

**TOWN OF SOMERS
EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS ADVISORY COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES**

**Thursday,
June 5, 2025, 8:00 AM
Fire Station**

1. Call to Order: Todd Rolland called the meeting to order at 8:02 am.
2. Members Present: Dan Thayer, CERT Team Leader; Karen Hocking, Peter DeBrino, Trooper Justin Preuss, Superintendent of School Dr. Sam Galloway, and Interim EMD / Superintendent of Highways Todd Rolland.

Others in attendance were Police Administrator Kim Littig and CERT Training Officer Frank Poirier.

3. Old Business
 - a. Sanitarian: Our Sanitarian, Andrea Vitrano, has resigned, effective July 2, 2025.
 - b. Human Services: Please see the attached report.
 - c. Police: Please see the attached report. The ACO is hosting an animal vaccination clinic at the DPW on Saturday, June 7th.
 - d. Fire: There have been 1,023 calls for service so far this year. Ozborn Correctional Institution has experienced a dramatic increase in overdose calls, which is straining our EMS services. The Chief and Captain Stoval have a meeting scheduled with Ozborn's administration.
 - e. Schools: Thursday, June 12th is Graduation Day. This year's senior prank was 2,000 solo cups in the school.
 - f. CERT: CERT Leadership is working to have all members trained on the basic ICS courses. We are also updating the shelter manual and holding a shelter training on July 23rd. Three members helped with traffic control at the Bowers' Tournament on June 1. CERT Day is on June 7th.
 - g. DPW: DPW has transitioned fully into summer operations. The Parks Department is in full mowing and athletic field installation, and the Highway Department is in full road paving and drainage operations. Verogy, the vendor installing a solar field on top of the

landfill, will begin construction this year. Todd gave an update on upcoming infrastructure projects.

4. New Business

a. General Discussion:

- i. Todd is working with the DAS to move the purchase of the 3+ acres of property on Bilton Road forward. This sale was approved by the Legislator and signed by the Governor in August 2024. We plan to construct a two-way radio tower on that site. We learned that the hold-up is at DAS. We are working with our DOC contact and Senator Kissel to correct this.
- ii. WDJW transmitter dies. Dan had John Ramsey send it out for repair. It is back in service. This unit is old, and we should consider purchasing a replacement soon.
- iii. The State has announced this year's state-wide drill will be during the week of September 8th.

5. Approval of the Minutes of the Last Meeting: Dan Thayer motioned to approve the May 2025 meeting minutes, Peter Debrino seconded, and there was no objection. The motion passed.

6. Adjournment: Dan Thayer motioned to adjourn, Peter Debrino seconded, and there was no objection. The motion passed, and the meeting was adjourned at 8:37 a.m.

Emergency Preparedness Advisory Council
Status Report for Human Services

June 5, 2025

Police/Fire Department Referrals – We continue to engage individuals and families referred due to extreme conditions affecting safety and quality of life.

Truancy Referrals – We continue to partner with Somers schools on complex and complicated cases of truancy. In most cases, truancy is the tip of the iceberg, and our staff are working to engage and connect families to appropriate supportive services, such as intensive mental health counseling/behavioral health services, the Department of Children and Families, and accessing appropriate healthcare.

Teen Center at Somers Public Library – the last day of the Teen Center for the school year was held on Monday, June 2nd, with about 40 youth participating. More than 80 unduplicated youth were served this school year.

Youth Voices Count Survey - the biennial behavioral health survey was conducted on April 2 for grades 7 and 8, and to all high school grades on April 23rd. Response rates were excellent, around 90% across all grades. Our survey and data consultants will present their findings to the SHINE coalition on June 24 and to school leaders at a date to be determined by the superintendent.

National Night Out event planning with the police department is gearing up for the event to be held at Field Road Park on August 5th.

Social Services – Seventy-eight applications from low-income seniors have been facilitated through the Renters' Rebate program. To date, more than \$32,000 has been allocated for seniors in Somers.

Senior Services – during the past couple of Senior Advisory Board Meetings, members have expressed great concern about proposed massive federal cuts to programs of the Older Americans Act. Currently slated for elimination are Meals on Wheels, Low Income Heating Assistance, SNAP/food stamps, the Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program, Adult Protective Services, the Senior Health Insurance Assistance Program – known CHOICES in Connecticut (provides free Medicare insurance counseling for seniors by certified volunteers). Two committee members were charged with researching proposed cuts and drafting talking points for others to use when reaching out to their members of Congress.

Respectfully submitted,
Matthew Cox



**Town of Somers
Police Department**

Monthly Report

May 2025

Calls for Service:	814
Accidents:	12
Case Reports:	17
Burglaries:	0
Larcenies:	1 (Used Cooking Oil Theft)
Onsite DUI's:	0
Arrests:	10

05/30/25 - 06/01/25 - Bowers Tournament - No Issues

06/03/25 - 11 Bradfield Dr - CT Sealcoat - Zoning Issue

05/26/25 - 06/06/25 - Traffic Study on Carriage Drive

06/05/25 - Rabies Clinic / Dog Licensing

06/18/25 – Recreation Department Annual Camp Training/Orientation for Staff to Discuss Park Safety/Protocols

08/05/25 - National Night Out

Active Aggressor Equipment - Ballistic Helmets Came In But Waiting On Plate Carriers

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