

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

April 9, 2014

Chief Citarella called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. The following were in attendance: Chief Efrem Citarella, Deputy Chiefs Rob Russell and Al Vigliotti, Chief Fire Inspector Bill Premuroso, and Somers Volunteer Fire Department 2nd Assistant Chief Jody Leverich.

Somers Police Chief Mike Driscoll, Goldens Bridge Fire Chief Al Melillo, as well as Commissioners Ed Brancati and Rob Melillo were also present.

DISCUSSION – Emergency Access Road Gate at St. Joseph’s Church

The original site plan approved by the Somers Planning Board indicates that the Emergency Access Road Gate shall be unlocked and remain open during all church services as a second means of exit from the property. The Goldens Bridge Fire Department representatives feel that it should only be used for fire department access, but are willing to compromise as long as it is turned into a two lane road and marked as such. Police Chief Driscoll feels that the gate should only be opened for the first 15 minutes after each mass gets out and then it should be closed again. If there is an emergency during that time, his Officers will shut down the road so emergency vehicles have access. Currently there are two Officers on duty directing traffic after each mass. Ideal is the installation of a traffic light. Mr. Vigliotti would like the Bureau and Somers Fire District to request that the State reopen the Plum Brook Bridge. Commissioner Melillo suggested going back to the Planning Board as their ruling is not working. The traffic study that was done is not correct. All agreed that there has to be a long term solution. In the meantime, the Somers Police will open the gate after church services as long as they have men on duty. If not, the gate will remain locked. A suggestion was made to meet at the Church instead of the Building Department next month at 4:45 p.m. and to invite Church representative Richard Castarella to join us. Mrs. Schirmer will make those arrangements.

MINUTES

Mr. Vigliotti made a motion to accept the minutes of the March 12, 2014 meeting as submitted. Mr. Russell seconded the motion. All were in favor.

SUBMISSIONS

There were no Submissions this month.

2nd ASSISTANT CHIEF'S REPORT

Somers 2nd Assistant Fire Chief Jody Leverich reported on the following:

NY Sports Club, Post-Net, and Subway – The Fire Department report to an alarm call and the panel indicated that there was an issue with the pull station in Subway. It was not activated and they were unable to reset it. The alarm company was notified. In the meantime, while investigating, it was noted that in all three stores, either the rear entrances were blocked and/or the pull stations. Mr. Premuroso will follow up.

41 Krystal Drive – There was a fire in the door of the dishwasher at 41 Krystal Drive.

Angle Brook Golf Course – A call came in reporting a gas odor. The gas was shut off.

26 Equestrian Park Drive – There was a grill on fire on the deck of 26 Equestrian Park Drive.

Farese Way – A brush fire was reported across from 3 Farese Way.

Open Gate – There having been problems with the pull stations and it turns out the staff have not been properly trained on how to work them. A request has been made to retrain the staff.

DEPUTY CHIEF REPORTS

Mr. Russell was concerned that some of the hydrants in Town don't have markers indicating their location, especially with all of the snow we had this winter. Mrs. Schirmer followed up with Adam Smith and he is now in the process of replacing all markers.

A call recently came in for Muscoot Park and the contact numbers on the Fire Alarm Permit were from 1988. Mr. Russell feels that it is important to update that information yearly or even bi-yearly. Perhaps this information can be updated for the commercial buildings when Mr. Premuroso does their inspections. The only facilities that he does not inspect are DOT, Lasdon and Muscoot.

Mr. Vigliotti investigated a hydrant on Mahopac Avenue that now has a guard rail in front of it. A 2" line can still be hooked up to it, but he did speak to the Highway Department about creating an opening in the guard rail so the hoses can be hooked up without the possibility of getting kinked.

There is a house on Ross Drive North that has a garage that goes underneath the house that is packed with old televisions. This could be an issue if there was ever a fire.

FIRE INSPECTOR'S REPORT

Heritage Farm – The caretaker of Heritage Farm contacted Mr. Premuroso requesting that the Fire Department do a test draft on their fire hydrant and he also needs to talk to them about installing a knox box. Mr. Leverich will follow up.

OLD BUSINESS

Lincoln Hall – An alarm went off last month at Lincoln Hall and they were unable to reset it. The alarm company was called. Mr. Premuroso followed up and a new detector head was needed.

CVS – Last month they were experiencing alarm problems and their company was contacted. Mr. Premuroso followed up and it was determined that the detector head was too close to the register. The alarm company is supposed to move it. In the meantime, the alarm went off again on March 16 and April 3. Mr. Premuroso will follow up once again.

Stop and Shop – Mr. Leverich went to Stop and Shop and the garbage dumpsters are definitely too close to the Fire Department water hook ups. Mr. Premuroso will follow up.

Ticketing – The Bureau of Fire Prevention already has authority to write tickets for cars parked in fire lanes. The Deputies would like permission to do the same for any car parked within 15 feet of either side of a fire hydrant. A Public Hearing was held on March 6, 2014 and all has been approved.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no New Business this month.

The meeting was adjourned. The May meeting will be held on Wednesday, the 14th at 4:45 p.m. at St. Joseph's Church.

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