

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

May 19, 2021

Bureau Chief Tooma called the meeting to order at 4:40 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 April 21, 2021 meeting as submitted. Bureau Chief Tooma seconded the motion. All were in favor.

SUBMISSIONS

There were no submissions this month.

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.

Named Roads in Heritage Hills – There are named 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. The Fire Department would like the signs removed. Mrs. Schirmer has reached out to Supervisor Morrissey concerning this issue.

Crossroads at Baldwin Place – The Bureau would like numbers placed on the upper windows of the commercial building. Mr. Tooma spoke with a representative of the owner of Crossroads at Baldwin Place about this new request and he suggested posting a floor plan in the lobby. The general feeling was that idea would not meet the objective of easy identification for the exterior of the building. Ironically as of May 13, 2021, numbering the 2nd story windows is now part of the code and they would appreciate it if they would comply to this new ruling. Mr. Tooma will speak with his contact again.

Multi-Occupancy Signage Memo – A memo was sent to the Town Board with regard to adopting a policy that moving forward the back doors of retail spaces and windows on the 2nd floor must be identified in case of the need for emergency access. The Town Board set a Public Hearing for May 13th and Mr. Russell attended. He was happy to report that the Town Board thought it was a good idea and will be adding this requirement to the Code. Mrs. Schirmer will send a letter to existing commercial building owners that have more than one story, encouraging them to do the same.

911 Numbering at Heritage Hills Maintenance Yard – The Fire Department has some concerns about 83 Warren Street and 0 Fred's Way. A discussion ensued and Mr. Tooma suggested to place a sign, #83 and #85, with a directional arrow at the side of Warren Street that is visible from both directions of travel, indicating to make a left onto "Fred's Way" in addition to numerically identifying the drives to each location on "Fred's Way" proper. All agreed this will be a good resolve. Both Heritage Hills and the Highway Superintendent will be contacted.

Adson Way – Concrete pillars have been built on either side of the driveway at a new home on Adson Way. It has been confirmed that an emergency vehicle could fit in between them.

Heritage Hills Hydrant Flushing – Assistant Building Inspector Rich Servello has been in touch regarding the flushing of hydrants in Heritage Hills. The testing is complete and a report was sent to him. He was advised that Suez Water Technologies has purchased the Heritage Hills Water and Sewer Works Corporation.

No Parking Signs – A letter has been sent to one of the shopping center owners making them aware that their no parking signs say "No Parking, Fire Zone" and per the Code they must read "No Parking, No Standing, Fire Lane/ Zone".

Panny Two Lot Preliminary Subdivision

The Bureau reviewed the submission for the Panny Subdivision – 19 Olive Drive at their April meeting. A memo was sent to the Planning Board advising them that the Fire Code of N.Y.S. requires specific access to buildings for emergency purposes and that a road width of not less than 20 feet terminating with a cul-de-sac with a diameter of not less than 96 feet are required and this is what the Bureau of Fire Prevention expects. The memo has been forwarded to the property owners by the Planning Department.

SOMERS FIRE DEPARTMENT CHIEF'S REPORT

The following was reported by Chief Mackey:

The Fire Department responded to two calls on May 5th, one on Arbor Crest and the other at the Town Centre at Somers, both of which were steam coming from the boiler. There was also a porch fire in Lincolndale that was caused by arson.

Last week there was a medical call in the Heritage 202 Center and the cars parked in the fire lane prevented the ambulance from getting as close as they could to the person in distress. There are cars parked there on a very regular basis. An email will be sent to the Acting Police Chief.

BUREAU CHIEF'S REPORT

Chief Tooma wanted to make everyone aware that the Coral Seafood Restaurant at 63 Route 6 will be opening soon and their Knox box came in.

DEPUTY CHIEF'S REPORT

Deputy Chief Vigliotti had no report, but Deputy Chief Russell reported the following.

As a result of outdoor dining being offered at the restaurants by the Granite Springs Fire House on Old Tomahawk Road, there are cars parked up and down the street as well as in the no parking zone. It would be helpful if the Somers Police could patrol that area more. This request will be included in the email to the Acting Police Chief.

CHIEF FIRE INSPECTOR'S REPORT

Chief Fire Inspector Premuroso was not present at the meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Warning/Appearance Tickets for the Appointed Bureau Members – Some time ago research was done about purchasing tickets for the Bureau since as per Chapter 26 of the Code of the Town of Somers, the appointed Bureau members may issue warning and appearance tickets. Mr. Tooma will research further.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:55 p.m. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 16, 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