TOWN OF SOMERS
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, January 16, 2025, at 6:00 pm
Town Hall Auditorium

A.) **CALL TO ORDER:** First Selectman Tim Keeney called the meeting 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, CFO Brian Wissinger, Assistant Treasurer Michael Marinaccio, Human Services Director Matthew Cox, Land Use and Public Works Director Todd Rolland, Fire Chief David Lenart and Fire Captain Ray Stovall.

B.) **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

1. Public Comment: None

C.) **PRESENTATIONS BY THE FIRST SELECTMAN**

First Selectman Tim Keeney Presented on the following items:

- The Somers team, which includes Mr. Keeney, Brian Wissinger, and Chief Lenart, met with the Town Manager and Chief Financial Officer of Ellington to discuss the Emergency Medical Services (EMSI) services and billing practices. The Town of Somers is seeking to establish a similar Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Ellington as was previously done with the Town of Stafford. Mr. Wissinger presented the proposal effectively, and Ellington will respond following their further review.
- A fatal accident took place this morning on Route 190. Mr. Keeney expressed his appreciation for the exemplary efforts of the Police and Fire Departments in responding to the incident.
- Mr. Keeney and Mr. James O'Hearn, Chairman of the Economic Development Commission presented the January Business of the month to Vintage Bee Collective.

D.) **CONSENT AGENDA**

1. Board and Commissions: Appointments/Resignations

E.) **OPPORTUNITY TO ADD URGENT AGENDA ITEMS:**

Mr. Meier made a motion to add an agenda item: Resignation from Ann Levesque from the Economic Development Commission effective immediately.

F.) **FINANCE**

a) Transfers and Appropriations - None
b) CFO Finance Report/Updates – Mr. Wissinger, along with Mr. Keeney, indicated that the Somers team met with the Town of Ellington to discuss ambulance billing.
c) Presentation of Scheduled Payments

Mr. Schmidt made a motion to approve the scheduled payments in the amount of $190,663.00, seconded by Mr. Meier. The motion unanimously passed.

G.) **UPDATES FROM BOARDS AND COMMISSION:** None

H.) **PENDING BUSINESS –** None

I.) NEW BUSINESS

1. Fire Department Staffing Requests that Firefighter:
    a. In accordance with Article IV Section III of the agreement with Local 4284 it recommends that Firefighter/EMT-P Scott Minguy be removed as part time employee. His last shift with the Fire Department was August 16, 2024. **Chief David Lenart**
    Chief Lenart has rescinded the request concerning Firefighter/EMT-P Scott Minguy. Mr. Minguy has successfully completed his certifications and has requested to maintain his part-time employment.

    b. Request to hire a part-time FF/EMT-B Derek Wyse with a starting hourly rate of $25.06 and a start date of January 26, 2025. **Chief David Lenart**
    Mr. Meier made a motion to hire Derek Wyse as a part-time FF/EMT with a starting hourly rate of $25.06 and a start date of January 26, 2025, seconded by Mr. Schmidt. the motion unanimously passed.

    c. Request to hire a part-time FF/EMT-B Brendan Canty with an hourly rate of $25.06 and a start date of January 26, 2025. **Chief David Lenart**
    Mr. Meier made a motion to hire Brendan Canty, FF/EMT-B with an hourly rate of $25.06 with a start date of January 26, 2025, seconded by Mr. Schmidt. the motion unanimously passed.

2. Presentation From Tim Coons Engineering Regarding the Proposed Solar Field on 159 South Road – **Todd Rolland/Tim Coons Engineering**
   Mr. Coons presented the revised proposed Solar Field for 159 South Road. A discussion followed.

3. Request that the Board of Selectmen Approve the 2025 Spring Splash for March 29, 2025 (With a Rain Date of April 5, 2025) and the Town Clerk to Notarize the Attached Resolution. **Todd Rolland**
   Mr. Meier made a motion to approve the Resolution for the 2025 Spring Splash for March 29, 2025, (with a rain date of April 4, 2025), seconded by Mr. Schmidt. the motion unanimously passed.

4. Land Use Budget Presentation- **Todd Rolland and Jennifer Roy**
   Mr. Rolland/Ms. Roy presented the Land Use Budget proposal for consideration. A discussion followed.

5. Town Hall Budget Presentations:
    a. Selectmen's Budget – **Kim LaFleur**
    Ms. LaFleur presented the Selectmen's Budget for consideration. A discussion followed.
    b. Economic Development Commission Budget Proposal – **Chairman Jim O'Hearn**
    Mr. O'Hearn presented the Economic Development Commission Budget proposal for consideration. A discussion followed.
    c. Finance Department – **Brian Wissinger**
    Mr. Wissinger presented the Finance Departments budget for consideration. A discussion followed.

   d. Information Technology – **Brian Wissinger/Kim LaFleur**
      Mr. Wissinger/Ms. LaFleur presented the Information Technology budget proposal for consideration. A discussion followed.
   e. Employee Benefits - **Brian Wissinger**
      Mr. Wissinger presented the Employee Benefits budget for consideration. A discussion followed.

6. Discussion and Possible Action on Proposed Salary Increase for the Assistant Town Clerk **– Dave Marti**
   Mr. Marti presented a salary increase for the Assistant Town Clerk. A discussion followed.
   Mr. Keeney made a motion to approve the Salary increase for the Assistant Town Clerk from $26.31 an hour to $28.00 an hour, seconded by Mr. Meier. The motion unanimously passed.

7. FY 2026 Town Clerk Budget Presentation **– Dave Marti**
   Mr. Marti presented the Town Clerks budget for consideration. A discussion followed.

8. Discussion and Appointment of Charter Revision Commission Members. **Board of Selectmen**
   Proposed Members:
   Michael Marinaccio
   John Parks
   Theresa Schmidt
   Scott Kaupin
   Edward DePeau
   Kathy Lerz
   Thomas Clark
   Mr. Meier made a motion to appoint the following members to the Charter Revision Commission:
   Michael Marinaccio
   John Parks
   Theresa Schmidt
   Scott Kaupin
   Edward DePeau
   Kathy Lerz
   Thomas Clark
   and appoint Karen Neal the Town Assessor as the Town Liaison, seconded by Mr. Schmidt. the motion unanimously passed.

9. Accept the Resignation of Maryellen Matarazzo, the part- time Senior Center Program Coordinator effective January 31, 2025.
   Mr. Meier made a motion to accept the resignation of Maryellen Matarazzo, part time Senior Center Program Coordinator effective January 31, 2025

10. Accept the Resignation of Taylor Reynolds, the part time Children's Library Assistant effective March 5, 2025.
    Mr. Schmidt made a motion to accept the resignation of Taylor Reynolds, part time Children's Library Assistant effective March 5, 2025, seconded by Mr. Meier. The motion unanimously passed.

11. Accept the Resignation of Anne Levesque from the Economic Development Commission effective immediately.
    Mr. Meier made a motion to accept the resignation of Ann Levesque from the Economic Development Commission effective immediately, seconded by Mr. Schmidt. the motion unanimously passed.

J.) Approval of Minutes of January 9, 2025, Regular Meeting of the Board of Selectmen.
The Board of Selectmen waives the reading of the minutes of the Regular Meeting from January 9, 2025, and that minutes of said meeting be approved.
Mr. Schmidt made a motion to approve the Regular Meeting minutes of January 9, 2025, as presented, seconded by Mr. Meier. The motion unanimously passed.

K.) ADJOURNMENT
Mr. Meier made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:08pm, seconded by Mr. Schmidt. the motion unanimously passed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kim LaFleur-Recording

Minutes are not official until accepted at a subsequent meeting.