

INCORPORATED VILLAGE OF FLORAL PARK
Minutes - Special Meeting of the Board of Trustees
Tuesday, January 31, 2023 - 8PM
Village Hall Courtroom

Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84109057202?pwd=UE5COGpON2JFSURTVHVkYytkdFltQT09>
Meeting ID: 841 0905 7202, Passcode: 181641; Dial-in:1 646 558 8656 (NY) Meeting ID: 841 0905 7202, Passcode: 181641.

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, Police Commissioner Stephen McAllister, FPDF Chief James Dodson and Village Attorney John Ryan.

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

Mayor Fitzgerald asked for moment of silence to remember two important public servants of the Village of Floral Park: Floral Park Fire Department Ex-Captain Marty Cook and Hon. William Corbett who both recently passed away.

Mayor Fitzgerald recognized Marty Cook's leadership as a 40-year member of the Fire Department Rescue Company serving as Captain, Lieutenant, Warden, OSHA Coordinator, CPR Instructor, Medical Supply Officer and Hospital Liaison to name a few.

William (Bill) J. Corbett of Floral Park, passed on January 30, 2023 at the age of 85. Bill was the husband of former Village Mayor and Trustee Ann Corbett. Bill lived in Floral Park for over 77 years and graduated from Sewanhaka HS in 1959. He graduated from Hobart College and earned a law degree from Fordham University. A community leader in Floral Park, Bill served as Village Prosecuting Attorney and Associate Village Justice for over 20 years. He is Past Commander and Judge Advocate of the Floral Park American Legion, member of 40 & 8, the Legion of Honor Society; Floral Park Free & Accepted Masons Lodge and has served as co-president of Friends of the Floral Park Library, past president of the West End and South Side Civic Associations, a member of the Floral Park Emergency Management Committee and board member of the Floral Park Chamber of Commerce, Floral Park Lions Club and Floral Park Historical Society.

As has been discussed at the last few Board meetings starting with the November 15th meeting and including the presentations made by the Chief of the Department and NYU Langone at the January 3rd Board meeting, the Village Board at the recommendation of all of the Chief's is considering contracting with NYU Langone to provide "1st due" ambulance services to our residents. This service will include an ambulance stationed within the Village 365 days per year, 24 hours a day basis, and will be staffed by a NYS certified Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) and NYS certified EMT Paramedic.

The two primary reasons for this change are to ensure 1) our residents have access to immediate Advanced Life Support (ALS) care as we currently do not have any ALS certified personnel and 2) the steady decline in new volunteers joining the Rescue Company. Neither of these reasons are new, unique to Floral Park, or solvable within a reasonable timeframe due to the extensive (i.e., hours required) training that must be completed for any new volunteer to become certified.

To be clear, our volunteers in the Rescue Company will still play a vital role in servicing our residents including that they will be "2nd due" when the NYU Ambulance is being utilized for a previous call. In 2022 there were over 250 such instances.

The Village Board has over the past few weeks, including at the aforementioned board meetings, formulated a Frequently Asked Questions ("FAQ") which we published last week. We intend to continue to update that document if new questions arise.

I would like to thank Chief Dodson and the rest of the Chiefs for the time and effort that they have put into this proposal. Additionally, I would like to thank Chief Dodson and Larry King for presenting their views on the proposal at various civic organizations over the past few weeks.

With that prior to voting on the contract, I will now open the meeting up to comments from the public. Mayor Fitzgerald invited Chief of the Fire Department James Dodson to address the Board of Trustees regarding the proposal. The Mayor addressed questions and invited attendees, both in Village Hall and on Zoom, to present questions and comments before the Board. After all who wished to be heard having been heard, the Mayor asked Village Clerk Susan Walsh for a roll call vote of the Board.

Trustee Pombonyo offered Resolution No. 2023-18 to approve the Village of Floral Park to enter into an Agreement with NYU Langone Hospitals wherein NYU Langone Hospitals will provide emergency ambulance transport services on a full time, 365 day per year, 24 hours a day basis, first-due transportation within the Village of Floral Park for a period of one year and authorize the Mayor or Village Administrator execute and deliver such Agreement required in connection therewith subject to the finalization of such terms of the Agreement as deemed advisable by the Village Attorney and Village Administrator.

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

Mayor Fitzgerald and Trustees Lynn Pombonyo and Frank Chiara thanked everyone involved with the ambulance proposal, especially the Chiefs of the Floral Park Fire Department and the volunteer EMTs who serve in Rescue Company.

The meeting closed at 9:05PM.

Susan Walsh
Village Clerk