

**TOWN OF SOMERS
BOARD OF SELECTMAN
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, December 1, 2022, 6:00pm
Town Hall Auditorium**

A.) CALL TO ORDER: First Selectman Tim Keeney called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.

1. Pledge of Allegiance- All members participated in the Pledge of Allegiance.
2. Roll Call - Roll Call – First Selectman Tim Keeney, Selectmen Bill Meier and Bob Schmidt, CFO Michael Marinaccio, Assistant Finance Director Brian Wissinger, Todd Rolland Director of Public Works, Emergency Management Director Glen Reynolds

B.) PUBLIC COMMENT:

1. Public Comment: Tom Carenzo of 19 Royal Manor, Somers, Dan Hinkley of 178 Highland Drive, Somers.
Mr. Carenzo commented on how unhappy the employees are within the Land Use Department. Mr. Carenzo wanted answers why they are unhappy. Mr. Keeney was not aware of the Building Officials are having concerns about the Town. Mr. Keeney explained that they are extremely valuable part of the work force here in Somers. They have brought in a significant amount revenue to the Town. Mr. Keeney explained it's a very important relationship the Town has with Stafford, and we can't afford to lose that, and we want to work with them. With regards to the Special meeting held on 11/30/22 it was not recorded due to Ms. LaFleur being out sick. A discussion followed.

C.) PRESENTATIONS BY THE FIRST SELECTMAN

- Mr. Keeney announced that the Holiday Festival and Tree Lighting will be Saturday December 10, 2022, from 4pm to 7pm, locations are Piedmont Hall, Kibbe Fuller, Senior Center and the Somers common.
- Monday December 12th the firefighter union negotiations begin at 2:00 PM.
- Wreaths across America Ceremony is Saturday December 17, 2022, at noon the Somers Center Cemetery, 81 battle St.

D.) CONSENT AGENDA

1. Boards and Commissions: Appointments/Resignations:
 - Resignation as a full member and Appointment of Beth Frechette as an Alternate Member of the Economic Development Commission with a term expiring on 12/22/24.
Mr. Schmidt made a motion to accept the resignation of Beth Frechette as a full member of the economic development Commission, seconded by Mr. Meier. The motion unanimously passed.
Mr. Schmidt made a motion to appoint Beth Frechette as an alternate member of the economic development Commission for the term expiring on 12/22/24, seconded by bill Mr. Meier. The motion and unanimously passed
 - Appointment of Ray Wolters as a full member to the Economic Development Commission with a term expiring 12/22/23 to fill the vacancy of Beth Frechette.
Mr. Meier made a motion to appoint Ray Wolters as a full member of the Economic development Commission with the term expiring 12/22/23 to fill the vacancy of Beth Frechette. Seconded by Mr. Schmidt. The motion unanimously passed.
 - Appointment of Shane Manning as an Alternate on the Zoning Commission with a Term expiring 12/22/23.
Mr. Schmidt made a motion to appoint Shane Manning as an alternate to the zoning Commission with the term expiring 12/22/23, seconded by Mr. Meier. The motion unanimously passed.

E.) OPPORTUNITY TO ADD URGENT AGENDA ITEMS

F.) FINANCE

a) Transfers/Appropriations

Mr. Meier made a motion to approve the transfer of \$800.00 in the Land Use budget and approve the transfer in Salaries for the Salary increase for David Marti, Town Clerk, in the amount of \$1,546.15, seconded by Mr. Schmidt. which had been postponed in June 2022. The motion unanimously passed.

b) CFO Finance Report/Updates

- Mr. Wissinger provided an update on the Volunteer firefighter pension plan, the online portal is scheduled to go live February 1, 2022, all members will receive a letter from Hooker & Holcombe explaining how they can access their personalized services.
- December 15, 2022 is the deadline for Budget submissions.
- The fiscal year 2022 Audit performed by Mahoney Sable will be presented to the Board of Finance on 12/20/22.

c) Presentation of Scheduled Payments

Mr. Schmidt made a motion to authorize the scheduled payments in the amount of \$279,022.46, seconded by Mr. Meier. The motion unanimously passed.

G.) UPDATES FROM BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS - None

H.) PENDING BUSINESS - None

I.) NEW BUSINESS

a) Local Traffic Authority Request – Request to close Battle Street during the 2022 Holiday Festival on Saturday December 10, 2022. Todd Rolland

Mr. Meier made a motion to approve the Local Traffic authority Request to close Battle Street during the 2022 holiday festival on December 10th, seconded by Mr. Schmidt. The motion unanimously passed.

b) Discussion and Possible Action – Resolution for Spring Splash 2023. Todd Rolland

Mr. Meier made a motion to approve the resolution for the Spring Splash 2023 at 40 Maple St, seconded by Mr. Schmidt. The motion unanimously passed.

c) Discussion and Possible Action on Winter Storm Closing Procedure for Town Facilities. Todd Rolland

Mr. Schmidt made a motion to approve the winter storm closing procedures for town facilities as presented, seconded by Mr. Meier. The motion unanimously passed

d) Discussion and Possible Action on Recommendation of Cemetery Committee and Board of Selectmen Charges. Brian Wissinger

Mr. Wissinger provided an update with regards to the cemetery Commission Meeting. A discussion followed

e) Discussion and Possible Action on Salary Increases for Elected Officials. Tim Keeney

Mr. Keeney requested that the Board revisit salary increases for Elected Officials, there was a motion to exclude the elected officials because they were in office for only 6 months in June 2022 when other Town employee salary increases were considered. Those two individuals are himself – First Selectman and the Town Clerk, David Marti. ***Mr. Keeney is proposing a 5% increase for David Marti. A discussion followed.***

Mr. Meier made a motion to approve the 5% salary increase for David Marti pending Board of Finance approval effective January 1, 2023, seconded by Mr. Schmidt. The motion unanimously passed.

Mr. Keeney left the decision for his increase to the Board of Selectmen. Mr. Meier is in favor of an increase, he would like to see it be put in the budget for July 1, 2023, and have to separate the First Selectman Salary line item in the budget. Mr. Schmidt is in

favor of giving the salary increase effective January 1, 2023. Mr. Meier would like to feel out the Board of Finance before the Board of Selectmen approve any increase for the First Selectman. A discussion followed.

- f) Discussion and Possible Action on Amendments to the Town Pension Plan. Michael Marinaccio

Mr. Meyer made a motion to approve the amendment to the Town Pension Plan as presented, seconded by Mr. Schmidt. The motion unanimously passed.

J.) APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a. Approval of Minutes of November 17, 2022, Regular 6:00 Meeting of the Board of Selectmen.
The Board of Selectmen waives the reading of the minutes of the Regular 6:00 pm Meeting from November 17, 2022, and that minutes of said meeting be approved.

Mr. Schmidt made a motion to approve the November 17, 2022, regular 6:00 PM meeting of the Board of Selectman as presented, seconded by Mr. Meier. The motion unanimously passed.

K.) ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Meier made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:15pm, seconded by Mr. Schmidt. The motion unanimously passed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kim LaFleur-Recording

Minutes are not official until accepted at a subsequent meeting.