

**Village of The Branch – Board of Trustees Meeting
February 8, 2022
Track #46**

The monthly meeting of the Village of The Branch was held at 40 Route 111, Smithtown, NY, seven thirty p.m. on February 8, 2022. Mayor Delaney, Trustees Carro, Botto, Ryan, Damm (via zoom), Village Attorney Ring, Treasurer Mequia, and Village Clerk Cozine were present.

Mayor Delaney called the meeting to order at 7:41 pm with the pledge of allegiance.

Trustee Carrro made a **motion** to accept the January 2022 Board of Trustees minutes and Trustee Botto seconded the **motion**. All are in favor, approved unanimously.

Trustee Botto made a **motion** to accept the February 2022 Board of Trustees work session minutes and Mayor Delaney seconded the **motion**. All are in favor, approved unanimously, Trustee Carro abstained.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Mequia reported that:

- Still waiting on Auditors, haven't sent the Financials yet.
- Payroll for tax purposes and Newsday is all done.
- Still waiting for Smithtown to send Assessment roll
- Received mortgage check from County approx. \$16,000.

Trustee Botto made a **motion** to accept the treasurer's report as submitted and direct treasurer to pay all the bills on Abstract #2181 totaling \$51,451.36. Trustee Carro seconded the **motion** which was approved unanimously.

Mayor Delaney made a **motion** to open the Public Hearing for Local Law #1 of 2022. Trustee Botto seconded the **motion**. All are in favor, approved unanimously.

Mayor Delaney read into record Local Law#1:

Local Law No. 1 of the year 2022

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, 2022 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, 2022 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 approve Local Law #1 of 2022. Trustee Carro seconded the **motion**. All are in favor, approved unanimously.

Mayor Delaney made a **motion** to close the Public Hearing. Trustee Carro seconded the **motion**. All are in favor, approved unanimously.

Attorney Ring's Report

Attorney Ring reported that:

- Will send Local Law #1 of 2022 paperwork to the State to file since Clerk Cozine signed and stamped it.
- Have not heard back from BBCG Landscaper regarding the underground electric breaks at 3 Spruce Court for repayment of \$1600 worth of charges.
- Discussed ADU (Accessory Dwelling Units) and Governor Hochul's budget proposal. Mayor Delaney asked Attorney Ring to reach out to Wade Beltramo from NYCOM and Clerk Cozine will forward Mr. Ring the email received from SCOVA.

Trustee Botto's Report

Trustee Botto reported that:

- Resident on 6 Daisy Lane with the crack in driveway is going through different insurance carrier and told him the Village would fix the crack.
- Told Mr. Nolan who lives on Carriage House, that trying to fix the street sign knocked over by snowplow driver. Ground needs to thaw a little more.
- Discussed sign permit revenues with Building Inspector and waiting for info on that from him.

Trustee Carro's Report

Trustee Carro reported that:

- Justice Court had 13 people on the agenda. We had some no shows, which were rescheduled and those that it was their second time were found guilty in default. There was 1 trial for a handicap ticket, and he was found guilty.

Trustee Damm's Report

Trustee Damm had nothing to report:

Trustee Ryan's Report

Trustee Ryan reported that:

- Dogwood retaining wall needs Dan Falasco's opinion on it.

Building Inspector's Report

Building Inspector was not present, but reported:

- Issued 3 new permits, 1 sign permit, issued 3 C/O, and 19 inspections
- Issued stop work order for 13 Dogwood Drive for tree removal without permit
- Met with Vision works and Café Lahooti multiple times
- Met with James from Uncle G's regarding plans
- Issued 6 summonses for failure to renew sign permit fees

Mayor Delaney's Report

Mayor Delaney reported that:

- Need to draft a letter to Uncle Giuseppe's for delayed payment for sidewalk sales
- Need to send letter to Governor Hochul regarding Home Rule

Special Use Permits

10/19/22 SWAP meet SHS Approved

3/26/22 Sweet 16 SHS Approved

9/22/22 Kennel Club SHS Approved

4/2/22 Baby Shower SHS Approved

Mayor Delaney made a **motion** to advertise for the upcoming election, time, place, names and addresses of candidates. Trustee Botto seconded the **motion** which was approved unanimously.

Mayor Delaney made a **motion** to close the meeting at 8:52pm. Trustee Botto seconded the **motion** which was approved unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Christine Cozine