

Village of The Branch – Board of Trustees Meeting
August 14, 2018

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 August 14, 2018. Mayor Delaney, Trustees Carro, Newman, Albrecht and Botto, Treasurer Mequia, Building Inspector Arico, and Village Clerk Cozine were present. Village Attorney Ring was absent.

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

Mayor Delaney asked for a motion to accept the minutes of the August work session minutes. Trustee Newman made the **motion** and Trustee Albrecht seconded the **motion**. All in favor and was approved unanimously. Trustee Carro abstained.

Mayor Delaney asked for a motion to accept the minutes of the amended July BOT meeting. Trustee Carro made the **motion** and Trustee Botto seconded the **motion**. All in favor and was approved unanimously.

Mayor Delaney asked for a motion to open Public Hearing for the Vape Law. Trustee Carro made the **motion** and Trustee Albrecht seconded the **motion**. All in favor and was approved unanimously.

At this time Mayor Delany read into record the proposed Vape Law as follows to mimic the Town of Smithtown:

HOOKAH LOUNGES AND VAPE STORES/LOUNGES

Any facility or location whose business operation, and its principal use, include on-site indoor smoking/sale of electronic cigarettes, vape pens, vapors, e-liquids, other legal marijuana derivatives or other substances. As it relates to provisions concerning Hookah Lounges and Vape Stores/Lounges, the term “smoking” is defined as the inhalation of the smoke/liquid nicotine/vapors/water pipe tobacco and other substances encased in electronic cigarettes, vape pens, and pipes commonly known as “hookah,” “waterpipe,” “shisha,” and “narghile,” or any similar device.

Any of the above uses shall not be located within 1,500 feet of the lot line of the premises used for a school, church or other place of religious worship, park, parkland, playground or playing field, library, hospital or similar public or semipublic place of general congregation.

Mayor Delaney asked for a motion to adopt Local Law #5 regarding Vape shops. Trustee Carro made the **motion** and Trustee Albrecht seconded the **motion**. All in favor and was approved unanimously.

Mayor Delaney asked for a motion to close the Public Hearing. Trustee Albrecht made the **motion** and Trustee Carro seconded the **motion**. All in favor and was approved unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Mequia reported that:

- There are 19 outstanding tax bills
- Attorney Ring sent out letters for those residents who haven't paid their taxes for multiple years
- 18 Sign permit "second notice" letters are going to be sent out
- Mortgage tax check arrived from the County and it's higher than usual. This check is for payments thru March 31, 2018.

Trustee Albrecht made a **motion** to accept the treasurer's report as submitted and direct treasurer to pay all the bills on Abstract # 2139 totaling \$ 12,054.10. Trustee Carro seconded the **motion** which was approved unanimously.

At this point, Mayor Delaney opened meeting to public:

At this time the meeting was closed to the public.

Steve Hanuszek – 24 Dogwood Drive – Has the retaining wall on his property which is owned by the Village. Mr. Hanuszek wanted to follow up with the Board on the condition of the retaining wall. Engineer Falasco told him that the structural Engineer went to the property and assessed the situation and we are waiting to hear the results and what our options are. Once we have that, the Board would like to discuss with the Attorney and then sit down with the homeowner and go over everything.

Special Use Permits

1st Bday party 10/13/18 Affair \$75 approved – Smithtown Historical Society
Heritage Fair 9/14/18 Affair \$75 Approved – Smithtown Historical Society
Bridal Shower 9/9/18 Affair \$75 Approved – Smithtown Historical Society
Country Fair 9/29/18 Affair \$75 Approved – Smithtown United Methodist

Brian Monahan- 1 Oaktree Drive- Inquiring why the Group Home across the street was able to replace the garage door with windows. Building Inspector Arico explained it had to do with frost and it was necessary to put windows there. Mr. Monahan still is worried about the parking in front of his house. Mayor Delaney said he would reach out to Carolyn and others at ACHR.

At this time the public portion of the meeting was closed.

Attorney's Report

Attorney Ring was not present to report:

Trustee Carro's Report

Trustee Carro reported that:

- All **new** lights are working in the Village

- Only 2 complaints about the lights so far.
- Welsbach proposal to fix Plaza Drive area has extensive underground work. If the Board is ok with it, then we will have them do the work and Mayor Delaney will sign off on it.

Trustee Botto made a **motion** to discontinue our monthly maintenance services with Welsbach as of August 31, 2018. Trustee Albrecht seconded the **motion** which was approved unanimously.

Trustee Newman's Report

Trustee Newman reported that:

- Vegetation is overgrown due to weather. Getting out of Oaktree is difficult. Rte 111 is a State Road need to contact Joe Brown from the State DOT. Will have Attorney Ring send a letter.

Trustee Botto's Report

Trustee Botto reported that:

- Meet with Tommy the Architect to put the spec together for bid.

Building Inspector's Report

Building Inspector Arico reported that:

- Saturday morning, Phan Noodles had a car crash through the store front doors.
- Starbucks will be leaving their current location and moving into empty Bank in St James on North Country Road (25A). New restaurant that is taking over wanted outside seating and told new owner that it is not permitted.
- Gator has clothing bin dumpster on property, not on site plan, so took care of it and had it removed.
- Reported to Karen Sylvester the dumpster at Jacks Tobacco overflowing. Needs to speak to owner about getting bigger dumpster.
- 47 Mt. Pleasant doesn't have permit for handicap ramp. Should be looking into the commercial vehicle (Suburban Exterminating truck) parked there overnight every day.
- Damianos needs new elevators, so have been meeting with Pele. We need to do a temporary amended permit until the elevators are fixed.

Trustee Albrecht's Report

Trustee Albrecht reported that:

- 10 Birchbrook inquired about getting apron and drain fixed in front of his property. Had Alex make repair.
- Temporary pothole repairs were done at Dogwood
- Spoke to Michael Murphy (Smithtown Hwy Super) about the super sucker vacuum. All the drains were done on Weatherstone and Carriage House, however the Courts up there were not done. Trustee Albrecht asked the Asst. Supervisor to please do the Courts as well.
- Instructed Alexander to do 2 drains on Windmill
- Need to come up with a plan for curbing, creative way to figure out the costs
- Need to ask Engineer Falasco for the list of roads and parkland.

- Clearbrook is in need of new road.
- Crack seal; Weatherstone and Carriage House.
- Need to send letter to residents at Plaza and Executive Courts, etc.... about upcoming paving project in September.
- Need to do a 1 year extension for Snow Plowing Contract
- Need to go to Public Safety with the Village Seal for ID badges. Trustee Carro volunteered to look into that.
- Asked if we are going to go out to bid for Drainage Contract?

Mayor Delaney's Report

Mayor Delaney reported:

Mayor Delaney made a **motion** to close the meeting. Trustee Albrecht seconded the **motion** which was approved unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 9:21 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Christine Cozine
Village Clerk