

BUREAU OF FIRE PREVENTION

Telephone  
(914) 277-8228  
Fax  
(914) 277-3790

**Town of Somers**  
WESTCHESTER COUNTY, N.Y.

SOMERS TOWN HOUSE  
ANNEX  
337 ROUTE 202  
SOMERS, NY 10589

EFREM CITARELLA  
CHIEF



## MEETING MINUTES

October 10, 2012

Chief Citarella called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. The following were in attendance: Bureau Chief Efrem Citarella, Deputy Chiefs Rob Russell and Al Vigliotti, Fire Inspector Bill Premuroso and Somers Volunteer Fire Department 2<sup>nd</sup> Assistant Chief Jody Leverich.

### MINUTES

Mr. Russell made a motion to accept the minutes of the September 10, 2012 meeting as submitted. Mr. Vigliotti seconded the motion. All were in favor.

### SUBMISSIONS

**The Green at Somers** – Mrs. Schirmer is waiting to hear back from the Engineer for this project as to whether or not he will meet with the Bureau in November.

**The Mews at Baldwin Place – Phase II** – A site plan for The Mews at Baldwin Place – Phase II was reviewed with Insite Engineer Rich Williams. Fire service access was discussed.

### 2<sup>nd</sup> ASSISTANT CHIEF'S REPORT

Somers 2<sup>nd</sup> Assistant Fire Chief Jody Leverich reported on the following:

**Mexican Shack** – An alarm was responded to at the Mexican Shack. No one evacuated the building. Mr. Premuroso will talk to the owner of that store, as well as the one of the deli next door about the necessity of doing so.

**Car Fire** – There was a car fire in Heritage Hills. Thankfully it happened after the driver pulled it out of the driveway preventing it from catching the condo on fire.

**60 Deans Bridge Road** – There was an oven fire at 60 Deans Bridge Road, which was able to be extinguished with no damage.

### **DEPUTY CHIEF REPORTS**

Deputy Chief Russell reported on the following:

**No Fire Alarm Permit on File Notices** – Monthly, Mrs. Schirmer gets a report from the 911 Dispatch Office as to when the Fire Department responds to a call that was called in by a fire alarm service and it was determined that no permit was not on file. The Fire Department generally issues a Fire Alarm Permit Application at the call. Then Mrs. Schirmer follows up with a letter. A maximum of three notices in writing are sent to the owner in an attempt to secure the permit and fee. If unsuccessful, a certified letter is sent by the Bureau Chief. If a permit is not secured, a court appearance ticket is issued. This entire process can take up to six months. If it ends up in Town Court it can stretch the process to a year or more. Mr. Russell feels as though we are being a bit too lenient as this is a law. Moving forward, Mrs. Schirmer will send two notices and then the final letter in an effort to speed up the process.

Deputy Chief Vigliotti reported on the following:

**Old Tomahawk Street** – On a few occasions, Mr. Vigliotti has driven through Old Tomahawk Street and hasn't witnessed any parking issues. Mr. Leverich actually shared a recent picture with him when it was actually a major issue. The police will be asked once again to regularly patrol this area as there are No Parking signs installed.

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

Most of Fire Inspector Premuroso's report was covered under Old Business.

**PepsiCo** – A full evacuation drill was conducted at PepsiCo and the hydrants were tested.

**IBM** – On October 16, a full evacuation drill will take place at IBM and their hydrants will also be tested.

**Somers Chase** – The hydrants at Somers Chase will be tested shortly.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

**Somers Schools** – It was determined that the zone maps in the schools have to be updated and sent to the 911 Dispatch Office. Mr. Leverich is waiting on the updated maps. At a recent call, the Dispatch Office was unable to reach anyone on the call list provided to them by the School District. This information has been updated. The knock box at the High School was not fully sealed. The custodial staff has caulked it.

**6 Manor Lane** – The owner was served with a court appearance ticket. They did

appear in court and were fined \$350 for false fire alarms and not having a Fire Alarm Permit. They have since filed an application for a permit, but they did tell Mr. Premuroso the system is now off line. If this is the case, a permit is not needed. Mr. Leverich believes under State law they are required to have both an active alarm and sprinkler system. Mr. Premuroso will confirm, and if this is in fact the case, the application will be processed.

**Heritage Hills West Hill Country Club** – A call was responded to at the West Hill Country Club in Heritage Hills. There was a problem with the sprinkler system and they did not evacuate the building. It has since been fixed and is functioning properly. Mr. Premuroso also talked to them about the importance of evacuating the building when the alarm goes off.

**BOCES** – A knock box has to be installed. This is a work in progress as the students are involved in building it.

**267 Tomahawk Street** – There has been an ongoing concern about the amount of cars being crammed into the parking lot of the Hobby Shop and Raceway located at 267 Tomahawk Street. The weekends are particularly an issue. Mr. Citarella will write the owner and let him know that if the problem isn't resolved immediately, he will be issued a court appearance ticket

**Color Coding of the Town's Water District's Hydrants** – One of the Fire Commissioners has asked for a status update on color coding the hydrants in the Town's Water Districts. It is unclear as to what exactly the Commissioner is asking for. Mr. Leverich will ask him to address the Bureau Chief in writing. He is currently on medical leave.

**Heritage Hills Activity Center** – The sprinkler system at the Heritage Hills Activity Center has been temporarily disconnected due to an unpaid bill. It should be operable soon.

**Twin Knolls** – The Fire Department is requesting directional signs in Twin Knolls as it is very confusing as to where the side roads are, as well as the order in which the house numbers run. A memo with a map attached was sent to the Town Board. The Town Board asked the Highway Superintendent to follow through. Mr. Russell will follow up him.

**Proposed Elevator Key Law** – Both the fire and emergency medical departments would benefit greatly if there was a requirement that all elevators in Town be operable with the same key. Most of the communities in Westchester have this law. Both Mr. Leverich and Mr. Premuroso will research further.

**7 Hopkins Lane** – The Fire Department reported to an automatic fire alarm at 7 Hopkins Lane on April 25, 2012 and it was reported that a Fire Alarm Permit was not on file. In May, July and August, letters were sent to the homeowner and there was no

response. A final letter was prepared and mailed certified return receipt requesting that the homeowner submit a Fire Alarm Permit and application by October 31, 2012 or a court appearance ticket will be issued.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**Meeting Day Change Proposal** – Presently, as indicated in the Town Code, the Bureau meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of each month at 5:00 p.m. Some of the members have another meeting that same night monthly, and throughout the year, some of the meetings have to be rescheduled because of Town holidays that fall on these days. Parking is also a major issue as court is currently held on our meeting day. It was suggested that the meetings be changed to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month at 4:30 p.m. starting in November. All agreed this would work for them. A memo will be sent to the Town Board requesting that this change be added to the Town Code, as it currently states the meetings are on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday.

The meeting was adjourned. The November meeting will be held on Wednesday, the 13<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  
Somers Fire District