

**INCORPORATED VILLAGE OF FLORAL PARK**  
**Board of Trustees MINUTES**  
**September 20, 2022 - 8:00 PM**  
**Village Hall Courtroom**

Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88972950349?pwd=cmMwNTJhNURySnNBdjZuNOlCZGNZUT09;>  
Meeting ID: 889 7295 0349; Passcode: 554717. Dial-in: +1 646 558 8656; Meeting ID: 889 7295 0349;  
Passcode: 554717.

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Mayor Fitzgerald opened the regular meeting at 8 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance. The Mayor asked for a moment of silence to remember Floral Park residents Joseph McKie and FPDF Ex-Captain Donald Gorman on their passing.

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 Buildings Renee Marcus, Superintendent of Public Works Kevin Ginnane, Police Commissioner Stephen McAllister, and Village Attorney John Ryan.

Before the start of the public hearing and regular meeting, Mayor Fitzgerald announced that Susan Walsh, Village Clerk was the recipient of the prestigious Clerk of the Year Award bestowed upon her by the New York State Association of City and Village Clerks at NYCOM in Saratoga last week. The Mayor remarked that it is a well-deserved honor and thanked Susan for her dedication day in and day out, at all hours to ensure that the Village is running smoothly. He also noted that Susan in her unique role as Village Clerk has stepped up to deal with a decade of challenges such as the Casino, Belmont Park, UBS Arena and the LIRR Expansion Projects and has been outstanding in meeting them. Deputy Mayor Pombonyo, Trustees Chiara, Stewart and Longobardi and Village Administrator Bambrick also extended their gratitude and congratulations to Susan. Susan stated that she was humbled and honored, and thanked them for recognizing her.

Mayor Fitzgerald opened the public hearing regarding the Triple AAA Taxi franchise at 8:10 pm.

At 8:30 pm, immediately following the public hearing, Mayor Fitzgerald opened the regular meeting. He announced that prior to moving the agenda, the residents have the opportunity to make comments or ask questions on items that are on the agenda only. There being none, Mayor Fitzgerald then moved the agenda.

On motion by Trustee Pombonyo, seconded by Trustee Chiara, and carried unanimously, the Board approved the Minutes of the Regular Board of Trustees Meeting held on September 6, 2022 and the Special Meeting – Business District Improvement Project held on September 13, 2022.

Trustee Chiara offered Resolution No. 2022-166 to approve the Schedule of Accounts Payable as follows:

General Fund	\$1,499,760.53
Pool Fund	\$ 42,965.66
Capital Fund	<u>\$ 437,936.93</u>
Total	\$1,980,663.12

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

On motion by Trustee Stewart, seconded by Trustee Longobardi and carried, 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’s CSEA Unit to use the Arts/Craft Shelter at the Recreation Center to hold a barbeque for its members on Tuesday, October 25, 2022 from 10:30 am to 2:30 pm subject to review and approval of Supt. of Recreation K. Meyfohrt;
- Mary Quinn’s Mark Foundation to use the Recreation Center to hold classes on Fridays, beginning October 7, 2022 through June 2023 from 12 noon to 2 pm subject to review and approval of Supt. of Recreation K. Meyfohrt;
- Troop 4 Boy Scouts to use Carlton Street parking lot for its Car Wash Fundraiser on Saturday, October 1, 2022 from 9 am to 3 pm (Rain Date: Saturday, Oct. 8<sup>th</sup>);
- North End Civic Association to use the Recreation Center for its monthly and executive board meetings from September 2022 – June 2023, as outlined in its request, subject to review and approval of Supt. of Recreation K. Meyfohrt; and

- Floral Park Little League to use the Recreation Center to hold its Awards Ceremony on Friday, September 30, 2022 at 7PM (rescheduled from 9/16/22), subject to review and approval of Supt. of Recreation, K. Meyfohr.

Trustee Longobardi offered Resolution No. 2022-167 to authorize the Mayor or the Village Administrator to submit an application and other documentation as necessary to facilitate a \$250,000.00 State and Municipal Facilities Grant for the purchase of a new pumper truck for the Fire Department secured for the Village by NYS Assemblywoman Solages.

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. 2022-168 to authorize the Floral Park Village Justice Court to apply for a grant in an amount of \$30,000.00 through the 2022-23 Justice Court Assistance Program.

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. 2022-169 to approve the request of property owner of 51 Willis Avenue to store their boat at their driveway for maintenance purposes for a period of not more than 2 weeks.

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. 2022-170 to authorize the refund request of J. Castelli in the amount of \$110.00 for her 2022 pool membership since she was unable to use the facility.

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. 2022-171 to authorize an increase to Ashley Siragusa, a part-time employee in the Building and Administrative Departments to \$17.00 per hour effective immediately.

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. 2022-172 to determine that the subdivision of property at 140 Jericho Turnpike, Floral Park, NY a commercial lot measuring 100' x 179.63', into two parcels 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 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. 2022-173 to approve the application of Elsa Cerrone, on behalf of Cerrone Floral Realty Inc., to subdivide the existing lot measuring 100' x 179.63'(irregular), into two parcels measuring 40.0'x 99.57' (north parcel) and 100.0' x 80.06' (south parcel) at the property known as 140 Jericho Turnpike, Floral Park, NY and identified on the Nassau County Tax Map as Section 32, Block 58 and Lots 415-416.

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 Lynn Pombonyo**

#### **Fire Department**

This week, our Fire Department and Village honored Ex-Captain Donald Gorman of Reliance Company on the north side. Captain Gorman served FPDF for fifty years, in addition to working in our DPW. Honors included a FPDF service and a firetruck flag salute at his funeral.

This week, FDNY, FPDF, FPPD and our Village are honoring FDNY Chief Joseph McKie, a long time, devoted local resident who, with his wife, raised four amazing children who attended our schools and enthusiastically participated in all that our Village has to offer. Chief McKie passed away following a 9/11 related illness.

We thank these two courageous firefighters for their years of service, and will keep the Gorman and McKie families in our hearts and prayers.

With their ongoing commitment to training, the Fire Department has completed two nights of intensive firefighting at the Nassau County Fire Service Academy in Bethpage. There our companies, including Rescue, have executed interior attacks on fires in a six story building and a two story, L-shaped garden apartment building. In both experiences, our firefighters had to climb smoke-filled staircases in full bunker gear, carrying hoses. Once there, they tackled multiple fires on multiple floors in hot, smoky blackout conditions. They bravely extinguished two sets of staged fires each night, and received instruction and feedback from the officers, chiefs and expert NCFSA leaders. The focus has been important fire attack strategies, including the complexities and challenges of hose operations, especially when multiple lines are in use. Our Rescue company is there to provide important support for all.

We thank our FPDF for keeping us safe and continually training to remain at their best. Two additional NCFSA training evenings are scheduled for September.

#### **Department of Public Works**

The fall months are busy for our DPW. At the corner of Plainfield and Magnolia, you will see beautification and accessibility enhancements with colorful flowers, flowering bushes and small trees, and an accessible sidewalk path connecting the parking lot and sidewalk on Plainfield.

With our road construction projects, Spooner Street is well under way. The roadway will be removed next. The Spooner parking lot will be the last phase of the project, in mid to late October.

Other road repairs and storm drain cleanout will both continue in the fall. Thank you Superintendent Kevin Ginnane and DPW for making our Village safe and beautiful.

#### **Conservation Society (FPCS)**

We are all in love with Centennial Gardens, so all fans out there are invited to our FPCS monthly weed-outs. Bring your family, friends and neighborhood for a few fun-filled hours of beautifying our Gardens. Meet our FPCS volunteers, and find out how you can become active in our BEST PUBLIC GARDEN OF NASSAU COUNTY treasure. Next weed-out: Saturday, October 1st at 9am. Save the date!

#### **Chambers of Commerce and Our Businesses**

All of our Floral Park and Stewart Manor business people are invited to a Floral Park Chamber networking event on Thursday, October 6th, 6pm at Jameson's Courtyard. Learn about our Tulip Avenue, Jericho Turnpike and Covert Avenue businesses and develop new partnerships and friendships.

And we're counting the days to the Covert Avenue Chamber of Commerce Street Fair - 25 days until October 15th. Join the browsing, shopping and dining fun in Floral Park and Stewart Manor, and have a great time!

### **Congratulations!**

The Village Board extends our congratulations to Girl Scout Troop 1622's Gold Award recipients. This is the highest award in the Girl Scout organization. Floral Park Memorial Seniors Ella Iannitti, Tulah Chatterton and Emerson Lucatorto wowed our community and their high school peers with their impressive Gold Award projects including promoting inclusion and special needs-friendly communities and businesses; guiding teens to teach the younger tweens about Internet safety; and preparing students to prepare themselves for employment. All three Gold Award recipients incorporated technology in their projects in highly innovative ways. Our future is in great hands!

### **Trustee Frank Chiara**

#### **Police Department**

On Monday, Sept. 12, 2022, Commissioner McAllister, Lt. Will Doherty and school resource Officer Kelly Murphy made a presentation to the Floral Park Bellerose School District Board of Education on the services our school resource officers and police department will be offering to our schools this year. Topics range from school safety, internet safety and public safety, providing helpful methods of how to deal with all of these issues. The presentation was well received and the new superintendent, Ms. Ruiz, noted how fortunate we are here in Floral Park to have our own Police Department who are so engaging with the schools and our community. Our school resource Officers are the liaisons between our children, law enforcement, teachers and school staff, families and the community. They have become a welcomed presence in our schools and provide a valuable service to all of the students.

Thank You to Commissioner McAllister, Officer Murphy, and Lt. Doherty for sharing this information on the services our school resource Officers are performing and for all that you do to keep our community safe.

#### **Building Department**

On Wednesday, Sept. 21, 2022, the Architectural Review Board (ARB) will be having the first of the split sessions for the month of September. The ARB is having two sessions this month due to the magnitude of the projects currently proposed in our Village. On Sept. 21, 2022, there will be a number of items on the agenda, most notable is the Covert Ave project resubmission. Please note the change of venue. The meeting will take place at Fire Fighters Hall, 1 Floral Blvd at 8pm. The second session will be on Sept. 28, 2022 at 8pm in Fire Fighters Hall, 1 Floral Blvd. This session will have the Centennial Hall project along with a number of items on the agenda. If residents would like to submit questions on either of these projects prior to these meetings, please do so at [ARB@FPvillage.org](mailto:ARB@FPvillage.org). These questions will then be answered at the respective meetings.

I would like to congratulate our Village Clerk Susan Walsh for receiving the Clerk of the Year award for NYS. We here in the Village all know and recognize the fantastic job Susan does for all of us and for our Village. This is a well-deserved acknowledgment for NYS to recognize her as Clerk of the Year. Congratulations Susan and we can never thank you enough for all that you do for us!!!

### **Trustee Jennifer Stewart**

#### **Recreation Center**

With the somewhat crisper air, we continue to see many residents at our Recreation Center daily. Whether children practicing with their teams or just playing with friends, adults learning new skills and sharpening old ones, our Recreation Center is filled with folks enjoying this gem in our Village.

Many thanks to long time village resident Mary Petrosino. Mary spent many years enjoying all the Village and in particular, the Recreation Center has to offer. As she leaves our Village, she was kind enough to leave a small gift for the Recreation Center. Thank you, Mary, for the gift of the steam cleaner and we wish you well in your new community.

We will have news regarding the Multi-Purpose rink in the coming weeks.

#### **LIRR/MTA/3TC**

Despite their representations to residents and over the objections of the Village, the MTA/Long Island Rail Road intends to install a permanent vehicle access gate at their access point on Tunnel Street. Prior to the Third Track construction project there had only been a pedestrian access gate at this location. Representatives of the MTA met with the Village at the site several times over the last two weeks, to hear the Village's safety concerns. The Village is appreciative of the MTA's representations that they will make modifications to their plans to address the Village's safety concerns. However, the Village remains unconvinced that a permanent vehicle access gate at this location is needed.

As a reminder to residents, especially parents, although the Third Track Project is hopefully coming to a conclusion in the near future, it is still an active construction project. There are several construction access points for the Third Track Project in the Village and the Village Police and Department of Public Works (DPW) try to monitor these access points to make sure they are properly secured when there is no ongoing construction activity taking place. But if you notice a location where the construction fencing is not properly secured, please contact our DPW at 516-326-6320 or our Police at 516-326-6400. Thank you for your assistance with this.

I urge you to log into MTA.org or please email them at [communityoutreach@lirrexpansion.com](mailto:communityoutreach@lirrexpansion.com) and leave a comment. You may also call the MTA at 516-203-4955, especially if you have called the Village to report a concern, let the MTA know as well.

### **Trustee Michael Longobardi**

#### **Floral Park Library**

Friends of the Library is a great volunteer organization that raises money and supports the Library. Their support and programs are expanding and they are looking for more volunteers to get involved and help. Kids, teens and adults are all welcome and encouraged to volunteer.

The Library is excited to announce they will be launching a new homepage shortly for the website. Please watch for that.

Also, the Library is currently in the top ten in circulation for Nassau County thanks to the great staff and programs they run. October 26th is Trivia Night; tickets are available. The Book Nook is now open Monday to Saturday. It has recently added more books and CDs. The Urban Explorers are looking to run a bus trip to the Botanical Gardens for the Holiday Train Show. More information to follow on this. Another defensive driving class is schedule for October 13th from 10am to 4pm; this is a great way to save money on auto insurance. Details for these and many other events are listed on the Library website: [www.floralparklibrary.org](http://www.floralparklibrary.org).

#### **Four Village Studio (4VS)**

A reminder from last meeting, 4VS currently has openings for High School Students, residing in the four-village area, to join the staff as television production crew members. No experience is necessary. This is a great opportunity for anyone interested in learning about the technical positions and equipment used to create our programs. If interested, please contact Jim Green at the studio at 516-326-1150. Please visit [www.4vs.org](http://www.4vs.org) for the complete list of shows, dates, and times.

#### **Mayor Kevin Fitzgerald**

The Village will be finalizing its submission for the NYS Downtown Revitalization Application later this month. The public information meeting that was held on September 13, 2022 regarding the application was very well attended with over 50 residents there and more on zoom. There was a great exchange of ideas after my Business Project Improvement presentation. To date, the Village has also received tremendous feedback on the initiative with over 950 responses to the survey. The survey results reveal some really great ideas. The Village will be reviewing all of the responses and incorporating the feedback into the application process. Thank you to all of the residents, businesses, Deputy Mayor Pombonyo and Building Superintendent Renee Marcus for all of their hard work on this so far. The grant would be for \$10mm to improve the downtowns and the Village will continue to apply until we win!

Please share this information with your neighbors. I always encourage people to attend the Civic Association Meetings which are held on Thursday nights. I recently attended the North End Civic Association meeting with Trustee Stewart and it was a good way for us to share and receive information – there is a lot going on and a lot to absorb.

As reported at the last meeting, the Village E-mail blast and online E-news are key communication channels that we are using for the Mayor & Board of Trustees to keep residents, businesses and the public updated on current news in the Village. Over 3,000 residents have subscribed for notifications. To sign up for personal notifications individuals can visit the Village website: [fpvillage.org](http://fpvillage.org), click on Quick Links: Important Notifications. The direct link is: <https://fpvillage.org/notifications/>. Thank you.

At 9:57 pm Trustee Pombonyo motioned to go into Executive Session, seconded by Trustee Chiara and carried unanimously, the Board went into Executive Session.

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At 8:55 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, Commissioner McAllister, and Superintendent of Public Works Kevin Ginnane.

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

The meeting ended at 11:55 pm.

Susan Walsh  
Village Clerk