

**TOWN OF SOMERS
BOARD OF FINANCE
REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, AUGUST 25, 2008**

I. CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting was called to order by Chairman James Persano at 7:05 pm. Members present were Steve Krasinski, George Warner, Tom Mazzoli and James Persano. Also present were Finance Director Greg Simmons and Board of Education representatives Tim Potrikus and Bill Boutwell.

II. BOARD OF EDUCATION UPDATE

Mr. Potrikus spoke regarding the BOE budget. He said that the BOE returned about \$750 to the Town that remained from the 07-08 budget.

The new router was installed over the summer. CIP had approved \$40,000 for this project. At this time it appears the job costs will be closer to \$30,000. The BOE will provide the final figures to the BOF once all bills are in.

The CT State Department of Education has designated the Math Department as a durational shortage area, which ultimately is costing the Town an additional \$4,000. A math position had to be increased from .6 to a .8 to attract a suitable candidate.

The freeze has not yet been initiated for the 08-09 budget, however only 75% of the funds for spending line items, such as supplies and textbooks has been released. The BOE hopes to retain about \$100,000 from these spending lines to cover the anticipated energy costs. When the budget was put together heating and diesel fuel were calculated at \$2.75 per gallons. Fuel costs have increased drastically since then but the Town and the BOE have contracted to lock in these expenses at \$3.65 for heating and \$3.79 for diesel. This increase will add up to an increase of about \$100,000.

At this time the out of District placements are holding at the budgeted amount of \$425,000 for the tuition and expenses of 15 students. This expense could change significantly if there are more or fewer students requiring placement.

Bill Boutwell spoke regarding a letter to Mr. Persano from the Commissioner on Education about Sheff v. O'Neill. He explained that more of the costs for magnet schools are being shifted onto the local Towns. Previously the State had carried much of these costs. He said that it is not the intent of the State for these surprise costs to fall on the Board's of Education. Somers should not be significantly impacted by this change since the Town only has one student at a magnet school. The cost for this student is \$4,500. However, this expense could increase in the future depending on the number of Somers students enrolled in magnet schools. Mr. Boutwell added that about 20 to 25 students come to Somers through the "Choice Program" which resulted from the Sheff case.

Mr. Boutwell concluded by stating that after the BOE's meeting this evening he would forward their transfer list to the BOF.

III. MINUTES APPROVAL – June 23, 2008

A motion was made by George Warner, seconded by Tom Mazzoli and unanimously voted to accept the minutes of June 23, 2008 as written.

IV. CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence was included in a packet of information provided to the Board by Mr. Simmons. This included the aforementioned letter from the Commissioner on Education, and a memo from the Selectman regarding tax exemptions for farm property.

Mr. Simmons asked for a verbal approval to make a correction on the CIP list as follows: Where he wrote "1-ton dump truck" it should read "1-ton pick-up". Mr. Persano consented to making the correction.

V. BILLS, TRANSFERS, AND APPROPRIATIONS

A motion was made by Mr. Krasinski, seconded by Mr. Mazzoli and unanimously voted to approve the following transfers:

By the Selectmen for a transfers of \$11,921.00 from Social Services Dir. (10-10-503.1), \$4,095.00 from Custodian Salary (10-10-504.3), \$809.00 from Board Secretary (10-10-504.4), \$1,710.00 from Overtime Salaries (10-10-506.1), \$ 9,184.00 from Proposed Sal. Inc (10-10-508.1), \$ 21,505.00 from Temporary Salaries (10-10-509.1), \$ 5,228.00 from Social Security (10-10-510.1), \$ 152.00 from Pension Actuary (10-10-512.2), \$ 3,348.00 from Unemployment (10-10-513.2), \$ 685.00 from Elections (10-10-517.1), \$ 224.00 from Economic Develop. (10-10-518.1), \$ 158.00 from Copy Machine (10-10-521.1), \$ 159.00 from Memorial Day Exp. (10-10-522.1), \$ 1,185.00 from Other (10-10-523.1), \$ 2,515.00 from Mileage (10-10-527.1), \$ 1,034.00 from Capital Equip. Rep (10-10-530.1), \$ 249.00 from New Equipment (10-10-530.5), \$ 491.00 from Kibbe Fuller Maint. (10-10-531.2), \$ 2,000.00 from Computer Supplies (10-10-532.2), \$ 527.00 from Postage (10-10-533.1), \$ 2,587.00 from Heat Police (10-10-559.3), \$ 318.00 from Electricity (10-10-560.1), \$ 681.00 from Elec. Kibbe Fuller (10-10-560.2), \$ 2,358.00 from Electricity Police (10-10-560.3), \$ 717.00 from Streetlights (10-10-586.1), \$ 1,549.00 from Assistant Treasurer (10-11-502.1), \$ 1,962.00 from Assistant Town Clk (10-12-502.1), \$ 1,810.00 from Postage (10-12-533.1), \$ 2,600.00 from Codification (10-12-543.5), \$808.00 from Printing & Supplies (10-15-520.1), \$2,818.00 from Mapping (10-15-545.1), \$7,335.00 from Tipping Fees (30-34-589.3), \$8,790.00 from School 2006 Int. (80-31-744.2), \$10,867.00 from Library Interest (80-31-745.1) total these transfers \$112,379.00.

\$5.00 to First Selectman Salary (10-10-501.0), \$ 10,305.00 to Administrative Assistant (10-10-502.1), \$ 3,752.00 to Registrars Salary (10-10-504.5), \$ 715.00 to Land Use Clerk (10-10-504.7), \$ 17,957.00 to Vacation Expense (10-10-507.1), \$ 755.00 to Health Insurance (10-10-511.1), \$ 1,245.00 to Bonds & Insurance (10-10-515.2), \$ 1,518.00 to Advertising (10-10-516.1), \$ 1,686.00 to Office Supplies (10-10-520.1), \$ 50.00 to Town Hall Maint. (10-10-525.1), \$144.00 to Capital Bldg. Maint. (10-10-531.1), \$ 563.00 to Computer Supplies (10-10-532.1), \$ 40.00 to Dues & Seminars (10-10-534.1), \$ 2,919.00 to Fire Protection (10-10-536.1), \$ 800.00 to WPCA Water Recoup (10-10-536.2), \$ 150.00 to Alarm, Fire Systems (10-10-536.3), \$ 126.00 to Rental (10-10-547.1), \$ 7,879.00 to Heat (10-10-559.1), \$ 19,780.00 to Heat Kibbe Fuller (10-10-559.2), \$ 665.00 to Telephone (10-10-561.1), \$ 1,781.00 to Internet Service (10-10-561.2), \$ 6.00 to Water (10-10-562.1), \$ 3,473.00 to Legal Services (10-10-600.1), \$36,065.00 to Legal – Unions (10-10-600.3) total these transfers \$112,379.00.

By the Town Clerk, Tax, Assessor and Building Departments for transfers of \$ 66.00 from Dues & Seminars (10-12-534.1), \$ 430.00 from Tax Collector P/T (10-13-508.2), \$ 186.00 from Printing & Supplies (10-13-520.1), \$ 36.00 from Clerical Assistant (10-15-503.1), \$ 323.00 from Building Inspector (10-16-501.1).

\$22.00 to Supplies (10-12-520.1), \$ 44.00 to Copy Machine (10-12-521.1), \$ 616.00 to Postage (10-13-533.1), \$ 36.00 to Assessor Salary (10-15-502.1), \$ 323.00 to Bldg/Sanitation Secretary (10-16-502.1).

A motion was made by Mr. Mazzoli, seconded by Mr. Krasinski and unanimously voted to approve the following transfers:

By the Highway Department and Transfer Station for transfers of \$ 547.00 from Highway Salaries (30-18-508.1), \$ 1,750.00 from Highway Temp Salaries (30-18-509.1), \$ 1,411.00 from Garage & Equipment (30-18-587.1), \$ 9,365.00 from Tipping Fees (30-34-589.3), \$ 6,793.00 from Tipping Fees (30-34-589.3).

\$7,785.00 to Overtime Salaries (30-18-506.1), \$311.00 to Vehicle Maintenance (30-18-531.5), \$ 2,119.00 to Vehicle Fuel (30-18-531.8), \$ 21.00 to RDT (30-18-536.1), \$ 14.00 to Road Maintenance (30-18-553.1), \$ 1,528.00 to Heat (30-18-559.1), \$ 996.00 to Electricity (30-18-560.1), \$ 211.00 to Water (30-18-562.1), \$ 88.00 to Uniform Cleaning (30-18-565.1), \$ 390.00 to Landfill Operator (30-34-502.1), \$ 1,773.00 to Overtime Salaries (30-34-506.1), \$ 390.00 to Heat (30-34-559.1), \$ 390.00 to Electricity (30-34-560.1), \$2,956.00 to Landfill Operating (30-34-589.1), \$894.00 to Maint/Oper. MSW (30-34-589.6).

A motion was made by Mr. Mazzoli, seconded by Mr. Warner and unanimously voted to approve the following transfers:

By the Planning, Zoning and Zoning Board of Appeals for transfers of \$ 500.00 from Open Space Subcomm (10-25-518.2), \$ 1,586.00 from Engineering (10-25-546.1), \$ 2,000.00 from 10 Year Plan (10-25-546.6), \$ 8,200.00 from Temporary ZEO (10-26-509.1), \$ 620.00 from Printing (10-26-547.1), \$ 364.00 from Copier Land Use (10-26-521.1), \$ 1,314.00 from Legal ZBA (10-27-600.6).

\$10.00 to Planner Salary (10-25-501.0), \$ 364.00 to Planning Clerical (10-25-503.1), \$ 477.00 to Advertising (10-25-516.1), \$ 305.00 to Planning Cell Phone (10-25-561.2), \$ 11,130.00 to Planning – Legal (10-25-600.4), \$ 724.00 to Advertising (10-26-516.1), \$ 260.00 to Legal – Zoning (10-26-600.2), \$ 1,314.00 to Advertising (10-27-516.1).

A motion was made by Mr. Mazzoli, seconded by Mr. Krasinski and unanimously voted to approve the following transfers:

By the Fire Department for transfers of \$ 1,784.00 from Overtime Salaries (20-16-503.3), \$ 2,937.00 from Part Time Salaries (20-16-508.2), \$ 228.00 from Fire Chief Salary (20-16-508.3), \$ 378.00 from (20-16-508.6), \$ 1,171.00 from FD Volunteer Stipend (20-16-509.5), \$ 316.00 from Printing & Supplies (20-16-520.1), \$ 2,985.00 from Vehicle Maintenance (20-16-531.5), \$ 179.00 from Telephone & Alarm (20-16-561.1), \$ 439.00 from Water (20-16-562.1), \$ 788.00 from Training (20-16-568.1), \$ 121.00 from Radio Maintenance (20-16-573.1), \$891.00 from Personal Protective (20-16-574.1), \$367.00 from Gasoline Allowance (20-16-575.1), \$600.00 from TN Maint. & Insurance (20-16-578.2), \$ 949.00 from Radio & Battery (20-16-579.1), \$ 995.00 from Health & Safety (20-16-583.1), \$ 3,382.00 from Fire Department Pension (20-16-766.1), \$ 2,867.00 from FM Salary (20-10-501.3), \$ 1,708.00 from Fire Investigator (20-10-502.3), \$ 973.00 from Equipment & Supplies (20-10-520.1), \$ 1,356.00 from Fire System Maint. (20-10-525.1), \$ 400.00 from Vehicle Maintenance (20-10-531.5), \$ 3,770.00 from Clerical Support (20-17-503.1), \$ 2,330.00 from Shift Premium (20-17-506.4), \$ 6,454.00 from Part Time Police(20-17-508.2), \$1,517.00 from Equipment & Supplies (20-17-520.1), \$568.00 from Vehicle Maintenance (20-17-531.5), \$801.00 from Training (20-17-568.1), \$1,072.00 from Radio Maintenance (20-17-573.1).

\$229.00 to Full Time Employees (20-16-508.1), \$ 193.00 to Copier Maint. (20-16-521.1), \$ 343.00 to Equip. Replacement (20-16-521.2), \$ 12,580.00 to Bldg. Maintenance (20-16-531.1), \$ 7,539.00 to Vehicle Fuel (20-16-531.8), \$ 15.00 to Dues & Seminars (20-16-534.1), \$ 292.00 to Cell Tower Rental (20-16-547.1), \$ 18,716.00 to Heat (20-16-559.1), \$ 1,871.00 to Electricity (20-16-560.1), \$ 347.00 to Paid Uniform Purchase (20-16-565.1), \$ 124.00 to Laundry (20-16-566.1), \$ 77.00 to Hose (20-16-577.1).

A motion was made by Mr. Krasinski , seconded by Mr. Mazzoli and unanimously voted to approve the following transfers:

By the Police, Parks and Recreation Departments for transfers of \$ 2,363.00 from Vehicle Fuel (20-17-531.8), \$ 2,955.00 from State Police (20-17-539.1), \$ 2,600.00 from Summer Maint. Help (30-19-503.1), \$ 672.00 from Equipment Maint (30-19-521.2), \$ 874.00 from Supplies (51-22-520.1), \$ 2,113.00 from

Custodian Fees (51-22-532.4), \$ 275.00 from Fees (51-22-534.1), \$ 584.00 from Telephone (51-22-561.1), \$ 806.00 from Youth Services (51-22-633.1), \$ 1,907.00 to Dog Warden Salary (20-17-501.2), \$ 1,126.00 to Overtime/Constable (20-17-503.3), \$ 2,285.00 to Mobile Data Systems (20-17-531.6), \$ 264.00 to Recreation Maintenance (30-19-521.3), \$ 2,978.00 to Electricity (30-19-560.1), \$30.00 to Water (30-19-562.1), \$ 4,652.00 to Recreation Coordinator (51-22-501.0).

By the Health and Ambulance Departments for transfers of \$ 162.00 from Health Officer Salary (41-20-501.0), \$ 534.00 from Printing & Supplies (41-24-520.1), \$ 300.00 from Equipment Maint (41-24-521.2), \$846.00 from New Equipment (41-24-530.5), \$ 1,500.00 from Vehicle Fuel (41-24-531.8), \$ 1,628.00 from New Pager (41-24-563.1), \$ 322.00 from Amb. Uniform (41-24-565.1).

\$100.00 to Meals on Wheels Coord. (41-20-508.2), \$16.00 to Senior Temp. Help (41-20-508.7), \$46.00 to Senior Center Expense (41-20-531.1), \$3,858.00 to Ambulance Volunteer (41-24-509.5), \$614.00 to Vehicle Maintenance (41-24-531.5), \$ 658.00 to Oxygen (41-24-532.3).

By the Library, Senior Center and Conservation Department for transfers of \$ 1,673.00 from Childrens Librarian (50-21-502.2), \$ 300.00 from Meals on Wheels Coord (51-30-508.2), \$ 377.00 from Senior Center Expense (51-30-640.1), \$ 1,498.00 from Part Time Librarian (50-21-508.2), \$ 169.00 from Conservation Project (90-36-652.1).

\$856.00 to Building Maintenance (50-21-531.1), \$ 817.00 to Heat (50-21-559.1), \$ 629.00 to Municipal Agent (51-30-502.1), \$ 438.00 to Elderly Bus Drivers (51-30-508.3), \$ 1,108.00 to Elderly Bus Expense (51-30-610.1), \$ 169.00 to Advertising (90-36-516.1).

By the Selectmen for transfers of \$ 350.00 from PW Pressure Wash (68-10-269.1), \$ 311.83 from Parks Mower (68-10-271.6), \$ 2,500.00 from PW Compressor (68-10-271.7), \$ 3,202.00 from Transer Sta. Rolloff Cont. (68-10-341.1), \$ 2,147.07 from Town Hall Carpeting (68-10-623.8), \$ 442.86 from Map Copier (68-10-626.6), \$ 1,540.61 from Selectmen Grant Pkg (68-10-631.1), \$ 516.00 from Selectmen Postage Mach. (68-10-636.2), \$ 2,800.00 from Town Clerk Voting Mach (68-10-640.2), \$ 2,582.12 from Library Doors (68-10-701.1).

\$25.28 to Emergency Notification (68-10-623.6), \$ 16,367.21 to Emergency Generator (68-10-623.7).

By Capital Projects for transfers of \$ 7,851.83 from Contingency (69-10-235.3), \$ 2,201.88 to Fire Department Building (69-10-220.1), \$ 5,649.95 to Maple St. Bridge (9-10-230.1).

By the WPCA for transfers of \$ 185.00 from Dues & Seminars (40-19-534.1), \$ 120.00 to Clerical Water Billing (40-19-508.4), \$ 65.00 to Engineering Consultant (40-19-546.1).

By the WPCA for an appropriation of \$4,000.00 to Food Inspector (40-19-508.2)

VI. **OTHER** – There was no other discussion.

VII. **ADJOURNMENT**

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:14 p.m. was made by Tom Mazzoli and seconded by Steve Krasinski; the motion carried by unanimous vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeanne Reed, Recording Secretary

MINUTES ARE NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVAL AT A SUBSEQUENT MEETING