

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**

**September 12, 2018**

Bureau Chief Citarella called the meeting to order. The following were in attendance: Bureau Chief Efrem Citarella, Somers Volunteer Fire Department Past Chief Jody Leverich, Somers Volunteer Fire Department 1<sup>st</sup> Assistant Chief Jon Mackey, Chief Fire Inspector William Premuroso, Deputy Chief Robert Russell, and Deputy Chief Al Vigliotti.

Resident Tom Tooma was also present. He is also the Town of Somers Assistant Building Inspector as well as a firefighter in the Somers Volunteer Fire Department.

**MINUTES**

A motion was made by Deputy Chief Russell to approve the minutes of the August 8, 2018 meeting as submitted. Deputy Chief Vigliotti seconded the motion. All were in favor.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mr. Tooma requested an update with regard to the email he sent the Bureau about the narrow, windy and bumpy condition of a long dirt/stone roadway that accesses 9, 11, 13 and 15 Butlerville Road. He was not sure how and/or if emergency apparatus could 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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 was sent to each owner outlining the situation. The letter indicated that any questions or concerns should be directed to the Bureau Chief. Since he has not heard from anyone a second letter requesting acknowledgement of the first will be sent to the

owners.

Mr. Tooma reported that at least two of the Condos in Heritage Hills have approved the installation of generators. Some of those condos have natural gas and Con Edison doesn't allow underground piping so some of the gas piping is 18" above ground. Mr. Tooma is suggesting that the piping be marked with something like white vinyl fencing so that it is not a tripping hazard especially at night or if there was emergency personnel on the property. Although the Bureau understands the policy that Con Edison has about not burying the pipes, they don't agree with it as it is a safety hazard. A letter will be sent to Con Edison to see what they might recommend to prevent tripping issues with pipes that are above ground. In addition, a letter will be sent to all the Condo Presidents of those with natural gas with regard to this situation. There is also natural gas in the Preserves and parts of Route 35. Perhaps letters should be sent to those residents as well. Mr. Premuroso asked that Marc Brassard be copied on all letters sent to the Condo Presidents.

As inspections are being conducted, Mr. Tooma is still finding attic accesses through garage ceilings in units in Heritage Hills. As these are not permitted, moving forward a Notice of Violation will be issued for any that are noticed. A letter will be sent to the Condo Presidents reiterating the same.

### **SUBMISSIONS**

There were no submissions this evening.

### **SOMERS FIRE DEPARTMENT CHIEF'S REPORT**

Past Chief Leverich reported on the following:

**3 Horton Drive** – There was a fire call at 3 Horton Drive. The caller reported an odor of smoke which was unfounded.

**47 Watergate Drive** – A call was responded to at 47 Watergate Drive which was caused by cooking.

**AvalonBay Somers** – Somers Volunteer Fire Department Chief Paul Jockimo would like some additional striping at AvalonBay Somers. Mr. Russell will make plans for he and Mr. Jockimo to visit the site and confirm.

**Crossroads at Baldwin Place** – Mr. Leverich and Mr. Mackey will visit the Crossroads at Baldwin Place concerning access to two hydrants.

### **DEPUTY CHIEF'S REPORT**

Deputy Chief Russell did not have a report his evening.

Deputy Chief Vigliotti reported on the following:

**Artis Senior Living** – When the Bureau met with the architects of Artis Senior Living

there were a few items that needed revision. The list will be reviewed and resolved at the time the Building Permit is issued.

### **CHIEF FIRE INSPECTOR'S REPORT**

Chief Fire Inspector Premuroso reported the following:

**247 Route 100** – Mr. Premuroso would like the Fire Department to test the hydrant at 247 Route 100 as they have a passive system.

**Former St. Joseph's Church, Convent, Rectory, and School** – By the end of the year, the MTA should be the new owners of the former St. Joseph's Church, Convent, Rectory and School. All buildings will be razed to make way for a parking lot for train commuters. In the meantime, the buildings have been secured from entry, the water drained and the boilers shut down.

**Somers Chase** – The Somers Chase development wants to install two Knox boxes, at their water treatment plant and clubhouse. Mr. Mackey brought an application to them but no one has heard back.

**5 Liberty Way** – The County of Westchester just sold 5 Liberty Way, which is currently vacant, but will continue to be used as a three-family dwelling.

**Somers Diner** – Mr. Premuroso continues to monitor the Somers Diner as they are working on correcting potential code violations.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

**Out of Service Rings for Dry Hydrants** – Eight plastic out of service dry hydrant rings were purchased and given to Mr. Mackey. They will be placed on the dry hydrants that are out of service making it easier for the Fire Department, as well as those departments covering for mutual aid to identify those hydrants.

**Dry Hydrant in Twin Knolls** – Last month, Mr. Vigliotti asked if the dry hydrant in Twin Knolls could be checked to see if it is marked and there was also a question as to whether or not the trees have to be trimmed so that it is visible. Deputy Chief Russell followed up and took a picture. The hydrant is marked and not blocked by any trees.

**Dry Hydrants** – The Somers Volunteer Fire Department has completed the testing of the dry hydrants and provided a report. The ones owned by the Town, Blackberry Hill Road, Moore Drive and Titus Court need to be removed. Numerous requests have been made to the Highway Department to remove them. Mr. Russell will follow up with the Highway Superintendent.

**Somers Manor Nursing Home (Paramount at Somers)** – 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 11<sup>th</sup> 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 21<sup>st</sup> that they will be changing those areas again. Chief Fire Inspector Premuroso has followed up with their Facilities Manager Rohan Gordon. It is still a work in progress and plans will be submitted to secure the appropriate Building Permits.

**NEW BUSINESS**

There was no New Business this evening.

The meeting was adjourned. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 10<sup>th</sup> 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