

INCORPORATED VILLAGE OF FLORAL PARK
Board of Trustees MINUTES
Tuesday, March 7, 2023 8:00 pm - Village Hall Courtroom

Topic: Regular Board of Trustees Meeting & Two (2) Public Hearings

Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89318770693?pwd=NjNsUVVlZUWFIMWtqcmxlUDc0eXZwQT09>

Meeting ID: 893 1877 0693, Passcode: 701813. Dial-in: 1-646-558-8656 Meeting ID: 893 1877 0693
Passcode: 701813.

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

The Mayor announced that two Public Hearings were on the schedule, then the Regular Meeting agenda followed by the public session. The Mayor conducted the Public Hearings for Special Use Permits for 1) 320 Jericho Turnpike/Kombative Edge Martial Arts and 2) 143 Tulip Ave/ Joseph Artusa Pizza Bar.

At 8:48PM immediately following the Public Hearings, the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees began. Mayor Fitzgerald 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, the Board approved the February 21, 2023 Tax Grievance & Regular Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes.

Trustee Chiara offered Resolution No. 2023-44 to approve the Schedule of Accounts Payable as follows:

General Fund	\$ 648,640.00
Pool Fund	\$ -0-
<u>Capital Fund</u>	<u>\$ 150.00</u>
Grand total	\$ 648,790.00

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:

- i. - Bridge Community Church to use Memorial Park on Saturday, April 8, 2023 to hold their Easter Celebration from 2:00 to 4:00 pm;
- ii. - Floral Park Chamber of Commerce to hold their annual Belmont Stakes Street Fair on Tulip Avenue, from Plainfield to Verbena Avenue, on Friday, June 9, 2023 from 5:00 pm to 10:00 pm pending the street plan review of fair and joint planning with the Police and Public Works Departments;
- iii. - Town of Hempstead request to host a NARCAN Training Session at the Recreation Center on Thursday, May 4, 2023 from 6:00 to 8:00 pm; and
- iv. - Our Lady of Victory Church to use Memorial Park on Sunday, April 9, 2023 to hold Easter masses at 10:30 am and 12 noon with set up at 9:00 am.

Trustee Longobardi offered Resolution No. 2023-45 to approve:

- i. - John DiPalermo be appointed as a part-time School Crossing Guard in the Police Department at the contractual rate of \$17.61 per hour;
- ii. - Brian McGrane be appointed as a part-time Parking Meter Attendant in the Police Department at the contractual rate of \$17.61 per hour; and

iii. - John Eliscu (formerly a DPW seasonal worker) be appointed as a part-time Laborer in the Public Works Department at the contractual rate of \$17.61 per hour;

subject to all applicants having cleared medical/drug/alcohol screenings and Nassau County Civil Service Commission approval.

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. 2023-46 to authorize to repair parked vehicle, a 2017 Infinity owned by B. Dorfer, in the amount of \$1,835.01 which was damaged by the Village's Fire Department ambulance on December 11, 2022 and reimburse B. Dorfer for his out-of-pocket expenses to Great Neck Auto Body in the amount of \$1,835.01.

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 Pombonyo offered Resolution No. 2023-47 to approve the list of 94 active members of the Floral Park Fire Department 2022 Service Award Program who achieved 50 points or more for a total cost not to exceed \$ 65,800.00 and authorize the Mayor and Board of Trustees to sign the Sponsor Approval Form upon the thirty-day posting and forward to Penflex.

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

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

Trustee Stewart offered Resolution No. 2023-48 to approve the 2023 Pool Membership rates as follows:

<u>Resident</u>	<u>Non-Resident</u>
Family: \$545	Family: \$735
Couple: \$440	Couple: \$605
Sr. Individual: \$115	Sr. Individual: \$310
Sr. Couple: \$210	Sr. Couple: \$570
Individual: \$315	Individual: \$425
FD Family: \$420	
FD Couple: \$390	
FD Individual: \$280	

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. 2023-49 to approve the following cyber-security policies subject to the review of Village counsel and potential recommendations from the insurance carrier:

1. Computer Use Policy
2. Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) Policy
3. Third Party Due Diligence Policy
4. Incident Response Plan (IRP) Policy

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

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

Mayor Fitzgerald thanked Darlene Lanza, Research Assistant to the Board for her hard work on helping implement the cyber-security policies.

Trustee Pombonyo offered Resolution No. 2023-50 to grant a film permit to Apple TV/Quincy Instigators, LLC on Saturday, April 21, 2023 at a residence on Lexington Street during daytime hours and in Key Food parking lot from 5:00 pm to 8:00 am for a permit fee of \$2,000.00 plus any additional personnel costs incurred by the Public Works and/or Police Department subject to receipt of certificate of insurance.

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, the Board approved John Bruderman as a new member of the Floral Park Volunteer Fire Department since he received medical clearance and a background check by the Floral Park Police Department.

Trustee Stewart offered Resolution No. 2023-51 to determine that the Dormitory Authority of the State of New York has issued a grant in the amount of \$100,000.00 to the Village for Improved Access to the Floral Park Library and authorize Village Administrator to execute the Grant Distribution Agreement and such other documents as may be necessary to effectuate Dormitory Authority Grant #5346 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 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. 2023-52 to authorize the Village Administrator to execute the Grant Disbursement Agreement and such other documentation that may be necessary to effectuate the Dormitory Authority of the State of New York Grant #5346 for \$100,000.00 for Improved Public Access to the Floral Park Library.

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. 2023-53 to determine that the Dormitory Authority of the State of New York has issued a grant in the amount of \$250,000.00 to the Village for the purchase of a Pumper Truck for the Floral Park Fire Department and authorize the Village Administrator to execute the Grant Distribution Agreement and such other documents as may be necessary to effectuate Dormitory Authority Grant #25419 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. 2023-54 to authorize the Village Administrator to execute Grant Disbursement Agreement and such other documentation as may be necessary to effectuate Dormitory

Authority of State of New York Grant #25419 for \$250,000.00 for the purchase of a Pumper Truck for the Floral Park Fire Department.

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. 2023-55 to authorize the Mayor or Village Administrator to sign an Agreement with St. Hedwig's Church and the Town of Hempstead for senior citizen programs covering the period of Jan. 1, 2023 – Dec. 31, 2023 wherein the Village will issue payment to St. Hedwig's Church for an apportioned fee balance of \$5,890 to be paid in quarterly installments.

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 Lynn Pombonyo

Fire Department

Chief of Department James Dodson was welcomed to the meeting.

The Fire Department and Village Board have notified our community that recruitment efforts continue for firefighters and EMTs (Emergency Medical Technicians). On a positive note, several promising candidates have begun the process of joining the Department. Those interested in this important volunteer opportunity in our Village may contact FPDF representatives at info@fpfd.org. Please consider joining this extraordinary group of men and women who put out fires, save lives and handle all emergencies.

On February 27th, News 12 Long Island invited FPDF's Chiefs and members to participate in a news presentation on the current recruitment challenges in our volunteer departments across the nation. Assistant Chief Gil Luger and Hook & Ladder firefighter Rick Ma presented informative and interesting accounts of the benefits and challenges of working in the fire service. They proudly represented Floral Park and fire departments everywhere.

On FPDF's ongoing training front, trench awareness was a recent theme of programs attended by our members. This all important training deals with complex rescues when individuals are trapped in excavations and similar situations. We thank all our volunteers for the significant time they spend on training and the increasing expertise that then benefits us.

Department of Public Works

As winter comes to an end in two weeks, our DPW continues its roadway/pothole maintenance work throughout the Village. A week ago Monday, with our first taste of snow, our DPW crews were out at 10pm and throughout the night to salt the slick roadways. This insured safe traveling for the morning rush hour.

And now, I'll ask everyone to take a look around you and note our bright and beautifully painted courtroom, compliments of our skillful DPW painters. We're in this room a lot, so we really appreciate it.

Chambers of Commerce and Our Businesses

We have very happy news from the Covert Avenue Chamber of Commerce. The K. Hunter Boutique, owned by Kelsey Clark, a Covert Avenue favorite business person, will have its Grand Reopening this Saturday, March 11th at 2pm. This beautiful boutique was badly damaged in the September 2020 fire, and we are delighted to announce that Kelsey and the K. Hunter Boutique are the first to return to Covert Avenue. Their new location is at 62 Covert Avenue in Stewart Manor. Welcome back Kelsey! We are thrilled that you are back, and wish you great success! And to all, be sure to SHOP LOCAL at K. Hunter Boutique and all our Floral Park and Stewart Manor stores.

For the Floral Park Chamber of Commerce, tonight this Board approved the return of the very popular "Friday night before the Belmont Stakes" street fair. It will be held 5pm to 10pm on Tulip Avenue on June 9th. Save the date!

Trustee Frank Chiara

Police Department

Our Police Department reported issuing 371 moving violations, year to date. This is an increase of 27.5% compared to the previous year. It should be noted, there has been a significant increase of violations for the offense of disobeying stop signs. The department issued 145 summonses for this offense, more than doubling the amount issued during the same period last year. For the safety of all our residents, please obey all the traffic regulations and drive safely!

Building Department

There has been some movement with the two major construction projects within our Village. The Centennial Hall project came before the ARB recently with some cosmetic changes which were approved. The developer is now preparing to submit their site plans to Nassau County for approval. The Covert Ave project has resubmitted their update plans to Nassau County for approval. As soon as Nassau County approves these submitted plans, together with the necessary approvals from our building department, these projects will be ready to move forward. We are hopeful to see some progress on both during this spring season.

Trustee Jennifer Stewart

Recreation Center

As we turn the clocks ahead this weekend, we are preparing for all of our incredibly fun and exciting Spring programs and activities at our beautiful Recreation Center. The Summer Recreation booklet is nearing completion, please be on the lookout. Paper booklets will not be mailed, copies will be available in Village Hall, the Recreation Center and the Library.

MTA/LIRR

The Village continues to try to arrange a meeting with the MTA/3TC/LIRR and Nassau County to discuss the Tunnel Street Gate and our options. I will, of course, keep you updated.

This week is the second week of the new LIRR schedule. Floral Park has several new timetables. Some new trains have already been added from Jamaica to Atlantic Avenue due to customer demand. Reach out to the MTA and let them know your thoughts.

As always, we encourage residents to reach out directly to the MTA with questions and concerns, as we have found this the most effective way of residents communicating with them. The MTA can be reached at contact.mta.info/customer-feedback or by phone at 516-203-4955 – this is an automated response, but you can ask for “more options” and then ask for “Comments and concerns” to speak to a person.

Trustee Michael Longobardi

Floral Park Library

Progress continues on the new front entrance. The ramp and stairs are moving along with the final top layers going on now along with the walkway from the street to the entrance. New LED lighting is also being installed inside the Library at this time.

AARP tax assistance is available every Tuesday in February and March from 10am to 3pm. Please contact the Library for details to schedule a time. Floral Park Tech Help is free one on one tech support for your digital devices available Thursday after 5pm, by appointment only. Contact Joe at floraparktechhelp@gmail.com or call the Library at 516-326-6330.

The Friends of the Library meeting is Wednesday, March 8th at 1pm. The Library has a full list of events for kids and adults as well as some special St Patrick’s Day themed events. Please visit the Library website: WWW.FloralParkLibrary.org for the full list. You can also register on the website to receive regular emails on Library updates and events.

Four Village Studio - 4VS

Four Village Studio (4VS) has student opportunities. 4VS is currently recruiting four-village area high school student volunteers 15 years of age and older as well as college student volunteers who are interested in learning television production. For details or to schedule an informational meeting, call 516-326-1150 or email 4VS@4VS.org.

The *4VS Flashback 25!* is running all year. The last program of the night will be a flashback show looking back over the first 25 years. To see a current list of the flashbacks plus all 4VS shows, please visit www.4vs.org or watch your local provider station.

Mayor Kevin Fitzgerald

This is an update on the actions taken by the Village Board on Governor Hochul’s ill-conceived Housing Compact plan to increase the housing stock by 3% near MTA transit hubs in New York State which includes

the Floral Park and Bellerose train stations. The Village Board has been active in a number of areas. Deputy Mayor Pombonyo attended a press conference on Thursday at the Port Washington LIRR station along with

dozens of elected officials from Nassau and Suffolk that joined together to stand up for Long Island communities and against Governor Hochul’s Housing plan. Last Friday, I, along with Deputy Mayor

Pombonyo and Trustee Stewart attended a special meeting of elected officials at the Town of Hempstead where, among others, Town Supervisor Clavin and NYS Assemblyman Ed Ra spoke passionately in opposing this plan that will have a negative impact not only on the Village of Floral Park's infrastructure, roads, schools and sewers, but on Long Island as a whole.

At this time, I ask and urge all residents to contact the Governor and all elected officials to oppose this plan by phone, online or by writing letters. More plan details and contact information for your state and local elected officials can be found on the Village website (www.fpvillage.org) homepage under "Governor Hochul's Housing Compact Plan". It is important to have your voices heard. I assure you that I, along with the Board of Trustees, will work closely with our elected officials and local villages to protect the interests and quality of life of the Incorporated Village of Floral Park and its residents.

Lastly, thank you to Brandon Duffy of Blank Slate Media for attending tonight's meeting.

At 9:05 pm on motion by Trustee Pombonyo, seconded by Trustee Chiara, and carried unanimously, the Board closed the business meeting and opened to the public.

The Mayor re-opened the meeting for public session at 9:10 pm. Present were Mayor Kevin M. Fitzgerald, Trustees Lynn Pombonyo, Frank Chiara, Jennifer Stewart and Michael Longobardi, Village Administrator Gerry Bambrick, Village Clerk Susan Walsh, Village Attorney John Ryan, Superintendent of Buildings Renee Marcus, Superintendent of Public Works Kevin Ginnane and Commissioner Stephen McAllister. Supt. of Public Works Kevin Ginnane reviewed the 2023-2024 Department of Public Works Budget.

At 10:10 pm Trustee Pombonyo motioned to go into Executive Session, seconded by Trustee Chiara and carried unanimously, the Board went into Executive Session. The Board discussed police 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 12:40 pm.

Susan Walsh
Village Clerk