

BUREAU OF FIRE PREVENTION

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Town of Somers

WESTCHESTER COUNTY, N.Y.

SOMERS TOWN HOUSE
ANNEX
337 ROUTE 202
SOMERS, NY 10589

EFREM CITARELLA
CHIEF



MEETING MINUTES

August 8, 2018

Bureau Chief Citarella called the meeting to order. The following were in attendance: Bureau Chief Efrem Citarella, Deputy Chief Robert Russell, and Deputy Chief Al Vigliotti.

MINUTES

A motion was made by Deputy Chief Russell to approve the minutes of the May 9, 2018 meeting as submitted. Deputy Chief Vigliotti seconded the motion. All were in favor.

SUBMISSIONS

North County Homes – Cardinal Way – Bureau members reviewed and discussed a Preliminary Subdivision on Cardinal Way submitted by North County Homes. They want to demolish the existing house and split the lot into two so that two new houses can be built. There were no objections to this proposal. A memo will be sent to Planning and Engineering.

SOMERS FIRE DEPARTMENT CHIEF'S REPORT

Ex-Chief Leverich was not present so there was no report.

DEPUTY CHIEF'S REPORT

Deputy Chief Russell reported on the following:

House Numbering – Deputy Chief Russell attended the June 14th Town Board meeting to propose increasing the size of the house numbers to 6" as currently the Town of Somers follows the 2015 International Property Maintenance Code about house numbering, which says that the numbers shall not be less than 4" high, as well as plainly legible and visible from the street or road fronting the property. The Town Board would like to see the current standard enforced before entertaining a motion to increase

the size.

Deputy Chief Vigliotti reported on the following:

Out of Service Rings for Hydrants – Deputy Chief Vigliotti has suggested that plastic fire hydrant rings be purchased for the dry hydrants that are out service to make it easier for the Fire Department, as well as those departments covering for mutual aid to identify those hydrants. All agreed to purchase 8 of them.

He also noted that the dry hydrant in Twin Knolls has to be checked to see if it is marked and there is question as to whether or not the trees have to be trimmed so that it is visible. Deputy Chief Russell will follow up.

CHIEF FIRE INSPECTOR'S REPORT

Chief Fire Inspector Premuroso was not present, but submitted his report to the Secretary who shared the following:

There was a bush blocking a hydrant on Bridge Lane in Shenorock which Water Superintendent Adam Smith took care of on June 8th.

The Pinnacle restaurant in Heritage Hills is in the process of being remodeled with the hopes of opening on Labor Day weekend.

By August 10th, the fire alarm system at the old St. Joseph's School will be removed as the building is now vacant.

The parking lot in the rear of Paramount at Somers will be paved soon.

Bon Fire Permit Applications have been submitted by Kennedy Catholic High School for Monday, October 1, from 5:00 to 6:00 p.m. and Somers High School for Thursday, October 4, from 5:00 to 9:00 p.m. Last year the Somers Fire Department was not able to secure volunteers to be present at the Kennedy Catholic High School event with a firetruck, but they were able to accommodate the bon fire at the Somers High School. In an effort to prevent the same from happening this year, Fire Chief Premuroso is suggesting that the bon fires take place on the same night that the volunteers have their drills (Wednesdays). A question came up as to where in the Code it indicates that a firetruck and Fire Department volunteers are required to be present at a bon fire. The only requirements are listed out on the Application, and the presence of a firetruck and Fire Department volunteers is not one of them. All agreed that as long as Chief Fire Inspector conducts a site visit the day of the event to be sure that all the listed requirements on the Application are being adhered to, the presence of a firetruck and Fire Department volunteers is not necessary. Both the Somers Fire and Police Departments should be sent a copy of the Bon Fire Permits issued.

OLD BUSINESS

Avalon Bay Somers and Crossroads at Baldwin Place – Somers Volunteer Fire Department Chief Paul Jockimo would like to know if Avalon Bay can paint no parking lines or post no parking signs near the hydrants in their new complex. Perhaps the same should be done at the Crossroads at Baldwin Place. Deputy Chief Russell will make plans to visit both sites with Fire Chief Jockimo the week of August 13th.

Kennedy Catholic High School – Kennedy Catholic High School Safety Officer Tom Fulton spoke to Chief Fire Inspector Premuroso about painting no parking lines in the back of the building by the gym to prevent coaches from parking there. Since that area was never a parking spot it cannot be marked as no parking.

Drafting Hydrant at 247 Route 100 – There is a drafting hydrant at 247 Route 100 and the original site plan shows paving stones around the hydrant which are currently not there. Code Enforcement Officer Rob Russell met with the Property Manager Greg Bidwell to discuss installing “x” style grey pavers like the ones behind The Mews. All were in agreement that those type of pavers would be fine. Mr. Russell will convey this message to Mr. Bidwell.

Dumpster Area at 155 Route 202 – The dumpster area at 155 Route 202 was a mess. Code Enforcement Officer Rob Russell met with the property owner. The area has since been cleaned up and the brick exterior of the building power washed.

Somers Diner – A request was made of Chief Fire Inspector Premuroso to conduct a site visit to the Somers Diner for possible code violations. He met with the business owner and as of June 11th all of the issues have been resolved.

Somers Mobil Mart – Deputy Chief Russell asked if Chief Fire Inspector Premuroso would take a look at the outdoor portable propane grills at Somers Mobil Mart to be sure they are not too close to the building. An inspection was done and all was fine.

Dry Hydrants – The Somers Volunteer Fire Department has completed the testing of the dry hydrants and provided a report. The one at Cale Farm on Watergate Drive has been removed by the owner. Requests have been made to the Highway Department to remove the ones on Moore Drive and Titus Court. Research has to be done as to who owns the one on Blackberry Hill Road.

Somers Manor Nursing Home – On August 21, 2017, Bureau Chief Citarella and Chief Fire Inspector Premuroso visited Paramount at Somers as it was reported that interior changes had been made which may have required Building Permits. Three offices had been built and a dining room was turned into a rehab area. On October 11th their Architect called the Building Inspector to say he was working on plans so that Building Permits could be issued. There was no further communication. On May 16, 2018, a Notice of Violation was issued with a response call on the 21st that they will be changing those areas again. Chief Fire Inspector Premuroso will follow up with their Facilities

Manager Rohan Gordon.

NEW BUSINESS

9, 11, 13 and 15 Butlerville Road – Assistant Building Inspector Tom Tooma sent an email regarding the narrow, windy and bumpy condition of a long dirt/stone roadway that accesses 9, 11, 13 and 15 Butlerville Road. He is not sure how and/or if emergency apparatus can get up the roadway. In addition, the home numbering can use improvement at each dwelling as well as on Butlerville Road. Somers Volunteer Fire Department 1st Assistant Chief Jon Mackey visited the site and confirmed that they would not be able to get a ladder truck up the roadway and an engine most likely couldn't get past the sharp turn halfway up the drive. Since repairing the roadway could be a costly venture, a letter will be sent to each owner outlining the situation.

The meeting was adjourned. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 12th at 4:30 p.m. in the Building Department.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise Schirmer, Secretary
Bureau of Fire Prevention

cc: Bureau of Fire Prevention
Town Board
Town Clerk
Planning Board
Principal Engineering Technician
Somers Fire District