

Village of The Branch – Board of Trustees Meeting
August 8, 2017

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 June 13, 2017. Mayor Delaney, Trustees Albrecht, and Newman, Attorney Christopher Ring, Treasurer Mequia, Building Inspector Joe Arico and Village Clerk Cozine were present.

Mayor Delaney called the meeting to order and lead those present in the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:31 pm.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Mequia distributed her reports and reported that:

- Down to 18 delinquent taxes, only one that owes for prior years. 9 Singer Lane still delinquent as well as sign without sign permit.
- Auditor letter needs to be signed.

Trustee Albrecht made a **motion** to accept the Treasurer's Report as submitted and direct the Treasurer to pay all the bills on Abstract # 2127 totaling \$. Trustee Newman seconded the motion which was approved unanimously.

At this time the meeting was opened to the Public:

Special Use Permit #SUP028-2017 from Smithtown United Methodist Church was approved for their 27th annual County Fair. The Affair fee is \$75.

Trustee Newman made a **motion** to approve special use permit for Smithtown United Methodist Churches County Fair pending additional insured paperwork handed in with application. Trustee Albrecht seconded it. All in favor, approved unanimously.

Marianne Howard – Director of SHS – just asking if we need anything from them. There were no special use permits on docket.

Dennis Sciacca – 9 Branchbrook Drive – asking about work or plans submitted for 2 Oaktree Drive that might have been filed with building department? Safety issues are biggest concern. How are they going to fit 6 residents and 4 workers in a 2200sq/ft home?

Keith Ording – 22 Branchbrook Drive – Inquired about how many bedrooms a house can have in the Village? Trustee Newman responded that we currently have a group home with 10 bedrooms on Dogwood. Building Inspector Arico responded that the sanitary system has to comply with the number of bedrooms, it's not a square foot requirement. There is a certain amount of gallons/day per bedroom. Need to contact the Board of Health. Mr. Ording inquired about the structure becoming a commercial bldg. and the Inspector Arico assured him it is a residential structure. Mr. Ording also asked what kind of people will be living there? Trustee Newman answered it will be developmental disabled people, ie: Downs Syndrome & Autistic. Trustee Newman is not 100% sure who will be in there. Mr. Ording is just concerned that they will put drug addicts in there and wanted to know if they can change the requirements down the road?

How often do they over turn these people? Mayor Delaney said these were excellent questions for the meeting on Sept. 12th when the Citizens for Options Unlimited representatives are here.

Brian Monahan – 1 Oaktree Drive – asked about the saturation rate of group homes in a designated area? Attorney Ring answered that he would share the information that NYCOM gave him. Mr. Monahan also shared that a Fire Marshall told him that once they move in, the house becomes a commercial bldg. Again, Inspector Arico reiterated what he said earlier, how it is a residential structure. Mr. Monahan also concerned with Speeding on Rte. 111 and asked if we could put up another speed limit sign. Mayor Delaney informed him that need he will need to reach out to DOT because it is a state road and we don't have jurisdiction over that.

At this time the public meeting was closed

Building Inspector's Report

Building Inspector Arico reported that:

- 4 Building permits – Cabo Fresh, Vitality Bowls, 14 Woodhollow oil to gas, 21 Clearbrook gas conversion, 260 Main Street Damianos, 11 Terrace Lane gas conversion
- 1 sign permit – Vitality Bowl
- 6 C/O issued
- 8 complaints
- Review project for 122 Rte. 111
- Reviewed files at office

Attorney's Report

Attorney Ring reported that:

- Sent letter to DOT regarding Route 111
- Sent letter to Cresthill and received a very generic response.
- Snow Bid will be opened August 31st
- Drainage contract still needs to be done and Trustee Albrecht is in touch with Village Engineer Falasco.
- Justice Court
- Sonnenberg asked for the documents we received from SCWA and we gave them to him.
- Getting language from Great Neck Estates with regard to cell phone towers.

Trustee Carro's Report

Trustee Carro was not present to report.

Trustee Botto's Report

Trustee Botto was not present to report

Trustee Newman's Report

Trustee Newman reported that:

- 12 Village Way had car parked on front lawn
- Public Safety and SCPD did overnight parking sweep back to back nights in July.
- Cresthill Facility removed the vines that were creeping across wires and telephone poles.
- 6 Claremont Ct had a lot of cars parking in the court all the time and a possible business operating out of the home.

- 6 Birchbrook property was sold, cleared out all trees and brush. Asked Inspector Arico if they had a permit for that. Was told they don't need one for that.
- Having problems with parking in our Village parking lot and need to put up sign for our spaces.
- Asked Inspector Arico to look into fire protection for 2 Dogwood.

Trustee Albrecht's Report

Trustee Albrecht reported that:

- Speed limit sign needs to be put up at Clarement Ct. / Weatherstone Way.
- Trustee Carro will be taking over the lighting for the Village at last work session.
- Drainage work still needs to be done on 25A south side. The north side has been completed.
- Sonnenberg needs to look at Clearbrook with Trustee Albrecht to cut out and patch.
- Birchbrook work is done.
- Sumps need to be cleaned up, they have been laying off them for a while.
- Need to take care of County property at Village Way.
- 76 Darling has dead trees across the street and waiting to hear if it is our responsibility. Feels they should be Smithtown since they are in their ROW.
- We can use the super sucker for drains right away with an experienced operator.
- Inquired about landscape vehicles, what do they need? Mayor Delaney answered they need plates and have to be registered.
- The retaining wall on Dogwood needs to be addressed, but tabled for now.

Mayor Delaney's Report

Mayor Delaney reported that:

- Leaf Brush pickup dates will be the weeks of November 6th, 27th and December 11th.
- Would like deaf person sign to be replaced – Trustee Albrecht will coordinate with Sonnenberg.
- Drafting Fall newsletter, will send out asap, so please give immediate feedback with any adds or changes
- Sitting down with Senator Flanagan as well as Legislator Leslie Kennedy soon
- Currently have 3 light bulbs being tested by FES
- Presented Building Inspector with plaque for 17 years of service. He has been a valuable resource for the Village, unfortunately he wasn't there to receive it. He will be retiring to Naples, FL.

Trustee Albrecht made a **motion** to close the meeting. Trustee Newman seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Christine Cozine
Village Clerk