8, 30 and 80, which  
24 were for services in the office or for services  
25 no longer needed. The 4.21 percent equates to

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1 a \$16,00 the increase to the budget.

2 I'd like to thank the building department  
3 for the services they do.

4 MAYOR FITZGERALD: Thank you, Trustee  
5 Chiara. Lastly, Trustee Stewart, the library.  
6 I see as tradition, the library board just  
7 walked in every year right around the same time  
8 during the meeting after their library board  
9 meeting.

10 TRUSTEE STEWART: Thank you for making a  
11 second meeting. First, I would like to  
12 congratulate the Floral Park Library staff of  
13 the fabulous way they pivoted from in-person  
14 programming and on-line events and activities  
15 for people of all ages during this most  
16 unprecedented time.

17 Page 57 shows the revenue for the library.  
18 Friends of the library continue to make  
19 generous donations to our beautiful library.  
20 Additionally, the library received a  
21 significant donation from an anonymous donor.  
22 Line 5031 shows the transfer from the general  
23 fund, tax fund, to finance the library.

24 Page 58 we have the library expenses.  
25 Line 0100 shows salaries for all full time and

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1 part-time employees. It's decreased because we  
2 have one less full-time employee. The decrease  
3 in line 0407 as DPW assumed some of those  
4 costs. The remainder of the budget on page 59  
5 reflects personnel benefits. The library has  
6 an increase of 1.61 percent.

7 Once again, I would like to thank the  
8 library staff, as well as the library board,  
9 for all their hard work in keeping our village  
10 engaged especially in this challenging year.

11 MAYOR FITZGERALD: Thank you, Trustee  
12 Stewart. That concludes the overview of the  
13 various departments.

14 Before we get to the public comments,  
15 hopefully you will find this is a wonderful  
16 story here in Floral Park. A lot happens day  
17 in and day out to make our lives as best it can  
18 be living here. It is a tremendous amount of  
19 time, effort and money that goes into the daily  
20 operations of Floral Park.

21 So, with that said, I would like to open  
22 it up for public comment. I guess we'll go  
23 first with anyone in the room. If you are  
24 coming up to speak, I ask that you give your  
25 name and your address. I don't see anyone but



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1 I have one slip from somebody, Mr. Reckline.

2 Do you want me to read the question?

3 Mr. Reckline, 88 Walnut Avenue asked, number

4 one, repaving of Floral Boulevard. Are you

5 looking for an update when it will occur?

6 TRUSTEE CHIARA: They're starting work on

7 it, actually tomorrow. They will start moving

8 in some of the equipment and moving in the

9 drain, concrete drains. There might be a

10 little delay because of the rain coming in

11 within the next two days. They are going to do

12 as much work they. Can hope the drain is in

13 and concrete is completed, start the pavement.

14 That should take us within the next two months

15 totally completed.

16 MAYOR FITZGERALD: Your second question is

17 about animal control and \$250, the budget for

18 the year. That's for the Town of Hempstead.

19 If there are issues with animals, most of the

20 time, the police department will handle that.

21 There are laws on our books in the Village code

22 that specifies what happens if there are dogs

23 or annoying dogs. I am not sure it answers

24 your question.

25 MR. RECKLINE: Frank Reckline, 88 Walnut

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1 Avenue. I specifically had in mind squirrels  
2 and cats. I live in a street opposite four Pin  
3 Oak trees. During the summer and fall months,  
4 there are constantly droppings, acorns and of  
5 course, acorns are the main source of food for  
6 the squirrels which they eat. They also bury a  
7 lot. And all summer long, I'm picking out Pin  
8 Oak trees, little, tiny ones out of the my  
9 lawn. Mostly by the curbside. This is an  
10 everyday occurrence pretty much. If I let them  
11 grow, you know, you will have a forest of Pin  
12 Oak trees in Floral Park. I was wondering  
13 anyway you can combat that situation.

14 MAYOR FITZGERALD: Via animal control?

15 MR. RECKLINE: Yeah.

16 MAYOR FITZGERALD: We can certainly look  
17 into it. I have not heard such a complaint  
18 that we don't have enough money budgeted for  
19 animal control in the past, but we can look  
20 into it. A lot of this is nature. We can't  
21 eliminate every animal in existence.

22 MR. RECKLINE: Yeah, I know. Years ago  
23 the Village used to rent, free of charge, traps  
24 for which the residents could trap the animals  
25 and relocate them or do whatever they want. I

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1 was wondering if that's a possibility.

2 MAYOR FITZGERALD: We can look into it.  
3 I've been on the Board for 10 years. I don't  
4 remember it occurring during my time on the  
5 Board. We can look into it.

6 MR. RECKLINE: I was wondering if there's  
7 a liability question here by giving the  
8 residents a trap to trap animals.

9 MAYOR FITZGERALD: We can look into it.

10 MR. RECKLINE: Also cats. There's a lot  
11 of cats that roam around too which I don't  
12 believe is proper. After all, we don't allow  
13 dogs to roam around. Why should we allow cats  
14 to roam around? They are -- do not harm human  
15 beings, but they are upsetting to the animal  
16 life in Floral Park such as rabbits and  
17 opossums which we have and I find is very  
18 unique.

19 MAYOR FITZGERALD: Okay. Thank you. By  
20 the way, the squirrel is the official animal of  
21 Floral Park. A little known fact.

22 Anyone else in the room? Anyone on Zoom?  
23 They should raise their hands or put it in the  
24 chat if you would like to speak.

25 MR. SINGH: Hi there.



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1           MAYOR FITZGERALD: Mr. Rana Singh? Just  
2 state your name and address.

3           MR. SINGH: Rana Singh, R-A-N-A  
4 S-I-N-G-H.

5           MAYOR FITZGERALD: Your address?

6           MR. SINGH: 10 Rose. Can I ask two  
7 questions or am I limited to one?

8           MAYOR FITZGERALD: You can ask two.

9           MR. SINGH: So, one small question and one  
10 larger dollar question. In older budgets, I  
11 found the line item for sidewalk repairs and I  
12 think I was looking in my '19 budget. It was  
13 quite a bit below what you had budgeted. Can  
14 you point me to the page I'm looking? I can't  
15 find exact. Was it lumped into something else?

16           MAYOR FITZGERALD: It's in there. Do you  
17 know what page you were looking at in the old  
18 budget?

19           MR. BAMBRICK: It is on page 4.

20           MR. SINGH: Page 29.

21           MAYOR FITZGERALD: I'm sorry. It may not  
22 be the PDF page. Page 29 of the budget, upper  
23 right hand corner, page 29 of page 59.

24           MR. SINGH: Okay. Got it.

25           MAYOR FITZGERALD: Budgeting this year,

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1           \$50,000. It's been \$50,000 last year. It is  
2           a -- there have been years where we did not  
3           have as many, as much damage to them. In 2021,  
4           for example, due to Hurricane Isaias. We did  
5           take down a number of trees because we had to.  
6           In taking down the trees the curb or sidewalks,  
7           they got damaged and in those cases, the  
8           Village does pay for them.

9           TRUSTEE POMBONYO: There's a second code  
10          for residents expense, \$180,000 in code 458,  
11          two lines down.

12          MAYOR FITZGERALD: That is typically done  
13          when we do the sidewalk repair program, which  
14          we rotate throughout the Village, throughout,  
15          you know, every other -- every year. And I  
16          believe this year, we will be doing the west  
17          end. I don't know if we will get to Rose, but  
18          further toward Floral Park Bellerose School, I  
19          think.

20          MR. SINGH: It is a never-ending process.

21          MAYOR FITZGERALD: Yes. By the time we  
22          finish the whole cycle, it is usually time for  
23          the first one to go back and get it done. Yes,  
24          the west end has been a little bad. That's the  
25          focus for the next year or two.

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1           MR. SINGH: Exactly. Okay. And then the  
2 other question was on the police budget. Can  
3 you explain what termination, I think it is  
4 called, termination A, and looking at the  
5 actual numbers in like '17, '18, '19, it used  
6 to be around 120 some odd thousand dollars and  
7 recently, I think actually 2019, was adjustment  
8 to some five thousand and I think the actual  
9 was in this year. It is in that ballpark. Can  
10 you explain what it is and why the jump?

11           MAYOR FITZGERALD: Sure. So, the  
12 termination payout, police officers, as they  
13 work throughout their career, they accrue time,  
14 whether sick time or comp time, and  
15 contractually, any time that is left at the end  
16 of their careers, we are obligated to pay it  
17 contractually. Due to the number of  
18 retirements over the last two or three years,  
19 that number has increased. Typically, it is  
20 paid out over a six year period of time so as  
21 we go through cycles of police officers  
22 retiring, we did have a good number of them a  
23 year ago, that will be on the budget for the  
24 next couple of years. It is a contractual  
25 obligation.



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1 MR. SINGH: That's helpful. And is there  
2 any insurance policy or anything like that that  
3 covers the Village for any policemen conduct  
4 over whatever settlements, hypothetically?

5 MR. BAMBRICK: We have coverage for  
6 personal liability with a \$250,000 self-insured  
7 retention, meaning the Village will be liable  
8 to pay the first 250 and the insurance will  
9 kick in after that. It has to be a  
10 determination of being covered under that for  
11 negligence specific police misconduct.

12 MAYOR FITZGERALD: There's a, over the  
13 years, you can see that the training budget of  
14 the police department has been increased so  
15 hopefully -- they are getting the right  
16 training and Mr. McAllister is at the forefront  
17 of a lot of different ideas and training that  
18 he feels his department requires depending on,  
19 you know, what is going on in the world around  
20 us locally and globally.

21 MR. BAMBRICK: That's a good point, Mayor.  
22 If you'd like, you can read on the website the  
23 police reform plan. It goes extensively in the  
24 training of what our police department  
25 receives, and the Mayor is absolutely correct,

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1 I think Commissioner McAllister did lead the  
2 way as far as training our police officers and  
3 it's a very interesting read if your haven't  
4 seen it already.

5 MR. SINGH: Thank you. I know a lot of  
6 you have a thankless job. We appreciate all  
7 your time and effort, so thank you.

8 MAYOR FITZGERALD: It is a great place to  
9 live and we work hard, all of us that work in  
10 the Village and volunteers in the Village and  
11 live in the Village, to keep it the way it is.  
12 Thank you for your comments.

13 Is there anyone else on Zoom? Can you  
14 give your name and address?

15 MS. ALPHONSE: Jessica Alphonse, 125  
16 Mayfair Avenue.

17 MAYOR FITZGERALD: Hello Jessica. You  
18 decide to go on Zoom and not join your follow  
19 library board members.

20 MS. ALPHONSE: I'm sorry. My husband is  
21 out of town. I had to relieve the babysitter,  
22 so I ran home.

23 I wanted to say obviously that, you know,  
24 you said Floral Park is a great place to live.  
25 We all feel the same way. I think a big part

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TRUSTEE CHIARA: Aye.

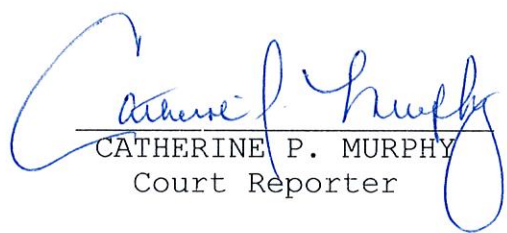
MR. BAMBRICK: Deputy Mayor Pombonyo?

TRUSTEE POMBONYO: Aye.

MR. BAMBRICK: Mayor Fitzgerald?

MAYOR FITZGERALD: Aye. Thank you everyone that came out tonight. Hopefully on Zoom, hopefully you found us informative and we look forward again. Thank you very much.

Certified to be a true and accurate transcript of the proceedings.

  
CATHERINE P. MURPHY  
Court Reporter