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M I N U T E S
OF THE MEETING
OF THE
PUBLIC HEARING
INCORPORATED VILLAGE OF FLORAL PARK
March 7, 2023
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

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1 MAYOR FITZGERALD: We'll move on to our
2 next public hearing, the application of Joseph
3 Artusa of FLA Properties. Can you read the
4 notice, Miss Walsh.

5 MS. WALSH: Thank you, Mayor Fitzgerald.
6 Legal Notice. Notice of Public Hearing
7 Incorporated Village of Floral Park, New York.

8 Notice Is Hereby Given that the Board of
9 Trustees of the Incorporated Village of Floral
10 Park, New York will hold a Public Hearing at
11 Village Hall, One Floral Boulevard, Floral
12 Park, New York on Tuesday, March 7, 2023 at
13 8:00 p.m. in relation to the following
14 application:

15 The application of Joseph Artusa of FLA
16 Properties of New York, LLC, agent for the
17 Lessee, for a Special Use Permit at the
18 property located at 143 Tulip Avenue, Floral
19 Park, New York, under Article III, Chapter 99,
20 Section 99-10 B (1) of the Zoning Ordinance of
21 the Incorporated Village of Floral Park, New
22 York which sets forth the permitted uses and
23 special uses in a B-1 District and which
24 provides that in a B-1 District a restaurant,
25 diner, tavern, bar and grill requires a Special

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1 Use Permit authorized by the Board of Trustees
2 after a public hearing.

3 The structure for which said Special
4 permit is applied is situated on the north side
5 of Tulip Avenue, 20.5 feet northwest of
6 Woodbine Court and known as Section 32, Block
7 75, and lot 378 on the Nassau County Land and
8 Tax Map and known as 143 Tulip Avenue, Floral
9 Park, New York.

10 A copy of the application is on file in
11 the Office of the Village Clerk, One Floral
12 Boulevard, Floral Park, New York and may be
13 examined by any persons interested therein
14 during business hours Monday through Friday
15 inclusive, except legal holidays, from 8:30
16 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

17 Now Take Notice that all parties in
18 interest and citizens will be given the
19 opportunity to be heard at the aforesaid time
20 and place.

21 By Order of the Board of Trustees
22 Incorporated Village of Floral Park, New York,
23 Susan E. Walsh, Village Clerk, dated February
24 17, 2023.

25 This Legal Notice has been published in

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1 the official paper of the Incorporated Village
2 of Floral Park, New York and posted according
3 to law and sent to the Nassau County Planning
4 Commission and pursuant to Section 239-L&M of
5 the General Municipal Law determined to defer
6 to the Village and take action as deemed
7 appropriate.

8 MAYOR FITZGERALD: Thank you, Miss Walsh.
9 I would like to place on the record the
10 applicant previously filed an affidavit of
11 service indicating that all neighbors within a
12 200 foot radius have been served with notice.

13 Additionally, I would also like to
14 announce that the Board had previously adopted
15 a resolution determining that the application
16 does not have a significant impact on the
17 environment as defined by SEQRA.

18 Good evening, gentlemen. If you will come
19 up and do the presentation and be sworn in by
20 the Stenographer. Welcome to Floral Park.

21 (Whereupon, Joseph Artusa was sworn in.)

22 JOSEPH ARTUSA: Joseph Artusa, 769 Dogwood
23 Avenue, West Hempstead, New York.

24 MAYOR FITZGERALD: Welcome. Thank you for
25 choosing Floral Park.

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1 JOSEPH ARTUSA: Thank you, Members of the
2 Board, Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Trustees. I almost
3 said Your Honor. I'm here tonight for the
4 address known as 143 Tulip Avenue. My client
5 is requesting a special permit to open a
6 bar/restaurant at that address. There has been
7 at least two previous like businesses there at
8 that spot. We are asking that the same use
9 that has been previously granted be approved
10 for my client.

11 The restaurant, to sum everything up, the
12 restaurant/bar will have 25 dining room seats
13 and 13 seats at the bar, bringing a total
14 occupancy of 38.

15 MAYOR FITZGERALD: 38?

16 JOSEPH ARTUSA: 38. 38, which was the
17 total for the previous two locations. We're
18 basically doing a new renovation, including
19 store front, new kitchen and cooking hood.
20 We're featuring moving the bar. If you
21 remember what the old locations were, it was in
22 the middle of the premises. We're moving it up
23 to the front. It will be a lot more lively and
24 open for the clientele coming in.

25 We have two means of egress, which is

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1 normally the code for 50 people or above. We
2 have 38, so we're well above the standard code.
3 Everything else is done according to the New
4 York State Building Code and layout and we ask
5 for your permission to grant the special use
6 permit.

7 MAYOR FITZGERALD: Thank you for coming
8 in. I have a couple of questions. Unless I
9 missed it, did you give the days and hours of
10 operation?

11 JOSEPH ARTUSA: No. They will be starting
12 basically at 3:00 to midnight to see -- to get
13 off the ground and do a soft opening and get
14 there. If everything goes well, we will open
15 for lunch.

16 MAYOR FITZGERALD: When and if we will
17 approve it, give us the time that you really
18 want down the road.

19 JOSEPH ARTUSA: Then we ask for 12:00 to
20 midnight.

21 MAYOR FITZGERALD: Seven days a week or
22 different hours?

23 JOSEPH ARTUSA: Six days a week.

24 MAYOR FITZGERALD: Which day are you going
25 to close?

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1 JOSEPH ARTUSA: Probably Monday off.

2 MAYOR FITZGERALD: 12 to 12?

3 JOSEPH ARTUSA: Yes.

4 MAYOR FITZGERALD: How many employees do
5 you think you will have?

6 JOSEPH ARTUSA: Anywhere from five to six.

7 MAYOR FITZGERALD: Where will they be
8 parking?

9 JOSEPH ARTUSA: There's municipal lots and
10 a lot of them are taking the bus and public
11 transportation.

12 MAYOR FITZGERALD: We have --

13 JOSEPH ARTUSA: There's three spots behind
14 the location also.

15 MAYOR FITZGERALD: Will there be alcohol
16 served?

17 JOSEPH ARTUSA: Yes, a full bar.

18 MAYOR FITZGERALD: Do you have your liquor
19 permit?

20 JOSEPH ARTUSA: We're working on that now.

21 MAYOR FITZGERALD: I have no other
22 questions. I will turn it over to my
23 colleagues.

24 JOSEPH ARTUSA: Have you seen the plans?

25 MAYOR FITZGERALD: Yes.

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1 JOSEPH ARTUSA: If there's any questions,
2 I will be happy to answer them.

3 MAYOR FITZGERALD: Sure.

4 TRUSTEE POMBONYO: When do you hope to
5 open?

6 JOSEPH ARTUSA: As soon as we can. Like
7 the previous applicant had stated, the Village
8 is always great with us. I have done previous
9 projects here. Renee always works with us and
10 helping us get along and move things along.
11 We're looking to go --

12 TRUSTEE POMBONYO: Do you have a time line
13 on construction?

14 JOSEPH ARTUSA: Four to six months.

15 TRUSTEE POMBONYO: And in terms of
16 service, you'll have?

17 JOSEPH ARTUSA: Full service bar and
18 restaurant.

19 TRUSTEE POMBONYO: With waiter service to
20 the tables?

21 JOSEPH ARTUSA: Yes.

22 TRUSTEE POMBONYO: Take out and delivery?

23 JOSEPH ARTUSA: Take out. Delivery will
24 be Grub Hub and Uber Eats.

25 TRUSTEE POMBONYO: You won't have a

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1 delivery staff?

2 JOSEPH ARTUSA: No.

3 TRUSTEE POMBONYO: That's it for now.

4 MAYOR FITZGERALD: Trustee Chiara.

5 TRUSTEE CHIARA: Always concerned about
6 garbage.

7 JOSEPH ARTUSA: Yes. No one likes a dirty
8 restaurant. We are on top of that. My client
9 comes from, his family comes from a long line
10 of successful operations in Philadelphia. But
11 he moved back up to New York and he chose -- we
12 went to so many different places. He also
13 chose Floral Park for the main street and, you
14 know, hometown feel. We try to be destination
15 obviously with all the new places coming in.
16 We feel it is going to be a very viable
17 operation.

18 TRUSTEE CHIARA: So, where will you be
19 storing garbage?

20 JOSEPH ARTUSA: There's a rear yard in the
21 parking lot.

22 TRUSTEE CHIARA: Grub Hub, where would the
23 delivery services be picking up, in the front
24 or back?

25 JOSEPH ARTUSA: Rear of the store.

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1 TRUSTEE CHIARA: How frequent? Grub Hub,
2 they go all hours also?

3 JOSEPH ARTUSA: Yes. Whatever operating
4 hours, they will be serving at those hours.

5 TRUSTEE CHIARA: Thank you.

6 MAYOR FITZGERALD: I want to go back to
7 the garbage. You said it will be stored in the
8 back?

9 JOSEPH ARTUSA: Yes, the rear storage.

10 MAYOR FITZGERALD: Every day or certain
11 dates it will be picked up and by whom?

12 JOSEPH ARTUSA: Depending on the
13 sanitation company.

14 MAYOR FITZGERALD: Are you doing private
15 carting or using the Village?

16 JOSEPH ARTUSA: I believe it will be
17 private. Can we use the Village?

18 MAYOR FITZGERALD: Come up and get sworn
19 in to answer some questions.

20 (Whereupon, Giacomo Presta was sworn in.)

21 GIACOMO PRESTA: Giacomo, G-I-A-C-O-M-O
22 Presta, P-R-E-S-T-A, 93 Ninth Street, Garden
23 City, New York 11530.

24 MAYOR FITZGERALD: Thank you for choosing
25 Floral Park.

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1 GIACOMO PRESTA: Thank you. Going back to
2 the trash, we'll have, if the Village is
3 willing to pick it up, we will do that. I am
4 also willing to do private.

5 MAYOR FITZGERALD: We want to keep the
6 garbage off the streets. I'm a little
7 concerned if it is open in the backyard there.

8 GIACOMO PRESTA: I'll have like a, one of
9 those dumpster containers to make sure
10 everything stays clean.

11 MAYOR FITZGERALD: Do you know whether it
12 will be picked up by private carting?

13 GIACOMO PRESTA: They will definitely pick
14 it up two times a week. If during the --

15 MAYOR FITZGERALD: What if you have an
16 overflow?

17 GIACOMO PRESTA: They do like services.
18 You pay an extra fee.

19 MAYOR FITZGERALD: If you get very busy,
20 which is a good thing.

21 GIACOMO PRESTA: Yes, of course. If it
22 happens, we will do the extra fees to pick it
23 up and make sure there's never an overflow.

24 MAYOR FITZGERALD: It will be enclosed?

25 GIACOMO PRESTA: Yes.

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1 MAYOR FITZGERALD: You'll have the trash
2 bin or receptacle and will be closed around
3 that?

4 GIACOMO PRESTA: So it will be covered on
5 top.

6 MAYOR FITZGERALD: There won't be an
7 enclosure around the bin, the bin will be open?

8 GIACOMO PRESTA: No.

9 MAYOR FITZGERALD: Trustee Stewart.

10 TRUSTEE STEWART: Hi. How are you?

11 GIACOMO PRESTA: Hi.

12 TRUSTEE STEWART: Would you consider one
13 of the three spots in the back for the delivery
14 service that you engage with? I lost my words
15 there. Leave one of the spots so it doesn't --

16 GIACOMO PRESTA: Yes, of course.

17 TRUSTEE STEWART: Some other places have
18 trouble with double parking and Tulip Avenue,
19 you can't be stopping there. I know it is
20 always a second. So, if you leave one of the
21 spots in the back, that will alleviate some of
22 the congestion.

23 GIACOMO PRESTA: Probably will do that.

24 TRUSTEE STEWART: I have a question
25 because the application is in the name of a

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1 person, Janet Decker. Am I looking at the
2 wrong thing?

3 JOSEPH ARTUSA: I'm sorry? That's the
4 landlord.

5 TRUSTEE STEWART: Okay. I am curious.

6 JOSEPH ARTUSA: I am a representative for
7 the landlord.

8 TRUSTEE STEWART: I'm still a little
9 concerned about the garbage, especially in the
10 summer with the smell and rodents and that's
11 something we need to solidify a little bit.
12 Would you consider cold storage for the garbage
13 or something?

14 JOSEPH ARTUSA: Can I go back up?

15 TRUSTEE STEWART: You don't have to sit
16 down.

17 JOSEPH ARTUSA: We have a full basement,
18 which has a loading, the Belco doors, with a
19 loading dock into the basement. The garbage
20 can be left there. There's a staging area we
21 can use and put out and also the private
22 sanitation we can easily increase the pickup to
23 three days a week which is more normal for a
24 restaurant.

25 TRUSTEE STEWART: If you have tons of

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1 garbage, I want to make sure it is taken care
2 of.

3 GIACOMO PRESTA: Me too.

4 JOSEPH ARTUSA: The basement serves very
5 well for the staging that refuse and debris.

6 TRUSTEE STEWART: Can you explain to me,
7 it says owner, pizza bar. That's what I
8 thought we were taking about here. Are you
9 making your own pizza, is that what you are
10 talking about?

11 JOSEPH ARTUSA: No. He has a different
12 concept for pizza.

13 TRUSTEE STEWART: Maybe you want to talk
14 to us a little bit about that.

15 GIACOMO PRESTA: I saw places in Rome. It
16 was very nice, full service bar and it was a
17 gourmet pizza. It is all personal pizzas.
18 There will be pastas and meats and special
19 things like that. It is not going to be a full
20 scale pizzeria. It will have some sorts of
21 take out. The whole aspect is trying to create
22 new ideas and different gourmet pizzas.

23 TRUSTEE STEWART: Are you the chef?

24 GIACOMO PRESTA: Yes, I am.

25 TRUSTEE STEWART: That really has nothing

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1 to do with anything. You got very
2 enthusiastic.

3 GIACOMO PRESTA: Yes, a little bit.

4 TRUSTEE STEWART: I would like to talk
5 about the atmosphere or entertainment factors.
6 Some places will be looking in music, D.J. or
7 floor shows.

8 GIACOMO PRESTA: The place is a little
9 hall. I would like to do something like that
10 but I don't have enough room to set up a stage
11 or anything like that.

12 TRUSTEE STEWART: Just straight dining?

13 GIACOMO PRESTA: Yeah, a little bit of
14 music on the I-Pod or something like that.
15 Nothing too loud. It is a nice, casual
16 setting.

17 TRUSTEE STEWART: Thank you for choosing
18 our Village.

19 MAYOR FITZGERALD: To be clear, there will
20 be no live music with instruments?

21 GIACOMO PRESTA: Correct.

22 TRUSTEE LONGOBARDI: Good evening and
23 welcome. Thank you for coming here and welcome
24 to the Village. A couple of quick questions
25 with regards to delivery of supplies and all of

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1 that. Where will it take place and coming
2 from?

3 GIACOMO PRESTA: Coming from the rear. I
4 would have companies distribute it and have
5 like the schedule timing where it's a slower
6 period of the day and then I will have it, you
7 know, depending on what would help, I have it
8 one big bulk or multiple spreads.

9 TRUSTEE LONGOBARDI: You will get
10 deliveries everyday?

11 GIACOMO PRESTA: No.

12 JOSEPH ARTUSA: Again, if I might. There
13 is a basement with the Belco doors. Nothing
14 will be on main street. If you sit, sitting
15 for dinner or at the bar, you won't know
16 there's deliveries going on. It will go
17 through the basement and coming up. There's a
18 small prep area. That's going to be the
19 staging area for in and out.

20 TRUSTEE LONGOBARDI: Obviously it is one
21 of the problems, delivery and double parking on
22 Tulip. In the back, you'll also have to
23 coordinate the time as far as with the schools
24 going in and out there.

25 GIACOMO PRESTA: Yeah.

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1 TRUSTEE LONGOBARDI: You will have a lot
2 of kids crossing back there at certain times of
3 the day.

4 GIACOMO PRESTA: Of course, yeah.

5 TRUSTEE LONGOBARDI: Thank you.

6 MAYOR FITZGERALD: Do you have any plans
7 to do any alterations to the roof with the
8 exhaust fan or anything?

9 JOSEPH ARTUSA: There are, yes. We're
10 adding a cooking hood, so there will be an
11 exhaust fan coming through.

12 MAYOR FITZGERALD: That will have to get
13 approved by the building.

14 JOSEPH ARTUSA: Yes and the Nassau County
15 Fire Marshal also, as you know.

16 MAYOR FITZGERALD: With regards to
17 construction, you said three or four months.
18 What time of day do you plan on doing that?

19 JOSEPH ARTUSA: Whatever. I believe it is
20 8 t 5.

21 MAYOR FITZGERALD: What are the planned
22 uses for the basement?

23 JOSEPH ARTUSA: Just storage, dish washing
24 area and small prep area. Again, everything is
25 on the drawings.

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1 MAYOR FITZGERALD: You can stand there
2 while I ask if there's anyone here in Village
3 Hall that has any questions? Nobody on Zoom?

4 MR. BAMBRICK: Can you clarify the hours
5 of operation again?

6 JOSEPH ARTUSA: Well, as we stated
7 earlier, we would like to begin in the
8 afternoon, but have it on record it will be 12
9 to 12.

10 MR. BAMBRICK: On Tulip Avenue and Jericho
11 and other spots where there's a proliferation
12 of liquor licenses, in lieu of objection, we
13 requested the restaurants owners limit their
14 liquor licenses on the certificate to the hours
15 of operation. Is that something you are
16 willing to do?

17 JOSEPH ARTUSA: At this point, I don't
18 think so, but I just don't want to limit his
19 hours, but we would be amicable.

20 MR. BAMBRICK: To restrictions in the
21 past, it is coming in as restaurant bar in
22 having a row of bars as opposed to restaurants.

23 JOSEPH ARTUSA: Yes, but we are -- from
24 the seating capacity, we are more of a
25 restaurant than we are a bar. We're basically

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1 50 percent.

2 MAYOR FITZGERALD: For the record, do you
3 plan on opening past midnight? You have to
4 come back to the Board.

5 JOSEPH ARTUSA: Yes.

6 MR. RYAN: I have one question. I want to
7 make sure I got this right. You said Tuesdays
8 to Sundays. Did I get that right, closed
9 Mondays?

10 GIACOMO PRESTA: Correct.

11 MR. RYAN: Thank you.

12 MAYOR FITZGERALD: That's Village Attorney
13 John Ryan.

14 JOSEPH ARTUSA: Industry standard,
15 everyone is closed on Monday.

16 MAYOR FITZGERALD: Anyone on the Board
17 have further questions? With that, I ask for a
18 motion to reserve decision and close the public
19 hearing.

20 TRUSTEE POMBONYO: So moved.

21 TRUSTEE CHIARA: Second.

22 MAYOR FITZGERALD: Any discussion?
23 Miss Walsh, can you please poll the Board.

24 MS. WALSH: Trustee Pombonyo?

25 TRUSTEE POMBONYO: Aye.

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1 MS. WALSH: Trustee Chiara?

2 TRUSTEE CHIARA: Aye.

3 MS. WALSH: Trustee Stewart?

4 TRUSTEE STEWART: Aye.

5 MS. WALSH: Trustee Longobardi?

6 TRUSTEE LONGOBARDI: Aye.

7 MS. WALSH: And Mayor Fitzgerald?

8 MAYOR FITZGERALD: Aye. We'll get back to
9 you.

10 JOSEPH ARTUSA: Thank you for your time.

11

12 Certified to be a true and
13 accurate transcript of the proceedings.

14

15 CATHERINE P. MURPHY
16 Court Reporter

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