

**INCORPORATED VILLAGE OF FLORAL PARK  
MINUTES BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
TUESDAY, MAY 18, 2021 8:00 PM  
In-Person Attendance Is Permitted; Village Hall Courtroom  
LIMITED SEATING AVAILABLE; FACE MASKS REQUIRED WHEN ENTERING THE BUILDING**

Prior to the Special Use Permit Public Hearing and the Board of Trustees Regular Meeting, the Village Board held the Swearing-In Ceremony of the Fire Chief and Assistant Fire Chiefs at 7:15 PM outside Fire Department Headquarters on Vernon Street.

Present were Mayor Kevin M. Fitzgerald, Trustees Lynn Pombonyo, Archie T. Cheng, Frank J. Chiara, and Jennifer Stewart. The Village Board heard outgoing Fire Chief Patrick McAllister's annual report as follows:

Mayor Kevin Fitzgerald, Former Mayor Dominic Longobardi, Deputy Mayor Dr. Lynn Pombonyo, Fire Commissioner and Trustee Archie Cheng, Trustee Frank Chiara, Trustee Jen Stewart, Members of the Village Administration, Member of the Department, Residents and Guests:

I stand before you tonight extremely honored and humbled as Chief of the Floral Park Fire Department to give my final report for the year 2020-2021. Words cannot describe how proud I am of the dedication and hard work the volunteers of the Floral Park Fire Department put forth during one of the most demanding years this Department has experienced. They are an incredible group, and I thank each and every one of you for your service to our Floral Park community.

This is the status of our department:

**Membership:**

The Department currently has 167 members consisting of the following:

Active membership is 99 including firefighters and EMS, 26 Past and Present Chiefs, 3 Honorary Chiefs, 12 Probationary members.

28 Associate Members

2 Chaplains

This year we swore in 7 new members and had 3 resignations.

**Alarms:**

The most important thing we do is respond to emergencies to assist those in need of help.

For the year:

EMS Calls:	876
Fire Calls:	112
Auto Accidents:	322
Hazmat/Hazmat related calls:	41
Carbon Monoxide Alarms/incidents:	28
Mutual Aid to other towns:	03
Total Calls:	1,209

This year total fire loss is estimated to be \$6,000,000.

**Training:**

Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, most of the scheduled training that the department would normally participate in was cancelled. Members received FSA (Fire Service Academy) Training in September 2020 with only a limited number of members attending due to COVID-19 restrictions. Our members received on the job training at the four fires in our Village over the last year as well as the numerous EMS calls to assist the community with their medical issues.

**Probationary Training:**

We were fortunate enough to get seven probationary firefighters through our in-house fire department training. I would like to thank Chief Brian Hamerman and Fire Fighters Patrick Conway and Bill Hecker for this accomplishment under difficult circumstances.

**Purchasing:**

This year there were 63 purchase orders and 124 vouchers processed. Thank you to Village Administrator/Treasurer Gerry Bambrick and Village Deputy Treasurer Kathleen Mack for all your help and assistance with our purchasing needs.

**Medical and Fit Testing:**

Each year our members are required to take an OSHA medical and interior fire fighters are required to be fit tested for their SCBA mask. Thank you to Chief Dodson and our recently deceased member William Hecker for overseeing this and ensuring our members stay current and up to date on their certification.

**Radios:**

Radio communication continues to be an ongoing problem. We constantly strive to find solutions and improve on what is our most important piece of equipment; our ability to communicate. I would like to thank Chief Saville for his tireless work spending hours on the phone to resolve these communication issues. We are looking into and researching new ways to communicate going forward.

**Equipment:**

The Department has the following inventory of vehicles:

- |  |                                       |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| 2019 Ferrara Igniter Pumper            | 1931 American LaFrance Antique Pumper |
| 1998 Spartan Saulsbury Pumper          | 2009 Chevy Tahoe Chief Vehicle (1211) |
| 2002 Spartan Saulsbury Pumper]         | 2013 Chevy Tahoe Chief Vehicle        |
| 2004 Pierce Hook and Ladder 95” aerial | 2016 Chevy Tahoe Chief Vehicle        |
| 1984 Mack Heavy Rescue Truck           | 2017 Chevy Tahoe Chief Vehicle        |
| 2003 Passenger Van (Safety Van)        | 2020 Chevy Tahoe Chief Vehicle        |
| 2018 Ford Transit Van                  | 2- 2019 Chevy Tahoe Chief Vehicle’s   |
| 2015 Ford F450 Ambulance               |                                       |

**Word Orders:**

This equipment requires heavy maintenance and needs to be always in top working order as someone’s life may depend on it. This year 23 vehicle work orders and 25 house work orders kept these vehicles in operation. Thank you to Superintendent Kevin Ginnane and all the village mechanics for your hard work and dedication to our fleet.

**Pump, Ladder, and Hose Testing:**

All ladders and hoses were tested as required. Any damaged hose was removed and replaced. All three engines went to the Academy for the annual pump test. I am happy to report all equipment is in good working order.

**Explorers:**

Our Explorer Program was on pause this year out of safety concerns for the Explorers due to the COVID-19 pandemic. We look forward to this program restarting under the leadership of Chief Florio, Ex-Captain Georke, their advisers and members.

**Parade:**

As you can guess, due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, there were no scheduled “normal” parades this year. The Floral Park Fire Department did participate in numerous drive-by celebrations for members of our community celebrating Memorial Day, birthdays, retirements, graduations, and family events. We were more than happy to accommodate these requests as bringing joy in a year that had so much sadness was a welcome change of pace for all of us.

**Fire Prevention:**

As the year progressed, we were limited as to what we could do as a department pertaining to fire prevention. I applaud Chief Hamerman and his committee for conducting school fire drills to educate our students and school staff in fire safety. I also want to thank Chiefs Bennett and Florio and their committee on completing 306 fire inspections keeping our places of business up to code in Floral Park in spite of the pandemic.

**Thank You**

This being an unprecedented year, the Fire Department had minimal in person interaction with the Board of Trustees as well as Village Administration. Yet you were there for us to assist with all our needs. If we needed a work order or a purchase order, you made it happen. Your support through some of our darkest days will always be remembered and appreciated. As the saying goes: “It takes a Village”.

Mayor Longobardi and the Board of Trustees: Thank you for all you have done and continue to do to support the Floral Park Fire Department. It is greatly appreciated. I also want to take this time to wish Mayor Fitzgerald a successful term in office. I know the Chief’s Staff is looking forward to working with you.

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

To Gerry Bambrick, Sue Walsh and the Village Staff: Thank you for all of your hard work and help. You make the day-to-day things happen and it is very much appreciated.

To Chief O'Grady and Chief Wakely, Chief Longobardi and Paul Pinto: Thank you for all the tireless work you do behind the scenes in the office. You are the backbone of this operation.

Special thanks to Brian Naughton, Kevin Fogarty, Bobby Gartner and the members of the Active Engine Company for their support and always having my back.

As I said before, "It takes a Village". My staff was exceptional at a time when I needed an exceptional staff - Always there no matter what time of day. We held meetings and an hour after the meeting ended, the protocols had changed, and we had to have more meetings to keep up with the ever-changing COVID-19 guidelines. Mike, Jep, Brian, and Danny: I couldn't have done this without you!!! You are a great bunch of guys, and the Department is in great hands along with our newest addition Gil Luger.

My term started off with a bang when Chief Arrigo tested positive for the Coronavirus. During the transfer of power in April 2020 it felt like Sal Arrigo was handing over the keys to the Titanic. Things didn't get much better for a long time after that. We lost a lot of good people in 2020. Mayor Longobardi's mother and mother-in-law just to name a few. You have the department's deepest condolences.

The rescue company went above and beyond what was expected of them - putting themselves and their families in personal danger as members of the department were not vaccinated until late December, early January. It would not be unusual to take a husband to the hospital with signs of Covid, only to return the following week because his wife was experiencing symptoms. At many of these calls, we were unsure if these patients would ever be returning home to their families again.

The Department was also experiencing a crisis within a crisis due to a shortage of PPE until Chuck Zuba and Kenny Fairben stepped in. They managed to keep the first battalion supplied with the necessary PPE from the EOC. Thank you Chuck and Kenny for keeping the Department safe.

I asked Chief Bennett to compile a list of members who wanted to be vaccinated when the time came. He reached out to rescue member Marty Cook, also our infectious disease officer, and Marty's response was, and I quote "My chemo therapy is running an hour late but as soon as I get out of here I will get this started." That's the kind of guy Marty is. May God bless you Marty Cook. Ladies and Gentlemen: It truly takes a Village. Chief Dodson and all the officers of the companies completed this Herculean task and got everyone who was interested a vaccination appt.

This was a heck of a year for Rescue and I want to thank all who participated. I don't want to mention names because I don't want to leave anyone out - but you know who you are. You have the thanks and gratitude of the entire Village.

I've said it takes a village but in this particular instance, it took villages. On a beautiful September morning, what we thought was probably going to be a quick kitchen fire at Park Place, turned out to be a nine and a half hour ordeal. A fire scene can be best defined as total chaos. The quicker you get the chaos under control, the better the scene becomes. It took numerous fire depts. from as far away as Plandome, which gave Chief Mike Saville the opportunity to work alongside his brother Rob Saville, to help us stop a large volume of fire in the row of stores on Covert Avenue. As Chief Saville and I saw smoke coming from both ends of the street, we decided to make a stand at the fire wall located at the Nail Salon. We put all our resources to fight off the progression of fire and save the remaining six stores. Thank you to all the surrounding fire departments that responded and provided assistance to our village.

This fire was unusual due to how many hours it took to get under control. The store owners and merchants watched as their livelihoods went up in flames, and they offered us hugs, handshakes and thanked us for our efforts to help save their stores. They offered to send food to the fire fighters who were injured while fighting the fire. Floral Park is truly a great place to live!

In November 2020 at 146 Jericho Turnpike the Floral Park Fire Department made quick work of a fire in an apartment and were able to remove all the occupants.

Only 11 days later on November 22 at 58 Webster, we once again responded to a fully involved house fire. Several people in the home were able to self-evacuate and it was amazing to watch the Floral Park Fire Department contain the fire to the second floor while the roof slowly collapsed.

On March 16, 2021, at approximately 1806 hours, the Floral Park Fire Department responded to a house fire at 44 Hitchcock. Quick work contained the fire to the back of the house and the occupant was also able to self-evacuate from his home.

All of these fires were put out by volunteer members of the Floral Park Fire Department. As a Chief, it makes me very proud to see how professional and adept our members are at putting out fires in short order. I want to thank all my members for a job well done and the fact that there were no fatalities during the course of any of these fires. This is a reflection upon your professionalism during these chaotic situations. God bless you one and all.

To my wife Joan and daughters: Jessica, Breanna and Hannah: I want to thank all of you for your support and patience over the years. I often had to run out from the dinner table or a soccer game or I was late to pick someone up because I was answering calls that occurred in the Village. They always seem to come at the worst possible moment, and I thank you for your understanding. I Love you guys – I could not have done this without your support!

It is my deepest regret to report a line of duty death of William (Billy) Hecker, a 31-year member of the Floral Park Fire Department. When I first met Billy as a fire fighter, I thought he was bat “&\*\$#” crazy having us wash the fire hose as we put it back on the truck. It wasn’t until I was Chief that I was fully able to appreciate Billy. If you gave him an assignment or a task, he always gave 110%. Billy was a dedicated and devoted member of this Fire Department, and his contributions will always be remembered. I hope that you will keep him and his wife Peg in your prayers as Peg continues to recover from symptoms from the Coronavirus.

Mayor Fitzgerald, Board of Trustees: It is my honor to turn over the keys of the titanic to this crew of men that will be able to right this ship and get it back to the normal way we do things. I would like to introduce the newly elected Chief’s staff of the Floral Park Fire Department for the year 2021-2022:

4<sup>th</sup> Assistant Chief Gil Luger from the Active Engine Co. #3  
3<sup>rd</sup> Assistant Chief Brian Hamerman from the Reliance Engine Co. #2  
2<sup>nd</sup> Assistant Chief Daniel Bennett from the Rescue Co. #1  
1<sup>st</sup> Assistant Chief James Dodson from the Alert Co. #1  
Chief of Department, Michael Saville from the Hook and Ladder Co. #2

Respectfully submitted,

Chief Patrick McAllister  
Chief of Department

### **Mayor Kevin Fitzgerald**

“Before offering his remarks with regards to Chief McAllister, as there was a large contingent of the Fire Department on hand and it was the first significant gathering of the Department in over a year, Mayor Fitzgerald started off by thanking the entire Department for their valiant efforts throughout what was a most trying year. The Village is extremely grateful for their dedicated service.”

On behalf of the entire Board and Village Administration, I would like extend my thanks and gratitude to you, Chief, for an outstanding job in a most unique and challenging year. Please know that your time, whether spent in the Chief’s office working preparing for meetings, budgets, ensuring that your Department had the proper equipment or sharing a laugh with a fellow volunteer was time well spent. As the Chief of the Department there were many challenges that you faced during the course of the last year, all adeptly handled by you and your staff. As you mentioned in your report the challenges of the last year were unlike any that I know of and in all honesty hope will never have to be encountered by future Chiefs and for that we are grateful.

Now, Chief McAllister, I hope you will enjoy some free time attending and enjoying your concerts. To Joan and your family, thank you for allowing Pat to share his valuable time along with his talents for the past 5 years in service to his fellow residents.

In closing on behalf of my fellow board members and our Village residents’ thank you for your dedicated service to our home... Floral Park

**Chief Patrick McAllister – Officially Relieved of Duties**

Mayor Fitzgerald again thanked Pat for his distinguished service to our Village and relieved Chief Patrick McAllister as Chief of Department of his duties.

**Swearing-In Fire Chiefs in the Department**

Mayor Fitzgerald then swore in the new Fire Chiefs: Chief of Department Mike Saville, 1st Assistant Chief James Dodson, 2nd Assistant Chief Brian Hamerman, 3rd Assistant Chief Daniel Bennett and 4th Assistant Chief Gil Luger.

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Immediately after the Special Use Permit Public Hearing (Smoking Shields Cigar Club) the regular meeting started at 8:26 PM and was available by video and tele-conference as follows:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84790124536?pwd=QjZlWXJScnBrY0V0M3IyZl1lOWJmM2UT09>

Meeting ID: 847 9012 4536; Passcode: 018830 Dial-in +1 646 558 8656 US (NY); Meeting ID: 847 9012 4536; Passcode: 018830.

Present were Mayor Kevin M. Fitzgerald, Trustees Lynn Pombonyo, Archie T. Cheng, Frank J. Chiara, and Jennifer Stewart, Village Administrator Gerard M. Bambrick, Village Clerk Susan E. Walsh, Superintendent of Public Works Kevin Ginnane, Superintendent of Buildings Renee Marcus, Police Commissioner Stephen McAllister, Deputy Village Clerk Rosaleen Shea & Village Attorney John Ryan.

On motion by Trustee Pombonyo, seconded by Trustee Cheng, and carried unanimously, the Board approved the Minutes from the Public Hearings – 50 Jericho Turnpike; Jiffy Lube; 86 S. Tyson Avenue – The Harrison; and Regular Board Meeting all held on May 4, 2021; & Work Sessions held on 5/11/21 and on 5/13/21.

Trustee Cheng offered Resolution No. 2021-103 to approve the Schedule of Accounts Payable as follows:

General Fund	\$ 725,493.53
Pool Fund	\$ 7,570.70
Capital Fund	\$ 19,759.50
Total	\$ 752,823.73

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

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

On motion by Trustee Chiara, seconded by Trustee Stewart, and carried unanimously, the Board approved the requests to use public facilities as follows:

- Floral Park Bellerose School request to use and close Larch Avenue from Atlantic Avenue to Crocus Avenue to host their outdoor 6<sup>th</sup> grade promotion ceremony on June 23<sup>rd</sup> from 10 am through 2:30 pm subject to subject to Dept of Health and CDC guidelines and receipt of certificate of insurance;
- John Lewis Childs School request to close Elizabeth Street on Monday, June 14<sup>th</sup> from 8:30 am to 10:30 am for their annual Flag Day Opening Ceremony with the assistance of the FP Police Department;
- Floral Park Fire Department – (Reliance Engine Co) request to close north side of Holland Avenue parking lot on Friday, August 6<sup>th</sup> from 7 pm to 11 pm for their ‘Up in Smoke Fundraiser’;
- John Lewis Childs School request to use Centennial Gardens for kindergarten picnic on Friday, June 4 from 12:30 pm to 2:30 pm subject to Dept of Health and CDC guidelines and receipt of certificate of insurance;

- Floral Park Bellerose School request to use Centennial Gardens for 1<sup>st</sup> grade picnic on Tuesday, June 22<sup>nd</sup> (RD 6/21) from 11:15 am to 1:30 pm subject to Dept of Health and CDC guidelines and receipt of certificate of insurance; and
- Floral Park Bellerose School request to use Centennial Gardens for ‘Kinderfun’ Day on Friday, May 28<sup>th</sup> from 11:30 am to 3 pm subject to Dept of Health and CDC guidelines and receipt of certificate of insurance.

Trustee Stewart offered Resolution No. 2021-104 to authorize the transfer requests from the following departments:

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Four Village Studio:

Transfer From: 001-8990-0480 (Training) \$4,040.00  
 Transfer To:  
 001-8990-0455 (Repairs) \$4,000.00  
 001-8990-1900 (Insurance) \$40.00

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Public Works Department:

<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>TO ACCOUNT</u>	<u>FROM ACCOUNT</u>
\$5,000.00	1620.0447 Building/Reliance	8540.0435 Storm Sewer/Contractor
\$8,100.00	1620.0449 Building/Library	5650.0200 Off St Parking/Equipment
\$76,407.57	1620.0450 Building/Village Hall	1640.0100 Central Garage/Personal Services
\$11,150.00	1640.0450 DPW/Repairs to Building	5010.0430 Admin/Prof Services
\$12,330.00	1640.0450 DPW/Repairs to Building	5010.0435 Admin/Radios
\$7,500.00	5110.0406 Highway/Supplies	5650.0406 Off St Parking/Supplies
\$73,340.60	5110.0450 Highway/Sidewalk/Village	5110.0402 Highway/Road Material
\$7,600.00	5110.0460 Highway/Repairs to Truck	8560.0440 Shade Trees/Planting & Spraying
\$3,800.00	5110.0460 Highway/Repairs to Truck	8560.0480 Shade Trees/Training & Seminars
\$4,700.00	7110.0460 Parks/Repairs to Truck	8560.0406 Shade Trees/Supplies
\$26,237.68	8170.0460 St. Cleaning/Repairs to Truck	1640.0100 Central Garage/Personal Services

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Administration:

From: Amount: To:  
 Contingent \$51,467.78 Personal Services – Clerk/Treasurer Amount:

001.1900.1910	001.1325.0100	\$20,377.17
	<u>Personal Services – Assessor</u>	<u>Amount:</u>
	001.1355.0100	\$3,862.50
	<u>Personal Services – DPW/Admin</u>	<u>Amount:</u>
	001.5010.0100	\$9,455.07
	<u>Personal Services – Safety Inspection</u>	<u>Amount:</u>
	001.3620.0100	\$15,253.10
	<u>Personal Services – Recreation</u>	<u>Amount:</u>
	001.7140.0100	\$2,070.61
	<u>Personal Services – Pool</u>	<u>Amount:</u>
	012.2200.0100	\$449.33
	Total Transfer	\$51,467.78

DPW Snow Overtime:

<u>From:</u>	<u>Amount:</u>	<u>To:</u>	
<u>Contingent</u>	\$86,938.33	<u>Building Maintenance</u>	<u>Amount:</u>
001.1900.1910		001.1620.0102	\$2,375.37
		<u>Garage</u>	<u>Amount:</u>
		001.1640.0102	\$6,582.17
		<u>Highway</u>	<u>Amount:</u>
		001.5110.0102	\$35,618.32
		<u>Parks</u>	<u>Amount:</u>
		001.7110.0102	\$8,873.54
		<u>Sanitation</u>	<u>Amount:</u>
		001.8160.0102	\$20,313.29
		<u>Street Cleaning</u>	<u>Amount:</u>
		001.8170.0102	\$7,586.15
		<u>Shade Tree</u>	<u>Amount:</u>
		001.8560.0102	\$5,589.49
		Total Transfers:	\$86,938.33

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

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

Trustee Pombonyo offered Resolution No. 2021-105 to approve Police Officer Michael Tangredi as permanent status since he successfully completed his eighteen month probationary period.

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

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

Trustee Cheng offered Resolution No. 2021-106 to authorize the hiring of Brendan Hamil as a Laborer in the Public Works Department at the contractual rate of \$37,372.00 subject to medical, drug/alcohol screenings and NC Civil Service approval.

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

Trustee Pombonyo - Aye  
Trustee Cheng - Aye  
Trustee Chiara - Aye  
Trustee Stewart - Aye

Mayor Fitzgerald - Aye

Trustee Stewart offered Resolution No. 2021-107 to authorize the Mayor and/or Village Administrator to sign the CSEA contract covering period from June 1, 2016 through May 31, 2022. Mayor Fitzgerald thanked Village Administrator Bambrick, the Union President and Superintendent of Public Works Kevin Ginnane for their hard work in achieving this contract.

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

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

Trustee Pombonyo offered Resolution No. 2021-108 to authorize Police Officer Hayes to attend Patrol Tactics Training "Train the Trainer" sponsored by NY Tactical Officer Association Patrol Tactics Conference from August 23-26 for 4 days at a total cost of \$1,487 including meals, lodging and registration.

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

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

Trustee Cheng offered Resolution No. 2021-109 to determine that the Special Use Permit Application of James Im to open a deli at the property known as 75 Covert Avenue, Floral Park, is listed as a Type II action as that term is defined in SEQRA and that it will not have a significant effect on the environment.

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

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

Trustee Chiara offered Resolution No. 2021-110 to approve Thomas Steck be a member of the Floral Park Volunteer Fire Department since receiving medical, background and fingerprint clearances by the Floral Park Police Department.

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

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

### **Conservation Society - Trustee Lynn Pombonyo**

As Centennial Gardens begins to burst with spring color, we salute the hundreds of volunteers who make that possible. Beginning with Conservation Society Chairman Dennis McEnery, decades of dedicated Conservation Society (FPCS) volunteers have created and cared for the beautifully unique flowers, bushes and trees that have matured and come together to create the Gardens' magnificence. Many other individuals and organizations are now joining those FPCS efforts. This past month alone includes the Floral Park Bellerose Rotary Club who, in



conjunction with the Catherine Violet Hubbard Foundation, are creating a Butterfly Garden near the stage to celebrate the theme "Creating Kindness Together." The flowers being planted will attract beautiful monarch butterflies to that spot. Also at the Gardens this weekend, clearing brush and weeds, were Chaminade High School student volunteers and Boy Scout Troop 298 from New Hyde Park, both groups whose volunteerism is ongoing and sustained. Iris Island is a lovely, new garden created by our children's recreation program gardening classes and their teacher Mrs. Laura Trentacoste. Thanks to Girl Scout Troop 1484 for refreshing our very special Sensory Garden with eye-catching flowers and other wonders of nature for visitors to experience through their senses of sight, sound, touch and smell (no tasting please). Girl Scout Troop 1859 has adopted an older garden and will refresh it and bring it to new life. We invite you all to consider adopting a garden bed that may have been neglected and restore it to its finest. And there's Daisy Troop 1277 who planted raised garden beds along Raff Avenue and will follow up by caring for them. Water painting on special blackboards has become a favorite activity in our Children's Garden, and our Wednesday Mother's Club has generously supplied this season's materials. And, last but not least, thanks to all the volunteers, long-time and newcomers, who made the May 1st Gardens Weed-out Day a productive success.

You can find out lots more about the Gardens by viewing the photos and posts on our spectacular Floral Park Centennial Gardens facebook page, created by talented FPCS volunteer Ann Moynagh, and our website at [fpgarden.org](http://fpgarden.org) , run by volunteer Steve Koste.

These are just a few examples of our extraordinary Gardens volunteerism. If you are interested in being part of this very special piece of Floral Park, send a personal message on our facebook page or complete a form on our website. And thanks to all for this glorious Floral Park treasure!

#### **Department of Public Works - Trustee Lynn Pombonyo**

The resurfacing of Plainfield Avenue, between Hempstead and Jericho Turnpikes, began yesterday, May 17th. They are working during the hours of 8pm to 5am, and have already milled the roadway between Hempstead Turnpike and Clarence Street. Paving will follow shortly. Plainfield residents will be able to access their street and driveways throughout the project. DPW can answer all questions at 326-6320.

Other current DPW projects include filling potholes and clearing out drainage basins Village wide.

#### **Recreation Department - Trustee Lynn Pombonyo**

Get ready for a busy summer and register for your summer recreation programs on Wednesday, May 19th, 7-9pm and Saturday and Sunday, May 22nd to May 23rd, 9am-2pm at the pool building. Registration for the remaining open programs will continue thereafter. See the Recreation & Pool Book 2021 online at [fpvillage.org](http://fpvillage.org) for the exciting program descriptions of interesting activities and fitness/wellness classes for those of all ages.

#### **Chambers of Commerce and Our Businesses - Trustee Lynn Pombonyo**

Outdoor dining is in full swing with many new, attractive outdoor settings for our second season of this very popular dining experience. Enjoy SHOPPING AND DINING LOCAL, and please support all our Floral Park and Stewart Manor businesses throughout Summer 2021!

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

Earlier this evening, we swore in the new Chief's Staff of the Fire Department. Chief of the Department Michael Saville was sworn in as well as Assistant Chiefs Jep Dodson, Brian Hamerman, Dan Bennett and Gil Luger. The Department is in good hands and pray for an uneventful safe year.

There were 92 calls for the month of April.

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

The Charles Street sound wall work began this past week. Poles have started to be installed from west to east. This work should be completed by the end of May. The actual wall installation will start in July and should take 3-4 weeks. The retaining wall work near Tunnel Street is almost finished up to the west side of the tunnel. Work will be continuing behind the sump with the installation of retaining walls and switch work for the next 4-5 months.

**Building Department – Trustee Frank Chiara**

The Floral Blvd road reconstruction project is in its last phases of construction. The road is currently being milled and shortly thereafter it will be paved. Please use caution in this construction area. There will be road closures and detours while this work is being performed. If at all possible please try to avoid this area. With the weather holding up and without any unforeseen construction issues this project may be complete within the next few weeks. Residents having any issues related to the construction, please notify DPW so that they will be addressed on the final punch list.

**Thank You – Trustee Frank Chiara**

I would like to express my thanks and gratitude to Chief Patrick McAllister for his outstanding performance while leading our great Volunteer Fire Department over the last year. Chief McAllister, THANK YOU for your leadership and volunteer service to our community.

I would also like to offer my best wishes to our newly sworn-in Fire Chiefs. Thank you all for your volunteer service to our Village. It is so very much appreciated.

**Library - Trustee Jennifer Stewart**

With easing Covid 19 restrictions, the library is able to welcome more patrons at the same time. We are happy to announce that the quiet room has been reopened for quiet reading and studying,

Additionally, the creation of the ‘Tween Center’ is well underway with new couches coming soon. Outdoor programs, such as Teen Yoga continue to gain popularity. We are looking forward to adding outdoor concerts on the library lawn in the near future.

**Pool – Trustee Jennifer Stewart**

Minor repairs on the pool are scheduled to begin shortly, and we remain on track for a June 13 opening. Memberships are already on a pace greater than we had for the pre-covid summer of 2019.

Lifeguards have received their mandated NYS CPR training and are ready to sit poolside and keep watchful eyes over the waters. Please visit the village website at [fpvillage.org](http://fpvillage.org) to begin your registration for the 2021 Pool Season.

**Mayor Kevin Fitzgerald**

I am happy to announce that there will be a Memorial Day Parade this year. The parade will be a hybrid of a car parade most likely starting at Village Hall. The car parade route will be posted on the Village website, Facebook and on 4VS in the next couple of days. The Fire Department, the American Legion and the Board of Trustees will march on Tulip Avenue to Memorial Park and hold its traditional Memorial Day ceremony. I encourage anyone who hasn't attended to join us to honor those who gave their least measure for our great country.

I would like to give an update on the Belmont Redevelopment Project. Last Friday, Deputy Mayor Lynn Pombonyo, Village Administrator Gerry Bambrick and I met with the Empire State Development Corporation and Senator Anna Kaplan to review some Belmont buffer area items that we have asked for in the past year and a half. They still have work left to do on their side. Yesterday, Deputy Mayor Pombonyo, Trustee Chiara and I we met with residents on Mayfair Avenue and we will be meeting tomorrow with residents on the dead end of Crocus Avenue to review the Belmont matters. We will be following up and hope for a favorable result.

Thank you to Felix (Procaccia) for attending this evening's meeting and always appreciate all that you do.

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At 8:50 pm Trustee Pombonyo motioned to go into Executive Session, seconded by Trustee Cheng and carried unanimously, the Board went into Executive Session. Present were Mayor Kevin M. Fitzgerald, Trustees Lynn Pombonyo, Archie Cheng, Frank Chiara and Jennifer Stewart, 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 recreation, public works and police personnel matters and litigation update. Trustee Chiara motioned to come out of Executive Session, seconded by Trustee Stewart and carried unanimously. No action was taken. The meeting ended at 11:05 pm.

Susan E. Walsh  
Village Clerk