

Village of The Branch – Board of Trustees Meeting
April 18, 2018

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 April 18, 2018. Mayor Delaney, Trustees Botto, Carro, Albrecht and Newman, Treasurer Teri 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 7:39 pm.

Trustee Carro made a **motion** to accept the Board of Trustee’s March minutes. Trustee Newman seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously. Mayor Delaney abstained.

Trustee Carro made a **motion** to accept the April work sessions minutes. Trustee Albrecht seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously. Mayor Delaney abstained.

Special Use Permits for Historical Society:

Approved Communion party 5/12/18 as an Affair \$75 fee

Approval 1st Birthday party 10/13/18 as an Affair \$75 fee

Both conditional approvals pending proper insurance certificate of liability paperwork being handed in.

Mayor Delaney appointed the following people:

Joe Arico	1yr	Building Inspector
Dan Falasco	1yr	Engineer
Libby Smith	1yr	Chairman of Planning Board
Chris Ring	1yr	Attorney
Brian Murphy	4yr	Court Justice
Joseph Magliato	1yr	Chairman of Board of Zoning Appeals
John Carro	1yr	Deputy Mayor

Trustees Albrecht and Botto were sworn in to office for a 2 year term by Clerk Cozine.

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.

Trustee Botto made a **motion** to keep the travel reimbursement rate equivalent to the IRS standards. Trustee Albrecht seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

Trustee Albrecht made a **motion** to allow the Treasurer to make advance payments when necessary to avoid late fees or fines. Trustee Botto seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

Trustee Carro made a **motion** to allow the Treasurer and/or Mayor to be the sole signature on checks. Trustee Albrecht seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

Trustee Carro made a **motion** to allow attendance at NYCOM/ SCOVA meetings. Trustee Newman seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

Trustee Carro made a **motion** to extend our bond note of \$160,000.00 for another year. We have already paid off \$40,000 of the initial \$200,000.00 note. Trustee Newman seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

Trustee Albrecht made a **motion** to open the Public session of the meeting for budget hearing. Trustee Botto seconded the motion. All in favor.

The tax rate will be \$13.77 per \$100 which is \$.30 more than last year. We are still under the tax cap.

Trustee Newman asked Trustee Albrecht to come up with a current status of our drains and roads so we can better assess our budget numbers for the future.

Trustee Newman made a **motion** to close the budget hearing. Trustee Botto seconded the motion. All in favor.

Mayor Delaney made a **motion** to approve the budget as is. Trustee Botto seconded the motion. All in favor.

Mayor Delaney made a **motion** to accept the Treasurer's Report as submitted and direct the Treasurer to pay all the bills on Abstract # 2135 totaling \$229,498.43. Trustee Carro seconded the motion which was approved unanimously.

Treasurer Mequia reported that the tax bill for 319 Middle Country Road came back as undeliverable, so will ask Attorney Ring to send out letter for delinquent tax bills.

Trustee Newman made a **motion** to approve the Uncle Giuseppe's sidewalk sales permit for the additional 3 months of sidewalk sales. Trustee Albrecht seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

Building Inspector's Report

Building Inspector Arico reported that:

- Fusion Architects didn't get permit yet for 2 Oaktree Drive. There is a problem with the egress in the backyard. Engineer Falasco wanted to get more clarification as well as landscape plans.
- Fusion also looking to purchase 301 Middle Country Road and has been playing phone tag. This building is located in the Historic District.
- Primal Organics doing a plan review on Saturday.
- Met with Pele from Damianos to go over elevators and issued some permits.
- Issued NOV's to Jacks Tobacco and Acadia.
- Met with Libby the Chairperson of Planning Board, for Jacks Tobacco painting of their building.
- Spoke to Karen Silvestri of Public Safety regarding the dumpster for Jacks Tobacco.
- Capital One revised plans yet again; suggested to the Board to charge \$250 to amend plans going forward.
- Issued 7 Building Permits and 3 CO's

- Libby spoke to Valley Signs regarding Cabo Fresh signage, they are now pulling out their application.
- Per Karen Silvestri 9 Branch Drive has their windows closed.

At this time the meeting was opened to the Public:

Steven Hanuszek – 24 Dogwood Drive- The front of his house contains a railroad tie retaining wall and it is disintegrating and wanted to bring it to the Boards attention. Trustee Carro believes we should have Village Engineer and Building Inspector visit the property and do an assessment and report back to the Board next month and CC the Attorney.

At this time the meeting was closed to the public.

Trustee Carro's Report

Trustee Carro reported that:

- FES lighting installation should be starting soon.
- Thinks the Telecommunications code from The Village of Garden City can be catered to our needs.

Trustee Albrecht made a **motion** to advertise for a Public Hearing on property rentals and wireless telecommunications at the next BOT meeting May 8th 2018. Trustee Botto seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

Trustee Newman's Report

- Court was busy on Monday night.
- Need to follow up with Sunrise Assisted Living Facility next door in regard to the parking situation(using our designated 11 spots for own use)
- 226 Middle Country Road had parking issues and spoke to owner, Greg Montalbano about it. Need to put proper marking on the signs and road.
- Looked into the mailbox code from Riverhead. They do similar to what we want to do, doesn't have to go into our codebook, it can just be our own Hwy Dept. policy.

Trustee Botto's Report

Trustee Botto reported that:

- Roof contract with DNA has been signed by both parties, now need to set up meeting with contractor and Inspector Arico to discuss start date.

Trustee Albrecht's Report

Trustee Albrecht reported that:

- Wall at 2 Wood Hollow fell into our trees and shrubs and feels the homeowner Charlie should be responsible for clean-up. Mayor Delaney suggested mailing a letter to homeowner.
- Dagnelli property is growing into the roadway. Needs to be cut back
- 28 Branch still has stump sitting on his property. Going to send a letter to resident and CC Attorney Ring.
- Want to have a street sweeping first week of May.

- Dead trees in the ROW in the way of electrical lights. The Board decided it was responsibility of the Village.
- Reported that all the lights in Carriage House are out.
- Thinks we should change the grate on Dogwood to the old style drains.

Mayor Delaney's Report

Mayor Delaney reported that:

- Old Route 111 project was approved 30 days ago.

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

Respectfully submitted,
Christine Cozine
Village Clerk