

Village of The Branch – Board of Trustees Meeting
September 8, 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 September 8, 2015. Mayor Delaney, Trustees Spica and Newman, Attorney Christopher Ring, and Village Clerk Cozine were present.

Mayor Delaney called the meeting to order and lead those present in the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:34pm.

Trustee Newman made a **motion** to accept the minutes of the August Board of Trustees meeting. Trustee Spica seconded the motion. All approved unanimously.

Trustee Newman made a **motion** to accept the minutes of the September work session meeting. Trustee Spica seconded the motion. All approved unanimously.

Trustee Donnelly made a **motion** to accept the minutes of the July work session meeting. Trustee Spica seconded the motion. All approved unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

Treasure Mequia was not present, but distributed her reports.

Trustee Spica made a **motion** to accept the Treasurer's Report as submitted and direct the Treasurer to pay all the bills on Abstract # 2104 totaling \$23,655.84. Trustee Newman seconded the motion which was approved unanimously.

Building Inspector's Report

Building Inspector Harris was not present, but distributed his report.

- 4 CO's were issued, 8 permits issued and 0 Sign permits.
- 1 Notice of Violations was issued. 6 Birchbrook Drive; lawn needs to be cut. If no response by Thursday September 10th, then issue summons.
- 3 complaints were reports and looked into. 47 and 45 Branchbrook had a complaint about their construction from their neighbors at 49 Branchbrook. They included a sanilav, parking, setback, height, plan detail changes, design detail, windows etc., investment by owner, resale, SCBHS. All permits were valid and within code. A resident called anonymously to complain about sign and parking of commercial vehicles at Judges Lane.
- 2 Carriage House – 2nd summon to appear in court this month. The first one was dismissed due to incorrect address on summons. As of today, the mess was cleaned up.

Attorney's Report

Attorney Ring reported that:

- Justice Court had 3 all night parking tickets. One was dismissed for first time offense, other two were reduced fines. There were 2 Handicap tickets that the fines were reduced. There was an adjournment on run off/sand gravel since the wrong property number was on ticket. Castiglione's fine was paid \$125. She provided the attorney with the lease for her tenant. Cloud mailed in their sign permit fine and application.
- Sunrise Sidewalk issue was resolved and taken care of.

- Two contract issues are coming due soon. One is extension for Welsbach. Need to reach out to Paul to change some of the language in the extension.
- Sonnenberg landscaping and snow removal. Mayor Delaney wants to review the landscaping to add some stuff.

Trustee Donnelly made a **motion** to extend the snow plowing contract for one year starting October 1, 2015- September 30, 2016. Mayor Delaney seconded the motion. All approved unanimously.

At this point Mayor Delaney opened the meeting to the public:

Resident John Caro mentioned Castiglione's house is not cutting the weeds and it is an ongoing problem.

Resident David Wetzel of 45 Branchbrook wanted to know what the complaints are for 49 Branchbrook. All the complaints are unfounded. Since last Tuesday, he wanted to know if Jerry had been in the backyard as well as Tom Newman. Jerry informed him that the homeowner is putting in 2 dry wells. Mr. Wetzel went on to inform the Board he is concerned about the size of the renovation, and the timeframe. The Board informed him that the Building Inspector is the only person checking on the renovation. Mr. Wetzel wanted to know what other renovation Mr. Harris could compare this to within the Village. He feels it is a dangerous situation especially when contractors are parking on the curve and blocking visibility and worried about the children and buses. We offered solutions to have contractors park their cars at Guiseppes or park on the flat part of the street. There are no code violations going on.

Trustee Donnelly's Report

Trustee Donnelly reported that:

- Summer brush pick up done
- Potholes are ongoing; coming up on crack seal season and has not heard from Village Engineer Dan Falasco.
- Wants Inspector Harris to get in touch with Dairy Barn and have them cut weeds and have property look nice in preparation of 350 Parade.
- Notified us of Fall Brush/Leaf pickup dates: week of November 9, November 30, December 14th. Christmas tree pickup announced later in time for newsletter.
- Sweep in the common areas will be done in October.

Trustee Spica's Report

Trustee Spica had nothing to report.

Trustee Newman's Report

Trustee Newman had nothing to report.

Mayor Delaney's Report

Mayor Delaney reported that:

- Asked Tom Newman to check on block party on October 3rd on Wheelwright.
- Wants complaint log updated.
- Need to review contract for website overhaul.
- All in favor of Damianos cutting down dead tree covered in vines in front of our Village Hall.

Mayor Delaney made a **motion** to put in a public notice to increase the fines. Trustee Donnelly seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

Trustee Newman made a **motion** to close the meeting. Trustee Spica seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:57 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Cozine
Village Clerk