

**TOWN OF SOMERS
BOARD OF SELECTMAN
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, April 4, 2024, at 6:00 pm
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: First Selectman Tim Keeney, Selectmen Bill Meier and Bob Schmidt, Assistant Treasurer Michael Marinaccio, Chief John Roache and Human Resources Generalist Dayna Carpenter

B.) PUBLIC COMMENT:

1. Public Comment: None

C.) PRESENTATIONS BY THE FIRST SELECTMAN

First Selectman Tim Keeney provided an update on the following items:

- The Board of Finance met on Monday April 1, 2024, and approved the Town budget with some reductions. Mr. Marinaccio will present that under the CFO Finance Update.
- The Presidential Primary was held on Tuesday April 2, 2024 – This is the first year that we had early voting mandated by the State. 64 voters voted in early voting that cost per voter was \$70 for four days. 13.5 % of eligible voters came out to vote in the Presidential Primary.

D.) CONSENT AGENDA

1. Boards and Commissions: Appointments/Resignations:

- a. Appointment of John Nejfelt to the Housing Authority with a term expiring on 12.22.2024

Mr. Schmidt made a motion to the Housing Authority with a term expiring on 12.22.24, seconded by Mr. Meier. The motion unanimously passed.

E.) OPPORTUNITY TO ADD URGENT AGENDA ITEMS: None

F.) FINANCE

- a) Transfers and Appropriations – None
- b) CFO Finance Report/Updates:
Michael Marinaccio, Assistant Treasurer provided an update on the following items:
 - The Board of Finance met on Monday, April 1, 2024, and approved the Town Budget and the Board of Education budget.
 - The Board of Selectmen presented \$73,821 in reductions to their originally proposed budget. The new proposed Board of Selectmen budget is \$8,939,357. 2.56% increase over last year.
 - The Board of Education budget was cut \$350,000 with a new budget of \$28,838,833. 5.21% increase.
 - The Total Town of Somers Budget was approved at \$39,826,728. For a 4.6% increase.
 - The Budget Flyer is approved and will be mailed out next week.

- The Board of Finance made a motion under Section 6-8, paragraphs c, d, and e of the Town Charter to propose a regulation, through the Town Treasurer, effective May 1, 2024, for the Board of Education to provide monthly actual fund expenditures year to date, by budget category, and a listing of all fund transfers within and between budget categories. This item was tabled for more discussion.
- The Town will be requesting three congressional/community funded applications, 1- Hurds Lake Dam, 2 - the Community Center and a Cell radio Tower.

c) Presentation of Scheduled Payments

Mr. Schmidt made a motion to approve the payments in the amount of \$305,726.11, seconded by Mr. Meier. The motion unanimously passed.

G.) UPDATES FROM BOARDS AND COMMISSION:

1. Conservation Commission Update – Chairman Joan Formeister and Vice Chair Drew Kukucka
Chairman Joan Formeister provided an update on the Conservation Commission. A discussion followed.

H.) PENDING BUSINESS – None

I.) NEW BUSINESS

1. Accept Resignation of Firefighter/EMT John Sarnik effective 4/26/24.
Mr. Schmidt made a motion to accept the resignation of Firefighter/EMT John Sarnik effective 4/26/24, seconded by Mr. Meier. The motion unanimously passed.
2. Accept Resignation of Fire Chief John Roache with an effective date of 5/3/24.
Mr. Meier made a motion to accept the resignation of Chief John Roach with an effective date of 5/3/24, seconded by Mr. Schmidt. The motion unanimously passed.
3. Discussion, Review, and vote on proposed Fire Chief Job Position Description.
Mr. Meier made a motion to approve the Fire Chief Job Position Description with one additional line "if living outside the 25-mile radius of the Somers Fire Department, must comply to relocation within 6months", seconded by Mr. Schmidt. The motion unanimously passed.
4. Discussion, Review, and vote on new Salary for Fire Chief Position.
Mr. Meier made a motion to set the new salary range for the Fire Chief Position with a range of \$110,000. to \$125,000. based on qualifications and experience, the job posting will be open for 30 days, seconded by Mr. Schmidt. The motion unanimously passed.

- J.) Approval of Minutes of March 21, 2024, Regular Meeting of the Board of Selectmen.**
The Board of Selectmen waives the reading of the minutes of the Regular Meeting from March 21, 2024, and that minutes of said meeting be approved.
Mr. Schmidt made a motion to approve the minutes of March 21, 2024, as presented, seconded by Mr. Meier. The motion unanimously passed.

Mr. Meier made a motion to go into executive session to discuss privilege communication with the purposes of the Angel Fund and invite Director of Human Services Matthew Cox and Assistant Treasurer Michael Marinaccio, seconded by Mr. Schmidt the motion

unanimously passed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Discussion regarding engagement of Judge Robert Killian as Special Master for the Angel Fund. Documents contain information exempt from disclosure and protected under C.G.S. 1-210(2) and (11).

Executive Session ended at 7:34

Mr. Meier made a motion to appoint Judge Robert K. Killian Jr. as the Special Master of the Angel Fund and to keep the Board of Selectmen aware of ongoing activities to conclude the Angel Fund, Mr. Schmidt. The motion unanimously passed.

K.) ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Meier made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:34pm, seconded by Mr. Schmidt. The motion unanimously passed.

Respectfully Submitted, Kim

LaFleur-Recording

Minutes are not official until accepted at a subsequent meeting.