

# **An Ordinance Combining the Planning and Zoning Commissions and Establishing the Somers Planning and Zoning Commission**

## **Article I**

Purpose: It is the intent and purpose of this Ordinance, pursuant to CGS §8-4a and powers created under the Charter of the Town of Somers, to combine the present Planning Commission and Zoning Commission into the Planning and Zoning Commission.

## **Article II**

There shall be a Planning and Zoning Commission consisting of five regular members serving five-year terms with the powers and duties prescribed by Chapters 124 and 126 of the Connecticut General Statutes and any other powers and duties as may be prescribed by other sections of the General Statutes.

## **Article III**

### **Membership**

- A. Each member of the Planning and Zoning Commission shall be a resident of the Town of Somers. Any member ceasing to be a resident of the Town of Somers shall immediately vacate his/her seat on the Commission.
- B. Each member shall be appointed by the Board of Selectmen pursuant to Chapter V of the Somers Town Charter, subject to confirmation at Town Meeting as provided in the Town Charter.
- C. Notwithstanding the above sections, initial appointments to the Planning and Zoning Commission shall be as follows:
  - i. One member shall be appointed for a one-year term.
  - ii. One member shall be appointed for a two-year term.
  - iii. One member shall be appointed for a three-year term.
  - iv. One member shall be appointed for a four-year term.
  - v. One member shall be appointed for a five-year term.

Thereafter, unless an appointment is made to fill a mid-term vacancy, all appointments shall be for a term of five years.

- D. The provisions of CGS §9-167a shall apply to all appointments.

- E. All appointments to fill a mid-term vacancy shall be for the remaining term of the vacating member.

## **Article IV**

### **Alternates**

- A. There shall be three alternate members of the Planning & Zoning Commission serving one-year terms.
- B. The Board of Selectmen, subject to confirmation of the Town meeting, shall make the appointments of the alternate members.
- C. The Board of Selectmen, in accordance with the Town Charter, shall fill vacancies in the position of alternates.
- D. When seated, the alternates shall possess all of the powers and duties of a regular member of the Planning & Zoning Commission.

## **Article V**

### **Miscellaneous Provisions**

- A. All applications and other matters currently pending before the Somers Planning Commission and the Somers Zoning Commission are hereby transferred to the Somers Planning and Zoning Commission.
- B. Chapter 47 of the Town Code "Alternate Members of the Planning Commission" is hereby repealed.
- C. This ordinance shall become effective sixty (60) days after its adoption and publication.