

**TOWN OF SOMERS  
BOARD OF FINANCE  
SPECIAL MEETING  
TUESDAY, MAY 19, 2009**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The special meeting was called to order by Chairman James Persano at 7:00 pm. Members present were Steve Krasinski, George Warner, Tom Mazzoli and James Persano. Also present were Finance Director Greg Simmons, Board of Education representatives Tim Potrikus and Selectman David Pinney.

**II. BOARD OF EDUCATION UPDATE**

Mr. Potrikus reported that the Board of Education budget will have no surplus or deficit at the end of the fiscal year. Two concerns for the upcoming year will be the air quality in the tech room and the aging computer lab and computer cart at the elementary school. The original cart was purchased through a grant from the Somers Education Foundation five years ago.

Mr. Mazzoli said that the air quality issue will not cost \$60,000 as originally reported. It will be an additional \$20,000 and Dr. Sufredini is working with Phil Rowland on the issue.

Mr. Mazzoli also expressed concern that the new athletic mat is being stored outside. Mr. Potrikus will check into this. It had been agreed that the mats would be stored inside under lock and key.

**III. BOARD OF SELECTMEN UPDATE**

Mr. Pinney explained that he has been at the CT Conference of Municipalities where representatives of the Department of Education discussed Federal money coming to the schools. Mr. Pinney learned that part of the Fiscal Stabilization Grant, which was to provide the Town with \$6,000,000 for the schools will now be going directly to the schools. The Somers budget allocated \$18,600,000 to the schools while depending on the \$6,000,000 to be refunded by the State to the Town's General Fund. Per State statute, the Town cannot redirect monies that have already been allocated to the BOE in the Budget. Therefore, the Town's budget will be short any refund that goes directly to the schools unless the money is returned to the Town by the BOE. However, the legislature may act to authorize a modification of the budget. Mr. Pinney and the BOF expressed confidence that they could depend on the cooperation from the Somers BOE.

Full disclosure of actual spending of the BOE and the Town was discussed. Because grant monies do not necessarily pass through the General Fund this money and the expenditures the grants pay for do not show in the Budget.

Mr. Pinney notified the BOF of a new issue regarding overtime calculations for the Town's Resident State Troopers. Until now the Town was responsible for the cost of overtime at a rate of 1.5 times the standard hourly rate when the Town assigns a trooper to extra duties. A proposal effective July 1<sup>st</sup>, will make the Town liable for this cost as well as all additional payroll expenses associated with the extra salary such as SSI and pensions.

The BOF discussed bringing back some part-time constables to do some of the duties that would otherwise be assigned to the resident Troopers.

#### **IV. SUSPENSE TAX LISTS**

Mr. Simmons presented a five-page list of people who owe taxes to the Town. The Board reviewed the list and discussed the possibility of publishing the list in the paper.

*A motion was made by Mr. Krasinski; seconded by Mr. Mazzoli and unanimously voted to approve the suspense list.*

#### **V. APPOINTMENT OF AUDITOR – FY 2008/2009**

*A motion was made by Mr. Warner; seconded by Mr. Mazzoli and unanimously voted that in accordance with the Town Charter section 6-2, the Board of Finance designates the firm of Carlin, Charron and Rosen, LLP of Glastonbury, CT to audit the books of the Town as required by the General Statutes 7-396 and 4-232.*

#### **VI. BILLS, TRANSFERS AND APPROPRIATIONS**

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

By the Selectmen for additional appropriations of \$3,100.00 to State Licenses (90-99-765.1), \$10,800.00 to C.C.M Grant to (90.99.770.1), \$725.00 to Other (10.10.523.1).

By the Senior Center for a transfer of \$2,000.00 from Health Insurance (10-10-511.1) to Senior Center Expense (51-30-640.1).

By the Town Clerk for a transfer of \$200.00 from Postage (10-12-533.1) to Supplies (10-12-520.1).

#### **VII. MIL RATE RESOLUTION**

*A motion was made by Mr. Krasinski; seconded by Mr. Mazzoli and unanimously voted that in accordance with the results of the Town-wide referendum on the budget for the fiscal year July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010 the Board of Finance proposes a tax rate of 22.11 mills be set on the Grand List of October 1, 2008 and shall be payable in two semi-annual installments – July 1, 2009 and January 1, 2010 and that the laying of a tax of real estate amounting to \$100.00 or less and individual motor vehicle of \$250.00 or less and all personal property taxes shall be paid in full on the first installment; And, that any motor vehicle tax in the amount of \$1.99 or less, may be waived, in accordance with the Connecticut State Statute 12-144c.*

#### **VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Persano notified the BOF that Mr. Simmons will be awarded a Certificate of Achievement plaque from the Government Finance Officer's Association. Mr. Persano and the BOF members thanked Mr. Simmons for his excellent work.

*A motion was made by Mr. Mazzoli; seconded by Mr. Krasinski and unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 8:10pm.*

Respectfully submitted,

Jeanne Reed, Recording Secretary

MINUTES ARE NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVAL AT A SUBSEQUENT MEETING