

**TOWN OF SOMERS
BOARD OF SELECTMAN
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, April 18, 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, Director of Public Works and Land Use Todd Rolland, Police Administrator Kim Littig, Resident Trooper Justin Preuss, CFO Brian Wissinger and Assistant Treasurer Michael Marinaccio, Somers Fire Volunteers Keith Allard, and Marybeth Marquardt.

B.) PUBLIC COMMENT:

1. Public Comment:

C.) PRESENTATIONS BY THE FIRST SELECTMAN

First Selectman Tim Keeney presented the following items:

- Chief John Roaches last day is May 3, 2024. The Board of Selectmen will hold a special meeting on April 25, 2024, to discuss and vote on a Memorandum of Agreement with the Somers Fire Department Union Local 4284, IAFF for two Interim Deputy Chiefs and to appoint an Interim Fire Chief, approve job descriptions and stipends for those positions.
- May 2, 2024, the Board of Selectmen Meeting will be cancelled. The Selectmen will hold a special meeting on May 8, 2024.
- Friends of the Library will be having their book sale at the Somers Public Library on April 19th, 20th and the 21st. More information can be found on their website at www.somerspubliclibrary.org.
- Drug Take Back Day will be held on April 27, 2024, from 10am-1pm at the Fire Department.
- Rotary is sponsoring the 52nd annual Kids Fishing Derby, the Derby will be held on April 27, 2024, from 9:30am – 12:30pm at the Blake Center, 732 Hall Hill Road.

D.) CONSENT AGENDA

1. Boards and Commissions: Appointments/Resignations: None

E.) OPPORTUNITY TO ADD URGENT AGENDA ITEMS: None

F.) FINANCE

- a) Transfers and Appropriations: None
- b) CFO Finance Report/Updates:

Mr. Wissinger provide updates on the following items:

- a. The Town FY 2024/25 Budget Book is completed and, on the website, and Facebook page. There are copies of the book at the Library, Senior Center, and Town Hall.
- b. The Cemetery Commission met at the beginning of March and met with 3 software vendors. They will meet in May and vote to recommend a vendor to the Board of Selectmen. The software is a point-of-sale system, and it will allow residents to purchase cemetery plots online and do searches for a specific person. Funeral directors and landscapers will also have access to the software for scheduling purposes.

c) Presentation of Scheduled Payments

Mr. Schmidt made a motion to approve the scheduled payments in the amount of \$167,460.02, seconded by Mr. Meier. The motion unanimously passed.

G.) UPDATES FROM BOARDS AND COMMISSION:

1. Economic Development Commission Update – Chairman Jim O’Hearn
Mr. O’Hearn, Chairman of the Economic Development Commission presented his budget issues for the next Fiscal Year. A discussion followed.

H.) PENDING BUSINESS – None

I.) NEW BUSINESS

1. Request for a Specialty Stipend for the School Resource Officer (SRO) Position. **Kim Littig**

Mr. Meier made a motion effective 7/1/2024 to set the minimum rate for Police Officers at \$30.00 an hour, seconded by Mr. Schmidt. The motion unanimously passed.

Mr. Meier made a motion to increase the hourly rate for SRO for the time that they are working as a School Resource Officers SRO with a shift differential of \$2.00 per hour effective July 1, 2024, seconded by Mr. Schmidt. The motion unanimously passed.

2. Staffing Request: Request to hire Michael Dalessio for the full-time position of Highway Crew Leader with an hourly rate of \$28.50 and a start date of May 6, 2024. **Todd Rolland**
Mr. Schmidt made a motion to approve the request to hire Michael Dalessio for the full-time Highway Crew Leader position with an hourly rate of \$28.50 and a start date of May 6, 2024, seconded by Mr. Meier. The motion unanimously passed.

3. Discussion and Possible Action on Revision of Ordinance 179-13 Article V – Payment of Motor Vehicle Taxes in Installments. **Brian Wissinger**
Mr. Meier made a motion to set a Public Hearing for May 8, 2024 at 5:30pm at the Somers Town Hall for the revision of Ordinance 179-13 Article V – Payment of Motor Vehicle Taxes in Installments, seconded by Mr. Schmidt. The motion unanimously passed.

4. Discussion and Possible Action on Revision of Volunteer Firefighter Pension Plan Monthly Multiplier. **Brian Wissinger**
Mr. Wissinger presented the revised Volunteer Firefighter Pension Plan monthly multiplier. A discussion followed. The Board of Selectmen support the revisions as proposed.

5. Separation Payout Request: Retirement payout for Ken Grout in the amount of \$19,376.95. **Brian Wissinger**
Mr. Schmidt made a motion to Approve the Separation Payout request for Ken Grout in the amount of \$19,376.95, seconded by Mr. Meier. The motion unanimously passed.

- J.) Approval of Minutes of April 4, 2024, Regular Meeting of the Board of Selectmen.**
The Board of Selectmen waives the reading of the minutes of the Regular Meeting from

April 4, 2024, and that minutes of said meeting be approved.

Mr. Meier made a motion to approve the minutes of April 4, 2024, with one amendment, Under section of the Fire Chief Salary, the salary range should read \$110,000. To 125,000., seconded by Mr. Schmidt. The motion unanimously passed.

K.) ADJOURNMENT

Mr Meier made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:39pm seconded by Mr. Schmidt. The motion unanimously passed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kim LaFleur-Recording

Minutes are not official until accepted at a subsequent meeting.