

**Village of The Branch – Board of Trustees Meeting
September 14, 2021
Track #39**

The monthly meeting of the Village of The Branch was held at 40 Route 111, Smithtown, NY, seven thirty p.m. on September 14, 2021. Deputy Mayor Carro, Trustees Botto, Damm, Treasurer Mequia, Village Attorney Ring, Building Inspector Arico and Village Clerk Cozine were present. Mayor Delaney and Trustee Ryan attended via Zoom.

Deputy Mayor Carro called the meeting to order at 7:35 pm with the pledge of allegiance.

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

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Mequia reported that:

- Received 5 or 6 delinquent taxes.

Trustee Botto made a **motion** to accept the treasurer's report as submitted and direct treasurer to pay all the bills on Abstract #2176 totaling \$11,917.49. Trustee Damm seconded the **motion** which was approved unanimously.

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

Barbara Franco- Smithtown Chamber of Commerce and Jeff Triano 1st Vice President of SCC presented to the BOT in an effort to bring economic development to Main Street. They decided to bring awareness to Smithtown and want to bring ice skating rink(24x60) to Main Street in the Acadia parking lot Saturday December 4th in the afternoon for about 4.5 to 5 hours. We are still trying to figure out the time slot. The skating company will provide liability insurance as well as the Chamber of Commerce. Will have the 4th precinct SCPD bring crossing guards to help. The Smithtown Highway Department will help with lighting. We would like to invite the Village of The Branch Mayor and Trustees with a ribbon cutting ceremony that night. The goal is to make the business community prosper after the devastating blow that COVID has had on our community. There will be refreshments, Christmas Carolers, Chamber Choir from Smithtown Schools etc...

Deputy Mayor Carro asked if they will be charging admission and Ms. Franco replied yes, but not sure how much yet.

Trustee Ryan suggested preselling tickets.

Trustee Botto made a **motion** to approve the ice- skating event. Trustee Damm seconded the **motion**. All are in favor, approved unanimously.

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

Building Inspector's Report

Building Inspector Arico reported that:

- 25 Branch Drive – House is vacant, stuff has been there awhile, it is for sale again.
- Uncle G's – Refrigerator trucks in bac of store are loud and disturbing the neighbors. Gave complaint to Karen Sylvester.

Attorney Ring's Report

Attorney Ring reported that:

- Conflict Fire Department letter is signed
- Snow bid is good to go
- Lighting contract is going to rebid
- Signed Landscape contract received today
- Still need to publish zoom meetings for unforeseen future.
- Cannabis need to have the hearing for the local law and the permissive. Will work on it at October work session.

Trustee Botto made a **motion** to allow Mayor Delaney to sign the Smithtown Fire Department annual contract. Trustee Damm seconded the **motion** which was approved unanimously.

Trustee Botto's Report

Trustee Botto reported that:

- Dan F still working on striping the roads, the recent weather has put us behind schedule
- Potholes working with the Town to get them fixed. Also working on getting use of the super sucker for the drains.
- Will check with the Town of Smithtown about getting estimate to remove trees in Village.
- Trying to coordinate the Christmas tree pick up with the brush pickup in January.
- Increased the insurances in the snow contract to 3 million and \$50 damaged mailboxes and requiring registration for all vehicles used to plow.

Trustee Botto made a **motion** to advertise for the snowplow bid in Newsday. Deputy Mayor Carro seconded the **motion** which was approved unanimously.

Trustee Damm's Report

Trustee Damm reported that:

- Fuentes Landscaping will revisit the bill from 28 Dogwood
- Now that the season is dying down, will have Fuentes Landscaping check out the sumps.

Trustee Ryan's Report

Trustee Ryan had nothing to report:

Trustee Carro's Report

Trustee Carro reported that:

- Mistake on the street light maintenance bid, so need to cancel and rebid with correct info.
- Need to look into farm animals in our Code.
- Blighted house Code

Deputy Mayor Carro made **motion** to reject the street light maintenance bid and to place a new bid into Newsday. Trustee Botto seconded the **motion**. All in Favor, approved unanimously.

Special Use Permits

12/4-5 SHS Heritage Fair Approved

Mayor Delaney's Report

Mayor Delaney had nothing to report:

Deputy Mayor Carro made a **motion** to close the meeting at 8:30pm. Trustee Botto seconded the **motion** which was approved unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,
Christine Cozine