

Village of The Branch – Board of Trustees Meeting
October 13, 2020
Track #24

The monthly meeting of the Village of The Branch was held at 40 Route 111, Smithtown, NY, seven thirty p.m. on October 13, 2020. Mayor Delaney, Trustees Carro, Ryan, Botto and Damm (via Zoom), Treasurer Mequia, Village Attorney Ring, Building Inspector Arico, and Village Clerk Cozine were present.

Mayor Delaney called the meeting to order at 7:36 pm with the pledge of allegiance.

Trustee Carro made a **motion** to accept the September 2020 Board of Trustees minutes and Trustee Botto seconded the motion. All are in favor, approved unanimously.

Trustee Carro made a **motion** to accept the October 2020 Board of Trustees minutes and Trustee Botto seconded the motion. All are in favor, approved unanimously.

Trustee Carro made a **motion** to open the public meeting to the public and Trustee Botto seconded the motion. All are in favor, approved unanimously.

PO Susan Levaglia, Community Liaison to the 4th Precinct SCPD representative sent in place of Commander of 4th Precinct. Mayor Delaney wanted to thank her for all that police officers do on a daily basis. PO Levaglia has served for 23 years on the force. She started in NYC, and then moved to the 4th Precinct. As a CL she helps address quality of life issues. If there is an emergency, then you call 911. If there is a non-emergency, then call 631-852-COPS. You will still get the same level of service, there will be an automated reply to ask the area you are calling from, and then you will be transferred to a live operator in your area. If you need police presence, ie: speeding, illegal dumping, blowing stop signs, possible drug activity, then call 631-854-8478, leave a message on the machine and they will call you back.

Some areas of concern that Board brought up with PO Levaglia were Dogwood stop signs, people not stopping, Mt. Pleasant and Wood hollow Road's dangerous intersection, driving on shoulder of the road on Route 111 by Uncle G's shopping center.

Mayor Delaney made a **motion** to close the public meeting to the public and Trustee Botto seconded the motion. All are in favor and approved unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Mequia reported that:

- Received a tax payment that was 2 years in arrears.
- Nick installed computer today
- Answering auditor's questions
- Mortgage tax check arrived

Mayor Delaney spoke to Noah, contact at the bank and he suggested it would be wise to Bond the roads to pave Clearbrook.

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

Special Use Permits:

12/5 SHS Country Christmas- Approved
11/12 SHS Heritage Ball – Approved
11/14 SHS Film Screening – Approved
2/1/21 SHS Sweet 16 - Approved

Attorney Ring's Report

Attorney Ring reported that:

- Preparing bids for leaf and brush, snow plowing
- Local Law #5 is filed with the State
- Suffolk County Parks sent email trying to mitigate the situation. Asked if they cut in 1-2 feet if that was OK. Trustee Carro stated he wants 7 feet in. Board wants the Right of Way cleared and a schedule maintained.
- Justice Court – 1 dismissal, 3 reduced fines, 2 defaults, 1 trial requested. Mr. Tantillo and his wife were a no show for Trial.
- POD Code - advertise for next month's meeting.

Joe Arico arrived at 8:38pm.

Building Inspector's Report

Building Inspector Arico reported that:

- Mr. Como – 4 Sutton Place, is moving the foundation and is removing the bathroom since it needed BOH approval and he does not wish to proceed. Signed off on building permit since no longer needs BZA variance.
- 11 Branch Drive – letter was sent informing resident the shed needs to be moved by Saturday otherwise he will be summonsed as well as he also needs to renew his pool permit.
- Sent letter to 55 Mt. Pleasant, going to give him 7 days to follow Code
- Dumpster behind Fresh Market has no reflective markers on it and Mayor Delaney asked to have Karen Sylvester summons them.
- Spoke to Village Engineer about Dogwood Wall
- Granted extension for building permit for Berkley residence, due to COVID 19 delaying progress of project. All inspections are done.
- Verified the Generator Code is ok according to NYS Code.
- Permit fee for tree removal is \$100, should we charge more if there are more trees??
- Called Karen Sylvester about abandoned property on corner of Mt. Pleasant and Berkley.
- Need to pull 50 Route 111 landscaping plan.

Trustee Ryan's Report

Trustee Ryan had nothing to report:

Trustee Carro's Report

Trustee Carro reported that:

- 9 Magnolia is looking to install in ground pool; however, part of the backyard is parkland. Homeowner was asking if he could buy it from us, but Attorney Ring said that is not allowed. The resident needs to go back to Building Inspector Arico to go over plans for a pool.

Trustee Botto's Report

Trustee Botto reported that:

- Spoke with Insurance Claims adjuster, Tim Lai, regarding new Notice of Claim in parking lot of 276 E Main Street, Steve Wilde property, where a woman fell through manhole cover.

Trustee Botto made a **motion** to accept the 2020-2021 leaf and brush contract and Mayor Delaney seconded the motion. All are in favor, approved unanimously.

Upon review of the snow contract bids, the lowest bidder withdrew his bid and after checking references on 2 other remaining lower bids, Sonnenberg Nurseries was the lowest responsible bidder.

Mayor Delaney made a **motion** to start the process to enter agreement with Sonnenberg Nurseries, 2020-2021 snow plowing contract and Trustee Carro seconded the motion. All are in favor, approved unanimously.

Mayor Delaney's Report

Mayor Delaney reported that:

- Received a cell tower inquiry to put one up at 40 Route 111.
- Car wash on Sunday at Village Hall for High School West Whisperettes, from 10-3 pm.
- Please have Inspector Arico check out 301 E Main Street property maintenance.

Mayor Delaney made a **motion** to close the meeting. Trustee Botto seconded the **motion** which was approved unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Christine Cozine
Village Clerk

