

BUREAU OF FIRE PREVENTION

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Town of Somers

WESTCHESTER COUNTY, N.Y.

SOMERS TOWN HOUSE
ANNEX
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EFREM CITARELLA
CHIEF



MEETING MINUTES

October 13, 2011

Chief Citarella called the meeting to order at 5:20 p.m. The following were in attendance: Bureau Chief Efrem Citarella, Deputy Chief Al Vigliotti, Fire Inspector Bill Premuroso and Somers Fire Captain Jody Leverich.

MINUTES

Mr. Vigliotti made a motion to accept the minutes of the September 12, 2011 meeting as submitted. Mr. Citarella seconded the motion. All were in favor.

SUBMISSIONS

Mitchell Subdivision – The updated site plan for the Mitchell Subdivision was reviewed by the Bureau. They would like the common driveway leading to the houses to be made wider, 20 feet would be ideal, and would also like the Planning Board to have a snow removal agreement in place for this subdivision to allow for easy emergency access. A memo will be sent to the Planning Board.

FIRE CAPTAIN'S REPORT

Somers Fire Captain Jody Leverich reported on the following:

Somers Volunteer Fire Department Chiefs – As of 9/20/2011, the Somers Volunteer Fire Department Chief is Irwin Schriro, 2nd Assistant Chief is Raymond Baker, and the Captains are Jody Leverich and Kevin Barry.

28 Warren Street - Three recent calls were responded to at Opendate, Inc. located at 28 Warren Street. One was for steam in the laundry room, which has evidently been an ongoing problem because of the vent system. The other was due to smoke from cooking being done in the kitchen, but the alarm company was unable to give a location when the call came in. Mr. Premuroso will talk to the alarm company Somers Security about this situation. The third was for an

alarming going off in the day program room. The Fire Department had to use a key from the knock box to gain access. It was determined that some of the doors were locked and the keys for those doors were not in the knock box. Mr. Premuroso will talk to their maintenance staff regarding this issue.

325 Route 100 – A call was received from Anytime Fitness located in the Town Centre at Somers at 325 Route 100. An alarm was activated, but it couldn't be located and never went out via the alarm company. The alarm was reset, but went into "trouble" mode. Evidently the alarm company investigated, but it has not been determined if the problem was resolved. Mr. Premuroso will follow up.

24 – 26 Clayton Boulevard – Two calls were responded to at The Mews at Baldwin Place. Once the system was being tested and they never informed the Fire Department and the next time a call came in from an unoccupied unit. Although there is still a list of punch items to be completed in this new facility, it was reported that there were no keys in the knock boxes; a floor plan would be helpful; the number of occupants in Building 1 should be secured; and the status of Building 2 occupation would be appreciated. Mr. Premuroso will continue to monitor with updates on this facility.

8 Todd Lane – A call was responded to at this residence and a fire alarm permit was not on file. Mrs. Schirmer will send them a letter.

IBM – There have been three calls in Building 1 at IBM all regarding the water flow alarm. Mr. Premuroso will follow up.

DEPUTY CHIEF REPORTS

Deputy Chief Russell reported on the following via an email to Mrs. Schirmer:

Firehouse Walkthroughs – Mr. Russell and Commissioner Totten will be doing a walkthrough of all four firehouses on Monday, October 17 at 5:00 p.m.

130 BOCES Drive – On Monday October 3, Mr. Russell visited 130 BOCES Drive because the Fire Department had responded to three alarms in one evening at that address. All three alarms were caused by faulty equipment, and the system was supposed to have been on "test", but was not. Mr. Russell spoke to John Bull and informed him of the problem and the potential for fines per the Town code. Mr. Bull was advised that he needed to follow up with Mr. Russell in the afternoon on the October 4, as he assured Mr. Russell that a technician would be out on the morning to fix the system. On the afternoon of the 4th of October, Mr. Bull reported that the heat detector had been replaced, the 110 volt smoke detector had been removed and they were awaiting a replacement. As a result, the system would be on "test" for another 24 hours. Mr. Russell feels as though since the situation is being well attended to and there have been no further alarms at that location, a decision was made not to issue a violation.

Deputy Chief Vigliotti reported on the following:

The Mews at Baldwin Place – Permission has been granted to modify the access road to accommodate the outriggers for the Fire Department's ladder truck. Mr. Premuroso will do a site visit.

FIRE INSPECTOR'S REPORT

Fire Inspector Premuroso reported on the following:

Fire Prevention Week – This week is Fire Prevention Week. Mr. Premuroso has been impressed with the turnout on behalf of the Fire Department in their efforts to educate the community about the importance of preventing fires.

Hydrant Report – Mr. Premuroso is in the process of creating a report for the following area hydrants in terms of their gallons per minute capability: The Willows, Greenbriar, Somers Chase, IBM, Pepsi, Lincoln Hall, Heritage Hills and those under the auspices of the Town. As each area is completed, that portion of the report will be given to Mrs. Schirmer so it can be typed. Upon completion, it will be submitted to the Board of Fire Commissioners.

OLD BUSINESS

Old Tomahawk Street – Mr. Premuroso and Police Chief Driscoll will meet at Old Tomahawk Street to mark the area by the fire hydrants and firehouse as no parking areas.

5 Matthews Lane – An automatic fire alarm call was responded to by the Fire Department on August 1 at 5 Matthews Lane. The 911 Dispatch Office did not have a permit on file for the alarm system, but the homeowner claimed that they did have a permit. Mrs. Schirmer was unable to confirm that. The homeowner was asked to either produce the permit or a copy of a cancelled check as proof. If they were not able to do so, they would have to secure another permit or would be in violation of the Town Code. A copy of the permit or cancelled check for the permit was never submitted as promised, so a letter with a permit application was sent to the owner. Upon receipt, they called to say that the system is not currently activated as it was damaged when the initial call went out. They were told that if a decision was made to in fact fix the system and it was reactivated, the permit situation had to be revisited.

Algonquin Gas Transmission LLC/Spectra Energy - This gas line runs parallel to Route 6 and can be accessed by Windsor Road. All agreed that a site visit would be a good idea. Mr. Premuroso will make arrangements with Spectra Energy, who manages the Algonquin Gas Transmission LLC. to arrange for a site visit.

Properties with Multi Dwellings - There are some properties in Town with multi

dwellings. There has been past concern over numbering and signage of the buildings on these properties, as it relates to a fire or medical call. It would also be extremely helpful if the 911 Dispatch Office has layout details about these multi dwelling properties. Mr. Russell and Mr. Premuroso will work on this project. The current properties in question are: Schwartz's Horse Farm, 19 Old Route 100 and Amawalk Farm on Wood Street.

Angle Fly Preserve – It was reported last month that at the request of Parks and Recreation Superintendent, Mr. Russell did a walk through and inspected all the condos and Tatham Mansion at Angle Fly Preserve. Mr. Ralston asked that a clarification regarding this issue be made in this month's meeting minutes. The clarification is as follows: At the request of the Supervisor, Mr. Ralston asked the Chief of the Somers Volunteer Fire Department if the Town were to Board up the condos and Tatham Mansion would it present a safety issue for their firefighters. He did not ask that a walk through and inspection be done. Mr. Citarella reminded the Bureau that the Town Code states that any unsafe or abandoned structure be secured to prevent entry, therefore the Somers Volunteer Fire Department should not have any issues if these buildings are boarded up.

NEW BUSINESS

Somers Land Trust Memo – As a result of the letter the Bureau sent to Mr. Ralston last month indicating that it had been determined that the condition of the condos and Tatham Mansion should be immediately rectified as they are a significant life safety hazard, of which they received a copy, the Somers Land Trust sent a letter to the Supervisor indicating their stand with regard to these buildings. A copy of that letter was issued to the Bureau as well.

The meeting was adjourned. The next meeting will be held on Monday, November 14, 2011 at 5:00 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 & Engineering Department
Somers Fire District