

**TOWN OF SOMERS
BOARD OF FINANCE
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
April 26, 2022**

1. Call to Order

Michael Parker called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

2. Members Present

In attendance were Michael Parker, Ralph Williams, Joe Tolisano, and Kathy Devlin. Also, in attendance was CFO Mike Marinaccio, Assistant Finance Director Brian Wissinger, First Selectman Tim Keeney, and Superintendent Brian Czapla.

3. BOE Update

Superintendent Czapla gave the Board an update on the long-term facilities plan. This update included status of current projects and potential requests for future bonding projects.

4. Selectmen's Update

First Selectman Keeney gave an update on current CBA negotiations with the IFAA. They have 3 meetings scheduled for May and anticipate having an agreed upon contract no later than July 1, 2022. Keeney reminded the Board of the Town Meeting on May 3. Keeney also informed the Board that the Board of Selectmen and the WPCA are working together with DEEP to develop a remediation plan for the Town's Sewer Plant in Somersville. A grant has been written and Keeney is in contact with Congressman Courtney to gain support for the funding.

5. CFO's Update

CFO Marinaccio updated the Board on potential surplus return to the fund balance. Finance is estimating \$300-350,000 return to fund balance, driven by the increase of the PILOT received from the State after budget approval. Marinaccio has also started the bonding initiative and has the team putting together cost analysis at various levels of bonding.

6. Approval of Tax Suspense List

Lisa Madden presented the suspense list to the Board for approval. Annually, a write-off of active collections that are deemed unlikely to collect is required by State statute.

Joe Tolisano made a motion to approve the suspense list of \$60,749.73, seconded by Kathy Devlin. There was no further discussion and a unanimous decision followed.

7. CIP Update

Brian Wissinger gave a quick update on CIP.

8. American Rescue Plan (ARPA) Funding Status and Requests

Brian Wissinger presented the following 5 requests, approved by CIP, for ARPA Funding:

- a. Town Wide IT Upgrades – Encompasses new hardware, software, transition to Office 365, and an audio/visual upgrade in the Town Hall Auditorium.
Joe Tolisano made a motion to approve ARPA Funding for \$340,000 to the Town Wide IT Upgrade Project, seconded by Ralph Williams. There was no further discussion and a unanimous decision followed.
- b. Historical Museum Restoration – Repairs the roof, replaces windows, and other needed repairs.
Joe Tolisano made a motion to approve ARPA Funding for \$65,000 for the Historical Museum Restoration Project, seconded by Kathy Devlin. There was no further discussion and a unanimous decision followed.
- c. Mental Health Services – Provides staff and a contracted consultant to provide mental health services for the Town.
Joe Tolisano made a motion to approve ARPA Funding for \$132,000 to provide mental health services for 2 years, seconded by Kathy Devlin. There was no further discussion and a unanimous decision followed.
- d. Police Body/Dash cameras – Installation and operation of body and in-car dash cameras is mandated effective July 1, 2022. This covers the cost, installation, and server space needed for the operation of these devices.
Joe Tolisano made a motion to approve ARPA Funding for \$110,000 to purchase Police Body and In-Car Dash Cameras and all necessary technology components as mandated by State Law, seconded by Kathy Devlin. There was no further discussion and a unanimous decision followed.
- e. Small Business Non-Profit Relief Initiative – To provide grants for qualified small businesses and non-profits in the Town of Somers of up to \$10,000.
Joe Tolisano made a motion to approve the Small Business and Non-Profit Relief Initiative Funding for \$459,279.50, seconded by Kathy Devlin. A lengthy discussion followed. Michael Parker wanted to congratulate the committee and the consultant for all of their due diligence and hard work to bring this program to light. A unanimous decision followed.

Wissinger gave the Board a summary of all approved ARPA Projects and the remaining unallocated balance of \$489,130. The Board has until December 31, 2024 to allocate those funds for spending.

9. Opportunity to Add Agenda Items

No items were added to the agenda.

10. Transfers and Appropriations

There were no transfers or appropriations presented.

11. Approval of Minutes

- a. **March 31, 2022 Special Meeting**
- b. **April 5, 2022 Special Meeting**
- c. **April 19, 2022 Special Meeting**
- d. **April 19, 2022 Public Hearing**

Ralph Williams made a motion to approve the minutes of the listed meetings as presented, seconded by Joe Tolisano. There were no further discussions and a unanimous decision followed.

12. Adjournment

Joe Tolisano made a motion to adjourn at 7:51pm, seconded by Kathy Devlin. There was no further discussion and a unanimous decision followed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brian Wissinger

MINUTES ARE NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVAL AT A SUBSEQUENT MEETING

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4FIU4XoiAQ0>