

Mayor
Kevin M. Fitzgerald



Board of Trustees
Dr. Lynn Pombonyo
Frank J. Chiara
Jennifer Stewart
Michael F. Longobardi

Floral Park Village Items



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April 2024

ANNUAL BUDGET HEARING APRIL 10, 2024 8:00 PM VILLAGE HALL

Dear Resident,

The Village Board will be presenting the proposed Village Budget on **Wednesday, April 10, 2024 at 8:00 p.m.** in Village Hall, 2nd floor Court Room.

The Village of Floral Park is a full-service Village providing many of the services you need every day. These services include but are not limited to Police, Fire, Roads, Parks, Library, Garbage and Recycling, Street Lights, Shade Trees, Sidewalks, Parking Lots, Buildings, Village Justice Court, Village Hall Services, Pool Complex, Arts and Culture, among others. We are committed and continue to seek to provide Village services in the most economical manner possible.

Within this newsletter, you will find a page dedicated to the allocation of Village taxes. This will provide you the opportunity to see a breakdown of your taxes as they relate to the areas of service the Village provides its residents.

Most of these services are provided to you with revenues derived from approximately 1/3 of the total real estate taxes you pay on your home or building. The rest of your real estate taxes are used to support other local governments and our great school districts. The reason we point this out is to show you how much you actually get for your tax dollar. We all strive for the best when it comes to our home or place of business and, when you look at our wonderful and beautiful community, please remember this is your home or your place of business as well.

The Village Board and staff are custodians of the taxpayers' trust to spend tax dollars in the most efficient way. In preparing the draft budget, we treat every dollar as if it was our own and work to ensure the "Best" possible use of them at the most economical value. To that end, the proposed tax-levy increase for 2024-2025 is **below the New York State Property Tax Cap**. The 2.43% proposed tax levy increase (a \$675,000 increase) does not exceed the Tax Cap for this year. The tax cap for Floral Park this year is 2.45%.

The New York State "Tax Cap" applies to the "tax levy". The "tax levy" refers to the overall amount of taxes the Village must raise to pay its projected expenses. The "tax rate" refers to the amount you actually pay on your tax bill based on the assessed value of your property. The budget proposes a tax rate of \$15.0392 per one hundred dollars of assessed valuation, compared to the \$14.6712 tax rate established for 2023-2024 fiscal year.

Based on the budget as presented, a typical homeowner in the Village of Floral Park owning the average home with an assessed value of \$37,693 will pay an additional \$139 for the 2024-2025 fiscal year for Village government services. The total annual Village tax for a home assessed at \$37,693 would be \$5,669.

With this increase the budget accomplishes a lot while dealing with the most significant inflationary increases the United States has experienced in quite some time. Many of the costs associated with providing these services continue to rise. In particular, health care costs and pension costs for our employees who provide these services have risen dramatically over the last several years and the Village is obligated to pay the cost that New York State apportions to us. For example, the budget includes a nearly 33% increase in Village's required deposit into the NY State retirement fund for non-police employees (from \$733,000 to \$973,000) and a projected 17% increase in the Police retirement fund (from \$1,608,000 to \$1,805,000). Health insurance costs are projected to increase 6.5% (which equals a \$296,000 increase). The Village also continues to pay down a sizeable accrued police termination pay liability –which is now \$384,000, down from last year's \$837,000.

Additionally, we continue to need to invest in the future of the Village by: (i) replacing life-saving firematic and police equipment and vehicles to make sure that in an emergency these vehicles and equipment reliably perform; (ii) maintaining our roads; and (iii) investing in other long term infrastructure of the Village, such as drainage projects.

These investments in the future can be costly and must be financed, which has been impacted by a significant increase in interest rates for financing many capital projects (offset to a certain degree by interest income we receive on our own funds).

However, rather than relying exclusively on Village tax revenues to pay these costs, the Village diligently seeks out alternative funding sources. For example, several years ago the Village embarked upon a Road Program to address the many roads in the Village that needed reconstruction and re-paving. Through a combination of current tax dollars, financing, grants and other state aid, we have managed to reconstruct many roads in the Village. In the past couple of years we have expanded

Mayor's Message Continued on next page:

Mayor's Message Continued:


our alternative financing of our Road Program and now also partially finance road repaving projects through the arrangement we have made with utilities, such as the payments from National Grid we obtain by coordinating our road reconstruction and maintenance program with the extensive work the utilities are doing in our Village. We are continuing with our Road Program again this year and will be focusing on the roads that have been disturbed due to the utility work which has been ongoing.

Seeking alternative funding sources also includes pursuing grant opportunities from Federal, State and County sources to pay for these long-term investments. The Village has been very successful in the grants it has received recently. For example, the Village's acquisition of a new pumper truck, to replace an existing pumper truck which is more than 25 years old, is being partially financed by a **\$250,000 grant** the Village received from New York State through the efforts of **Assemblywoman Solages**. Additionally, the project to construct a pedestrian walkway to connect the Spur Parking Lot to Tulip Avenue is being funded by a **\$125,000 grant** from Nassau County, secured through the efforts of former **Legislator Nicollelo**. Also, I am happy to announce that very recently, through the efforts of **Congressman D'Esposito**, the Village has been approved for a **\$4,050,000 grant** from the Federal Government to construct a larger capacity storm water recharge basin on Belmont property to address drainage issues in the West End of the Village. This recharge basin project has been in the planning stages for many years and with this grant the Village will now be able to bring it to fruition.

Copies of the entire budget document can be obtained at Village Hall. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact our Village Administrator/Treasurer, Gerard Bambrick at 326-6300, or come to our **Budget Hearing on April 10 at 8:00 p.m.**

Mayor Kevin M. Fitzgerald.

Allocation of Village Tax for an Average Home Assessed at \$37,693

<p><u>TRANSPORTATION</u> \$ 326 Street Maintenance Street Lighting Parking</p>	<p><u>GENERAL</u> \$ 847 General Government Staff Central Garage Insurance Contingencies Finances</p>	<p><u>EMPLOYEE BENEFITS</u> \$ 1,602 State and Police Retirement Social Security Worker's Compensation Hospital/Medical Insurance</p>
<p><u>PUBLIC SAFETY</u> \$ 1,520 Police Fire Safety Inspection Civil Defense</p>		<p><u>COMMUNITY SERVICES</u> \$ 507 Refuse Disposal Sewer Service Shade Trees Street Cleaning Zoning</p>
<p><u>CULTURE, RECREATION & POOL</u> \$ 279 Pool, Parks & Playgrounds Youth Programs Programs for the Aging</p>	<p><u>LIBRARY</u> \$ 262</p>	<p><u>DEBT SERVICE</u> \$ 326 Debt Reduction Bond Interest</p>
<p><u>PER MONTH</u> \$ 472.42</p>		<p><u>TOTAL TAX</u> \$ 5,669</p>

Inc. Village of Floral Park
Budget Summary 2024-2025

Department	2023-2024	Percent	2024-2025	Percent	Change
Board of Trustees	\$ 21,300	0.07%	\$ 21,300	0.06%	\$ -
Village Justice	\$ 265,313	0.81%	\$ 249,856	0.75%	\$ (15,457)
Mayor	\$ 12,500	0.04%	\$ 12,500	0.04%	\$ -
Clerk/Treasurer	\$ 988,762	3.03%	\$ 1,029,504	3.07%	\$ 40,742
Purchasing	\$ 62,000	0.19%	\$ 69,000	0.21%	\$ 7,000
Assessment	\$ 126,200	0.39%	\$ 133,200	0.40%	\$ 7,000
Staff					
Law	\$ 222,000	0.68%	\$ 220,000	0.66%	\$ (2,000)
Personnel	\$ 28,000	0.09%	\$ 28,250	0.08%	\$ 250
Elections	\$ 9,150	0.03%	\$ 9,150	0.03%	\$ -
Shared Services					
Buildings	\$ 890,252	2.73%	\$ 919,554	2.75%	\$ 29,302
Central Garage	\$ 429,277	1.32%	\$ 453,369	1.35%	\$ 24,092
Central Mailing	\$ 10,000	0.03%	\$ 10,000	0.03%	\$ -
Public Safety					
Police	\$ 8,263,210	25.31%	\$ 8,013,872	23.93%	\$ (249,338)
Fire	\$ 470,200	1.44%	\$ 489,300	1.46%	\$ 19,100
Animal Control	\$ 250	0.00%	\$ 250	0.00%	\$ -
Safety Inspection	\$ 453,618	1.39%	\$ 464,671	1.39%	\$ 11,053
Civil Defense	\$ 7,050	0.02%	\$ 5,050	0.02%	\$ (2,000)
Health	\$ 6,250	0.02%	\$ 6,250	0.02%	\$ -
Transportation					
DPW Administration	\$ 351,813	1.08%	\$ 353,740	1.06%	\$ 1,927
Street Maintenance	\$ 1,263,033	3.87%	\$ 1,174,462	3.51%	\$ (88,571)
Snow Removal	\$ 48,200	0.15%	\$ 20,200	0.06%	\$ (28,000)
Street Lighting	\$ 63,963	0.20%	\$ 63,963	0.19%	\$ -
Off-Street Parking	\$ 145,389	0.45%	\$ 144,039	0.43%	\$ (1,350)
Economic Assistance	\$ 168,000	0.51%	\$ 168,000	0.50%	\$ -
Culture and Recreation					
Programs for Aging	\$ 9,640	0.03%	\$ 9,640	0.03%	\$ -
Parks	\$ 336,552	1.03%	\$ 350,362	1.05%	\$ 13,810
Playgrounds, Recreation Centers	\$ 774,028	2.37%	\$ 697,687	2.08%	\$ (76,341)
Youth Programs and Projects	\$ 201,517	0.62%	\$ 123,257	0.37%	\$ (78,260)
Historian	\$ 15,250	0.05%	\$ 15,250	0.05%	\$ -
Celebrations	\$ 63,000	0.19%	\$ 65,000	0.19%	\$ 2,000
Home and Community Services					
Zoning & Planning	\$ 27,425	0.08%	\$ 22,425	0.07%	\$ (5,000)
Refuse and Garbage	\$ 2,145,517	6.57%	\$ 2,097,282	6.26%	\$ (48,235)
Street Cleaning	\$ 174,038	0.53%	\$ 167,489	0.50%	\$ (6,549)
Noise Abatement	\$ 2,000	0.01%	\$ 2,000	0.01%	\$ -
Storm Sewers	\$ 29,420	0.09%	\$ 27,850	0.08%	\$ (1,570)
Shade Trees	\$ 364,710	1.12%	\$ 362,996	1.08%	\$ (1,714)
Emergency Tenant Protection	\$ 2,980	0.01%	\$ 2,980	0.01%	\$ -
Co-op Agreements	\$ 310,735	0.95%	\$ 309,779	0.93%	\$ (956)
Village General					
Self-Insurance	\$ 337,500	1.03%	\$ 324,500	0.97%	\$ (13,000)
Special Items	\$ 1,150,787	3.53%	\$ 1,282,477	3.83%	\$ 131,690
Employee Benefits	\$ 8,579,610	26.28%	\$ 9,463,170	28.26%	\$ 883,560
Library Fund	\$ 1,542,214	4.72%	\$ 1,549,145	4.63%	\$ 6,931
Pool Fund	\$ 348,019	1.07%	\$ 383,827	1.15%	\$ 35,808
Debt Service	\$ 1,679,241	5.14%	\$ 1,927,788	5.76%	\$ 248,547
Energy Performance Contract	\$ 242,106	0.74%	\$ 242,106	0.72%	\$ -
Totals	\$ 32,642,019	100.00%	\$ 33,486,490	100.00%	\$ 844,471

Comparative Report

	2023-2024	2024-2025
Appropriations, General Fund	\$32,642,019	\$33,486,490
Revenues, General Fund (Non-Tax)	\$4,662,019	\$4,961,490
Appropriated Fund Balance, General Fund	\$150,000	\$50,000
Amount to be Raised by Taxes	\$27,800,000	\$28,475,000
Assessed Valuation (after exemptions)	\$189,486,789	\$189,338,338
Tax Rate Per \$100 of Assessed Value	\$14.6712	\$15.0392

Annual Budget Hearing Broadcast Via Zoom:

Join Zoom Meeting

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86463410555?pwd=WTN5Nng2U296MGFmd01OaVh4ZEdsQT09

Meeting ID: 864 6341 0555 Passcode: 972167 Dial by your location •646 931 3860 US

**Important Village of Floral Park
Phone Numbers**

Police & Fire Emergency.....	911
Police & Fire Non-Emergency.....	326-6400
Administration.....	326-6300
Assessment.....	326-6305
Building Department.....	326-6319
Court Office.....	326-6325
Fire Department Chief's Office.....	326-6327
Library.....	326-6330
Public Works Department.....	326-6320
Recreation/Shelter House.....	326-6334
Recreation/Pool Bldg.....	326-6336
Four Village Studio	326-1150

www.fpvillage.org

4VS—Optimum Channel 18/ FIOS Channel 28

Mayor

Kevin M. Fitzgerald

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Trustees

Dr. Lynn Pombonyo	Frank J. Chiara
Jennifer Stewart	Michael F. Longobardi

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Village Justice

Douglas J. Hayden

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Village Administrator

Gerard M. Bambrick

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Village Clerk

Susan E. Walsh

We are currently preparing for the 2024 tax collection process. Residents are reminded to contact us at 326-6305 with any of the following changes:

- When there is a change in the billing or mailing address of the property owner.
- When the property has been recently purchased or sold. As a property owner you cannot rely solely on the mortgagor or your attorney to notify the village.
- When the mortgage has been satisfied or refinanced with a different bank or financial institution.

