

**Village of The Branch – Board of Trustees Meeting  
August 13, 2024  
Track #92 & #93**

The monthly meeting of the Village of The Branch was held at 40 Route 111, Smithtown, NY, seven thirty p.m. on August 13, 2024. Deputy Mayor Carro, Trustees Botto and Damm, Village Attorney Ring, Treasurer Mequia, and Village Clerk Cozine were present.

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

Trustee Botto made a **motion** to approve the May 14<sup>th</sup>, 2024 Board of Trustees minutes. Trustee Damm seconded the motion which was approved unanimously.

Trustee Botto made a **motion** to approve the June 11<sup>th</sup>, 2024 Board of Trustees minutes. Trustee Damm seconded the motion which was approved unanimously.

Trustee Botto made a **motion** to approve the July 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024 Board of Trustees minutes. Trustee Damm seconded the motion which was approved unanimously.

Trustee Botto made a **motion** to approve the August 6<sup>th</sup>, 2024 Board of Trustees work session minutes. Trustee Damm seconded the motion which was approved unanimously.

**Treasurer's Report**

Treasurer Mequia reported that:

- Taxes went well, as of July 31<sup>st</sup> there were 17 outstanding taxes. A few came in this last week, which I haven't updated.
- Getting ready for the auditors.
- Getting sign permits out this Thursday, August 15<sup>th</sup>.

Trustee Botto made a **motion** to accept the Treasurer's report as submitted and direct the Treasurer to pay all the bills on Abstract #2211 totaling \$88,331.38. Trustee Damm seconded the **motion** which was approved unanimously.

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

Robert Sikora – President of Forest Wood Civic Association. Wanted to bring up the issue of the double poles on Main Street in Smithtown, some of which belong to the Village. From RR Trestle by the Bull to St. Patrick's Church he counted 45 of them. Mr. Sikora was able to get rid of 50 double poles in his area by contacting John and Leslie Kennedy. The utilities hate doing this because it costs them money to take them down. Because of union contracts, PSEG are not allowed to touch Verizon or cablevision lines.

Francis Macchia – 9 Cambridge Drive resident mentioned he currently has 2 poles on his property (PSEG just put up a new pole) but that's not why he was there. The fire hydrant in front of his house is out of order. Mr. Macchia has called SCWA and there is a work order in to repair the hydrant, but they don't know when it will be done. Attorney Ring took his information and said he would follow up

with the Smithtown Fire Department. [Note: The hydrant was fixed the next day as Mr. Macchia called up the Village to thank us.].

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

### **Attorney Ring's Report**

Attorney Ring reported that:

- Brothers Leaf and Brush contract was executed.
- Gave Clerk Cozine the TOS IMA for Road Repairs and Maintenance to give to Mayor to sign.

Trustee Botto made a **motion** to approve the NY Trenchless contract. Trustee Damm seconded the **motion** which was approved unanimously.

Trustee Botto made a **motion** to resubmit the snowplow bid to advertise in two local papers. Trustee Damm seconded the **motion** which was approved unanimously.

### **Mayor Delaney Report**

Mayor Delaney was not present to report:

### **Building Inspector Arico's Report**

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

- Took in \$8,035.00 in income.
- Went on 20 inspections.
- Issued 1 permit and 2 CO's.

### **Deputy Mayor Carro's Report**

Trustee Carro had reported that:

- No Justice Court for month of July 2024.
- Fixing signs with TOS.

### **Trustee Botto's Report**

Trustee Botto reported that:

- Supervised the paving of the North side of the bridge.
- Ready to spread the mulch.
- Trustee Damm just needs to meet with the Fence Guy.

### **Trustee Damm's Report**

Trustee Damm reported that:

- Nothing to report was out on vacation for 2 weeks.

### **Trustee Ryan's Report**

Trustee Ryan reported that:

- Had resident inquire with him regarding a path over by the Clearbrook area that is getting overgrown by the Greenbelt. Per Trustee Damm we don't cover that area.

Trustee Botto made a **motion** to go into executive session at 8:33pm. to discuss pending litigation of Article 78. Trustee Damm seconded the **motion** which was approved unanimously.

Trustee Botto made a **motion** to close the executive session at 8:47. Trustee Damm seconded the **motion** which was approved unanimously.

No action was taken.

### Special Use Permits

SHS- Spooky Trail – Approved.

St. Pat's School – Movie Night – 9/13/24 Approved.

SHS- 1<sup>st</sup> Bday Party – 10/26/24 Approved.

Trustee Botto made a **motion** to close the meeting at 8:50pm. Trustee Damm seconded the **motion** which was approved unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Christine Cozine  
Village Clerk