

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

THOMAS J. TOOMA, JR.
CHIEF



MEETING MINUTES

January 20, 2021

Bureau Chief Tooma called the meeting to order at 4:35 p.m.

The following were in attendance: Somers Volunteer Fire Department Chief Jon Mackey, Deputy Chief Rob Russell, Bureau Chief Tom Tooma, and Deputy Chief Al Vigliotti.

The meeting was held remotely via Zoom.

MINUTES

A motion was made by Deputy Chief Russell to approve the minutes of the December 16, 2020 meeting as submitted. Deputy Chief Vigliotti seconded the motion. All were in favor.

SUBMISSIONS

There were no submissions this evening.

OLD BUSINESS

Driveway Gates – The Town Clerk continues to work with the State about the driveway gate requirements legislation that was approved by the Town Board, but has still not been added to the e-code.

Outdoor Dining – Code Enforcement Officer Rob Russell reported that all the restaurants that were offering outdoor dining had dismantled their areas as required by November 30th.

Paper Roads in Heritage Hills – There are paper roads in Heritage Hills that residents are using as their address when calling 911 which is leading to much confusion as

those roads are not in the 911 cad system and were never approved by the Town. Another incidence occurred again just recently. Mr. Tooma will follow up.

Crossroads at Baldwin Place – Mr. Tooma spoke with a representative of the owner of Crossroads at Baldwin Place about placing identification signs on the back doors of the retail spaces. There were no objections and the signs have been ordered. Mr. Mackey will follow up to see if they have been installed.

Gate Installation at 37 Wood Street – Mr. Mackey inspected the electronically controlled (automated) gate that was installed at 37 Wood Street. The Knox box is in place and the keys are operational.

2 Delra Lane – The Fire Department responded to an EMS call at 2 Delra Lane. There appeared to be an apartment in the basement for which the Town has no record of the owner receiving a Special Exception Use Permit for. The witness was asked to attest so a violation could be issued, but declined.

163 Route 118 – A call was responded to about exterior smoke detectors installed at 163 Route 118 going off due to heavy rain. There was a question as to whether the detectors were rated for exterior use and if this could be a noise issue. Mrs. Schirmer sent a letter to the owner requesting information about the smoke detectors and also made a phone call with no response. All agreed to let it go until and when the situation occurs again.

126 and 128 Route 139 Private Road – As a result of a successful subdivision application, the private road at this site was to be named Primrose Commons and now the owners would like to change it to Primrose Estates as that is the name of the development. After the Tax Assessor was consulted, the Bureau sent an email to the Town Clerk indicating that there were no objections to naming the private road Primrose Estates.

SOMERS FIRE DEPARTMENT CHIEF'S REPORT

The following was reported by Chief Mackey:

Chief Mackey reported that there have been ongoing problems with Heritage Hills Security. The residents are being told if their carbon monoxide or smoke detectors are going off, they are to call Heritage Hills Security and if they think the situation requires the Fire Department, they will call 911. Since Security doesn't have the equipment and training to determine if there is in fact a problem, they should not be making that decision. The residents should be told to call 911, then Security. If Security determines everything is okay, then they can call 911 back. Chief Mackey is having a meeting with the head of security next week to discuss this issue further. An update will be given at the February meeting.

Chief Tooma made everyone aware of a situation that was brought to his attention at The Mews. One of The Mews developments consisting of two buildings is located at 24

Clayton Boulevard, and the other, also consisting of two buildings is at 32 Clayton Boulevard. An inspection was requested for 34 Clayton Boulevard which is not an identifiable address. It was determined that the buildings are labeled as 32 and 34, which is not only incorrect, but can cause much confusion, which could definitely be detrimental if there was an emergency. It was suggested that the buildings be labeled as A and B for each address. Fire Chief Mackey spoke to 60 Control to see how 911 calls for The Mews are dispatched. He learned that there is no standard way the calls come in and they have had no issues. The complex is small and due to frequent calls in those buildings, the responders know how to navigate around. If this situation becomes a problem, it will be dealt with then.

Tomorrow Fire Chief Mackey will be visiting Artis Senior Living for an update tour of the facility. The tours have been phased based on progress of the project, and they have been very helpful.

Structure Fire Calls Responded to by the Fire Department:

464D Heritage Hills – burnt food
136 Route 118 – oven malfunction
58A Heritage Hills – burnt food
360D Heritage Hills – oven malfunction
659A Heritage Hills – oven malfunction

BUREAU CHIEF'S REPORT

Chief Tooma would like confirmation that the contact information 60 Control has for him and his assistants is accurate. Mr. Mackey asked Mr. Tooma to re-send the contact names and numbers to him and he will see to it that they have it.

DEPUTY CHIEF'S REPORT

Deputy Chief Russell asked those present to review the memo he drafted to the Town Board in the hopes that identifying the back doors of commercial buildings will be added to the Code.

Deputy Chief Vigliotti asked about getting sworn in. It was suggested that he contact the Town Clerk.

CHIEF FIRE INSPECTOR'S REPORT

Chief Fire Inspector Premuroso was not present at the meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Properties in Somers with Solar Panels – In September 2020, Mrs. Schirmer provided Mr. Mackey with a list of property addresses in Somers that have solar panels. This information is most helpful and Mr. Mackey would appreciate it if he could be updated quarterly.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:50 p.m. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 17, 2021 at 4:30 p.m.

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