

Village of The Branch – Board of Trustees Meeting
February 9, 2021
Track #31

The monthly meeting of the Village of The Branch was held at 40 Route 111, Smithtown, NY, seven thirty p.m. on February 9, 2021. Mayor Delaney, Trustees Botto and Ryan, Treasurer Mequia, Village Attorney Ring, Building Inspector Arico, and Village Clerk Cozine were present.

Mayor Delaney called the meeting to order at 7:42 pm with the pledge of allegiance.

Trustee Ryan made a **motion** to accept the January 2021 Board of Trustees minutes and Mayor Delaney seconded the motion. All are in favor, approved unanimously.

Trustee Ryan made a **motion** to accept the February 2021 Board of Trustees work session minutes and Mayor Delaney seconded the motion. All are in favor, approved unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Mequia reported that:

- Letters to sign for the auditors
- Received the 6month franchise fee of \$12,840 via direct deposit and also received \$10,002 direct deposit for Branch Restoration Project.
- Waiting on the tax assessment roll from Smithtown.

Trustee Ryan made a **motion** to accept the treasurer's report as submitted and direct treasurer to pay all the bills on Abstract #2169 totaling \$58,713.35. Trustee Botto seconded the **motion** which was approved unanimously.

Trustee Botto made a **motion** to open the public hearing. Trustee Ryan seconded the **motion**. All are in favor, approved unanimously.

At this time Mayor Delaney read Local Law #1 of 2021, which is as follows:

Local Law No. 1 of the year 2021 Village of The Branch, County of Suffolk A local law authorizing a property tax levy in excess of the limit established in General Municipal Law §3-c Section 1. Legislative Intent It is the intent of this local law to allow the Village of The Branch to adopt a budget for the fiscal year commencing June 1st, 2021 that requires a real property tax levy in excess of the "tax levy limit" as defined by General Municipal Law § 3-c. Section 2. Authority This local law is adopted pursuant to subdivision 5 of General Municipal Law §3-c, which expressly authorizes a local government's governing body to override the property tax cap for the coming fiscal year by the adoption of a local law approved by a vote of sixty percent (60%) of said governing body. Section 3. Tax Levy Limit Override The City Council/Board of Trustees of the Village of The Branch, County of Suffolk, is hereby authorized to adopt a budget for the fiscal year commencing June 1st, 2021 that requires a real property tax levy in excess of the amount otherwise prescribed in General Municipal Law §3-c. Section 4. Severability If a court determines that any clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, or part of this local law or the application thereof to any person, firm or corporation, or

circumstance is invalid or unconstitutional, the court's order or judgment shall not affect, impair, or invalidate the remainder of this local law, but shall be confined in its operation to the clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, or part of this local law or in its application to the person, individual, firm or corporation or circumstance, directly involved in the controversy in which such judgment or order shall be rendered. Section 5. Effective date This local law shall take effect immediately upon filing with the Secretary of State.

Trustee Botto made a **motion** to close the public hearing. Trustee Ryan seconded the **motion**. All are in favor, approved unanimously.

Trustee Botto made a **motion** to approve Local Law #1 of 2021. Trustee Ryan seconded the **motion**. All are in favor, approved unanimously.

Attorney Ring's Report

Attorney Ring reported that:

- Drafted letter to PSEG
- Reminded Board that the first contract renewal option for Sonnenberg landscaping is May 1
- Not having Court anytime soon.

Building Inspector's Report

Building Inspector Arico reported that:

- 315 E Main Street had a car go through the building, was called out to check integrity of the structure. A lot of damage.
- My salon is going to start work, the BOH met with owner
- Htoke is ripping out whole interior.
- Met with Libby and Dan Falasco
- Pizzeria has shown interest in the corner spot of Hillside Shopping Center.
- Met with Vinny Tirmarco
- 301 E Main Street coming back in with his lawyer
- Took in \$8,000 this month in building permits
- Met with Damianos multiple times

Trustee Carro's Report

Trustee Carro was not present to report:

Trustee Botto's Report

Trustee Botto reported that:

- Weatherstone complaint about street has more driveway issues than street issue
- Oxford Lane road will be fixed in Spring when it gets nice out.
- Over at Dagnelli house, we pushed snow in other direction from his house.
- Snowplow contractor stopped getting sand from Smithtown.

Trustee Damm's Report

Trustee Damm not present to report:

Trustee Ryan's Report

Trustee Ryan reported that:

- Spoke with Jerry Powers about the Group Home at 2 Oak Street, and the snow in front of the house in street as well as the lights being on all day long but off at night.

Mayor Delaney's Report

Mayor Delaney reported that:

- Spring Newsletter topics.
- Advertise for the Budget Hearing
- The IMA with Town of Smithtown have a meeting with Director Lohman of Public Safety.
- Hold off on Hazardous Mitigation resolution

Mayor Delaney made a **motion** to advertise Budget Hearing. Trustee Botto seconded the **motion**, which was approved unanimously.

Mayor Delaney made a **motion** to close the meeting at 8:53pm. Trustee Botto seconded the **motion** which was approved unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Christine Cozine
Village Clerk