

**Village of The Branch – Board of Trustees Meeting
November 8, 2022
Track #60**

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

Deputy Mayor Carro called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm with the pledge of allegiance.

Deputy Mayor Carro made a **motion** to accept the October 2022 Board of Trustees minutes and Trustee Damm seconded the **motion**. All are in favor, approved unanimously.

Deputy Mayor Carro made a **motion** to accept the November 2022 work session minutes and Trustee Damm seconded the **motion**. All are in favor, approved unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Mequia reported that:

- Still 5 delinquent tax bills outstanding
- Auditors are scheduled for first week in December of the week after Thanksgiving.
- Received DASNY \$50,000 check for Dogwood Retaining wall

Deputy Mayor Carro made a **motion** to accept the treasurer's report as submitted and direct treasurer to pay all the bills on Abstract #2190 totaling \$25,753.14. Trustee Damm seconded the **motion** which was approved unanimously.

Deputy Mayor Carro made a **motion** to open the meeting to the public. Trustee Damm seconded the **motion** which was approved unanimously.

Vinny & Ann Mazzocco – residents 41 Cambridge Dr. Wanted to discuss the issue of 3 roosters and some chickens that reside at 28 Branch Dr and what a nuisance they are. Their daughter lives directly behind them and the chickens fly and get into her backyard at 33 Cambridge Dr., and she has small children, and they are all worries about their safety. They also crow at all hours of the day. Deputy Mayor Carro let them know we are aware of the problem and that we contacted Smithtown Public Safety to investigate this. Trustee Damm commented as well that the chickens don't fly, they go underneath the fence.

Esther Hauer – resident 43 Cambridge. Also has issue with the chickens and roosters and deer as well. Deputy Mayor Carro explained as a Village we investigated culling the deer, but most residents do not have enough property to do it correctly unless you get a couple neighbors together to agree to do it and get permission. Maybe a possible sterilization of the deer.

Jonathan Camella – resident of 26 Dogwood Dr. shared pictures of het drainage issue on Dogwood Drive in front of his house. Wanted to know if the Village could change the grade of the road? Or perhaps put in a new drain? Deputy Mayor Carro said he would put a call into the engineer and see what he says.

The Mazacco's also brought up that there is no light on the pole between 41-39 Cambridge and its very dark over there at night. It's on the corner of Oxford and Cambridge. Deputy Mayor Carro explained there is no light on the pole because of a transformer. He said he would contact the lighting company and have it investigated.

Deputy Mayor Carro made a **motion** to close the public meeting. Trustee Damm seconded the **motion** which was approved unanimously.

Deputy Mayor Carro's Report

Trustee Carro reported that:

- Justice Court had, 2 no shows- guilty by default, 1 Trial which was found guilty.

Special Use Permit – SWAP Meet 2/26/23 – SHS- Approved

Deputy Mayor Carro made a **motion** to release the landscaping bond of \$5,000 to Mystic Falls since all is in order and it's over the 3 year time limit. Trustee Damm seconded the **motion** which was approved unanimously.

Building Inspector's Report

Building Inspector was not present to report, but had left notes:

- Issued 11 new permits, issued 3 C/O

Attorney Ring's Report

Attorney Ring reported that:

- Work with Deputy Mayor Carro on letters for fences and bushes
- Zoom statute might be over effective December 8, 2022, which means we can no longer have members of the Board voting on issues via zoom if they are not physically present at the meeting.

Trustee Botto's Report

Trustee Botto reported that:

- Working on drains on Cambridge
- Received Proposal for \$7,500 for damaged retaining wall at Oaktree
- Will work on drainage issues at Dogwood Dr; will talk to Village Engineer Falasco and Jim Deutsch from TOS.

Trustee Damm's Report

Trustee Damm reported that:

- Basically, done for the season except for the lighting by Old Route 111.
- Believe we will need one more light by the guardrail and the bridge. Would like to get it done before the first snow.
- Have not heard back from the Fence guy

Trustee Ryan's Report

Trustee Ryan not present to report:

Mayor Delaney's Report

Mayor Delaney no present to report:

Trustee Carro made a **motion** to close the meeting at 8:26pm. Trustee Botto seconded the **motion** which was approved unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,
Christine Cozine
Village Clerk