

Village of The Branch – Board of Trustees Meeting  
May 15, 2019

The monthly meeting of the Village of The Branch was held in the Village Hall, 180E Main St. Suite 103, Smithtown, NY 11787 at seven thirty p.m. on April 9, 2019. Deputy Mayor Carro, Trustee Ryan, Albrecht and Botto, Treasurer Mequia, Village Attorney Ring, and Village Clerk Cozine were present.

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

Trustee Albrecht made a **motion** to open the meeting to the public for the Budget hearing. Deputy Mayor Carro seconded the motion. All in favor and was approved unanimously.

At this time the Deputy Mayor Carro asked if anyone had any questions. The only question was about 266 North Country Road that has \$3,600 in tax arrears. Treasurer Mequia said they have been on the arrears list since she started in 2004.

There is no increase in the tax rate it is staying the same as last year.

Trustee Albrecht made a **motion** to close the meeting to the public for the Budget hearing. Trustee Botto seconded the motion. All in favor and was approved unanimously.

Trustee Albrecht made a **motion** to accept the budget for the 2019-20 Fiscal Year. Trustee Ryan seconded the motion. All in favor and was approved unanimously.

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

Trustee Albrecht made a **motion** to accept the May Board of Trustees work session and Trustee Botto seconded the motion. All are in favor.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Treasurer Mequia reported that:

- Worked on budget
- Tax bills ready to print
- Received some delinquent taxes from last year.
- Discussed what sign permit fee will be when late and decided it will be double.

Trustee Albrecht made a **motion** to accept the treasurer's report as submitted and direct treasurer to pay all the bills on Abstract # 2148 totaling \$159,572.68. Trustee Botto seconded the **motion** which was approved unanimously.

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

Building Inspector Arico was not there to report:

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

Attorney Ring reported that:

- Notice of Claim received on May 23rd
- Sent letter to "Next Door"
- Last Court session had 4 cases, 3 reduced fee, 1 dismissed
- 5G – passed law similar to Garden City with our LL#3 2018. Reached out to NYCOM looking for a draft policy.

Trustee Albrecht made a **motion** to accept the policy statement for telecommunication technology. Trustee Botto seconded the motion. All in favor and was approved unanimously.

Trustee Albrecht made a **motion** to accept the lease extension for 180 E Main Street for month of June since construction is taking longer at Village Hall. Trustee Botto seconded the motion. All in favor and was approved unanimously.

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

Trustee Carro reported that:

- Asked Attorney Ring if there is any law that schools must have sidewalks 500 feet from a school. Rice Lane sidewalk is in question. Resident at 4 Rice Lane wants to fill in area with dirt.
- Called Karen Sylvester from Public Safety asking why tickets were down so much the past month. The officer on midnights didn't document central compliance number, so that affected our tickets.
- Bidding for Dogwood wall will appear in May 16<sup>th</sup> edition of Smithtown News.

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

Trustee Ryan had nothing to report:

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

Trustee Albrecht reported that:

- Trench on Oaktree spoke to Connie at SCWA and never heard back. Followed up again with Lisa at SCWA today and going to have it patched tomorrow.
- Spoke to Mike Newman at 49 Branchbrook Drive regarding house number 50 trimmed their bushes and looked better.
- Culverts at Branch and Terrace Drive have periodic work being done.
- 9 Branch Drive should have Karen from Public Safety involved.
- 263 E Main Street is approved for two 5,000 foot buildings, not changing zone.
- 30 Branch/Village Way cleaned basins but still has water issues.

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

Trustee Botto reported that:

- Front doors are in at Village Hall
- Working on internet wiring
- Looking at desks
- Computers- should be set up as a network, having Nick Forte come in and meet with Clerk
- General Security is going to give us an estimate to upgrade.

### **Special Use Permits**

7/21/19 High School Graduation Party SHS Approved

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

Mayor Delaney was not present to report::

Trustee Albrecht made a **motion** to close the meeting. Trustee Botto seconded the **motion** which was approved unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:54 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Christine Cozine  
Village Clerk