

**VILLAGE OF SOUTH BLOOMING
GROVE
REGULAR MEETING
Monday
March 22, 2021
7:00 P.M.**

➤ **Call to order**

- Mayor Kalaj called to order the Village Board Meeting at 7:11 p.m. on March 22, 2021 via Zoom Meeting #918 8954 9772 for the South Blooming Grove located at 819 State Route 208, within the Village of South Blooming Grove, and having a mailing address of Monroe, New York.

➤ **Roll call**

The following persons were present:

- George Kalaj- Mayor
- Abraham Weiss – Deputy Mayor
- Johnny Belfort – Trustee
- Yitzchok Feldman – Trustee
- John L. Ross – Trustee
- Scott B. Ugell, Esq. – Village Attorney
- Kerry Dougherty – Village Clerk

➤ **Mayor's Comments:**

- The Mayor wished everybody a Happy Passover and Happy Easter. The water main break at Route 208 and Mangin Road will be begin on March 29, 2021. The filtration system should be online by April 12, 2021, hopefully earlier. Long awaited good news.
- Issues with sewer back up. Please do not flush non flushable items such as diapers, rags, wipes, etc. These items are causing problems with the sewer system.
- The Mayor thanked Johnny Belfort and John Ross for their service. It was nice working with them. He wished them all the best and good health.

➤ **Correspondence:**

- none

➤ **Public Comments**

- Barbara Hanley asks that at the next village board meeting each member of the board present their occupation, their goals for being on the board and their qualifications. The manner in which these men were elected has shattered her hope that we can have fair and unbiased leadership. You need not like the diverse portion of our community but arranging for the election without sharing a scintilla of information including name demonstrates at the very least disdain and disrespect for the diverse members of the community. There isn't even a pretense which you would look for compromise or even consideration of the perspectives of the entire village. It is very disappointing.
- Lydia Terwilliger wished everybody a happy holiday to everyone. She is happy to see most of the board members faces at this meeting. She would like people to be on ballot purpose of a write in is not for everybody not to know what is going on. She would like to see more diversity on the board, she would like to see a woman on the board and others from the diverse community. She continues

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to call the police about the school buses. Larado Court the buses continue to back up. Water is brown. Speed bumps may be an option to curb speeding.

- Sue Anne Vogelsberg – 185 Prospect is operating as an Air B&B. The Village attorney advised that this matter has a court date scheduled for April 8, 2021.
- Sue Blakney inquired about the numerous water main breaks within the village and why this village has so many.
- Moshe Halprin advised that his property mentioned at the public hearing would be removed in the next few days. The winter made it more difficult to remove earlier.
- Joseph Rosenfeld stated that on his ride up the hill he noticed that the garbage has been cleaned up and looks better now.
- Brenda Melendez disagrees with Joseph Rosenfeld and sees garbage all over the place when she drove through the neighborhood.
- Scott Morrice advised the mayor that the people he has working for him lie to the newspaper.
- Evette Crespo advised that there is garbage is all over Lake Shore Drive, there are boxes, masks, furniture, etc.
- Sonia Ayala confirmed that garbage has to be in their bin to be picked up and that bulk pick up begins on April 1, 2021.
- Eric Vogelsberg while driving on Virginia Avenue observed several unsupervised children under the age of 5 on/in the roadway. He is concerned for their safety and asks that people be more aware and safe with younger children in the road.

➤ **Business**

- Resolution No. (7) – Resolution of the Village Board of the Village of South Blooming Grove authorizing the Mayor to execute one or more grant agreements between the village and the NYS Environmental Facilities Corporation relating to the Village’s Merriewold Pump House reconstruction Project and making certain other determinations in connection therewith. Motion to accept by Mayor Kalaj, seconded by Deputy Mayor Weiss, *5 Ayes, Mayor Kalaj, Deputy Mayor Weiss, Trustee Belfort, Trustee Feldman, and Trustee Ross.*
- Resolution No (8) - Resolution of the Village Board of the Village of South Blooming Grove authorizing Junk Remove All to perform property maintenance to abate violations of the Village’s Code Property Maintenance provisions (chapter 102) for the property located at 5 Green Road and 8 Kingsville Drive. Motion to accept by Mayor Kalaj, seconded by Trustee Ross, *5 Ayes, Mayor Kalaj, Deputy Mayor Weiss, Trustee Belfort, Trustee Feldman, and Trustee Ross.*
- Resolution No (9) - Resolution of the Village Board of the Village of South Blooming Grove authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement with Solitude Lake Management to provide aquatic pesticide services to Merriewold Lake. Motion to accept by Mayor Kalaj, seconded by Trustee Feldman, *5 Ayes, Mayor Kalaj, Deputy Mayor Weiss, Trustee Belfort, Trustee Feldman, and Trustee Ross.*

➤ **Abstract**

- Motion to adopt the Abstract by Mayor Kalaj, seconded by Trustee Ross, *5 Ayes, Mayor Kalaj, Deputy Mayor Weiss, Trustee Belfort, Trustee Feldman, and Trustee Ross.*

➤ **Trustee Comments**

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- Trustee Belfort thanked the village and the people of the village for allowing him to serve them it was a privilege and an honor. He wished he could have done more. He thanked the 178 people that came out and voted. He stated that there is garbage all over the place. He wanted to thank the people that had the courage to tell me weeks prior to the election that there was going to be two write ins and that there were stamps ready for that and that 5-10 minutes before closing of election they would come in with boxes. Unfortunately, there were people who lie to your face.
- Trustee Ross Thank the village for allowing me to serve since 2017 it has been his privilege and his honor. My history is servicing whether it be volunteering or serving the village. Action and inaction cause change. He is not going any where in the near future, despite what any pamphlet states. This is where I grew up and I am very proud of this village.
- Trustee Feldman thanked Johnny and John and in the few months here he has learned so much, stay in touch and good luck.

➤ **Adjournment**

- Motion to close the meeting at 7:55 p.m. by Mayor Kalaj, seconded by Trustee Feldman. 5 Ayes, *Mayor Kalaj, Deputy Mayor Weiss, Trustee Belfort, Trustee Feldman, and Trustee Ross.*

Minutes respectfully submitted by
Kerry Dougherty, Village Clerk