

INCORPORATED VILLAGE OF FLORAL PARK
Board of Trustees MINUTES
April 5, 2022 at 8 pm
Village Hall Courtroom; IN-PERSON ATTENDANCE IS PERMITTED

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85220718212?pwd=djFZVWhNbW1nZWV1OWFWSUFKdmF6Zz09>; Meeting ID: 852 2071 8212; Passcode: 184447; Dial-in: 1 646 558 8656; Meeting ID: 852 2071 8212; Passcode: 184447.

The Mayor opened the meeting at 8PM and led all in the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Mayor Kevin Fitzgerald announced that he had the privilege of swearing-in Police Officer Christopher Timm to the rank of Detective.

Trustee Pombonyo very proudly offered Resolution No. 2022-50 to promote Police Officer Christopher Timm to the rank of Detective at the PBA contractual rate of \$168,576.00 effective immediately.

Prior to seconding the Resolution, Trustee Chiara congratulated Officer Christopher Timm on his promotion and offered the following: "Officer Christopher Timm joined the Floral Park Police Department in 2009. He joined our ranks as a Police Officer after eight years of service with the NYPD. As a NYPD Officer, he was awarded the Commendation for Bravery. Prior to being in the NYPD, Chris honorably served our country for four years in the US Air Force. He was awarded the high honor of the Airman Medal for Non-Combat Valor.

Chris has served the Village of Floral Park as a Police Officer protecting and serving our community for 12 years. He has been a mentor to fellow officers, is the originator of the Highway Safety Program and is a CPR and Stop the Bleed instructor. He has proven himself to be a professional police officer with an admirable work ethic. Chris was raised in northern Virginian and both of his parents are DC Metro Police Officers. He currently resides in the Village with his wife and two children. Chris often volunteers his services to assist seniors in our community.

Based on the recommendations of the Police Commissioner, his supervisors and the Mayor and Village Board, tonight, I am honored to announce the well-deserved promotion of Officer Timm to Detective Timm. Congratulations, Detective Timm. I wish you all the best in your new position and a safe career."

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

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

On motion by Trustee Chiara, seconded by Trustee Stewart, and carried unanimously, the Board approved the Minutes of Regular Board of Trustees Meeting held on Wednesday, March 16, 2022.

Trustee Stewart offered Resolution No. 2022 - 51 to approve the Schedule of Accounts Payable as follows:

General Fund	\$1,786,375.52
Pool Fund	\$ 750.00
Capital Fund	<u>\$ 351.13</u>
Total	\$1,787,476.65

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

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

On motion by Trustee Longobardi, seconded by Trustee Pombonyo, the Board approved/ratified the requests to use public facilities subject to receipt of certificate of insurance and CDC and Department of Health Guidelines as follows:

- Floral Park Junior Woman’s Club to use Memorial Park to hold their annual Spring Fair on Sunday, May 22, 2022 from 8:30 am to 5 pm;
- Boy Scout Troop No. 482 to use Village Hall Courtroom & Firefighters’ Hall to hold a Court of Honor Ceremony on Saturday, June 11, 2022 from 11 am through 2:30 pm;
- Boy Scout Troop 4 to use Carlton Street Parking Field to hold a car wash fundraiser on Saturday, June 4, 2022 (RD 6/12/22) from 9 am to 3 pm;
- Floral Park Fire Department & Blood Services to hold a blood drive in Firefighters’ Hall on Friday, June 24, 2022; and
- Our Lady of Victory School to use Recreation Center for their annual field day on Tuesday, May 31, 2022 (RD 6/1/22).

Trustee Pombonyo offered Resolution No. 2022 - 52 to accept the letter of retirement from public works employee, Joseph J. Langone, Jr. effective April 30, 2022 after 15 years of service with the Village.

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

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

On motion by Trustee Chiara, seconded by Trustee Stewart, the Board approved the below-listed block party applications in accordance with Section 32-12d of the Village Code:

On Verbena Avenue	Between Clarence & Zinnia Aves	Saturday, 9/3/22 (RD Sun 9/4/22)
On Elizabeth Street	Between S. Tyson & Flower Aves	Saturday, 7/9/22 (RD Sun 7/10/22)
On Hickory Street	Between Cherry & Cedar Place	Saturday, 6/25/22 (RD Sun 6/26/22)

Trustee Stewart offered Resolution No, 2022 – 53 to authorize to make the following transfer: \$150,000.00 from Contingency Account to Unallocated Insurance to 001.1900.1900 for payment of workers compensation insurance program.

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

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

Trustee Longobardi offered Resolution No. 2022 - 54 to award the Sidewalk/Curb Replacement Bid to Stasi Industries, Inc. 303 Winding Road, Old Bethpage, NY 11804 in the base bid amount of \$215,000.00 and authorize the Mayor or Village Administrator to sign bid contract.

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

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

Trustee Pombonyo offered Resolution No. 2022 - 55 to hire Yedu Unnithan as an automotive mechanic aide in the Public Works Department at the contractual annual rate of \$49,479.00 effective upon the medical/drug/alcohol clearances and Nassau County Civil Service Commission approval.

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

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

Trustee Chiara offered Resolution No. 2022 - 56 to adopt a resolution to set a date for a tax sale to be held on May 11, 2022 at 10:00 am in the Court Room of Village Hall to recover the 2020 unpaid taxes on 15 parcels of property:

Total taxes not paid	\$ 75,424.73
Total penalty due on the above	\$ 8,329.72
Cost of publishing legal notice	\$ 450.00
Total Taxes with Penalty added	\$ 84,204.45

Total 2020 tax collection \$25,676,309.27

% of tax collected 99.71%

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

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

Trustee Stewart offered Resolution No. 2022 – 57 to adopt a resolution to set a date for a tax sale to be held on May 11, 2022 at 10:00 am in the Court Room of Village Hall to recover the 2021 unpaid taxes on 37 parcels of property:

Total taxes not paid	\$ 161,312.64
Total penalty due on the above	\$ 17,260.35
Cost of publishing legal notice	\$ 1,110.00
Total Taxes with Penalty added	\$ 179,682.99

Total 2021 tax collection \$26,205,187.36

% of tax collected 99.39%

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

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

On motion by Trustee Longobardi, seconded by Trustee Pombonyo, and carried unanimously, the Board approved the 2022 taxi cab licenses for Triple A Taxi drivers since all had background clearance checks from the Floral Park Police Department for the following drivers:

Salvatore Dispenza, Arthur Ruvinsky, Gerald Ingham, Richard DiGeorge, Guillermo Escobar, Joseph Joy, Donald Adams, James Katan & Jory Sherwood

Trustee Pombonyo offered Resolution No. 2022 – 58 to authorize recreation fitness program refund to M. Fumuso in the amount of \$60.00 since she was unable to attend.

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

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

Recreation Department - Trustee Lynn Pombonyo

At Centennial Gardens, the Recreation Department and Conservation Society hosted the very popular, second annual "Meet the Easter Bunny" photo ops this past Saturday. On a beautiful, sunny spring day, 300 children posed with our colorful bunny and were delighted with their special bags of Easter treats. In all, more than 500 guests welcomed spring at the Gardens that day.

Thanks to Recreation Superintendent Kurt Meyfohrt and his staff, DPW Superintendent Kevin Ginnane and his staff, and Conservation Society volunteers for their winter prep work so that, now, we can all celebrate

spring at Centennial Gardens. It's open daily 12-5pm, so plan your trip to enjoy Floral Park's favorite garden spot!

Spring activities are returning to our rec center, too. The fields are prepped for our sports teams, as we have already met with the coaches to schedule this season's games and practices. The Floral Park Little League used grant funding to replace the dugouts at Field 4, an important project with a valuable funding source. Thank you, Little League. And, happily, our Little League parade will resume this year on Saturday, April 23rd at 9:30am, marching the route from Village Hall to the rec center. Opening Day ceremonies at the park will follow and, once again, we'll be hearing "Let's play ball!"

Department of Public Works - Trustee Lynn Pombonyo

The Village-wide LED lighting project is just about complete. Next week's coming attractions include the Floral Parkway side of Centennial Gardens and the installation of the new lights. Thanks to DPW Superintendent Kevin Ginnane, Deputy Superintendent Joe O'Grady, their staff, and Building Superintendent Renee Marcus for making this important project happen.

Pot hole refilling continues as the Parks Department prepares the Village parks for our spring and summer activities. Tree planting begins shortly. Please contact DPW at 516-326-6320 if you'd like a tree for your curb line.

Chambers of Commerce and Our Businesses - Trustee Lynn Pombonyo

On Covert Avenue, at the site of the September 2020 fire, two applicants' building proposals are moving through the Village of Floral Park's review processes. Hillcrest of Floral Park LLC is proposing a two story structure with five businesses on the first floor and ten apartments on the second floor with rear residential parking, not including the property occupied by the former Park Place restaurant. Hillcrest of Floral Park was approved for variances for parking spaces and apartment sizes by the Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA). The owner and his team next did an informative presentation for the Hillcrest Civic Association, at which concerns were noted and many questions were answered. The Architectural Review Board (ARB) met last Wednesday, when another informative presentation was made by the owner and his architects. At that meeting, the building design was approved. A second ARB meeting (open to the public), to consider the building's site plan which encompasses exterior features, will be forthcoming, ARB date to be determined.

The owners of 41 Covert Avenue (formerly Park Place) will appear before the ZBA at Village Hall on Thursday, April 14th at 8pm. At that public hearing, variances for parking and rear setback will be considered. The public is invited to attend to pose questions and offer comments.

Great appreciation is extended to Building Department Superintendent Renee Marcus for her leadership in guiding these significant building projects and providing information to the public.

Fire Department - Trustee Lynn Pombonyo

In two weeks, our Fire Department will gather at our April 19th Village Board meeting for the swearing-in of the Chief staff for the coming year. We will also honor our current Chief of Department, Michael Saville, for his strong leadership and valuable service. Please take a moment to let our firefighters and Rescue's emergency medical volunteers know how much you appreciate their countless hours of voluntary service, fire protection, and emergency medical care. Thank you, Floral Park Fire Department!

Trustee Frank Chiara

I'd like to once again congratulate Mike and Jennifer on their election and welcome Mike to his first official Board of Trustees meeting. I really look forward to working with both of you.

I'd also like to take this opportunity to thank all of the volunteers who came down to the reorganization meeting last night. It is really gratifying to see how many people in our Village come out and volunteer their services to help this community out. It really shows their commitment to the community. Particularly last week, we had a special Architectural Review Board (ARB) meeting and the volunteers on that committee all came out and showed their commitment by offering their services on an extra night that they weren't supposed to be there. It is really so nice to have members of the community who are so dedicated and I thank them.

Police Department – Trustee Frank Chiara

Trustee Chiara congratulated Police Officer Christopher Timm on his promotion to the rank of Detective. Trustee Chiara offered the following: "Officer Christopher Timm joined the Floral Park Police Department in 2009. He joined our ranks as a Police Officer after eight years of service with the NYPD. As a NYPD Officer, he was awarded the Commendation for Bravery. Prior to being in the NYPD, Chris honorably served our country for four years in the US Air Force. He was awarded the high honor of the Airman Medal for Non-Combat Valor.

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Officers. He currently resides in the Village with his wife and two children. Chris often volunteers his services to assist seniors in our community.

Based on the recommendations of the Police Commissioner, his supervisors and the Mayor and Village Board, tonight, I am honored to announce the well-deserved promotion of Officer Timm to Detective Timm. Congratulations, Detective Timm. I wish you all the best in your new position and a safe career.”

Trustee Jennifer Stewart

I'd like to start my report this week by thanking the community for their support by voting for myself and Michael Longobardi. I am really looking forward to continuing as your trustee.

Also, I would like to offer my congratulations to newly promoted Detective Christopher Timm. The Village is fortunate to have you as our newest detective, stay safe.

Floral Park Pool – Trustee Jennifer Stewart

I am very happy to announce that the pool will be opening slightly earlier this year on Friday, June 3rd from 4pm-8pm. Hours will be posted very soon; be on the lookout for a postcard being mailed to every resident with information on pool membership as well as all the fabulous program offerings that come with pool membership such as swim team, swimming lessons, and fun theme nights. Pool booklets will be available at the rec center, village hall and the library. Information will also be available on the village website. We are looking forward to a wonderful fun-filled Summer Season at the Floral Park Pool.

Floral Park Library – Trustee Michael Longobardi

First, thank you to residents for coming out and supporting me in the recent election. I am honored to serve and look forward to my new Trustee role and working with the entire Board.

This week is National Library week. You are invited to stop by and connect with your local Library. The Friends of the Library are opening a book store called the 'Book Nook' on the lower level of the Library. The hours to start will be Wednesdays from Noon – 2pm and Saturdays from 10:30am – 12:30pm.

For kids grades 1-3, we're offering an 'Easter Eggs with Young Engineers' program where the kids will decorate Easter eggs on a machine with gears they create using Legos. Each child creates and brings home his/her own Easter egg. The event is on Thursday, April 7th at 5pm and registration is required. The Library now owns Nintendo switches. Grades 4-6 are invited to come on April 20th at 3:30pm to play video games, board games and hopefully win a gift card from the Tulip Sweet Shoppe.

The 'Sidewalk Astronomer' returns on April 12th for a viewing of the full moon, weather permitting. The Moon Party begins at 7pm with Tom Lynch explaining facts about Earth's closest neighbor.

Lastly, our 'Book Club, Evening Edition' will be meeting this month on Thursday, April 14th at 7pm. For further information and registration, call the Library reference desk at 516-326-6330 ext. 3105 or visit the website at www.floralparklibrary.org.

Mayor's Report – Mayor Kevin Fitzgerald

This is an update on the Third Track Project. The Charles Street sound attenuating walls continued to be delivered to the site. Installation will begin this month with substantial completion expected no later than May 15, 2022. This is the first time that I have seen an actual date in writing and that was on the update that they provided last week. Crews will set the sound panels on the north side of the existing walls from Plainfield Ave. to Covert Ave. and installation may require crews to work overnight on weekdays throughout April. As we have done in the past, we will disseminate the information related to this work to you as soon as we get it, as well as any expected outages.

Next Wednesday, April 13th is the Annual Budget Hearing at 8PM here in Village Hall. As I have mentioned at many Civic Associations, if there is one meeting a year you can come to this is the one to zoom or dial into. It is informative, educational and we endeavor to get through it as relatively painlessly and quickly as possible.

Last, and certainly not least, it is another holiday season. I want to wish everyone a Happy Passover and a Happy Easter. I don't think there is a meeting before that, so please enjoy the holidays whatever you celebrate. And as always, be safe. Thank you.

At 8:45 pm Trustee Pombonyo motioned to go into Executive Session, seconded by Trustee Chiara and carried unanimously, the Board went into Executive Session.

Present were Mayor Kevin M. Fitzgerald, Trustees Lynn Pombonyo, Frank Chiara, Jennifer Stewart and Mike Longobardi, 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 Board discussed litigation and police and public works personnel items. Trustee Stewart motioned to come out of Executive Session, seconded by Trustee Longobardi and carried unanimously. No action was taken.

The meeting ended at 11:05 pm.

Susan Walsh, Village Clerk