

Village of The Branch – Board of Trustees Meeting
June 9, 2015

The monthly meeting of the Village of The Branch was held in the Village Hall, 40 Route 111, Smithtown, NY 11787, at seven thirty p.m. on June 9, 2015. Mayor Delaney, Trustees Donnelly, Buonaiuto, Spica and Newman, Building Inspector Jerry Harris, Attorney Christopher Ring, Treasurer Theresa Mequia and Village Clerk Cozine were present.

Mayor Delaney called the meeting to order and lead those present in the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:31pm.

Trustee Newman made a **motion** to accept the minutes of the May Board of Trustees minutes. Trustee Buonaiuto seconded the motion. All was approved unanimously.

Trustee Newman made a **motion** to accept the minutes of the June work session. Trustee Buonaiuto seconded the motion. All approved unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

Treasure Mequia distributed her reports.

- Busy month with sign permits and tax bills going out.
- \$6,100 received to date in sign permit fees and received almost \$81,000 in taxes to date.

Trustee Buonaiuto made a **motion** to accept the Treasurer's Report as submitted and direct the Treasurer to pay all the bills on Abstract # 2101 totaling \$198371.72. Trustee Spica seconded the motion which was approved unanimously.

Building Inspector's Report

Building Inspector Harris distributed his report.

- 6 CO's were issued, 4 permits issued and 2 Sign permits.
- 7 Notice of Violations were issued. Sunrise for buffer zone, Dairy Barn for maintaining site, Pearlman for landscape, 1 Dogwood Drive for landscape, Head Injury for garbage cans, 63 Branchbrook for bamboo and 21 Terrace for drainage basin.
- Trustee Newman feels Pearlman property should be issued an appearance ticket if any resident complains about property. Tom and Mayor will alternate checking on the property.
- VOB sign opposite St. Patrick's church has overgrown grass. The SW corner of Middle Country /Teri Road has overgrown grass as well. Need to keep an eye on it. Mayor Delaney asked the Clerk to property owner files to write a letter.
- Chris Ring asked Board what they want to do regarding Sunrise buffer: a fence or more plantings? Trustees Newman, Buonaiuto and Donnelly prefer vegetation (plants)...evergreens. Chris said he would reach out to the lawyer and tell him what we want.
- Inspector Harris will speak to Jeremy at Acadia regarding salt/sand. Also Mr. Harris will issue Colletti a notice of violation for PODS and dumpster since it has been more than 30 days.

Attorney's Report

Attorney Ring reported that:

- Met with the Attorney from Sunrise regarding the Buffer Zone. He also wanted to discuss the sidewalk issue, but didn't want to get into it because Dan and Tom were not there and they know more about the situation. Informed us Andrew is the new contact for Sunrise Facility. They are pricing out curbing, but told them they need to get in touch with Village Engineer and gave them Dan's information.
- 63/65 Birchbrook bamboo issue – Trotta's office is now looking into. David Ricefield is the Greenbelt contact. Per Mike Donnelly Farm Place and 2 Plaza Drive have bamboo issues as well.
- Leaf and Brush bid documents are done, we now just have to decide the dates to put forward and publicly bid.
- Mayor Delaney wants to discuss at the October work session sweeping contract.
- Justice Court – Cloud fine has been determined. 2 contracts still need to be notarized. Mayor Delaney has reached out about wording regarding what is reasonable/acceptable and wants to get an opinion or reach out to Smithtown's town attorney.

Trustee Donnelly made a **motion** to put leaf and brush contract out to bid. Trustee Buonaiuto seconded the motion. All approved unanimously.

Trustee Donnelly made a **motion** to put Elite contract out for another year extension. Trustee Buonaiuto seconded the motion. All approved unanimously.

At this time the floor was opened to the Public- A resident suggested implementing speed traps on Mt. Pleasant and Rte 111 has cars passing on the shoulder. Mayor Delaney said he would reach out to COPE and talk to Leslie Kennedy, but also suggested the resident call the 4th precinct and COPE officer as well. The resident also asked about what we are doing with the Old Route 111 area? Explained we are looking into a grant to get a bike path, put lighting in, repave and replace the bridge and also have a walking trail going East to the County line. Mayor Delaney is going to ask Jennifer from Mesiano if they can look into it.

Trustee Donnelly's Report

Trustee Donnelly reported that:

- Spring leaf and brush was completed this past week.
- Drainage is ongoing
- Followed up with Mike Asero from National Grid
- Looking for Mt. Pleasant paving check. Mayor Delaney is speaking to Dan about it and Trustee Donnelly asked him to mention crack seal as well.
- 2 Carriage House has materials leaking into the street
- A resident requested sand be cleaned up at Carriage House, Dogwood and Weatherstone. Mike will ask Alex to do it. Mayor Delaney and Trustee Buonaiuto want cost to be under \$500.

Trustee Newman's Report

Trustee Newman reported that:

- Wants to pass along eviction bill charges along to the homeowner. Attorney Ring to advise Jerry to issue them a summons to recoup costs.

- Wants to know what the plan is in the Acadia shopping center is with the striping of the parking lot. Planning Board Chairman Caro mentioned that it is currently the revised plan striping. He will talk to Jeremy about it.
- Inquired about traffic backing up on Rte 111 lately. Trustee Spica informed him it is because of all the roadwork being done on 347.
- Inquired again about what needs to be done to get a traffic light on Rte 111/Oaktree intersection?

Trustee Spica's Report

Trustee Spica reported that The Village of The Branch has always been and always will be on the Insurance Certificate for Smithtown Day.

Trustee Buonaiuto's Report

Trustee Buonaiuto reported that:

- Lights at Executive, Park/Plaza, Dogwood, Rice Lane and Ingram Court have all been fixed.
- Made note Berkley light needs to be fixed.
- Mayor Delaney has signed paperwork for lighting proposal, so now they will put in bulbs to test and see if we like what they have to offer. The bulbs can be adjusted accordingly.
- Mayor Delaney asked Paul to trim trees by the stop signs.
- Nobody wants a dumpster on Cresthill, we just need better enforcement.
- Reached out to Jason Goldman, but has not heard back from him yet.
- Would like to restrict \$5,000 for signs for village and increase the amount for the next budget.

Mayor Delaney's Report

Mayor Delaney reported that:

- Mark Mancini wants to meet with him regarding downtown revitalization and will put him in touch with Trustee Spica to handle.
- Town of Smithtown made new changes to their fees and would like to make the Village similar. Planning Board Chairman Caro asked Clerk to put fees/fines in his mailbox.

Trustee Spica made a **motion** to close the meeting. Trustee Donnelly seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Cozine
Village Clerk