

Village of The Branch – Board of Trustees Meeting
January 12, 2021
Track #30

The monthly meeting of the Village of The Branch was held at 40 Route 111, Smithtown, NY, seven thirty p.m. on January 12, 2021. Mayor Delaney, Trustees Carro, Botto and Damm, Treasurer Mequia, Village Attorney Ring, Building Inspector Arico, and Village Clerk Cozine were present. Trustee Ryan attended via Zoom.

Mayor Delaney called the meeting to order at 7:39 pm with the pledge of allegiance.

Trustee Carro made a **motion** to accept the January 2021 Board of Trustees work session minutes and Trustee Botto seconded the motion. All are in favor, approved unanimously.

Trustee Carro made a **motion** to accept the December 2020 Board of Trustees minutes and Trustee Botto seconded the motion. All are in favor, approved unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Mequia reported that:

- Nice couple of checks came in recently; very old arrears tax check and \$21,251 Suffolk County mortgage tax check
- 10 residents on tax delinquent list, will send out letters
- Auditors were here and they already submitted bill and haven't heard anything back from them yet.
- Need to make changes to procurement policy.

Trustee Botto made a **motion** to accept the treasurer's report as submitted and direct treasurer to pay all the bills on Abstract #2168 totaling \$328,877.31. Trustee Carro seconded the **motion** which was approved unanimously.

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

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

Attorney Ring's Report

Attorney Ring reported that:

- Need Public Hearing for 2021 tax cap override.
- Received email from SCWA regarding Village Way property.
- Sent IMA Agreement for Public Safety for your review
- Need more information to send letter to PSEG regarding the digging up of telephone poles at the base of the pole. Asked Clerk Cozine to send him the letter we sent for road opening increase fees.

Building Inspector's Report

Building Inspector Arico reported that:

- Worked with Libby Smith, Planning Board Chairperson, on 257 E Main Street sign permits. Libby said she prefers the posts to be white in color.
- Met with Pele Damianos.
- Still having issues with permit for sinks and septic for My Salon client in the Branch Shopping center.
- Met with Vinny Trimarco on Saturday
- Issued summons to La Vida Massage
- The cleanup behind Acadia shopping center looks much better.
- 1 Saltbox Court – spoke to the homeowner and he said his flood lights in the backyard DO have a dimmer switch and will lower them. Wants to know why neighbors didn't come to him directly.
- Orange Theory finally got their BOH approval from Suffolk County.
- Waiting for DOT approval for 289 E Main Street, before we give any approval.

Trustee Carro's Report

Trustee Carro reported that:

- 15 Tickets were issued for December 2020 and 9 so far for January according to Public Safety.
- Who do we call for deer clean up and do we get charged for the service? Mayor Delaney informed that Town of Smithtown does it and we do get billed. Deer needs to be moved to the curb.
- Working on fence code; think we should stick with 2 front yard verbiage. Perhaps call it front yard A and front yard B. Will make recommendations at the Feb work session.
- Multi- jurisdictional plan resolution

Trustee Botto's Report

Trustee Botto reported that:

- Entrance ways at Weatherstone and Carriage House will be completed this week.
- Drain issues, working with Town of Smithtown (Jimmy Deutch)

Trustee Damm's Report

Trustee Damm reported that:

- Sign missing at Woodhollow and Village Way
- 12 Village Way is doing a lot of work there.

Trustee Ryan's Report

Trustee Ryan had nothing to report:

Mayor Delaney made a **motion** for a Public Hearing in February to pierce the tax cap if necessary. Trustee Carro seconded the **motion** which was approved unanimously.

Mayor Delaney's Report

Mayor Delaney reported that:

- Clearbrook paving will be scheduled in the Spring.

- Reviewed Purchasing Policy
- The IMA with Town of Smithtown not comfortable signing until set up meeting with Director Lohman of Public Safety.

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
Michael Kelly	5yr	Planning Board
Charles Roeblen	5yr	Planning Board
Joseph Magliato	1yr	Chairman of Board of Zoning Appeals
John Carro	1yr	Deputy Mayor
Christine Cozine	2yr	Village Clerk
Theresa Mequia	2yr	Treasurer / Deputy Clerk
Christine Cozine	2yr	Court Clerk
Lauren Campisi	4yr	Justice
Michele Bender	5yr	Board of Zoning Appeals

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.

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

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

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

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

Trustee Carro made a **motion** to appoint the election inspectors (Ellie Rowe, Eileen Beisel, Mary Cuccorollo). Mayor Delaney seconded the **motion** which was approved unanimously

Mayor Delaney made a **motion** to close the meeting at 9:05pm. Trustee Damm seconded the **motion** which was approved unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Christine Cozine
Village Clerk

DRAFT