

Village of The Branch – Board of Trustees Meeting
December 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 December 18, 2018. Mayor Delaney, Trustees Carro, Newman, Albrecht and Botto, Treasurer Mequia, Building Inspector Arico, and Village Clerk Cozine were present.

Mayor Delaney called the meeting to order and lead those present in the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:35 pm.

Mayor Delaney asked for a motion to accept the minutes of the December 2018 work session minutes. Trustee Botto made the **motion** and Trustee Albrecht seconded the **motion**. All in favor and was approved unanimously.

Mayor Delaney asked for a motion to accept the minutes of the November 2018 BOT meeting. Trustee Albrecht made the **motion** and Trustee Botto seconded the **motion**. All in favor and was approved unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Mequia reported that:

- Auditors finished field work, just waiting on their report.
- Received a few sign permit fees.
- Trustee Newman asked Treasurer Mequia to make the revisions to last year's June 2017-18 financials. She will resend it again and fix the Balance Sheet.

Trustee Carro made a **motion** to accept the treasurer's report as submitted and direct treasurer to pay all the bills on Abstract # 2143 totaling \$54,947.76. Mayor Delaney seconded the **motion** which was approved unanimously.

Attorney Ring's Report

Attorney Ring was not present to report:

Trustee Carro's Report

Trustee Carro reported that:

- Still working on Code book; Attorney Ring, Engineer Falasco and Building Inspector Arico still owe answers to questions.
- Street light out on Hemlock around #21, Spruce Court/Corner Dogwood #7
- Village Engineer Falasco invoice should be house #24 Dogwood not #26 Dogwood.
- Showed an example on ipad of a retaining wall for 24 Dogwood.
- Will get in touch with Jodie from Sunrise to get the lights fixed on the walkway on the side of the Village Hall. Checked out the Rectory light that shines on the ball field that is shining into Hemlock residents backyards. The houses are 600 yards away. The new LED lights are much brighter than old bulbs.

Trustee Newman's Report

Trustee Newman reported that:

- 9 Branch repair to roof has been done by the homeowner at his expense.
- Would like the Code to have in writing that the first offense for parking is X amount; second offense is Y amount and so on.

Building Inspector's Report

Building Inspector Arico reported that:

- Cresthill Group Home – met with Supervisor Marie and Cathy on Sunday and Monday. There are in transition to a new Supervisor. Informed them about the idling cars and garbage in the streets that fellow residents/neighbors are complaining about. Called Karen Sylvester from Public Safety and Board of Health about the garbage in the streets. BOH informed him that if there are no syringes in streets there is nothing they can do. Inspector Arico will continue to keep a paper trail and an eye on it.
- 2 Oaktree Drive- Group Home – did the inspection, there is no CO yet because the landscaping piece needs to be done, as well as BOH and underwriter bond.
- Acadia – met with architect regarding the interior of old Hallmark store; going to possibly put an escape room there and a stone and hand massage store. Also Bueno Serra is having roof redone.
- La Vida bill board sign on the truck in the Uncle Guiseppe's parking lot is still a hazard and distraction so informed Karen Sylvester from Public Safety. Need to update our Code for this type of signage.
- Trustee Carro asked Inspector Arico to give feedback on the specific pages.
- Spoke to Pele Damianos regarding the office space for Village Hall while we are under construction. Will also talk to Chris Damianos regarding the newly parked Toyota vehicles parked in the parking lot of 50 Route 111. There have been a few complaints from the neighbors that the car alarms are going off frequently.
- Mentioned to Board about raising fees to keep in alignment with the Town of Smithtown.

Trustee Botto's Report

Trustee Botto reported that:

- Inspector Arico covered the Village Hall renovation bid.

Trustee Albrecht's Report

Trustee Albrecht reported that:

- Dogwood/25A roadwork doing a quick fix because its winter time.
- Clearbrook needs work done to their road.
- Birchbrook by the park is deteriorating
- Need to look into crack seal with a clause in it so we don't have same issue at Plaza where the tar gets picked up by and brought into houses.
- Need to get rough estimate to repave Dogwood from Engineer Falasco.
- Potholes need to be fixed throughout the Village.
- Drainage – all done except Hemlock, Magnolia, Wood hollow, Clearbrook and Oaktree. Still looking for a damage report from Town of Smithtown.

- Fall Cleanup of the landscape contract, where do we stand? Contractor still has a few things to do..... has not done any sweeps of the streams because wants to hold off due to culvert work being done. So we should “bank” two of them.
- Lastly pipe along Cresthill needs to be cleaned out, probably clogged. Looking to get an estimate of the cost by using a camera.

Mayor Delaney’s Report

Mayor Delaney reported:

- Email Debby from SCOVA to post open position for Court Clerk position.
- Leslie Kennedy sponsoring a bill about Millers Pond, removing and raising the boards to change water level to prevent flooding. It’s a \$200, 000 electronic measurer to monitor water. Need to get DEC approval to raise the board so this would alleviate that part of the process.
- NE Branch schedule
- After the Holidays, will get in touch with Nestor regarding progress reports on Culvert project so we can update residents on website.

Trustee Carro made a **motion** to cancel the January 1st 2019 work session the meeting. Mayor Delaney seconded the **motion** which was approved unanimously.

Special Use Permits

Sweet 16 03/30/19 Affair \$75 approved – Smithtown Historical Society

Mayor Delaney made a **motion** to close the meeting. Trustee Botto seconded the **motion** which was approved unanimously. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Christine Cozine
Village Clerk