

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

**September 10, 2012**

Chief Citarella called the meeting to order at 5:00 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. Vigliotti made a motion to accept the minutes of the August 13, 2012 meeting as submitted. Mr. Citarella seconded the motion. All were in favor.

### **SUBMISSIONS**

**The Green at Somers** – The Bureau received the most recent site plan for The Green at Somers. They will be meeting with the Engineer for this project at their October meeting.

**The Mews at Baldwin Place – Phase II** – A site plan for The Mews at Baldwin Place – Phase II was received and reviewed by the Bureau. A memo will be sent to the Planning Board requesting that there be an emergency access around both buildings that is no further than 60 feet from the buildings. In addition, the emergency roads have to be able to accommodate a ladder truck that is 30' wide.

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

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

**11 Lake Drive** – On August 15, there was a structure fire at 11 Lake Drive. Unfortunately the house was lost. It appears that the fire may have been caused by lightning.

**Somers Schools** – A couple of different calls have been responded to at the Somers Schools. It was determined that the zone maps have to be updated and sent to the 911 Dispatch Office. On one of the calls, the Dispatch Office was unable to reach anyone on the call list provided to them by the School District. This should not be. In addition, the knock box at the High School is not fully sealed and all the keys inside it are rusted. New keys need to be placed in the box. Mr. Premuroso will follow up on all these issues with Mr. Klick.

**6 Manor Lane** – Yet another call was responded to at 6 Manor Lane. The staff this time however left the panel alone and did not evacuate the building.

**Heritage Hills West Hill Country Club** – A call was responded to at the West Hill Country Club in Heritage Hills and there was a problem with the sprinkler system. The building wasn't evacuated either. Mr. Premuroso did follow up regarding both of these issues.

**CVS** – On two different occasions, the alarm went off. They failed to evacuate the building and reset the alarm before the Fire Department arrived. Mr. Premuroso did speak to the Store Manager.

**BOCES** – A knock box was supposed to be installed at BOCES. To date, it appears that this hasn't been done. Mr. Premuroso will follow up.

### **DEPUTY CHIEF REPORTS**

Deputy Chief Russell reported on the following:

**Route 139** – Mr. Russell is concerned about the traffic backup that occurs in the mornings in front of the High School and Primrose Elementary School on Route 139 in terms of its impact if ever emergency vehicles needed to get through this area. Mr. Leverich indicated that the Fire District has had conversations with the State Department of Transportation regarding the same, and there is a plan in place to resolve the issue sometime in 2016 by adding a traffic light and a turning lane. Since the land that would be impacted to do so is owned by the Town, School and Fire Districts, efforts will be made to speed this process along.

Deputy Chief Vigliotti reported on the following:

**267 Tomahawk Street** – Mr. Vigliotti is concerned 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 and Mr. Premuroso will do a site visit and speak to the owner.

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

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

**Fire Prevention Week** – Mr. Premuroso will be conducting programs along with the Fire Department during Fire Prevention the second week in October at Primrose and Somers Intermediate School.

**Pepsi** – On October 2, Mr. Premuroso will be speaking to the wardens at Pepsi at 9:30 a.m. The Fire Department Chiefs are more than welcome to attend. The 8<sup>th</sup> floor of their building is now occupied; the 9<sup>th</sup> floor is still unoccupied.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

**Lincoln Hall** – Four calls were responded to last month at the Chapel in Lincoln Hall. The smoke head in the building has been replaced.

**26 Clayton Boulevard** – An EMS call was responded to at 26 Clayton Boulevard in August and there was trouble with the alarm panel. Lightning had hit the two pull stations and the alarm panel has been fixed.

The Maintenance Supervisor showed the Fire Department a prototype number that will be placed on the molding of the sliding glass doors of each unit. It was approved and the numbers should be installed shortly.

There were also three issues with the emergency fire access road that were brought to the Supervisor's attention and rectified: a tree needing pruning, parked cars were blocking the access road, and a dumpster was partially obstructing the roadway.

**Opengate** – Three calls were responded to at Opengate last month. The building was evacuated during the first two calls, but not the third. Mr. Premuroso spoke with the Director about the importance of evacuating the buildings when an alarm sounds and the staff was told the same. Since this meeting, the Fire Department responded to another call at the facility and the building was evacuated.

**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.

**Heritage Hills Activity Center** – The sprinkler system at the Heritage Hills Activity Center has been temporarily shut down because it has to be fixed. Mr. Premuroso will check on the current status of the system.

**Directional Signs** – Mr. Russell has prepared a list of roads in Town where there are intersections that need directional signs in terms of the order in which the house numbers run. Mr. Woelfle provided an updated Town map. As there are almost 50 signs that would be affected, and at some of the State road intersections, there is no road sign, Mr. Russell will explore some alternative options (grants, scout projects, etc.). It was also suggested that this project be done in phases, starting with intersections that

have existing signs.

**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.

**80 Route 6 - Somers Commons (Stop and Shop)** – No parking or standing signs are needed in the fire lanes of the parking lot of the Somers Commons located at 80 Route 6, especially in front of Stop and Shop. The Town Board had a Public Hearing on September 6 and the signs were approved to be written into the Town Code. Mr. Premuroso will notify the owner of Somers Commons.

**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 by the same key. It has been determined that NYC uses an Otis 1520 key. A memo was sent to the Town Board. Mrs. Schirmer received a follow up email requesting the location and number of elevators, as well as the procedure to institute the new system. Mr. Citarella and Mr. Leverich provided the location and number of elevators and the procedure was discussed this evening. Mr. Premuroso will work on this further to determine the manufacturer and key type on each of these elevators.

**128 Route 100** – On September 3, 2011, a fire alarm was responded to at 128 Route 100 and it was reported that the owners did not have a required Fire Alarm Permit on file. Between September and January, three letters and an application were sent to the owner requesting that they secure a permit. A permit application and fee was never received. A final letter was sent requesting that an application and fee be returned by March 31. This was not done, so a court appearance ticket was prepared. The Police Department made several unsuccessful attempts to deliver it. On August 17, it was mailed certified return receipt, and to date, the receipt has not been received.

**15 Mancini Drive** – The Fire Department reported to an automatic fire alarm in February. It was reported that a Fire Alarm Permit was not on file. Three letters were sent to the homeowner with no response. A final letter was prepared and mailed certified return receipt requesting that the homeowner submit a Fire Alarm Permit and application by August 3, 2012. This was not done so a court appearance ticket will be issued for a court date of September 19. Last week the resident secured a Fire Alarm Permit and the court office was notified of such.

The meeting was adjourned. The October meeting will be held on Wednesday, the 10<sup>th</sup> at 4:30 p.m. in the Building Department, as the 8<sup>th</sup> is the Columbus Day holiday.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise Schirmer, Secretary  
Bureau of Fire Prevention

cc: Bureau of Fire Prevention  
Town Board  
Town Clerk  
Planning Board  
Somers Fire District