

Village of The Branch – Board of Trustees Meeting
January 12, 2016

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 January 12, 2016. Mayor Delaney, Trustees Spica, Buonaiuto, Donnelly and Newman, Attorney Christopher Ring, Treasurer Mequia, Building Inspector Harris, and Village Clerk Cozine were present.

Mayor Delaney called the meeting to order and lead those present in the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:34pm.

Trustee Donnelly made a **motion** to accept the minutes of the December Board of Trustees meeting. Trustee Spica seconded the motion. All approved unanimously.

Trustee Buonaiuto made a **motion** to accept the minutes of the January work session meeting. Trustee Newman seconded the motion. All approved unanimously, Trustee Spica abstained.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Mequia distributed her reports and reported that:

- Received 1 delinquent tax payment. W2's will be coming shortly.
- Auditors are finished.
- Sent January delinquent tax bills (7 total) to Attorney Ring's office.
- Justice Court was awarded \$4,300 grant.

Trustee Newman made a **motion** to accept the Treasurer's Report as submitted and direct the Treasurer to pay all the bills on Abstract # 2108 totaling \$. Trustee Buonaiuto seconded the motion which was approved unanimously.

Building Inspector's Report

Building Inspector Harris distributed his report.

- 1 Sign permit issued to Mr. Tabacco.
- 2 Notice of Violations were issued. 14 Magnolia for boat and 5 Judges Lane for commercial vehicle.
- 1 Summons issued; Acadia realty for violation of site plan
- Issued a stop work order to developer at Judges Lane. Needs a T&A account.
- Also discussed was the entrance at Judges Lane will be dedicated to parkland to Village of The Branch. The road will still be a private road. Cash payment of \$39,000 and parkland donation was made 3 years ago.
- Chairman of the Planning Board asked Inspector Harris if there is anything in the code that prohibits commercial vehicles from parking overnight in a lot. Inspector Harris said no there is not, they can park there, however Acadia is short on parking spots due to these vehicles parking in those spots. A good question came up regarding if the vehicles are registered or not? Acadia is looking for 2 vehicles and 1 bobcat for Branch Shopping Plaza and a salt/sand shed for Village Commons Shopping Center.

Attorney's Report

Attorney Ring reported that:

- No Justice Court in December.
- New energy contract with FES Energy; received an email on January 11, 2016 thanking us for our points and will get back to us. Getting bounced around with different lawyers. We are steadfast on one of the points that we don't want a 3rd party taking over at any time. It will be a deal breaker for us.
- Sonnenberg contract is still on hold.

Trustee Donnelly's Report

Trustee Donnelly reported that:

- Pothole repairs continue and are not so bad.
- Christmas tree pickup and leaf/brush pickup are now complete.
- No snow or ice so far!
- The leaves that were complained about on Dogwood are no longer an issue.
- #7 Village Way has cleaned up their tree mess. When we do trail work in the near future, we will need to send out letters to the residents that back up to that property, that they will need to move any debris that has been put there inadvertently.

Trustee Spica's Report

Trustee Spica had no report

Trustee Newman's Report

Trustee Newman reported that:

- Received a handicap ticket from Suffolk County Police in the mail for 75 Rte. 25A. The ticket should have been written for Rte.111
- Asked Clerk Cozine to send copies of overnight tickets to the Board when they come in.

Trustee Buonaiuto's Report

Trustee Buonaiuto reported that:

- The following streets have street lights out -Dogwood, Perdue, Rice and Spruce Court. Will contact Smithtown proper to report the outages. Asked Clerk Cozine if she had a contact over there and she didn't.
- The deaf person area sign will finally be put up on the Northeast corner of Mt. Pleasant and Clearbrook by Alex tomorrow.
- Trustee Buonaiuto will follow up with Alex regarding the "oncoming traffic does not stop" sign.

Mayor Delaney's Report

Mayor Delaney reported that:

- Website project – please get information to Danielle asap.
- General Code update- needs to sit down with Attorney Ring.

Trustee Buonaiuto made a **motion** to advertise to have the right to exceed the 2% tax cap. Trustee Newman seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

Trustee Spica made a **motion** to provide that there will be no village registration day. Trustee Buonaiuto seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

Trustee Buonaiuto made a **motion** to identify the polling place for the Village Election on Tuesday March 15, 2016 as Village Hall, 40 Rte. 111, Smithtown, NY and that the polls will be open from 12 noon to 9 pm. Trustee Spica seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

Trustee Buonaiuto made a **motion** to appoint Patricia Weingrow and Mary Cuccurullo as Election Inspectors for the 2016 election to be paid at the rate of \$125.00/day . Trustee Spica seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

Trustee Spica made a **motion** to close the meeting. Trustee Buonaiuto seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Cozine
Village Clerk