

**VILLAGE OF SOUTH BLOOMING
GROVE
REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY
JUNE 27, 2022
8:00PM**

➤ **Call to order**

Mayor Kalaj called to order the Village Board Meeting at 8:04 pm on June 27, 2022, via Zoom Webinar ID: 822 1799 6182 for the Village of South Blooming Grove located at 811 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
- Yitzchok Feldman- Trustee
- Zalmon Rosner – Trustee
- Asher Guttman- Trustee
- Joel Stern – Confidential Assistant to the Mayor
- Isaac Ekstein- Legislative Aide to Mayor
- Al Fusco, Village Engineer
- Scott Ugell Esq.- Village Attorney
- Kerry Dougherty – Village Clerk

➤ **Correspondence**

- June 17, 2022 Memorandum from Treasurer to Village Board – Budget Modification
- Special Land Use Application – 58 Fort Worth Place 217-1-8

➤ **Discussion**

- The Mayor reminded all that we are under water restrictions and people have been abusing that, he asks that the residents do not waste water because we are trucking water every day. The Palamar Well was pumping 25 gallons per minute and is now down to 12. He asked the residents to please save water it is very crucial. It is costing us a lot of money to truck in.
- **Isaac Ekstein** advised the Mayor that Engineer Fusco is working with 58 Fort Worth Place and this needs to go to Planning Board, not Village Board for a Special Use Permit. The Mayor advised he is absolutely right that it is the planning board not us. **Issac Ekstein** asked the clerk to forward that to the planning board. **The Clerk** advised that she thought it was the Village Board. **Al Fusco** advised that pursuant to Section 235, for a school, it would go to the Planning Board for conditional/special permit and there are sections of the code that relate to.... Mr. Fusco continued that the school goes to the planning board as a special use with conditional approval and it goes to the planning board and they will run through it just like a regular site plan, that is

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how the process works for special use for a school.

➤ **Public Comment**

- **Sue Anne Vogelsberg** At the last meeting Joel had mentioned about forming a transportation commission and she is wondering if any movement has happened with that and if you are looking for resident participation, she would be happy to participate on that. The website...there was a planning board meeting and there were documents and it wasn't with the agenda, it was listed in the news section, it was posted by Melissa, and it was not in a normal place that you would find it. The web site still isn't updated, the Orange County Post is still listed there and if that is where residents are supposed to go, it needs to be fixed. She is noticing the past couple of Fridays there has been a loud siren, she thought it was the fire siren going off but it seemed like it was late afternoon, early evening and it would be longer than a fire siren. She is wondering what that is, if you know, it is at the same time every Friday. **Joel Stern** advised that absolutely about the parks commission we will take a look at all applicants if people would like to apply, the idea is still in its infancy and there has to be structure, what the function is going to be and everything else. If you sent in an email we will look at it, and be happy to have you. Regarding the web site, yes the current website is outdated and it is not a 2022 website. We are putting the final touches on the brand new village website which is about to be rolled out within the next two weeks to a month. Hopefully all of the ongoing issues that we are having with the website right now will go away and everybody is going to have a seamless experience. Regarding the fire siren, or the siren that you are referring to, it is a religious siren that is going off exactly as you said, every Friday at about the same time, fifteen minutes before sun down and at sun down. Regarding the length, he wouldn't elaborate that it is not trying to compete with longer or shorter than a fire siren but this is what the siren is and it is what it is.
- **Dawn Salka** she would like to know why when she asks a questions at a board meeting she is told to send an email. She sends multiple emails and there is no reply, when she FOILs information she does not get that information. When she follows up with an email to her FOIL request she does not get a reply. Why at previous meetings, Dan Kraushaar said that you can come down to village hall and see any plans you want to see. Why when I go to village hall requesting information, Alexa the Code Enforcer and Kerry the Clerk both tell me all the information is in Al Fusco's Office, we have nothing down here, send an email. Mr. Fusco, if you could please repeat what you said regarding a school because she did not hear that and ending with my comment it is a joke that Mayor Kalaj is talking about water restrictions but building continues to be approved. Al Fusco commented, see above discussion. **Mr. Ekstein** asked the clerk for clarity we have no plans at village hall. **Clerk Kerry** advised that there have been one or two items that were FOILed that we did not have and then Al provided me with the one plan that I did provide to Mrs. Salka, and the other plan that I have asked for is the mapping of the wells on the Clovewood property, the wells that will be dedicated to the village. **Mr. Ekstein** advised that, that is part of the plans in Clovewood which is available on CPCEIS.com which he believes Ms. Salka is very much familiar with. All the plans for Clovewood are on there and all the wells on the Clovewood Property that's being approved is going to go over to the village so that is simple. What FOILs have been done that she wasn't provided with? The Clerk

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referred to Ms. Salka regarding what is outstanding. **Mrs. Salka** advised that when you are doing the webinar, it is only showing one person speaking. Her FOILS have gone to the EMS building, looking for the permits, inspections, plans, that was not available. **Clerk** advised that she did provide the plans via email. **Mr. Ekstein** asked Mrs. Salka to send a brief email of what is still outstanding, and we will be glad to take care of that. **Mrs. Salk** advised that she FOILed the easements after the fact, all the roads that are going from each well through the property. **Mr. Ekstein** advised that there are no easements yet, it is not done yet. They are preparing the road and the easements are not finalized and the maps and plans are on the CPCEIS website. Anything related to Clovewood is on their website. **Mr. Ekstein** clarified to the Mayor and the public that something was stated in pubic and we have to make sure the public is aware, all the plans are in village hall, everything is FOILable, whoever needs a copy can file a FOIL and they can get it, the EMS building plans are also there and were provided.

- **Bonnie Rum** since Mrs. Brown said in her memorandum that there is an additional \$40,000 that came into the village as revenue due to building fees and that sort of thing, she is wondering with all the building that is happening in the village, it makes sense, it seems to her that you would have a code enforcer and building inspector more than one day per week. She is sure you agree with that. Some of the places where Mr. Fusco is working, such as Deerpark, they require three days a week and they got it because it was in their contract. Airmont, also keeps all their records for the village in the village hall as does Chester. South Blooming Grove, right now you have one day a week and especially with all the building that is going on, it really seems that you need more time than that. She knows that when Mr. Fusco was hired, he wasn't expected to do all three jobs that he has identified as doing now but with the next terms contract, you may want to make some revisions so that you can have more flexibility and it is easier for the clerk to respond to FOILs in a timely manner. **Mr. Ekstein** advised that they are not waiting for the next term, they are doing it right now, they are finalizing with Mr. Fusco to have someone answer phones, emails and all the building inspector clerical duties every day and we added more hours to the building inspector that goes around to do citations and inspections etc. We are working proactively to make sure that we have sufficient building inspector hours here in the village.

➤ **Business**

- **Resolution No. (078)** – Resolution of the Village Board of the Village of South Blooming Grove setting a time and place for a public hearing regarding proposed local law __ of 2022 upgrading Chapter 102 – Property Maintenance. Motion to accept by Trustee Rosner, seconded by Trustee Guttman. *5 Ayes- Mayor Kalaj, Deputy Mayor Weiss, Trustee Rosner, Trustee Guttman and Trustee Feldman.*

➤ **Comments**

- **Isaac Ekstein** announced that in front of Village Hall, Delfino installed four solar light poles, numbers will be posted on the poles and we ask residents to email which pole they think would fit best in this village. **Mayor Kalaj** stated that the pubic opinion is important.

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- **Trustee Feldman** inquired about the safety cones. **Mr. Stern** advised that they received the final reflective sample and want to confirm it will be long lasting. The cones should be on the street by next week.
- **Mayor Kalaj** asked for a status on the smart meters, **Joel Stern** advised that they are waiting for a final meeting date and should not be long before they get back to the board with a full update and which option would be more lucrative to pursue.
- **Isaac Ekstein** reminded all to go out and vote tomorrow for primaries.
- **Mayor Kalaj** reminded the residents to drive slowly and be careful there are kids everywhere and slow down.

➤ **Abstract**

- Motion to adopt the abstract by Mayor Kalaj, seconded by Deputy Mayor Weiss. *5Ayes, Mayor Kalaj, Deputy Mayor Weiss, Trustee Rosner, Trustee Guttman and Trustee Feldman.*

➤ **Adjournment**

- Motion to close the meeting at 8:27pm. by Mayor Kalaj, seconded by Trustee Feldman. *5 Ayes - Mayor Kalaj, Deputy Mayor Weiss, Trustee Rosner, Trustee Guttman and Trustee Feldman.*

Minutes respectfully submitted by
Kerry Dougherty, Village Clerk