

Village of The Branch – Board of Trustees Meeting
March 11, 2025
Track #101

The monthly meeting of the Village of The Branch was held at 40 Route 111, Smithtown, NY, seven thirty p.m. on March 11, 2025. Mayor Delaney, Trustees Carro, Botto, Damm and Ryan, Treasurer Mequia, Village Attorney Ring and Village Clerk Cozine were present.

Mayor Delaney called the meeting to order at 7:32 p.m. with the pledge of allegiance.

Trustee Carro made a **motion** to approve February 11th, 2025, Board of Trustees minutes. Trustee Botto seconded the motion which was approved unanimously. Mayor Delaney abstained since he was not present at the meeting.

Mayor Delaney made a **motion** to approve March 4th, 2025, Board of Trustees work session minutes. Trustee Carro seconded the motion which was approved unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Mequia reported that:

- Contacted Brothers about the Spring Leaf/Brush dates.
- The new tax system is wonky, will be sending out tax bills mid-May.
- Mortgage Taxes from Suffolk County are current through September 30, 2024.
- The audit is completed.

Trustee Botto made a **motion** to accept the Treasurer's report as submitted and direct the Treasurer to pay all the bills on Abstract #2218 totaling \$27,311.96. Trustee Damm seconded the **motion** which was approved unanimously.

Mayor Delaney made a **motion** to open the meeting to the public. Trustee Ryan seconded the **motion** which was approved unanimously.

Adam Ronkowski – Liaison to SCPD with the Village. There is a new Inspector at the 4th Precinct, John Maham, who came from the 3rd Precinct. There was a protest on Route 111 protesting tyranny, and the police had ticketed and pulled over people who were not stopping at stop signs on Mt. Pleasant.

With no further public comment, Mayor Delaney made a **motion** to close the public hearing. Trustee Carro seconded the **motion** which was approved unanimously.

Attorney Ring's Report

Attorney Ring reported that:

- There is a conference set up for franchise fee renewal with Verizon on March 21st at 3:30pm.
- The landscaping contract is up for renewal in June, so the Board needs to decide what they want to do.

Mayor Delaney made a **motion** to extend the landscaping contract with J Fuentes for a 1-year renewal. Trustee Carro seconded the **motion** which was approved unanimously.

Building Inspector Arico's Report

The Building Inspector was not present to report, but left the following info:

- Took in \$2,100.00 in income.
- Went on 15 inspections.
- Issued 2 permits and 0 CO's.

Trustee Ryan's Report

Trustee Ryan reported that:

- Noticed potholes filled on Singer Lane.

Trustee Carro's Report

Trustee Carro reported that:

- Justice Court was February 24th – 3 second timers that did not show, now are guilty by default and judgments being filed. 6 no show first timers being rescheduled for March court, 2 guilty with fine reduced. 1 case requested trial, and 1 trial took place and Defendant was found guilty by Justice Campisi.
- 16 Branch Drive -Cobra Head will be fixed.
- Has not heard from NY Trenchless on 20 Hemlock live voltage.
- Going to get some color put on the new logo that was chosen by the Board.

Trustee Botto's Report

Trustee Botto reported that:

- Will meet with Frank at the TOS in 2 weeks regarding stop signs.
- Met with Jim Deutch from TOS regarding Singer Lane paving project and there will be about 10-15% price increase from last year's quote.
- Getting cameras done on Terrace Lane.

Trustee Damm's Report

Trustee Damm reported that:

- 23 Dogwood Xmas tree was picked up by J Fuentes.
- Storm water symposium next week.

Mayor Delaney Report

Mayor Delaney reported that:

- Please review the preliminary budget.
- Need to sign the Engineer's contract after Attorney Ring revises.

Mayor Delaney made a **motion** to go into an Executive Session at 8:05pm to discuss pending litigation. Trustee Carro seconded the **motion** which was approved unanimously.

Mayor Delaney made a **motion** to adjourn the Executive Session at 9:10pm. Trustee Carro seconded the **motion** which was approved unanimously.

No action was taken.

Mayor Delaney made a **motion** to close the meeting at 9:11 p.m. Trustee Carro seconded the **motion** which was approved unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Christine Cozine
Village Clerk