

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

M I N U T E S
OF THE MEETING
OF THE
PUBLIC HEARING
INCORPORATED VILLAGE OF FLORAL PARK
April 13, 2022
8:00 p.m.

P R E S E N T:

- | | |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| KEVIN M. FITZGERALD, | MAYOR |
| DR. LYNN POMBONYO, | DEPUTY MAYOR/TRUSTEE |
| FRANK J. CHIARA, | TRUSTEE |
| JENNIFER STEWART, | TRUSTEE |
| MICHAEL F. LONGOBARDI, | TRUSTEE |

ALSO PRESENT:

- JOHN RYAN, ESQ. Village Attorney
- GERARD M. BAMBRICK, Village Administrator
- SUSAN E. WALSH, Village Clerk
- RENEE MARCUS, Superintendent of Buildings
- STEPHEN MCALLISTER, Police Commissioner
- KEVIN GINNANE, Superintendent Public Works

Catherine P. Murphy
Court Reporter

- 4/13/22 - BOARD OF TRUSTEES - BUDGET HEARING -
6/1/2022 - 5/31/2023 -

1 MAYOR FITZGERALD: Now, we will get into
2 the presentation of the budget, which is a
3 tentative budget for the fiscal year of
4 June 1st 2022 to May 31, 2023. What we have
5 done over the last couple of years as each
6 Board members present the department they're
7 responsible for, we also have a power point
8 slide presentation available here in Village
9 Hall along with it on Zoom and hopefully, can
10 follow along and then after we go through the
11 budget, we will open it up for questions and
12 comments from the audience.

13 I ask our Village Administrator Jerry
14 Bambrick to read the Notice.

15 MR. BAMBRICK: Thank you, Mayor. Legal
16 Notice To The Taxpayers of the Incorporated
17 Village of Floral Park.

18 Notice Is Hereby Given that the tentative
19 budget for the Incorporated Village of Floral
20 Park, New York for the year 6/1/2022 to
21 5/31/2023 has been completed by the Budget
22 Officer and a copy filed in the Office of the
23 Village Clerk at Village Hall where same will
24 be available for public inspection during
25 office hours Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m.

- 4/13/22 - BOARD OF TRUSTEES - BUDGET HEARING -
6/1/2022 - 5/31/2023 -

1 to 4:30 p.m. until April 13, 2022.

2 The Budget Hearing will be held on
3 Wednesday, April 13, 2022 and will begin at
4 8:00 p.m. (immediately after the Proposed Local
5 Law number 1 of 2022 Public Hearing) in Village
6 Hall Courtroom, One Floral Boulevard, Floral
7 Park, New York and be also available by way of
8 video-conference of tele-conference as follows:
9 And it lists the Zoom information is given.

10 The purpose of the Budget Hearing is to
11 hear any and all interested persons in
12 connection therewith and to consider such
13 budget for final adoption. Only budget
14 business shall be discussed at this meeting.
15 Copies of the Tentative Budget will be
16 available commencing Monday, April 4, 2022
17 between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. at
18 Village Hall.

19 The maximum compensation proposed from all
20 sources under such budget to the Village
21 Justice is \$10,000, the Mayor \$10,000 and each
22 Trustee \$5,000 per year.

23 By Order of the Board of Trustees. Susan
24 E. Walsh, Village Clerk, dated March 25, 2022,
25 April 1, 2022 and April 8, 2022.

- 4/13/22 - BOARD OF TRUSTEES - BUDGET HEARING -
6/1/2022 - 5/31/2023 -

1 MAYOR FITZGERALD: Thank you,
2 Mr. Bambrick. I think we will go through the
3 slide presentation now and go back to
4 Mr. Bambrick.

5 MR. BAMBRICK: Thank you.

6 MAYOR FITZGERALD: First couple of slides.

7 MR. BAMBRICK: Thank you, Mayor. This is
8 the Village's tenth proposed budget after
9 enactment of the New York State Tax Cap Law
10 that went into effect in the 2013 fiscal year.

11 By now, we're generally familiar as to
12 what the 2000 tax cap refers to, but I have a
13 lot of questions about it and a lot of
14 confusion still. I will go through how the tax
15 cap calculates and curious how we stay on the
16 tax cap this year.

17 First, the tax cap is not 2 percent. It
18 is a formula established by the State based by
19 information and factors set by the State. The
20 biggest is allowable growth factors assigned
21 each, by each state to all municipalities based
22 on the municipal fiscal start data allowable
23 growth factor set at 2 percent or the rate of
24 inflation, whichever is lower. That is where
25 the 2 percent tax cap derives its name.

- 4/13/22 - BOARD OF TRUSTEES - BUDGET HEARING -
6/1/2022 - 5/31/2023 -

1 In past years, allowable growth factors
2 ranged from 0.12 percent over one tenth of 1
3 percent to a high of 2 percent. This year,
4 with inflation recently published at, running
5 at 8.5 percent, we're exceeding. The tax cap
6 this year is set at 2 percent as part of the
7 tax cap.

8 Another factor that impacts the tax cap
9 refers as to tax base growth factor.

10 MAYOR FITZGERALD: Can we hold questions
11 until we are finished?

12 MR. BAMBRICK: The second factor is tax
13 based growth factor, again set by the State and
14 based on termination by New York State
15 Department of Tax and Finance, how much the tax
16 base of each property tax base of each
17 municipality is growing. Each municipality
18 gets a different tax base growth factor.

19 In Floral Park, our tax base grew. My
20 assessors can tell you over the last year, we
21 had from building department permits for work
22 assessed value of the properties grew by three
23 percent and that includes projects such as
24 second half phasing of the building on south
25 Tyson Avenue, work done on peoples homes and

- 4/13/22 - BOARD OF TRUSTEES - BUDGET HEARING -
6/1/2022 - 5/31/2023 -

1 businesses. That increased the tax base growth
2 and the State recognized that.

3 Tax base growth factor for this year is
4 3.9 percent. That's added to the 2 percent
5 growth factor.

6 Another factor that applies is what is
7 called available carrier. In one year, if you
8 don't exceed the tax cap, you can carry the
9 difference over to the next year. Last year,
10 before the tax cap, as well, the amount below
11 was \$41,657 that can be added on this year. If
12 you add together the 2 percent allowable growth
13 factor and a point 39 percent tax base growth
14 factor and allowable growth factor, the
15 available carry over of \$41,657 tax cap for
16 Floral Park for the coming fiscal year is equal
17 to 2.55 percent.

18 If you look in your budget first line on
19 the real property taxes for the coming year, it
20 shows a tax levy of 2.53 percent. So, the
21 budget as proposed is not exceeding the tax cap
22 set by New York State.

23 If we could, and I know it's confusing, I
24 will go through the tax cap formula with you
25 one more time. As I mentioned before, we start

- 4/13/22 - BOARD OF TRUSTEES - BUDGET HEARING -
6/1/2022 - 5/31/2023 -

1 with the prior tax levy. The tax levy from
2 last year for the 2021/22 fiscal year tax levy
3 was \$26,366.500. To that we apply the tax base
4 growth factor I mentioned, which was point
5 39 percent. So multiply that by the last
6 year's tax levy and you come up with
7 \$26,469,329. Then you continue on provided
8 under the formula is the amount of the pilot
9 payment taxes. We don't have them. That was
10 on Verbena Avenue. It expired. We don't have
11 a pilot this year.

12 Then we go to allowable growth factor I
13 mentioned, which is the one that is here,
14 2 percent or the rate of inflation, whichever
15 is lower. That breaks into two, multiply that
16 by the prior number you have incorporated tax
17 base growth factor number of 26,469,329. If
18 you add to that 41,657 which is the available
19 carry over, the tax limit for Floral Park for
20 this year without exceeding the cap is
21 \$27,040,372. That would be a 2.55 percent tax
22 increase, the difference between the 27,040,372
23 and the \$26,469,329.

24 The proposed budget tax levy on the first
25 page of the budget book is \$27,034,000. That

- 4/13/22 - BOARD OF TRUSTEES - BUDGET HEARING -
6/1/2022 - 5/31/2023 -

1 equates to 2.53 percent tax cap. The budget
2 presented is below the tax cap for Floral Park.

3 Now, the tax cap is an important factor --
4 sorry, the tax cap measures the tax levy. The
5 tax levy is the amount by which the Village,
6 after taking into account other revenue
7 sources, has to levy taxes on all residential
8 and commercial properties to come up with the
9 difference to pay for the funding for the
10 village year going forward. That's the tax
11 levy. But that's an important factor, but it
12 actually impacts your taxes, the tax rate. The
13 tax rate is determined by taking the tax levy
14 and dividing it by the assessed valuation of
15 all taxable properties in the village.

16 For this coming year, the assessed
17 valuation of all taxable property is
18 \$189,656,204. Divide \$27,034,000 by
19 \$189,656,204, tax rate is the 14.2542 percent.
20 That would then, last year, the tax rate was
21 13.931 percent. So, the difference growth and
22 tax rate is not 2.53 percent, but 2.26 percent.
23 That's by the amount taxes will go up.

24 If you look at what came in the village
25 items which was sent around, I think we have a

- 4/13/22 - BOARD OF TRUSTEES - BUDGET HEARING -
6/1/2022 - 5/31/2023 -

1 slide on that, the average assessed value on a
2 home in Floral Park, by taking all the
3 residential properties, assessing all
4 residential properties and dividing by the
5 number of residential properties, the average
6 is 37,149. If you multiply the tax rate by
7 37,000, proposed tax rate 37,149, the average
8 property will have a tax bill of \$5,294. Last
9 year, under the 13.9391 tax rate for each \$100
10 of assessed value on the same property assessed
11 at 37,149 the tax bill would have been \$5,178.
12 Tax on average home reflects a \$116 tax
13 increase for the year. Of course, that's the
14 average property. Your property maybe higher
15 or lower.

16 In either event, your tax percentage of
17 the tax bill will go up 2.26 percent over your
18 current tax bill assessed value if the assessed
19 value stays the same. That's the quick
20 overview. The Board will go over in more
21 detail each department.

22 I want to thank the department heads for
23 coming to the budget. There's been a lot of
24 work done in the last couple of months. A lot
25 of give and take, a lot of going back and

- 4/13/22 - BOARD OF TRUSTEES - BUDGET HEARING -
6/1/2022 - 5/31/2023 -

1 forth. To answer your question, can you phrase
2 it again, Mr. Mayor?

3 MAYOR FITZGERALD: Thank you,
4 Mr. Bambrick. So, we'll go through the budget
5 now. It's different from the past couple of
6 years where we went kind of line by line to
7 give an overview to the different departments.
8 I will start with the revenues and a couple of
9 other sections that are particular to the
10 general overview. As with most of life over
11 the past few years, many costs, including those
12 associated with providing village services,
13 continue to rise. The upcoming year is no
14 exception to that with inflation spiking, the
15 most it has in decades.

16 One cost in particular that stands out is
17 the rise in health care costs for the employees
18 to provide the services. After a few years of
19 increases, health insurance costs start to
20 level off over the past year or two. However,
21 health insurance costs appear to be rising
22 again and the prediction for the next fiscal
23 year, the cost will rise over nine percent.
24 Also, other insurance costs, such as property
25 insurance, general liability, cyber security

- 4/13/22 - BOARD OF TRUSTEES - BUDGET HEARING -
6/1/2022 - 5/31/2023 -

1 insurance, workers comp projected increase by
2 approximately 10 percent.

3 Additionally, New York State increased the
4 amount of medicare reimbursement. The Village
5 is responsible by over 20 percent. Even with
6 the other aforementioned challenges, the
7 Village continues to commit in the budget
8 initiatives, the reconstruction of various
9 roads.

10 I know the Deputy Mayor will get into the
11 renovations of the multi-purpose court and
12 start to invest to get a new fire truck for the
13 Reliance Firehouse. It's 20 years old.
14 Essential services have been a hallmark of
15 Floral Park for decades. Some items I would
16 like to point out, some increases in certain
17 departments, page 18, increased by
18 approximately another \$6,500 primarily due to
19 the following increases in the aforementioned
20 insurance policies along with reducing our
21 risks by increasing our policies.

22 At last year's budget, I reported the
23 retirement for CSEA and the police department
24 were up even with the stock market being up
25 during the same period. We would need to keep

- 4/13/22 - BOARD OF TRUSTEES - BUDGET HEARING -
6/1/2022 - 5/31/2023 -

1 and eye on this trip. I am happy to report
2 this year, the Village contributions will be
3 lower. However, our overall budget for
4 employee benefits increase by 2.6 percent due
5 to the significant increase of medical
6 insurance and medicare reimbursements.

7 With regards to Village received from the
8 Federal Government approximately \$800,000 in
9 '21 and another \$800,000 in '22. We budgeted
10 for lost revenues for both years. Some of
11 those examples of those lost revenues is
12 parking fees and reduced membership at the
13 pool. As we see the revenues started to come
14 back, we budgeted \$218,000 in the revenue for
15 the, on line 478 on page 5. We will place any
16 unused portion of the ARP funds into reserve,
17 used for upcoming the capital project.

18 Additionally, we did not, and I cannot
19 place the entire amount in the budget as
20 basically a one-shot increase that would have
21 been made up, have to be made up in subsequent
22 budgets more than likely by tax increases.

23 Before we move onto the various individual
24 departments, I would like to thank Village and
25 Treasurer Bambrick, Deputy Village Treasurer

- 4/13/22 - BOARD OF TRUSTEES - BUDGET HEARING -
6/1/2022 - 5/31/2023 -

1 Steve Arnone, along with their staff for the
2 efforts and pulling together for the upcoming
3 budget. Additionally, all department heads and
4 supervisors and library board for their efforts
5 and input in drafting the budget for the
6 department which took the better part of the
7 last few months. Diligence in keeping
8 budgetary requests and their departments within
9 reason while knowing we need to strike a right
10 balance while facing inflation is most
11 appreciated.

12 With that, I will turn it over to Trustee
13 Frank Chiara to talk about the police
14 department.

15 TRUSTEE CHIARA: Thank you, Mr. Mayor.
16 For the police department, our full service
17 police department continues to protect and
18 serve our community. Their efforts, along with
19 that of the community, have given us, once
20 again, one of the safest cities in the country.
21 The department consists of a Police
22 Commissioner, two Lieutenants, six Sergeants,
23 two detectives, numerous police officers, seven
24 crossing guards and one police clerical aid.
25 Over the course of the year, we had three

- 4/13/22 - BOARD OF TRUSTEES - BUDGET HEARING -
6/1/2022 - 5/31/2023 -

1 officers retire and hired four new ones.

2 For the year, '21, the police department
3 responded to 5,330 calls for service with 52
4 arrests. The department issued 9582 parking
5 summonses. Throughout the year, all the
6 officers are continually being trained on most
7 current standards and practices. Members of
8 the department who are instructors, train other
9 village employees on CPR, AD and the use of
10 Narcan. Their police professionalism is
11 apparent with every interaction they have with
12 the public.

13 The police budget is showing on page 19
14 and 20 of the budget. There's an increase of
15 approximately \$125,000 or 1.64 percent. The
16 overall increase is due to the increase noted
17 on the following line, 0103, an increase of
18 termination pay for the large number of
19 retirees, 13 in total over the past year.
20 Officers termination pay is broken down into
21 six equal payments starting from the date of
22 their retirement. It shows an increase of
23 24.29 percent.

24 Other increases are noted on line 0401,
25 rise in price of fuel and line 0406 for

- 4/13/22 - BOARD OF TRUSTEES - BUDGET HEARING -
6/1/2022 - 5/31/2023 -

1 increase in prices of supplies like ammunition.
2 Some of the increases are offset by line 0100.
3 Personal services reflects the hiring of new
4 officers that start out with a lower rate of
5 pay. That was a savings of point .95 percent
6 or \$60,000.

7 Other savings on line 0200 on equipment,
8 0445 subscription and line 0460, repairs to
9 equipment. A total budget increase by 1.64
10 percent.

11 I would like to thank our police
12 department for keeping us safe in the
13 performance of your duty. Thank you.

14 MAYOR FITZGERALD: Thank you, Trustee
15 Chiara. I will turn it over to Deputy Mayor
16 Pombonyo for public works.

17 TRUSTEE POMBONYO: I will be happy to tell
18 you all about it. Good evening everyone.
19 Floral Park DPW is at the heart of our Village
20 operation. DPW complexity spans 13 different
21 operations who are highly skilled in their area
22 of expertise. Superintendent Kevin Ginnane,
23 Assistant Joseph O'Grady and Supervisor Kevin
24 Pearsall provide true leadership. The budget
25 proposed I will be telling you about is careful

- 4/13/22 - BOARD OF TRUSTEES - BUDGET HEARING -
6/1/2022 - 5/31/2023 -

1 planning, rapidly raising costs and the number
2 of DPW areas with decreases where possible and
3 all needed to assure DPW effectiveness and
4 success in the residents and businesses.

5 I'd like to direct you to page 15 of the
6 budget. That area is code 1620 which is the
7 building that DPW has the responsibility for.
8 Here is where the maintenance and upkeep of our
9 Village of Floral Park buildings, improving
10 Village Hall complex and all three areas of the
11 police, fire department and where we are
12 tonight, the Reliance and active fire companies
13 and the library. Here is where the update is
14 accomplished. You will see many offsets with
15 expenditures with reduced, while others are
16 increased making the budget to remain
17 relatively constant in this area.

18 Just code 100 at the top of the page is
19 salaries. We have an assistant supervisor, two
20 full-time maintainers and others in this code.
21 102, overtime is about a \$720 increase or
22 67 percent and that is for lift coverage in
23 this building for anyone that needs help with
24 the stairs and other special projects that take
25 place in the building. Equipment, there is an

- 4/13/22 - BOARD OF TRUSTEES - BUDGET HEARING -
6/1/2022 - 5/31/2023 -

1 increase of \$3,000 for new equipment, such as
2 hand saws and jack hammers, et cetera.

3 Gasoline and oil, I don't have to tell you.

4 You will see throughout the budget that it is
5 increased, I believe in every area of DPW
6 operation here to \$300 increase for gasoline
7 and oil.

8 Paint supplies. Supplies are going up in
9 many of the areas as you know. Painting for
10 the building we have done extensively in
11 Village Hall. It looks beautiful.

12 Other supplies, there was a \$5,000
13 increase in line 406 that include heating,
14 extinguishers, janitorial and other related
15 products the year before. We make the
16 adjustment and make the deduction.

17 Going down to hydrant rentals, that's a
18 \$14,000 increase on that line and our Western
19 Nassau County Water Authority indicated the
20 rates will rise at approximately 3 percent.

21 Going down to the building and library,
22 you have a \$2,000 increase on the 449, that's
23 for systems like HVAC, electric, plumbing,
24 exhaust costs in the areas which are trending
25 up.

- 4/13/22 - BOARD OF TRUSTEES - BUDGET HEARING -
6/1/2022 - 5/31/2023 -

1 We have done in the current year things
2 like side courts to Village Hall if you
3 noticed. They're beautiful. The bathroom,
4 took carpeting out of the budget to reduce it,
5 so that's a \$20,000 deduction. That's a major
6 deduction. They're at 50 percent. And repair
7 to the equipment is an item that has in a lot
8 of areas, down by \$1,000, sprinklers,
9 generator, et cetera. What you end up with is
10 a nice balance of deduction and increases,
11 deduction of \$26,000, increase of \$20,820 and a
12 very moderate decrease in that budget line.

13 Going on next to page 16, which is our
14 central garage. That's the DPW garage. This
15 code maintenance and repairs of the Village's
16 fleet of vehicles which all across our village
17 department are covered by this code. We have
18 approximately 100 vehicles in the Village which
19 DPW services, which include police and fire
20 department vehicles, as well as DPW vehicles.
21 There are approximately 30 of them.

22 So, going down these categories again, you
23 see salaries. The salaries includes one
24 supervisor, two full-time mechanics. Again,
25 this is our garage. It is a very important

- 4/13/22 - BOARD OF TRUSTEES - BUDGET HEARING -
6/1/2022 - 5/31/2023 -

1 part of the Village's operations. It is also
2 expensive because it covers all the upkeep of
3 that tremendous fleet of vehicles. We are
4 adding a new mechanic but taking away a
5 mechanic aid. That's a good way of minimizing
6 the cost of new staff.

7 Our personal services, overtime is
8 increased by \$2,000. We found, have found that
9 we often have gone above the budget in that
10 code for some necessary repairs. The fire
11 Department is extensive and we want to make the
12 Fire Department's equipment operating and in
13 good condition. So, the equipment line, the
14 200 line, includes the purchasing of items,
15 major items, such as a new tire change machine
16 and power washers and some are 20 years old,
17 but are expensive.

18 Going down to supplies 406, that's a
19 \$4,000 increase and it's a lot of supplies that
20 we use in the garage where we do mechanical
21 equipment. Electricity and gas, it is a
22 \$15,000 increase and that is consumed at the
23 DPW facility shared with the building
24 department. There's a photo of it on your
25 budget on the screen, I guess, of the budget.

- 4/13/22 - BOARD OF TRUSTEES - BUDGET HEARING -
6/1/2022 - 5/31/2023 -

1 Slide 12. Thank you.

2 Water. As we said before, water is going
3 up. Western Nassau Water Authority has
4 increase it, but it is \$100.

5 Further down, repairs to equipment, code
6 455, that is general repairs to the sprinkler
7 contract, other contracts, fuel, pump, things
8 like that, the \$2,000 increase.

9 Repairs to the truck. This is our
10 mechanic truck who operates around the Village
11 going to the places where our different
12 vehicles are located. That's a \$200 increase
13 in that area.

14 We have training. That's 480. The
15 training is extremely important. We brought it
16 down \$1,500 because we bought the technology
17 needed last year and we can use it for all the
18 other programs, an increase of \$44,572.

19 Moving on. Moving to the third area, I
20 think this next area is on page 28. It skips
21 around the budget book. Page 28, we have the
22 Public Works Administration. The first line,
23 100 line, is salaries throughout the budgets.
24 That's standard state coding. We have salaries
25 for the Superintendent, Deputy Superintendent,

- 4/13/22 - BOARD OF TRUSTEES - BUDGET HEARING -
6/1/2022 - 5/31/2023 -

1 full-time clerk and then we share some of our
2 people between the Building Department and the
3 DPW Department. They're in the same building.
4 That helps to save money in those areas.

5 Going down to 401, you see \$1,000. Again,
6 this is the increased gas I spoke about.

7 406, supplies. Although it is 33 percent,
8 it is a \$500 increase and it's a lot of paper
9 and other pens and supplies you need to run a
10 business.

11 460 is repairs to auto. That's an
12 increase of \$500 and that's on a small number
13 of vehicles.

14 Conference and association expenses,
15 that's 480. It's going up \$1,500. After the
16 pandemic years, conferences are becoming in
17 person again. So, we do want our DPW staff
18 well trained and up-to-date in all of the jobs
19 they have to do. There's a lot of them. We
20 are particularly proud that we are a very
21 active member of the American Public Works
22 Association with Superintendent Kevin Ginnane,
23 who is here tonight, being one of our regional
24 presidents. So, he has a very important job
25 which attests to his high level of experience

- 4/13/22 - BOARD OF TRUSTEES - BUDGET HEARING -
6/1/2022 - 5/31/2023 -

1 and confidence people have in him.

2 Congratulations Kevin. Increase in that line,
3 total of \$8,619.

4 Then the next category, moving on to
5 street maintenance, which is page 29, code
6 5110. That's our highway department. This is
7 our highway department and road repairs. There
8 are approximately 37 miles of road in our small
9 village and parking lots in the Village of
10 Floral Park. Sweeping, line striping and
11 sanding, salting, plowing, storms and cleaning
12 and straight maintenance is one of the many
13 responsibilities of the highway department.

14 The Village works on Floral Boulevard with
15 the complete road reconstruction following
16 completion of the curbs and drains has been
17 completed. That project has been funded by the
18 third track Long Island Railroad as part of
19 their project. Floral Park Boulevard runs
20 along the main line for, I think, about a mile.
21 A number of streets have been now designated
22 for reconstruction coming up soon. They
23 include Marshall from Covert to Orchid,
24 Clayton, Spooner Street, the Spooner Lot and
25 Hinsdale from Jericho to Lowell. Those are the

- 4/13/22 - BOARD OF TRUSTEES - BUDGET HEARING -
6/1/2022 - 5/31/2023 -

1 projects in the near future. Repair projects
2 and repaving projects as needed. Those are the
3 major construction projects we are looking at.

4 Looking at the budget lines themselves as
5 I said. We're on page 29. The salaries
6 include supervisors, four driver, eat laborers,
7 part-time seasonal employees. It is reduced
8 slightly, by about 2 percent because of
9 retirement. As we replace people, they often
10 come in at lower salaries.

11 0102 is the overtime code. That is
12 increased by \$2,800. We have a lot of special
13 events taking place in our Village where DPW
14 plays a major role in setting up for these
15 events, taking down for these events and being
16 there as they are needed. We use our
17 sanitation trucks at events to help block the
18 outdoor events and keep people safe. So DPW
19 has a huge presence there.

20 They are also doing considerable overtime
21 the past couple of years. That's with the
22 emergency storms. We had severe rainstorms
23 that caused flooding in different areas. Wind
24 storms that knocked down trees. Ice storms
25 made the roads dangerous and slippy. A lot of

- 4/13/22 - BOARD OF TRUSTEES - BUDGET HEARING -
6/1/2022 - 5/31/2023 -

1 that work is done overnight causing overtime
2 because that's what had to be done. It is an
3 emergency. Thank you DPW for being available.

4 The 200 equipment code is an increase of
5 \$3,200 for the equipment that the highway
6 department do need, rakes, shovels, all that
7 other kind of equipment that they use first of
8 all to clean the streets and also to do things
9 like patch up potholes.

10 Going down to supplies, 406 code, that's
11 increased by \$3,500. A lot of that has to do
12 with re-stripping the yellow line and other
13 things, paint, hardware, signs, the codes,
14 barricades, things you need on the roadways to
15 keep themselves safe.

16 Electricity again, typical kind of
17 increase of \$150 for the sidewalk and curbs
18 that the Village pays for those expenses. We
19 have a \$25,000 increase and code 450 and that
20 covers handicap curb cuts. That's a very
21 important repairs to Village property. There's
22 an increase for ADA curbs which is very
23 important. That's a significant increase for
24 significant reasons.

25 4860, repair to truck and autos, increase

- 4/13/22 - BOARD OF TRUSTEES - BUDGET HEARING -
6/1/2022 - 5/31/2023 -

1 of \$10,000 for inspection of 11 vehicles. The
2 cost is going up. They're the highway trucks.
3 For conference, response for seminars going
4 down four hundred in training. A lot of ways
5 of doing it on-line and other ways that prevent
6 people from travel and expense. Increase for
7 straight maintenance in the highway department
8 \$28,044.

9 Our next code is our very important, snow
10 removal code. That is page 30 and it is code
11 number 5142. The salary line is small. It is
12 a line budgeted but the overtime for snow
13 removal is kept in the different part of the
14 budget contingency. Part that's on page 18 or
15 19, I think. We put money there because snow
16 removal is contingency. You don't know what
17 exact price it is going to be depending on the
18 weather. The funds are allocated in the
19 contingency line.

20 Going down, the supplies that increase are
21 that of sand and salt. Another kind of thing
22 to keep the roads safe. I believe there's a
23 photo of our new salt shed which is newer. It
24 is great for storing amounts of salt. We can
25 increase our inventory and work from there and

- 4/13/22 - BOARD OF TRUSTEES - BUDGET HEARING -
6/1/2022 - 5/31/2023 -

1 happy about that.

2 Repairs to equipment is 44, 45. That's
3 repairs to plows, sanders and spreaders and
4 even though that's a 33 percent increase, it is
5 a \$1,000 increase. So, the code goes up for
6 those two increases that I mentioned for
7 \$9,000.

8 The next one will be page 31. This is the
9 really good news code because it's street
10 lighting. And the very happy news is that any
11 of the variances you see here are because of
12 our new LED lights which we are just about
13 completed on and we're going into one of the
14 final phases, which is the outside of
15 Centennial Gardens, the path around on the
16 Floral Parkway side. We have completed
17 Carnation and Raff. Floral Park is the last
18 one to be done. That will be done very soon.

19 But if you would like to look at these
20 happy numbers, 417, street lighting is \$36,000
21 decrease in our PSE&G bills and we're, from my
22 understanding, getting a first payment check,
23 that money back. It is in the \$37,000 range.

24 The next one is 435, street line
25 maintenance. We expect with the new LEDs,

- 4/13/22 - BOARD OF TRUSTEES - BUDGET HEARING -
6/1/2022 - 5/31/2023 -

1 that's a \$5,000 drop.

2 And then the code 450, that should be
3 reduced significantly. We have new LED lights.
4 That's a \$15,000 savings when you look at our
5 almost 30 percent decrease that comes to
6 \$56,000 in savings on those areas which we are
7 very happy about and looking forward to
8 continued savings with that investment.

9 One of the improvements we are making in
10 the street lighting area is now DPW is keeping
11 records of all the lights on the poles when
12 they go out, the date they go out, when they
13 are fixed so we have a running record in order
14 of when the lights go out on the street. So
15 when your lights go out for any reason on the
16 street, call DPS, they're monitoring it and
17 work to correct that quickly.

18 Our next line is off street parking. That
19 is page 32, including is parking meter
20 expenditures. I will go through some of those.
21 We have salary. One person who does meter
22 work, it is one meter attendant. In the 401
23 code, gasoline and oil, \$200 increase, very
24 difficult. Pavement markings increase of
25 \$1,000. That's the cost of street paint

- 4/13/22 - BOARD OF TRUSTEES - BUDGET HEARING -
6/1/2022 - 5/31/2023 -

1 increase and supplies are going up \$3,000
2 trending up all the different kinds of signs,
3 parking meters that you are using.

4 We are paying attention to beautification
5 of parking feed. It is zero increase. Happy
6 with that beautification there. That's a \$4200
7 increase, roughly 4.09 percent increase and
8 yes, we are looking at many meters starting to
9 look into install them and plan for how we go
10 about installing meters like that that are
11 computer instruments. We also have the
12 installation of the first round of muni-meters.
13 That's another great accomplishment for DPW.

14 Going on to the next code, which is
15 economic assistance and opportunity. That's
16 the 6410 code on page 33. It starts off with
17 code 400 holiday decorations. We are making a
18 \$3,000 increase there because we want to
19 increase our holiday decorations which always
20 looks beautiful. Our village is spectacular
21 during the holidays. It is because the
22 residences and businesses of the Village make
23 it look that way. So, that's a very happy
24 expenditure to make to do that.

25 When you look down to 405 code, although

- 4/13/22 - BOARD OF TRUSTEES - BUDGET HEARING -
6/1/2022 - 5/31/2023 -

1 it is zero increase, it is \$150,00. That's a
2 unique expenditure. It is for community
3 development. It is offset by funds from a five
4 million dollar community benefit fund. That's
5 a significant revenue.

6 If you go to the revenue page, which is
7 page 5, I think, yes, page 5, code 4389, you
8 will see the offset revenue from that fund from
9 the Long Island Railroad. It is 150,000
10 allocated there.

11 Going on to the next page, 35. Page 35 is
12 parks. The number is 7110. This is not the
13 parks themselves. This is the DPW maintenance
14 and work in the parks which is significant
15 because they're all beautiful. This section
16 covers DPW services to the parks and property
17 we had in the Village of Floral Park Adams
18 Park, Walnut Park to Centennial Gardens which
19 is our biggest park that keeps Floral Park
20 beautiful.

21 Going down the line for the salary there,
22 0100, salaries for supervisor, groundskeeper.
23 If you know the name Larry, everyone sees him
24 around all the time. He works in the parks
25 area, but does everything else around the

- 4/13/22 - BOARD OF TRUSTEES - BUDGET HEARING -
6/1/2022 - 5/31/2023 -

1 Village and we are very happy to have him.

2 106 personal services, weekend crew.

3 That's all zero increase but it is a

4 expenditure we are very happy to have been able

5 to implement. This is so we have a weekend

6 crew on Saturdays and if we need them on

7 Sundays for garbage pickup and other matters

8 needed. So DPW is working on Saturdays too as

9 hard as they work during the week. That's well

10 worth a \$2,500 expenditure which is not

11 increasing.

12 401 is the gas increase \$1,600, a lot of

13 park trucks, water trucks and others involved.

14 406 is the supply code up \$2,000 for

15 everything you need to have a beautiful lawn

16 throughout the Village of this size. Seeds,

17 rakes, shovels mowers, et cetera.

18 419 is water increase of \$1,000.

19 440 is planting and spraying. That's

20 another very happy increase, it is \$7,000

21 increase and code 4440 for flowers, shrubs in

22 all the parks. We have 31, grounds keeping

23 location which includes the parks, the big one

24 and little ones, pocket parks, as well as the

25 streets.

- 4/13/22 - BOARD OF TRUSTEES - BUDGET HEARING -
6/1/2022 - 5/31/2023 -

1 The lawn 2459, we have on the streets
2 there as well. We increase to do the planting
3 along Magnolia and Plainfield and creation of
4 pocket parks behind Village Hall. It tends to
5 get messy. We want it to be beautiful so that
6 will happen with another \$7,000 spent.

7 When I was talking about the streets and
8 grassy streets, I meant the island. They take
9 care of the island and look beautiful to
10 flower.

11 460 is repairs to water trucks and park
12 trucks. That comes to a \$17,780 increase for
13 parks which DPW gets tremendous credit for
14 making the Village beautiful for all they do
15 there especially with flowers this time of
16 year.

17 The next code is a very large department.
18 It is our sanitation department refuse and
19 garbage, 8160. As I said on page 42, this is
20 the sanitation department. It is massive and a
21 powerful department which includes 19 staff
22 members, refuse and recycling trucks including
23 several of them purchased recently. The crews
24 collect refuse and operate removal of snow,
25 removal equipment and we thank them all for

- 4/13/22 - BOARD OF TRUSTEES - BUDGET HEARING -
6/1/2022 - 5/31/2023 -

1 that. We have gotten through, knock wood,
2 winter and Covid with uninterrupted refuse
3 removal and prompt snow removal done very often
4 by the same people. So they deserve a round of
5 applause and our thanks for doing that.

6 In the salary line 100 again, there's
7 salaries, one supervisor, thirteen drivers and
8 five recyclers. Their overtime, like some of
9 the other codes, 102, is not going to be
10 increased but they have done a tremendous job
11 in emergencies and storms. They have done
12 plowing overnight and during the day and
13 available to come in for storms that have
14 gotten worse overnight and clean up before the
15 morning. So we thank them.

16 Gas line and oil increased of \$6,500.
17 They're big vehicles and trucks. They use a
18 lot of fuel. 406 supplies, safety supplies for
19 safety vests and rain gear. That's a \$4,000
20 increase. Again, it is well spent taking care
21 of them.

22 Outside consideration garbage. 433.
23 That's an increase of \$100,000.00. That's our
24 waste and bulk items. Dramatic increase
25 because of the market and what is happening

- 4/13/22 - BOARD OF TRUSTEES - BUDGET HEARING -
6/1/2022 - 5/31/2023 -

1 with trash and removal and disposal.

2 Going on to 460, that's an \$8,000 increase
3 for the protection, inspection, repair of nine
4 vehicles, three used for plowing. That's
5 \$127,151 increase on that code.

6 Next is page 43. That is street cleaning
7 and it's code number 3170. Very important.
8 Salary line 100 again, a slight increase,
9 salary increase for our two workers, two crew
10 members who operate the sweepers.

11 Personal service overtime is \$1,000
12 increase. That is because we are increasing
13 our special events. We need the street
14 sweepers with street fairs and other functions
15 that take place on the streets to be cleaned,
16 emergencies and big events like the tree
17 lighting and street fairs are coming back this
18 year, both of them, the Floral Park Chambers
19 street fair June 5th. I believe October 15th
20 is the Covert Street fair. We want the streets
21 cleaned for the street fairs.

22 406, supplies, increase of \$1,800, brooms,
23 rakes, et cetera.

24 455 repairs to equipment is an increase of
25 \$3,000 and that's leaf box sets and mechanical

- 4/13/22 - BOARD OF TRUSTEES - BUDGET HEARING -
6/1/2022 - 5/31/2023 -

1 equipment and hoses with attachment. They're
2 high priorities. Street sweepers are a very
3 large machine but you can imagine them sweeping
4 up all the things we sweep up in the street.
5 They're very sensitive and shut down pretty
6 easily. We want to make sure they're in good
7 repairs. Repairs to truck is a \$16,000
8 increase. That's for repairs of the street
9 sweepers. We have problems with repairs and
10 street sweepers going down because of problems.
11 We want the increase to a line with actually
12 what we might be spending on the repairs. That
13 increase for that department is \$21,000.

14 Going on to storm sewers, code number
15 8540, page 45. This section of DPW maintenance
16 of the Village of Floral Park storm sewer
17 system. Equipment increase \$200 for
18 pre-fabricated form for the mason. We have
19 equipment that has to go into the storm basin
20 so they operate and they pass the water through
21 them and the wear they're supposed to and make
22 sure that leaves another debris are not getting
23 in there.

24 401 gasoline and oil, 200 increase. We
25 have a crane with a clam bucket that the

- 4/13/22 - BOARD OF TRUSTEES - BUDGET HEARING -
6/1/2022 - 5/31/2023 -

1 equipment uses for the storm sewers. Supplies,
2 406, cement, great another thing we need to
3 rebuilt catch basins. That's an \$800 increase.

4 Going down to 430, professional services,
5 zero increase, but it is very valuable.

6 Engineering service, we use experts from the
7 outside for water management for drainage
8 projects. We want experts looking at them.

9 We need a little more. That's what the code is
10 for. No increase.

11 455 is repairs to equipment. That's
12 repairs of -- that's an increase of \$500 and
13 related to some of the basement -- basin
14 including a sump that we have alongside
15 Belmont.

16 Finally, 460 repairs to the truck. That
17 is again, crane and bucket. So, total increase
18 for the line, it is a very important job, will
19 be \$2,100.

20 Next will be code number 8560 on page 46.
21 This code is also another very happy
22 expenditure for Floral Park. It is shade
23 trees, which we had a lot of and take good care
24 of them. Our Village is known for beautiful
25 trees, old and younger, parks and tree-lined

- 4/13/22 - BOARD OF TRUSTEES - BUDGET HEARING -
6/1/2022 - 5/31/2023 -

1 streets. Maintain the trees and planting of
2 new trees are important, if carried out by the
3 knowledgeable staff we have. Our Village
4 continues to be recognized as Tree City U.S.A
5 by the Arbor Foundation, if you want a new tree
6 for the grassy strip in front of your house, at
7 your curb, please call DPW to start the
8 planting now. If you want a new tree, they're
9 beautiful trees we plant.

10 For the salary line, 100, salary again.
11 We have expert tree trimming crews.
12 Superintendent Ginnane worked very, very hard
13 bringing them to Floral Park and they're here
14 keeping them. We have two expert tree pruners,
15 one loader equipment operator and summer
16 worker. For the overtime, \$2,400 increase,
17 again, emergency and storms. We had winter
18 storms this year which are incredible and when
19 the police see major tree damage which has to
20 come down right away, the tree is lying across
21 the street or when it is broken part of the way
22 and they have a major crack in it and look like
23 it is going to come down, they call Kevin
24 Ginnane at 2 or 4 in the morning and
25 Superintendent Ginnane brings in the tree crew.

- 4/13/22 - BOARD OF TRUSTEES - BUDGET HEARING -
6/1/2022 - 5/31/2023 -

1 That overtime increase of \$2,400 is well spent
2 because it keeps us safe from falling trees and
3 trees that end up in the street.

4 Equipment line 0200 is an increase of
5 \$3,200, all the things you need to facilitate
6 pruning and do efficient, effective job on
7 pruning, different kinds of soil, et cetera.

8 401 is the gasoline increase of \$1,500 in
9 this area.

10 406 is the supplies. That's a \$1200
11 increase. Removal of bees and wasps nests and
12 the use of rope and bars, et cetera, ear plugs
13 that they may need to keep them safe.

14 430 is a line with no increase, but it is
15 important. We use consultants and an arborist
16 in cases if it should come down or not, we
17 consult with the arborist. As we plant new
18 trees, we want trees beautiful that will grow
19 here and not impact on the wires above the
20 houses or start to damage the curb of the
21 street with the -- arborists are very helpful
22 with that. Supervisor Ginnane is an expert in
23 that, but he makes a great team with the
24 arborist.

25 435 is rental equipment. We have major

- 4/13/22 - BOARD OF TRUSTEES - BUDGET HEARING -
6/1/2022 - 5/31/2023 -

1 tree stumps and trees that are so huge and
2 tower over houses by another story, two or
3 three stories high. We call in contractors to
4 help with the job. They're charging \$3,800 a
5 tree. But again, if it is a damaged tree, we
6 need to take it down. So, that's an increase
7 of \$20,000.

8 455, repairs to equipment, increase of
9 \$800 for chain saws, et cetera and repairs. It
10 is actually five vehicles we use, a combination
11 of chippers, dump trucks, et cetera, to get
12 them up in the air. That's for the repairs to
13 the truck. That's an increase of \$2,000.

14 And the last line, training and seminars,
15 no increase but emphasis on the training of
16 tree trimming crews is on safety. That's very
17 important to all of us.

18 Mayor, that concludes the Department of
19 Public Works.

20 MAYOR FITZGERALD: Thank you, Deputy Mayor
21 Pombonyo. This is one of the areas the budget
22 has the most variable costs, outside of
23 personal service. Thank you for the overview.

24 I would like to turn to Trustee Stewart
25 who will lead us through the rec and pool

- 4/13/22 - BOARD OF TRUSTEES - BUDGET HEARING -
6/1/2022 - 5/31/2023 -

1 budget.

2 TRUSTEE STEWART: Thank you. We will
3 start with line 100 for the recreation center.
4 Salaries for full-time, part-time seasonal
5 staff. This increase reflects raises,
6 particularly for seasonal staff and we look to
7 hold on to our very valuable, seasonal
8 employees and attract new members to our team.

9 Line 200 for equipment. We need some weed
10 wackers and tables. We thank Kurt Meyfohrt and
11 the staff and Kevin Ginnane who work very hard
12 to keep the equipment to work as long as
13 possible but sometimes you have to some of
14 this.

15 Line 102 shows an increase of 8.18 percent
16 of the equipment, Due to new upgrades and
17 fencing, electrical work and plumbing and WiFi.

18 Now moving on to 490, which reflects
19 budget and recreation celebrations. These
20 include fireman's annual inspection,
21 beautification and cultural affairs and
22 Memorial Day observation. No increases on the
23 line but they're a big part of what makes
24 Floral Park Floral Park.

25 We move on to the Floral Park pool.

- 4/13/22 - BOARD OF TRUSTEES - BUDGET HEARING -
6/1/2022 - 5/31/2023 -

1 Expected revenue projected higher due to Covid
2 19 cases. There's a 31.86 from the general
3 funds to balance the pool budget to the
4 increase of the pool revenue.

5 Line 406 on page 36 shows zero increase in
6 supplies and the line -- I'm sorry, that's the
7 wrong line. I think it is 409. Line 409 shows
8 an increase of pool supplies due to increased,
9 as you heard across the board, materials are
10 expensive. We must have things to run the pool
11 such as chlorine.

12 MAYOR FITZGERALD: Thank you, Trustee
13 Stewart. The Superintendent Meyfohrt has said
14 that the pool book will be out shortly, another
15 week or so. Hopefully we'll see everyone down
16 at the pool this year.

17 Turning it back to Deputy Mayor Pombonyo.
18 A lot shorter report on this, I hope.

19 TRUSTEE POMBONYO: This is another good
20 one, Four Village Studio. This unique local
21 government access television station has served
22 the Village of Floral Park, Bellerose village,
23 South Floral Park and Stewart Manor for 23
24 years. In addition to providing community
25 interest programs that inform, entertain and

- 4/13/22 - BOARD OF TRUSTEES - BUDGET HEARING -
6/1/2022 - 5/31/2023 -

1 educate communities 4VS plays a role in how to
2 produce and edit T.V. shows. They partner with
3 many community organization programs in its
4 history. That's different shows and plays an
5 important role in the village emergency
6 management plan. 4VS is very important to all
7 of us. Thank you.

8 MAYOR FITZGERALD: Thank you, Deputy
9 Mayor. Now, I will turn it over to Trustee
10 Longobardi. He's only been on-the-job for, I
11 think, nine days.

12 TRUSTEE LONGOBARDI: Just about.

13 MAYOR FITZGERALD: He will do the Fire
14 Department.

15 TRUSTEE LONGOBARDI: Thank you, Mr. Mayor.
16 Good evening everybody. The Floral Park Fire
17 Department has many members. The department
18 not only provides their service to all village
19 residents but also ambulance service. Calendar
20 year 2021, volunteer members reported to many
21 significant fires. In order to maintain the
22 quality of service accustomed to over the last
23 125 years, in addition to training hours in a
24 fire of the members, the department requires
25 funding to keep up with this. The budget is

- 4/13/22 - BOARD OF TRUSTEES - BUDGET HEARING -
6/1/2022 - 5/31/2023 -

1 located on page 21. Overall proposed budget
2 for the Fire Department \$445,700 and the
3 primary changes over the last year total a net
4 \$14,600 and they are as follows: Line 0209 for
5 gear. This is a most vital equipment in
6 addition to the breathing apparatus. Gear
7 protects them head to toe. Gear is purchased
8 eat to ten throughout the year for replacement
9 down the line. This line increase \$3,000 to
10 keep up with the increased price trends that we
11 are seeing.

12 Line 404, stationary and printing.
13 Requesting budget increase of \$500 there.
14 Department uses call sheets and reports sheets
15 on a regular basis. 419 water, this line is
16 increased by \$100 to keep up with the rate
17 increase by the water authority as seen in some
18 of the other departments as well.

19 Line 436, Fire Department contractual
20 expense. The department has part-time
21 secretary with the never ending growing
22 administrative paperwork. Actual cost
23 increased in the last lowered by \$3,000.

24 Line 460, repairs to truck and auto.
25 Ambulance must be reliable and ready. During

- 4/13/22 - BOARD OF TRUSTEES - BUDGET HEARING -
6/1/2022 - 5/31/2023 -

1 operations, they can't afford to have a truck
2 malfunction as people can get hurt, reliable
3 maintenance. We're very fortunate to have
4 trained mechanics to keep the trucks running
5 day-to-day but they require specialized service
6 from time to time from outside venues for
7 emergency vehicles. Vehicle increase of
8 \$13,000 is necessary to insure the proper and
9 immediate function of the departments vehicles.

10 478, contract fire protection. \$1,000
11 increase. The department is available 24/7,
12 365 days a year. In return, those provide the
13 fire department activities and policy coverage.

14 I'd like to thank Chief Mike Seville and
15 their staff and many others. Thank you.

16 MAYOR FITZGERALD: Thank you. To cover
17 the last department, not the least, I can say
18 our award winning library, it's the building
19 department. Trustee Chiara will go over the
20 building.

21 TRUSTEE CHIARA: Thank you, Mr. Mayor.
22 The building department has had a busy, very
23 productive year. The department consists of
24 superintendent, building inspector, office
25 manager, two part-time clerks and one intern.

- 4/13/22 - BOARD OF TRUSTEES - BUDGET HEARING -
6/1/2022 - 5/31/2023 -

1 There was a 22 percent of permits this year
2 totaling 731 permits issued. The department
3 has also performed more than 300 title searches
4 and conducted over 1000 building inspections
5 for the year. The department monitors property
6 maintenance, has addressed over 14,000 visits
7 per service. The building department website
8 is up-to-date with instruction applications.

9 The building department had increased
10 overall budget for approximately \$10,000. This
11 increase is reflected in 00100 for increases
12 to personal service, which is recognizing the
13 value to the department. There was an offset
14 increase, on line 0102 cut, in overtime as also
15 line 0401, totaling 2.82 percent. Thank you to
16 the building department for their valuable
17 service and award winning, whatever award you
18 want to give.

19 MAYOR FITZGERALD: Thank you, Trustee
20 Chiara. And I put the power point together
21 too.

22 Trustee Stewart, our award winning
23 library.

24 TRUSTEE STEWART: Mayor Fitzgerald, I
25 would like to publicly thank the staff and

- 4/13/22 - BOARD OF TRUSTEES - BUDGET HEARING -
6/1/2022 - 5/31/2023 -

1 library board for being the best public library
2 in Nassau County year after year and notably
3 the wonderful team who has purchased books and
4 periodicals, readiness programs for the young
5 residents in engaging ways, as well as provide
6 cultural education and fun for all ages if you
7 are not trying hard enough.

8 Now we get to the numbers. Line 100 to be
9 found on page 58 is increased due to salary
10 increases for employees. Lines 9060 or 9065
11 shows an increase for medical insurance costs
12 that are rising across the board everywhere.
13 These increase of 0455, repairs to the
14 equipment driven by the maintenance crews for
15 maintaining the carpeting. Thank you for
16 coming down.

17 MAYOR FITZGERALD: Thank you, Trustee
18 Stewart. That concludes our review of the
19 budget.

20 But before I open for public comment, I
21 would like to thank first Darlene Lanza for the
22 slide presentation and the computer internet.
23 And I would like to thank our entire village
24 staff, all employees and volunteers. Nothing
25 happens in this Village without entire

- 4/13/22 - BOARD OF TRUSTEES - BUDGET HEARING -
6/1/2022 - 5/31/2023 -

1 dedication and professionalism literally 365
2 days a year, 24 hours. So, most appreciated
3 from this Board. And I am also speaking on
4 behalf of my family. We absolutely love living
5 here and it is a dedication of the employees
6 that makes it such a special place.

7 With that, I will open it up for comments.
8 First we'll start here in Village Hall.
9 Mr. Pfeiffer, you have been coming to this and
10 probably longer.

11 RICHARD PFEIFFER: Did we get -- we got
12 Floral Boulevard paid for totally by the third
13 track?

14 MAYOR FITZGERALD: Yes.

15 RICHARD PFEIFFER: Really?

16 MAYOR FITZGERALD: Yes.

17 RICHARD PFEIFFER: Pavement and --

18 MAYOR FITZGERALD: Yes.

19 RICHARD PFEIFFER: Next question with the
20 third track --

21 MAYOR FITZGERALD: They still have to
22 repave the Creedmor Spur.

23 RICHARD PFEIFFER: What else are we
24 getting from there? Can we add things? We had
25 a recreation meeting. We got things we would

- 4/13/22 - BOARD OF TRUSTEES - BUDGET HEARING -
6/1/2022 - 5/31/2023 -

1 like to use over at the playground.

2 MAYOR FITZGERALD: Hoping one of them will
3 be hockey rink. Multi-purpose rink, sorry.

4 RICHARD PFEIFFER: That's being funded
5 already? It is not?

6 MAYOR FITZGERALD: No. All we approved
7 was the funding to do the design. We still
8 have to pay for it.

9 RICHARD PFEIFFER: All right. I didn't
10 know that.

11 MAYOR FITZGERALD: We started the process
12 and need to come up with the funding for it.

13 RICHARD PFEIFFER: The other thing I was
14 going to ask, do we get profit at all for
15 providing gas to the school district and
16 other --

17 MAYOR FITZGERALD: Yes, it's in the
18 budget.

19 RICHARD PFEIFFER: What kind of profit or
20 whatever?

21 MAYOR FITZGERALD: It is not profit.

22 MR. BAMBRICK: We do. Thirty cent per
23 gallon surcharge.

24 RICHARD PFEIFFER: There is -- that's
25 good.

- 4/13/22 - BOARD OF TRUSTEES - BUDGET HEARING -
6/1/2022 - 5/31/2023 -

1 MAYOR FITZGERALD: Some of that comes
2 across the infrastructure.

3 MR. BAMBRICK: Part of it, we had to
4 upgrade the computer equipment. Kevin can
5 correct me if I'm wrong.

6 RICHARD PFEIFFER: To cover repairs and
7 all.

8 TRUSTEE POMBONYO: That's a wonderful
9 arrangement by the way, especially for Floral
10 Park/Bellerose School District and Sewanhaka
11 School District. It is keeping revenue inside
12 when the school district spends money on buses.

13 SEAN MUNSON: My name is Sean Munson. I
14 live on Van Siclen Avenue. I want to thank you
15 for the replacement trees you did on the street
16 and I want to encourage you to replace the
17 trees that you removed on Tulip downtown a
18 couple of years ago.

19 Also I want to applaud the library staff
20 for their awesomeness in the last two years.
21 They were pretty spectacular. That's them.
22 They were really quite awesome. And Madam
23 Deputy Mayor was wow, you can really talk for a
24 long time. Thank you.

25 MAYOR FITZGERALD: Thank you. Anyone else

- 4/13/22 - BOARD OF TRUSTEES - BUDGET HEARING -
6/1/2022 - 5/31/2023 -

1 here in Village Hall? I'll now turn to Zoom if
2 you want to raise your hand and Darlene will
3 let them in.

4 MS. MARCUS: Okay. There is -- we have
5 one on Zoom.

6 MAYOR FITZGERALD: Hi. State your name
7 and address for the record.

8 CECIL OLEAR: Cecil Olear, 199 Cypress
9 Street.

10 MAYOR FITZGERALD: High, Miss Olear. How
11 are you?

12 CECIL OLEAR: I'm fine. How are you?

13 MAYOR FITZGERALD: Great.

14 CECIL OLEAR: Question in regards to the
15 budget proposal. So, I would like to try to
16 understand the philosophy of putting the budget
17 together. So, I read the leaflet that came
18 through the mail and it constantly talks about
19 increases and I listen to the presentation. It
20 talks about increases.

21 So, I would like to understand the
22 philosophy in terms of what are the methods in
23 trying to curb the increases? In other words,
24 are you looking at ways, cutting costs, as
25 opposed to just saying, you know, well, we'll

- 4/13/22 - BOARD OF TRUSTEES - BUDGET HEARING -
6/1/2022 - 5/31/2023 -

1 continue to raise taxes. Do you look at
2 especially personnel. Your message is the
3 increase in the cost of fringe benefits. Are
4 you looking to change the carriers or insurance
5 carriers to try to mitigate the increases.

6 I'm trying to understand the philosophy
7 because when you look around the Village,
8 certainly there's all the new houses that were
9 built along the railroad by Orchid. Houses are
10 being, you know, torn down and exploded and yet
11 the taxes just keep going up. So, what is the
12 budget philosophy behind the preparation of the
13 budget?

14 MAYOR FITZGERALD: I'll try to answer your
15 question and Village Administrator Bambrick
16 will chime in also.

17 With regards to costs, we look at reducing
18 costs if possible. A good example of that
19 starts with the last year where we installed
20 LED lighting and I know Deputy Mayor Pombonyo
21 in her presentation tonight stated there was a
22 decrease in the cost of electricity and in the
23 cost of our contract with repairs. So, we look
24 in places to cut costs if possible. But we
25 still wanted to maintain the standards we have

- 4/13/22 - BOARD OF TRUSTEES - BUDGET HEARING -
6/1/2022 - 5/31/2023 -

1 in Floral Park for the better part of 100 and
2 something years while improving.

3 With regards to the insurances, over the
4 past year or so, we have changed a couple of
5 insurance carriers and we did change the way we
6 looked at that to redo our risk. In reducing
7 some of the risks, it created a more of a cost
8 in the short term. Mr. Bambrick?

9 MR. BAMBRICK: I think historically if you
10 look at the budget, we -- over the last 12 or
11 15 years, we really reduced the personnel size
12 of the overall village staff. This year, part
13 of the process, departments have made requests,
14 a lot of requests for additional staff. With
15 one exception, there is no additional staff.
16 We have the same staffing levels and it has
17 been operating. It is hard to deliver the
18 services without increasing the staff at times,
19 but operating on a lean staff as it is. We
20 have constantly, every time we go into contract
21 negotiations, we stress the tax cap and our
22 successes with that, such as CSEA contract
23 negotiations.

24 So, I think our approach has always been
25 to make the budget as lean as possible and this

- 4/13/22 - BOARD OF TRUSTEES - BUDGET HEARING -
6/1/2022 - 5/31/2023 -

1 year with the increases across the board, it
2 was a difficult, but we managed to keep it
3 under the cap.

4 MAYOR FITZGERALD: I stress from the
5 starting point we always try to keep it under
6 the cap. Does that help answer your questions?

7 CECIL OLEAR: Well, relatively. It
8 doesn't necessarily talk to the philosophy of
9 it. You know, I work for a major
10 not-for-profit in Manhattan. I understand how
11 to, you know, make do. But when we're looking
12 at exceptions to going over the cap for special
13 hearings, again, it -- I understand there's
14 inflationary pressures, but it seems the
15 increases are substantial.

16 MAYOR FITZGERALD: To be clear, the
17 proposed budget is under the cap special
18 hearing that we had, prior to the presentation,
19 was in case something changed between now and
20 the time we adopt the budget that we need to go
21 over the cap. I don't see it happening. We do
22 it as a protective measure in case something
23 comes up in the next week before we approve the
24 budget as presented. Thought process right now
25 is 2.53 percent, which is below the cap.

- 4/13/22 - BOARD OF TRUSTEES - BUDGET HEARING -
6/1/2022 - 5/31/2023 -

1 CECIL OLEAR: Yes, I would like to --

2 MR. BAMBRICK: As far as philosophy, that
3 is built in how we conduct business. We are
4 required to put major contracts out for bid as
5 they expire. Also ones that don't expire, we
6 periodically shovel them around like the life
7 insurance. All contracts are reviewed
8 periodically.

9 CECIL OLEAR: Believe me, I completely
10 understand. I appreciate the time. Thank you.

11 MAYOR FITZGERALD: Thank you for the
12 questions. Anyone else on Zoom?

13 MS. MARCUS: No.

14 MAYOR FITZGERALD: Once again, thank you
15 everyone for coming out tonight and we'll take
16 questions and comments and we will review this
17 once again before we approve it, for all
18 intents and purposes, we will be below the cap.
19 Thank you very much.

20 Can I have a motion to adjourn?

21 TRUSTEE POMBONYO: So moved.

22 TRUSTEE CHIARA: Second.

23 MR. BAMBRICK: Trustee Stewart?

24 TRUSTEE STEWART: Aye.

25 MR. BAMBRICK: Trustee Pombonyo?

- 4/13/22 - BOARD OF TRUSTEES - BUDGET HEARING -
6/1/2022 - 5/31/2023 -

1 TRUSTEE POMBONYO: Aye.

2 MR. BAMBRICK: Trustee Chiara?

3 TRUSTEE CHIARA: Aye.

4 MR. BAMBRICK: Trustee Longobardi?

5 TRUSTEE LONGOBARDI: Aye.

6 MR. BAMBRICK: Mayor Fitzgerald?

7 MAYOR FITZGERALD: Aye. Thank you.

8

9 Certified to be a true and

10 accurate transcript of the proceedings.

11

12

CATHERINE P. MURPHY
Court Reporter

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25