

**Village of The Branch – Board of Trustees Meeting
January 10, 2023
Track #62**

The monthly meeting of the Village of The Branch was held at 40 Route 111, Smithtown, NY, seven thirty p.m. on January 10, 2023. Mayor Delaney, Trustees Carro, Damm, Botto, Attorney Ring, Treasurer Mequia, Building Inspector Arico (arrived late) 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 December 2022 Board of Trustees minutes and Trustee Botto seconded the **motion**. All are in favor, approved unanimously.

Trustee Botto made a **motion** to accept the January 2023 Board of Trustees work session minutes and Trustee Damm seconded the **motion**. All are in favor, approved unanimously. Trustee Carro abstained since he was not present at the meeting.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Mequia reported that:

- Received a 3year old delinquent tax payment, now down to 4 outstanding payments.
- Suffolk County is supposed to be sending their outstanding payment for back taxes owed on tiny parcel of land.
- Sent out W2's, 1099's went out today.
- Retirement is paid, was approx. \$12,000.
- Heard from auditors, they are working on their reports.
- Need to repay Mystic Falls from the T&A account for bonds.
- Going to start the budget process.

Trustee Carro made a **motion** to accept the treasurer's report as submitted and direct treasurer to pay all the bills on Abstract #2192 totaling \$203,864.16. Trustee Botto seconded the **motion** which was approved unanimously.

Attorney Ring's Report

Attorney Ring reported that:

- No Court for the month of December
- Prepared no conflict letter to give to the mayor tonight.
- Commented on the letter to 9 Branch for the Building Inspector.

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

Mayor Delaney made a **motion** to advertise for the Public Hearing to pierce the tax cap (Local Law #1). Trustee Botto seconded the **motion**. All are in favor, approved unanimously.

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

Trustee Botto made a **motion** to appoint the election inspectors, Eleanor Rowe, and Eileen Bisel. Trustee Damm seconded the **motion**. All are in favor, approved unanimously.

Trustee Botto made a **motion** to abolish village registration day. Trustee Damm seconded the **motion**. All are in favor, approved unanimously.

Trustee Botto made a **motion** to advertise the polling place as 40 Route 111, Smithtown NY, on March 23, 2023, from 12:00 – 9:00pm. Trustee Carro seconded the **motion**. All are in favor, approved unanimously.

Trustee Carro made a **motion** to approve the repayment of \$4,198.01, to Mystic Falls. Trustee Botto seconded the **motion**. All are in favor, approved unanimously.

Trustee Carro's Report

Trustee Carro reported that:

- Missing 1 cap from the Gappsi wall on Oaktree Drive, needed to order it. Will give final payment when that is completed.
- Received a call from the Fire Marshalls office questioning the term "Fire Hydrant"- this term falls under Fire Zone in the code book so there shouldn't be an issue with it. According to Attorney Ring, if it is in the Code then it is codified.
- Talked about the resume for the Grant writer, Mayor Delaney will meet with her.

Trustee Botto's Report

Trustee Botto reported that:

- Need to fix the ladies room at Village Hall
- SCWA big patch in front of the group home on Oaktree
- Pipe in Greenbelt by Cresthill /Terrace need to fix that pipe.

Trustee Damm's Report

Trustee Damm had nothing to report:

Trustee Ryan's Report

Trustee Ryan was not present to report:

Mayor Delaney's Report

Mayor Delaney reported that:

- Will not be here for the Feb work session.
- January 25th Holiday dinner
- Friday December 30th approx. 4 pm Head Injury van went through the stop sign at 40 mph on Branch/Village Way. Called and spoke to Head Injury, they apologized and will take appropriate action against the driver and make sure everyone takes new driver training.
- Annual meeting with the two Mayors from Village of Head of The Harbor and Village of Nissequogue this month.
- Make sure our IT Dept, Nick Forte, purchases the scanner that works with our system and Town of Smithtown.

Building Inspector's Report

Building Inspector arrived late 8:40pm and reported:

- Issued 1 permit, 7 C/O's, went on 18 inspections.
- Met with Fire Marshall
- 9 Branch Drive letter mailed certified.
- Violation letter sent to 45 Mt Pleasant for leaf bags.
- Inspect 31 Oaktree, numerous complaints regarding trees, retaining wall.
- Mannino's moved Jersey blocks from in front of building.

Trustee Botto made a **motion** to close the meeting at 8:45pm. Trustee Damm seconded the **motion** which was approved unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,
Christine Cozine
Village Clerk