

Village of The Branch – Board of Trustees Meeting
April 13, 2021
Track #34

The monthly meeting of the Village of The Branch was held at 40 Route 111, Smithtown, NY, seven thirty p.m. on April 13, 2021. Mayor Delaney, Trustees Botto, Carro, Ryan, Damm, Treasurer Mequia, Village Attorney Ring, Building Inspector Arico, and Village Clerk Cozine were present.

Mayor Delaney called the meeting to order at 7:48 pm with the pledge of allegiance.

Trustee Ryan made a **motion** to accept the April 2021 Board of Trustees work session minutes and Trustee Botto seconded the **motion**. All are in favor, approved unanimously.

Trustee Ryan made a **motion** to accept the March 2021 Board of Trustees minutes and Trustee Botto seconded the **motion**. All are in favor, approved unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Mequia reported that:

- Busy month.
- Received delinquent tax payment and received another delinquent payment, but it had incorrect amount.
- Paid \$40,000 principal and interest for the Bond.
- Looked into Bond rates for paving and it is 2% to borrow if its \$50,000 or \$100,000, but you would need resolution to go forward.
- CHIPS monies came in at the end of the month \$127,206, \$8,747 WRP and \$12,054 Pave NY.

Mayor Delaney made a **motion** to accept the treasurer's report as submitted and direct treasurer to pay all the bills on Abstract #2171 totaling \$21,015.83. Trustee Botto seconded the **motion** which was approved unanimously.

Mayor Delaney made a **motion** to give the Treasurer the go ahead to proceed with bonding process for paving Clearbrook. Trustee Botto seconded the **motion**. All are in favor, approved unanimously.

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

Michael Mucciolo- Board President of Smithtown Performing Arts. The SPA provides educational programs for 7–18-year-old children. It is kids performing for kids and they put on productions and they learn all aspects of performing, directing and acting. Looking to put on production in late June of Moana and Seussical and Spookily the Square Pumpkin. It would be 3 or 4 dates a month that last 45 mins to an hour. The shows would take place outside in the middle of the grounds where the baseball fields are. It would be done late afternoon and Saturday around 11am. The speakers would

face away from the residents toward the street, and they would have sound meters to monitor the noise levels.

Libby Smith – Judges Lane resident, expressed her dismay about the prospects of summer theatre happening at SHS. Libby mentioned she could hear the children's theatre last year when it was even further away last summer. Theatre is not in the code and is not keeping with the Historic District. If it were to take place in the 1850's, it would be in the Brush Barn, NOT outside and wouldn't have issue with that. Wanted to Board to realize that the residents of Judges Lane are still dealing with Garden Grill noise issues and now dealing with parking lot of the Library being redone.

Mayor Delaney wanted to see if we could do a trial and Trustee Ryan was asking if there was any way that Mr. Mucciolo could control the noise at certain distances and do a test to hear the impact it would have.

It was agreed that the Board and Mr. Mucciolo would perform a test on a weekend to see the noise impact.

Libby Smith expressed her dismay and feels like the noise will carry over to Judges Lane.

Special Use Permits – Smithtown Historical Society

7/17/21 Baby Shower Approved
10/21 Kennel Club Approved
10/10/21 Bridal Shower Approved
6/12/21 Baby Shower Approved
6/11/21 8th Grade Formal for St. Pats Approved
5/16/21 Spring Farm Festival Approved
5/8/21 30th Birthday Party Approved
6/5/21 Surprise Birthday Party Approved
8/22/21 Car Show Approved
6/19/21 First Communion Approved

It was noted that the events must comply with NYS Covid rules and that someone from SHS must be there to monitor the amount of people allowed.

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

Attorney Ring's Report

Attorney Ring reported that:

- There were 4 trials at Justice Court: Ewart, Suffolk County Parks, and 2 Fire Zone. Justice Campisi will rule on these, awaiting her decision.
- Received an email from the Suffolk County Parks Attorney saying he was disappointed it went to trial.
- Need to advertise for Local Law #2

- Marijuana law- NYCOM has a webinar on this someone from Village should attend. By the end of the year, we need to draw up local law to opt out “permissive” in paper and if it gets overturned then it can go to a popular vote.
- Landscaping contract – can go month to month for 3 months and then go out to bid.

Building Inspector’s Report

Building Inspector Arico reported that:

- 222 Building is redoing the floors
- Need to visit 301 Middle Country Road with Trustee Dennis Ryan
- Working on revising Fence Code wording.

Trustee Carro made a **motion** to advertise for a Public Hearing for the revision to fence code. Trustee Botto seconded the **motion**, which was approved unanimously.

Trustee Carro’s Report

Trustee Carro reported that:

- Spoke to Rite Aid about telling customers they can pull cars up and park in the Fire Zone.
- PSEG pole not working by Old Route 111 path, no power coming to it. Per Mayor Delaney do not call PSEG.
- Court update

Trustee Damm’s Report

Trustee Damm reported that:

- Working on landscaping bid.

Trustee Ryan’s Report

Trustee Ryan reported that:

- Gordian Company called regarding fair wages for infrastructure projects.

Trustee Botto’s Report

Trustee Botto reported that:

- Started working on landscaping contract with Trustee Damm as well as bid for sump cleanup.
- Mayor Delaney stated he wanted regular maintenance on westside of Route 111.
- Barry Brothers are re tweaking the bill for plantings in front and will do waterspout.
- Drain done at the end of Clearbrook by Town of Smithtown.

Mayor Delaney’s Report

Mayor Delaney reported that:

- Organizational motions as published by clerk Cozine below:

Dan Falasco	1yr	Engineer
Libby Smith	1yr	Chairman of Planning Board
Chris Ring	1yr	Attorney
Joseph Magliato	1yr	Chairman of Board of Zoning Appeals
John Carro	1yr	Deputy Mayor

Mayor Delaney appointed Smithtown News as the official paper and Newsday as alternate of the Village as well as Class and First National Bank of Long Island as the official banks of the Village.

The Village has also purchased bonds for the treasurer, clerk and justices.

Mayor Delaney will keep the Work Session the first Tuesday of the month and Trustee meeting the second Tuesday of the month.

He also talked about the procurement policy.

motion to keep the travel reimbursement rate equivalent to the IRS standards.

motion to allow the Treasurer to make advance payments when necessary, to avoid late fees or fines.

motion to allow the Treasurer and/or Mayor to be the sole signature on checks.

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Trustee Carro made a **motion** to close the meeting at 9:43pm. Trustee Botto seconded the **motion** which was approved unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Christine Cozine
Village Clerk

