

Village of The Branch – Board of Trustees Meeting  
January 8, 2019

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 January 8, 2019. Mayor Delaney, Trustees Carro, Newman, Albrecht and Botto, Treasurer Mequia, Village Attorney Ring, and Village Clerk Cozine were present.

Mayor Delaney called the meeting to order and lead those present in the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:33 pm.

Mayor Delaney asked for a motion to accept the minutes of the December 2018 BOT meeting with the amended changes noted by Clerk Cozine. 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 provide that there will not be a village registration day. Trustee Newman made the **motion** Trustee Albrecht seconded the motion. All in favor and approved unanimously.

Mayor Delaney asked for a **motion** to identify the polling place for the Village election on Tuesday March 19, 2019 at Village Hall, 40 Route 111, Smithtown, NY and that the polls will be open from 12 noon to 9:00 pm. Trustee Albrecht made the **motion** and Trustee Carro seconded the motion. All in favor and was approved unanimously.

Mayor Delaney asked for a **motion** to appoint Mary Coccurullo as Election Inspector for 2019 Election, to be paid at rate of \$150 per day. Trustee Carro made the motion and Trustee Albrecht seconded the motion. All in favor and was approved unanimously.

Mayor Delaney made a **motion** to consolidate Vital Statistic Registration of Town of Smithtown and Village of The Branch. Trustee Botto seconded the motion. All in favor and approved unanimously.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Treasurer Mequia reported that:

- Received 2 big Checks: One for mortgage tax receipts \$16,101.57 and second for CHIPS/Pave NY for \$40,454.
- Auditors report should be coming soon. No adjusting entries were required this year.
- No new tax delinquency payments this month.

Trustee Albrecht made a **motion** to accept the treasurer's report as submitted and direct treasurer to pay all the bills on Abstract # 2144 totaling \$193,711.40. Trustee Carro seconded the **motion** which was approved unanimously.

### Special Use Permits

5/19/19	Retirement Party 12-5 SHS Approved
4/6/19	1 <sup>st</sup> Birthday Party 12-6 SHS Approved
2/10/19	Valentine's Brunch 11-4 SHS Approved

At this time the meeting was opened to the Public:

William Stiuso – 14 Cresthill Place Wanted to comment how Village was doing a nice job with the water and marsh issues in his backyard, which turns into a pool about 15 feet from the house. This creates a mosquito problem and is unable to enjoy his backyard. Noticed the stream is flowing much better since we did work back there, but the marsh is still stagnant and wondering if the Village could put canals back there to help it flow better. At this time Mayor Delaney explained the whole history behind the grant we received and how they are lowering the culverts and eventually going to dredge the stream. The contractor is still waiting for the supplier to get the parts. Mr. Stiuso also mentioned how concerned he is of the people who are rolling through the Mt. Pleasant stop signs and then need to jam on the breaks to avoid an accident .Mr. Stiuso inquired if we could use the grass triangle area to put another lane to get on and off Route 111. Mayor Delaney responded that it is a State road and we do not have control over this. The Mayor suggested writing a letter to the DOT with this proposal. Mayor Delaney suggested getting email addresses from the residents in that area so we can get a group email going.

### **Attorney Ring's Report**

Attorney Ring reported that:

- Missed last month's meeting
- Last Court session had 7 cases, 2 defaults, 3 adjournments, 1 trial and 1 dismissal for a total of 14 cases.
- Election is March 19, 2019 and there are two open Trustee seats.
- Renovation for Village Hall – worked on documents and bid opening is January 31<sup>st</sup> at noon.
- There is a letter for Mayor to sign for Fire Contract conflict of interest.
- There is an Accessory Building issue that needs advice from Building Inspector Arico. Raymond Kelly of 32 Hemlock has been to Court because Public Safety has issued a ticket.
- Mayor Delaney informed Attorney Ring that Cresthill Group Home is not behaving nicely again.

Trustee Botto made a motion to advertise a public hearing at the February meeting for the purpose to enact local law to allow village to exceed 2% tax cap. Trustee Newman seconded the motion. All in favor and was approved unanimously.

### **Trustee Carro's Report**

Trustee Carro reported that:

- Building Inspector Arico has given his part for the Code revision, but still waiting on Engineer Falasco.
- FES has not told PSEG to change the light bulbs cost because they use less watts. The bills from PSEG have not reflected any savings yet!
- Spoke with Rich the maintenance man from Sunrise about the lights on the pathway to the Village Hall. They are currently not working.

- Resident called to complain about backyard neighbor (4 Sutton Place) who sent a letter asking the neighbors to pay for part of a fence. The resident wanted to know how the Board felt about this. Asked Building Inspector Arico to check it out.

### **Trustee Newman's Report**

Trustee Newman reported that:

- Uncle Guiseppe's new property manager is unresponsive. The area by the woods needs to be cleaned up along the South end by the foot bridge.
- Need new side walk sales permit for Uncle Guiseppe's
- Need tent permits from Uncle Guiseppe's
- Also reminded Inspector Arico of the lights around the perimeter of liquor store
- There is a tractor trailer wedged between Uncle Guiseppe's and the stand alone bank that needs to be looked into.
- Dumpster in the back of Uncle Guiseppe's is overflowing and filled to the brim.

### **Building Inspector's Report**

Building Inspector Arico was not present to report:

### **Trustee Botto's Report**

Trustee Botto reported that:

- Moving along with the renovation, having a walk through January 15<sup>th</sup> 2019.
- Need to have a meeting with Inspector Arico.
- Need to contact the phone installer about moving the lines to the new location once the renovation starts.

### **Trustee Albrecht's Report**

Trustee Albrecht reported that:

- Cresthill success with super sucker, Sonnenberg found the junction box which helped greatly.
- Between #19/#21 Cresthill would like to get in there and put in another pipe, would need to take down fences.
- Engineer Falasco is working on Dogwood estimate for paving roads and the courts off od Dogwood as well.
- Patching needs to be done.
- The leaves in front of Group Home on Dogwood are growing Trustee Carro said he will speak to them.
- Resident #26 Branch is flooding and feels that neighbor at #28 Branch is to blame for the new pool put in. Inspector Arico will go and look at it.
- Will be missing February work session and Board meeting.

Mayor Delaney made a **motion** to close the meeting. Trustee Botto seconded the **motion** which was approved unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Christine Cozine  
Village Clerk

