



**INCORPORATED VILLAGE OF FLORAL PARK**

**Board of Trustees SCRIPT**

**Tuesday, October 19, 2021 – 8PM**

**Village Hall Courtroom**

**IN -PERSON ATTENDANCE IS PERMITTED; Masks required if Unvaccinated**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81173323884?pwd=UzhrMzZpc1JlSk0NlaGRpWDVnRDJodz09>

Meeting ID: 811 7332 3884, Passcode: 983747; Dial-in: +1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

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Mayor Fitzgerald opened the Regular Meeting at 8 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present were Mayor Kevin M. Fitzgerald, Trustees Lynn Pombonyo, Archie Cheng, and Jennifer Stewart, Village Administrator Gerry Bambrick, Village Clerk Susan Walsh, Deputy Village Clerk Rosaleen Shea, Village Attorney John Ryan, Superintendent of Buildings Renee Marcus, Lt. Tom McCarthy, Superintendent of Public Works Kevin Ginnane, and Deputy Village Assessor Michael Derby. Trustee Chiara and Police Commissioner McAllister were excused with notice.

Trustee Pombonyo offered Resolution No. 2021-211 “with gratitude and congratulations” to promote Police Officer Joseph Cosmo to the rank of Sergeant at the contractual rate of \$172,810.00 effective immediately and probationary period of 60 days.

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

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

The regular meeting opened at 8:13 pm immediately after the public hearing for Propose Local Law # 6 – 2021 related to property tax exemptions for Floral Park senior citizens.

On motion by Trustee Cheng, seconded by Trustee Chiara, and carried unanimously, the Board approved the Minutes for the Public Hearings for 318 Jericho Turnpike and 31 Covert Avenue and the Regular Board of Trustees Meeting all held on October 5, 2021 and the Work Session held on October 11, 2021.

Trustee Cheng offered Resolution No. 2021-212 to approve the Schedule of Accounts Payable as follows:

|              |                |
|--------------|----------------|
| General Fund | \$1,140,976.62 |
| Pool Fund    | \$ 8,076.19    |
| Capital Fund | \$ - 0 -       |
| Total:       | \$1,149,052.81 |

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

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

On motion by Trustee Stewart, seconded by Trustee Pombonyo and carried, the Board approved and/or ratified the use public facilities as follows:

- i. PBA to use Firefighters’ Hall to host their annual children’s Christmas Party on Sunday, December 5, 2021 from 12 noon to 4:00 pm subject to receipt of certificate of insurance and CDC and Department of Health Guidelines;
- ii. FP American Legion to hold their annual Veterans’ Day March on Thursday, November 11, 2021 kick-off at 10:50 am along Tulip Avenue and ceremony at 11:00 am at Memorial Park subject to CDC and Department of Health Guidelines;
- iii. Four Village Studio to use the second floor of Village Hall including the Courtroom, Mayor’s office and Judge’s chambers on Thursday, January 13, 2022 from 6:30 pm through 10:00 pm

for their annual staff and awards meeting subject to CDC and Department of Health Guidelines; and

- iv. Nassau County Boy Scout Troops to have a ‘Weed Out Day’ in Centennial Gardens on Saturday, November 20, 2021 subject to receipt of certificate of insurance and CDC and Department of Health Guidelines.

Trustee Pombonyo offered Resolution No. 2021-213 to grant the application for the Special Use Permit of Jack Sedorowitz, Architect for Kitchen House, Inc. to operate a store which will store and sell food at the property located at 318 Jericho Turnpike subject to the terms and conditions set forth in the Decision and Resolution.

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

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

Trustee Cheng offered Resolution No. 2021-214 to grant the application for the Special Use Permit of Alex Aguirre, Lessee, of 31 Covert Avenue to operate a wine and liquor store subject to the terms and conditions set forth in the Decision and Resolution.

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

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

Trustee Cheng offered Resolution No. 2021-215 to install School Speed Limits on Floral Boulevard 1,320 feet going east from Larch Avenue in both directions in accordance with Chapter 96-6 of the Village Code.

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

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

Trustee Stewart offered Resolution No. 2021-216 to determine that the petition of John R. Sorrenti, Architect, Verbena Associates, LLC to subdivide property known as 15 Verbena Avenue, Floral Park, NY into six lots for use as office space is a Type II action as that term is defined in SEQRA and will not have a significant effect on the environment.

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

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

Trustee Pombonyo offered Resolution No. 2021-217 to authorize the hiring of Kimberly Keane as a part-time school crossing guard at the contractual rate of \$17.18/hr subject to medical/drug/alcohol screening and Nassau County Civil Service Commission approval.

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

|                  |       |
|------------------|-------|
| Trustee Pombonyo | - Aye |
| Trustee Cheng    | - Aye |

|                  |           |
|------------------|-----------|
| Trustee Chiara   | - Excused |
| Trustee Stewart  | - Aye     |
| Mayor Fitzgerald | - Aye     |

Trustee Cheng offered Resolution No. 2021-218 to authorize the refund request of R. Bazuro in the amount of \$90.00 for the exercise program that he was unable to attend.

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

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

Trustee Cheng offered Resolution No. 2021-219 to designate the Village Election to take place on Tuesday, March 15, 2022 between the hours of 12 noon to 9 pm for the office of two Trustees each with a term of 2 years.

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

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

Trustee Stewart offered Resolution No. 2021-220 to award the Tree Planting Bid contract to Northport Trees in the amount of \$63,150.00 and to authorize the Mayor or Village Administrator to sign said contract.

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

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

Trustee Pombonyo offered Resolution No. 2021-221 to authorize Roadwork Ahead Inc. to pave the roads noted in National Grid's Agreement with the Village namely Marshall Ave, E. Revere Drive, Hill Street, Fern Street, Orchid Street and Revere Court and authorize the Mayor or Village Administrator to sign said agreement.

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

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

Trustee Cheng offered Resolution No. 2021-222 to approve the settlement agreement for the matter of Tyler Loschke v. Village of Floral Park in the amount of \$20,000.00 and authorize Village Counsel to sign said Settlement Agreement and General Release.

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

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

Trustee Pombonyo offered Resolution No. 2021-223 to accept the letter of resignation of Matthew Kuehnlentz, Laborer in the Recreation Department, effective October 30, 2021.

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

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

Trustee Stewart offered Resolution No. 2021-224 to accept the Gift of the Little League to upgrade the fencing and dugouts on Field 4 at the Recreation Center, subject to the Village's approval of the design specifics.

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

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

**Recreation Department - Trustee Lynn Pombonyo**

Come to the park to enjoy our fastest growing sport - pickleball, with classes Friday morning at 11am (registration required if you wish to participate), and ongoing practices and games on tennis court 4 and our all-purpose rink. Come out and join the fun!

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

National Grid contractors are currently filling the curb line pavement indentations created by gas main work done previously. This work is taking place on sections of Marshall and Orchid, and on Hill, Fern, Revere Drive East and Revere Court. The repaving project, to be completed with the Village working collaboratively with National Grid, will commence in November. All of that project is paid by funding from National Grid compensating the Village to repave its gas main construction areas and from CHIPS state funding. Separately, Marshall Avenue, from Covert to Orchid, will be a full road reconstruction project.

Residents who want trees for your curb line grassy areas, please call DPW at 326-6320.

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

At the site of last year's fire on Covert Avenue, new, secure fencing has been installed and anchored along the property line on Covert Avenue. This has opened up the sidewalk on Covert Avenue to pedestrians as well as the parking spaces on the street. The parking meters have also been reinstalled. The previous outer fencing on the street has been removed. Thanks go to Building Superintendent Renee Marcus, DPW Superintendent Kevin Ginnane, and our DPW staff for their efforts in resolving this issue and cleaning up the sidewalk and street to increase safety and improve the appearance of the block.

As Halloween, Thanksgiving and the holidays approach, visit our business districts on Covert, Tulip and Jericho to enjoy the festive window displays and seasonal surprises. For all your fall and holiday occasions, SHOP AND DINE LOCAL!

**Conservation Society - Trustee Lynn Pombonyo**

The Floral Park Conservation Society is proud to celebrate honors recently bestowed on one of their most active and dedicated volunteers, Patrick Sexton. A resident of the Village, Patrick was declared Clareperson of the Year by the County Clare Association of Ireland. Dennis McEnery, Conservation Society president, and Patrick's fellow volunteers joined Patrick at a dinner dance at the Irish American Society in Mineola. In Patrick's honor, the County Clare Association is donating a beautiful entranceway trellis and planters for the Centennial Gardens Giving Gardens where Patrick has grown and provided thousands of pounds of fresh vegetables for our poor and needy community members, in addition to his humanitarianism and giving throughout his life. We extend our congratulations and great appreciation to Patrick Sexton of our Floral Park Conservation Society.

And coming this Saturday, October 23rd from 1-4pm is the Conservation Society's Fairie Forest Festival featuring tiny fairies galore and their little fairie spots hidden throughout the Gardens. Wear your fairie wings and costumes, follow the fairie trails, collect your special tokens, and then enjoy some refreshments. All of our families are invited to this very unique event created by our talented Conservation Society volunteer, Ann Moynagh. Proceeds will go to the maintenance and enhancements of our Gardens. For the exciting details and magical photos, see the Floral Park Centennial Gardens facebook page.

**Around Our Village - Trustee Lynn Pombonyo**

Halloween is in the air, and up and down our Village streets. Enjoy the creative, colorful and spooky Halloween displays on our homes' front lawns, especially after dark. And remember, Halloween comes on a Sunday this year. Keep our trick-or-treaters safe and drive carefully. Happy Halloween to all!

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

Additional conduit is scheduled to be installed under Tulip Avenue under the Railroad Station for the next two weeks. There may be traffic diversions and 3TC flaggers will be present while this work is being done. There will be a double track outage on the Main Line of the LIRR during the Oct. 23 and Oct. 30 weekends.

Finally, the Cross Island Parkway will be closed this weekend due to the installation of girders for the new “Elmont” LIRR station.

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

The Fire Department held their annual installation dinner last week. Due to the pandemic, last year's was postponed. The two most recent Ex-Chiefs, Sal Arrigo and Pat McAllister were honored and thanked for their exemplary service. The Mayor swore in the new Chief, Mike Saville and the Staff and Officers of the Department were also sworn in.

October is Fire Prevention Month. On Oct. 22, the Department will be holding School Fire Drills at JLCS, FPBS and FPM.

Please remember to change the batteries in your Smoke and Carbon Monoxide detectors. Thank you.

### **Trustee Jennifer Stewart**

On Thursday 10/14, I was happy to attend a recognition ceremony honoring local business Uptown Taco at Hempstead Town Hall. Uptown Taco had its doors open for six days when then NY Governor Cuomo put our state ‘on pause’ in March of 2020. No one would have batted an eye if Uptown closed its doors. They didn't. Instead, they fed first responders and doctors and nurses hard at work in hospitals, they worked hard and stayed open taking advantage of Floral Park's outdoor dining, one of the first municipalities to offer outdoor dining to its restaurants, offering residents delicious tacos in a comfortable friendly and safe environment. Today they continue to support our community by sponsoring teams; both youth athletic teams as well as adult volleyball and donating meals where one is needed. We are so fortunate to have this wonderful business, along with many others, run by local folks, congratulations again to Uptown Taco!

On Sunday 10/17, a dream of mine came true, I was in the winner's circle, along with Mayor Fitzgerald and Village Clerk Susan Walsh, to present the winning jockey, Jose Leczano with his first-place trophy in the fourth annual Floral Park cup race at Belmont Park.

Congratulations to Mr. Leczano and trainer Christophe Clement, it was a fantastic race!!

### **Floral Park Library – Trustee Jennifer Stewart**

Before any Library news, I have an announcement, our very own part time librarian, Kelly Fernandez, is an author! She has written AND illustrated a kid's graphic novel, Manu! Not only has Ms. Fernandez written and illustrated a novel, but she has also received tremendous positive acclaim from book reviewers. For example, Book List gives it a “Starred Review”, highlighting their review of this book for its excellence. Congratulations to Ms. Fernandez! We are so fortunate to have such talent on our library staff!

The great give back at the library, benefitting the NYRA Backstretch workers ends 10/31. They are accepting donations of all kinds of baby and children's items through the end of the month.

November will begin the library's “Food for Fines” month, bring a can of food along with your overdue or previously lost book, and your fines will disappear!!

It's already time to start thinking about Christmas decorating. The Boy Scouts have your decorating needs covered; they will once again host their Christmas Wreath sale on the library lawn on 11/27.

I would also like to publicly recognize village employee Sal Cotilletta. He greets everyone he meets with a smile and kind word and recently has worked so hard to make physical improvements to our library. The library staff, board, and I thank him profusely. The entrance to the library looks incredible.

### **Mayor's Report – Mayor Kevin Fitzgerald**

Good evening. Trustee Chiara asked me to report in his absence on a few events that are scheduled. On Saturday, October 24, 2021, the Floral Park Police Department, sponsored by the CREW Committee will be participating in the Drug Enforcement Agency's “Drug Take Back Day” from 10am to 2pm. Residents will be able to drop off and dispose of any unwanted and expired medicines at the Police Station. Each year a large amount (by lbs.) are safely disposed of. Please participate and support the good work of the Police Department and CREW.

Also, on Saturday, October 30th at the Police Station, the Floral Park Police Department is hosting its annual Halloween event from 1 pm – 3 pm. It is fun to see the trick-or-treaters dressed up as Police Officers (and First Responders) and we look forward to seeing all of you there. The Police Officers and staff have treats and the kids have a great time.

This past Sunday, I attended the ‘Floral Park Stakes’ with Trustee Stewart and Village Clerk Walsh at the Belmont Racetrack. NYRA livestreamed an overview and commentary on Floral Park. It is aired on the nationally syndicated FOXSPORTS2 and thanks to NYRA, the Belmont Racetrack, Pat McKenna and Glen Kozak for this wonderful presentation and tribute.

I would like to “pre-congratulate” Fr. Thomas Fusco, Pastor of Our Lady of Victory Parish, and Fr. Rafal and the OLV administration on officially celebrating its 100th Anniversary on October 22, 2021 for opening its doors to the parishioners and residents of the Inc. Village of Floral Park. OLV is truly the heart of Floral Park and is very near and dear to myself and my family personally; and to the Village’s community with its church, school and outreach programs. Congratulations and we look forward to the many celebration events that are planned in the next month.

Thank you to Felix Procaccia of ‘Just the Facts Media’ for being here this evening.

At 8:32 pm on motion by Trustee Pombonyo, seconded by Trustee Cheng, and carried, the Board closed the business meeting and opened to the public.

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At 8:35 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, and Jennifer Stewart, Village Administrator Gerry Bambrick, Village Clerk Susan Walsh, Village Attorney John Ryan, Superintendent of Buildings Renee Marcus, Lt. Tom McCarthy, Superintendent of Public Works Kevin Ginnane, Superintendent of Recreation Kurt Meyfohrt and Pool Director Tom Dillon. Trustee Chiara and Police Commissioner McAllister were excused with notice.

The Board discussed the pool, public works, police department personnel matters and litigation updates. Trustee Stewart motioned to come out of Executive Session, seconded by Trustee Pombonyo and carried unanimously. No action was taken.

The meeting ended at 9:40 pm.

Susan Walsh  
Village Clerk