

Village of The Branch – Board of Trustees Meeting  
December 10, 2019  
Track #7

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 December 10, 2019. Mayor Delaney, Trustees Carro, Albrecht, Ryan 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 7:35 pm.

Trustee Carro made a **motion** to accept the November 2019 Board of Trustees minutes and Trustee Botto seconded the motion. All are in favor.

Trustee Carro made a **motion** to accept the December 2019 Board of Trustees work session minutes and Trustee Botto seconded the motion. All are in favor.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Treasurer Mequia reported that:

- Received a bunch of old delinquent tax payments.
- Auditors finishing up on their end.
- Handed out packets to the Board that contains details of the last 3-4 years of building permits.

Trustee Carro made a **motion** to accept the treasurer's report as submitted and direct treasurer to pay all the bills on Abstract # 2155 totaling \$48,045.66. Trustee Botto seconded the **motion** which was approved unanimously.

### **Special Use Permits**

09/25/20 Dog Show SHS Approved  
10/2-3/20 Wedding Rehearsal/Wedding SHS Approved

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

Attorney Ring reported that:

- Received a letter from Castiglione (270 N Country Road property owner) lawyer with a new offer to pay full amount of outstanding judgement with NO penalty. The Board discussed and is not willing to accept this new offer.
- Altice agreement – has a list of things to discuss with them
- 202 E Main Street is selling the property and has a covenant that the buyer's lawyer is asking Village to vacate the covenant. Will table this until next month so Board can look at the covenants more closely.
- Thank John for tree letters
- Justice Court – Ewart Trial- Judge Murphy reserved decision. Some overnight and handicap tickets. The Tantillo's, Mr. Gavilla and Mr. Ewart will be going to Trial in February. Silva's shed needs plans and to pay fine.

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

Building Inspector Arico not present to report:

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

Deputy Mayor Carro reported that:

- Calling FES over late charge.
- Calling National Grid regarding \$1,000 repair that they should be responsible for on Dogwood Drive when they cut the power to streetlight.
- 1 Salt Box – removing trees – Dogwood neighbor called about it. Spoke to Salt Box resident and had a tree fall and hit his house so he cleared all trees by the house.
- This prompted Board to discuss putting in future newsletter about cutting trees larger than 8 inches to come in and see the Building Inspector for approval.

### **Trustee Ryan's Report**

Trustee Ryan reported that:

- NYCOM sidewalk issue; liability giving to the attorney to look over.
- Noise restrictions in Code -Attorney Chris Ring will go over and set up a public hearing in future.
- Nick Forte – Computer IT guy will get back to Dennis tomorrow
- 301 E Main Street – Mayor Delaney wanted to know if we require a letter of intent. Do we have them fill out application to our satisfaction and if not send it back regarding single family use. Need to put together a memo from the Board about actions that have taken place. They filled out application saying “Residential” and it needs to say “Single Family.” We need to check out other applications and see if we requested it to says single family. Also \$750 fee.

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

Trustee Albrecht reported that:

- Leaf and brush started today, last pick up of the year.
- Crane parked on Farm Place is gone as of today
- TOS Highway Department rear gate to access salt/sand is still not open because they are working on the gate.
- Our contractor Alex Sonnenberg also said he doesn't believe he can access fuel at the facility.
- Did not know we hired a new cleaning service
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### **Trustee Botto's Report**

Trustee Botto reported that:

### **Mayor Delaney's Report**

Mayor Delaney reported that:

- Railing at the culvert is up
- Asked Clerk to reach out to Assemblyman Michael Fitzpatrick's office to see where we are in the \$50,000 grant application.

Mayor Delaney made a **motion** to approve Michael Kelly on the Planning Board. Trustee Botto seconded the **motion** which was approved unanimously. Trustee Albrecht abstained since he left meeting.

Trustee Carro made a **motion** to accept current Building Department fees and fines as of December 10, 2019. Mayor Delaney seconded the **motion** which was approved unanimously. Trustee Albrecht abstained since he left meeting.

Mayor Delaney made a **motion** to close the meeting. Trustee Carro seconded the **motion** which was approved unanimously. Trustee Albrecht abstained since he left meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Christine Cozine  
Village Clerk