

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**

**October 10, 2018**

Bureau Chief Tooma called the meeting to order. The following were in attendance: Bureau Chief Tom Tooma, Somers Volunteer Fire Department Ex-Chief Jody Leverich, Chief Fire Inspector William Premuroso, Deputy Chief Robert Russell, and Deputy Chief Al Vigliotti.

**MINUTES**

A motion was made by Deputy Chief Russell to approve the minutes of the September 12, 2018 meeting as submitted. Deputy Chief Vigliotti seconded the motion. All were in favor.

**SUBMISSIONS**

There were no submissions this evening.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**AvalonBay Somers** – Somers Volunteer Fire Department Chief Paul Jockimo would like some additional striping at AvalonBay Somers. Ex-Fire Chief Leverich suggested that the curbs in front of the hydrants be painted yellow. He would also like markers added to the hydrants that are not marked.

**Crossroads at Baldwin Place** – There was some concern about fire apparatus access to the hydrants at Crossroads at Baldwin Place. Ex-Fire Chief Leverich, 1<sup>st</sup> Assistant Fire Chief Mackey and Deputy Chief Russell conducted a site visit and agree that there are no accessing issues. Bureau Chief Tooma suggested that when all four buildings at that location are occupied and business is being conducted during the day, they re-check to be sure that their findings remained the same.

**Somers Diner** – After numerous attempts to work with the tenant on correcting potential

code violations, Chief Fire Inspector Premuroso issued a violation today for unsafe electrical wiring. The compliance date is October 24<sup>th</sup>.

**Dry Hydrants** – The Somers Volunteer Fire Department completed the testing of the dry hydrants and provided a report to the Bureau. The ones owned by the Town on Blackberry Hill Road, Moore Drive and Titus Court need to be removed. Deputy Chief Russell has been in touch with the Highway Department Superintendent and they are on his list of projects to be done.

**Somers Manor Nursing Home (Paramount at Somers)** – On August 21, 2017, Former Bureau Chief Citarella and Chief Fire Inspector Premuroso visited Paramount at Somers as it was reported that interior changes had been made which may have required Building Permits. Three offices had been built and a dining room was turned into a rehab area. Yesterday Chief Fire Inspector Premuroso spoke with one of their administrators Kerry DeSandre who will be sending him plans for the work that was done.

**9, 11, 13 and 15 Butlerville Road** – Last month, Mr. Tooma requested an update with regard to the email he sent the Bureau about the narrow, windy and bumpy condition of a long dirt/stone roadway that accesses 9, 11, 13 and 15 Butlerville Road. He was not sure how and/or if emergency apparatus could get up the roadway. In addition, the home numbering can use improvement at each dwelling as well as on Butlerville Road. Somers Volunteer Fire Department 1<sup>st</sup> Assistant Chief Jon Mackey visited the site and confirmed that they would not be able to get a ladder truck up the roadway and an engine most likely couldn't get past the sharp turn halfway up the drive. Since repairing the roadway could be a costly venture, a letter was sent to each owner outlining the situation. The letter indicated that any questions or concerns should be directed to the Bureau Chief. Since he has not heard from anyone a second letter requesting acknowledgement of the first will be sent to the owners.

**Generators in Heritage Hills** – At the meeting in September, Mr. Tooma reported that at least two of the Condos in Heritage Hills have approved the installation of generators. Two condos have natural gas and Con Edison doesn't allow underground piping so some of the gas piping is 18" above ground. Mr. Tooma suggested that the piping be marked with something like white vinyl fencing so that it is not a tripping hazard especially at night or if there was emergency personnel on the property. Although the Bureau understands the policy that Con Edison has about not burying the pipes, they don't agree with it as it is a safety hazard. A letter will be sent to Con Edison to see what they might recommend to prevent tripping issues with pipes that are above ground. In addition, a letter will be sent to all the Condo Presidents of those with natural gas with regard to this situation. There is also natural gas in the Preserves and parts of Route 35. Perhaps letters should be sent to those residents as well. Mr. Premuroso asked that Marc Brassard be copied on all letters sent to the Condo Presidents.

#### **Attic Accesses in Heritage Hills**

As inspections are being conducted, Mr. Tooma is still finding attic accesses through

garage ceilings in units in Heritage Hills. As these are not permitted, moving forward a Notice of Violation will be issued for any that are noticed. A letter was sent to the Condo Presidents reiterating the same.

### **SOMERS FIRE DEPARTMENT CHIEF'S REPORT**

Ex- Fire Chief Leverich reported on the following:

**9 Anita Drive** – On October 2<sup>nd</sup> there was a fully involved structure fire at 9 Anita Drive that started in the basement. The owner thought that she put the fire out. Bureau Chief Tooma is working with community groups with their assistance in rebuilding, as well as some other entities, and the neighbors are helping the owner with removing items from the house. It was suggested by Bureau Chief Tooma that the Somers Volunteer Fire Department use this fire as an educational tool for the community by submitting an article to The Somers Record about fire safety. This could also tie in nicely to October being fire prevention month.

**43 Watergate Drive** – Last night the Somers Volunteer Fire Department responded to a call for a water leak at 43 Watergate Drive. The house sustained a lot of water damage causing sheetrock to come down in the kitchen and a lot of electrical wires got wet. Bureau Chief Tooma will follow up.

### **DEPUTY CHIEF'S REPORT**

Deputy Chief Russell reported on the following:

**247 Route 100** – Deputy Chief Russell spoke with the manager of 247 Route 100. They will install gray x pavers, be moving the conex boxes and testing the well.

Deputy Chief Vigliotti reported on the following:

**Town House Speed Bump** – Deputy Chief Vigliotti is concerned about the speed bump at the entrance to the Town House. Everyone was in agreeance that regulations for speed bumps should be followed. Ex-Fire Chief Leverich also added that as specified in the 2015 Fire Code the approval for speed bumps has to be obtained by the Fire Chief.

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

Chief Fire Inspector Premuroso reported the following:

**Testing of Pressure Reducing Valves in Heritage Hills** – Sometime next week, the testing of the pressure reducing valves will take place in Heritage Hills. Chief Fire Inspector Premuroso will follow up with Marc Brassard.

**Hydrants at DeCicco & Sons** – Last September the Bureau met with the architect for DeCicco & Sons and agreed on three hydrants however there is only one hydrant at the site. Bureau Chief Tooma will check the plot plan that was approved by the Planning Board and report back.

In addition, Chief Fire Inspector Premuroso has reviewed the fire alarm system plans for DeCicco & Sons. The number of CO detectors seem to outnumber the smoke detectors. Ex-Fire Chief Leverich would prefer heat sensors be installed in the cooking areas rather than smoke detectors to reduce the number of false alarms. The Chief Fire Inspector would like smoke detectors added in the basement. He and the Bureau Chief will review the plans again.

**2 Old Tomahawk Street** – There are two buildings on this lot with apartments on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of each. A fire alarm call was responded to at the apartment above Keller Williams and they don't have a Fire Alarm Permit. A letter and application were sent to them.

**Bonfires** – The bonfire at Kennedy Catholic High School went well. Rain caused the bonfire at Somers High School to be cancelled and they don't have a reschedule date planned.

**339 Route 202** – There is a fire department connection and pump in one of the buildings that feeds both buildings. Chief Fire Inspector Premuroso will ask the owner to post a sign indicating so.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

There was no New Business this evening.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:00 p.m. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 14<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  
Principal Engineering Technician  
Somers Fire District