

**Library Board of Trustees
Somers Public Library
February 17, 2026**

Members Present: Ann Levesque, John Kelleher, Jack Kertenis, Marybeth Marquardt, Gene Grayson,
Jason Snukis, Mike Gruber, Bob Socha, Lori Bourgoïn

Absent: None

Also Present: Joanne Nichting, Library Director
Todd Rolland, Somers DPW Director
Barbara Yaeger, Landscape Architect

Meeting called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Mr. Grayson.

First Audience to Citizens: None

Special Presentations:

Barbara Yaeger, Licensed Landscape Architect, presented expert information and opinion to assist the library in addressing landscape planning and ongoing maintenance needs. Ms. Yaeger offered examples of work she has completed with other libraries in Connecticut and compared their costs and project goals to the library's. After discussion, the board, along with Mr. Rolland from the town DPW, concluded that our project goals may be better met through a cost-effective approach through a less complex landscape maintenance plan versus a full master plan. Mr. Socha recommended that Frank's Landscaping be invited to provide a presentation on their recommendations and costs in moving forward with this revised plan. Ms. Yaeger donated her presentation fee to the library following her talk.

Todd Rolland from the Somers DPW provided the board with information regarding the security camera proposals submitted by Sourced Security Solutions, and spot.ai, and an alarm system submitted by Total Protection Security Systems. All options were weighed against the existing vendor, Sonitrol, and overall project goals. After much discussion, it was decided that we look into waiting until the end of the Sonitrol system contract of three more years and add four cameras to the front of the library through the preferred vendor, spot ai. The board agreed. Mr. Rolland will obtain a price from spot ai for the board's consideration.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes from the January 20, 2026, meeting were presented and reviewed. Mr. Kertenis moved to approve the minutes; the motion was seconded by Mr. Kelleher. Mr. Socha and Mr. Gruber abstained from the vote. Vote: All were in favor. Minutes approved.

Correspondence: Ms. Nichting reviewed a personalized card and donation from former trustee, Shirley Warner.

Treasurer's Report: Ms. Nichting reviewed the details of the Treasurer's Report and noted that there is nothing out of the ordinary in the report.

Financial Business: Ms. Nichting presented the FY26 year-to-date financial report. She noted that year-to-date results are typical for this time of year, with expenses currently at about 60% of the budget.

She also reminded everyone that the Selectman budget review meeting is scheduled for February 19 at 6:00 PM.

Committee Reports: Mr. Grayson discussed the rescheduling of an Investment Committee meeting to February 20, 2026.

Old Business:

Camera Installation / Security System: Discussed above.

Scholarships: Tabled for now.

New Business: None.

Director's Report:

Ms. Nichting presented her Director's Report, which included updates on library operations, program attendance, circulation statistics, meeting space usage, and upcoming events.

Second Audience to Citizens: None

The meeting was adjourned at 7:57 p.m. The next meeting will be on March 17, 2026.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori Bourgoïn

MINUTES NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED AT SUBSEQUENT MEETING